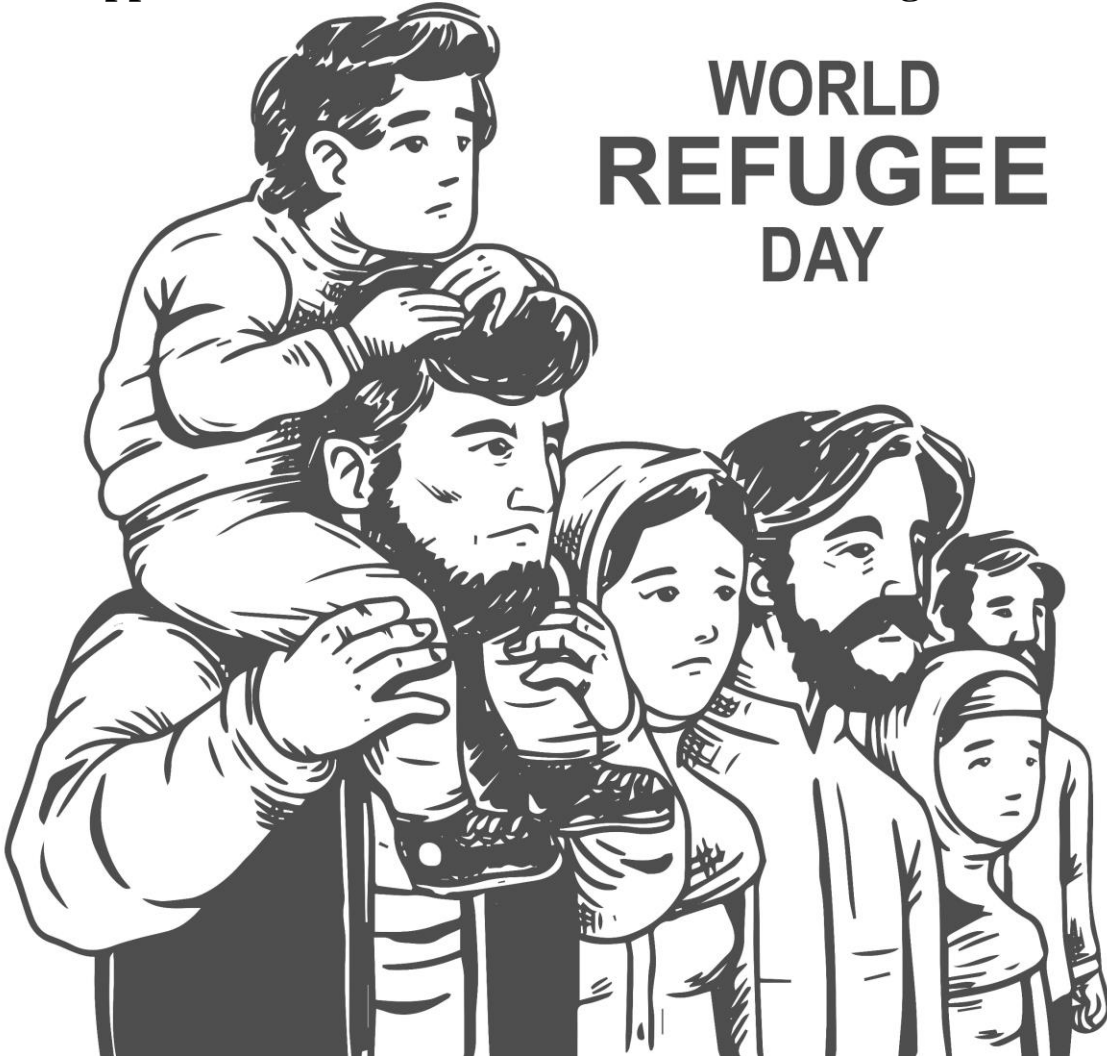


Link

Upper Wharfedale and Littondale Parish Magazine

WORLD
REFUGEE
DAY








For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many. *Mark 10 45*

The Link

The **Link** is the magazine and noticeboard for the Parish of Upper Wharfedale and Littondale, sharing news, reports and items of interest from the churches and our community. If you have something to contribute, please email it to your local correspondent or to the editor.

The deadline for submissions is the 20th of the month.

-  Editor: Ian Smith - smithiwho@gmail.com
-  Advertising Manager: Jenny Inocco – jeninocco@gmail.com & 07552 034264
-  Buckden & Langstrothdale: Ric Halsall - ric.halsall@aol.com
-  Conistone with Kilnsey: Kathryn & Philip Butterfield - philip.butterfield@outlook.com
-  Kettlewell with Starbotton: David Nelson - DavidNelsondave@aol.com

The Link is distributed free to every household in the parish, and is also available on the Parish website at <https://www.upperwharfedalechurches.org/news-and-views.html>

If you would like to receive a copy of the Link by email, please contact the Editor at smithiwho@gmail.com

The Link is financed by advertising from local businesses, and gifts. If you would like to make a gift towards the publication of the Link, you can do so through the Parish website at www.upperwharfedalechurches.org or by scanning this QR code. Your donations to parish funds help towards publication of the Link and the upkeep of our churches.

Thank you for your contribution.

Cover art and page 1: Vecteezy



Churches Contact Telephone Numbers

Vicar: Revd Tom Lusty - 01756 761072 or 07779 990279

Methodist Minister: Revd Andrew Webb – 01756 691057

Roman Catholic Priest: Fr Christopher Angel – – 01756 699000

Congregational Minister: The Revd Peter Thomas – 01756 753848

Parish Administrator: Andrew Hitchon – upperwharfedale@leeds.anglican.org or 01756 380237

A Dales Prayer

May the Father's grace abound in you
as the flowing water of the beck.

May the Son's love and hope invigorate you
as the rising slopes of fell and dale.

May the Spirit's companionship be with you
as the glory of the golden meadows.

Amen

From the Vicar...

When *All Creatures* came for the filming at Hubberholme Church recently I was invited to offer assistance with how the baptism could be staged. The director wasn't a churchgoer but wanted to get the details right. Afterwards we chatted in the churchyard.

He explained how he was involved with a food bank at his local Church in Edinburgh. He wasn't a religious man, but he was impressed with the way in which so many volunteers from faith-based organisations were running social action projects. He was worried about what would this country look like in ten years' time with these projects run by an ever-ageing demographic.

In a former parish I was involved with a project called West Yorkshire Destitute Asylum Network. The project offered a night stop for up to 12 destitute asylum seekers. It was set up through the auspices of the Leeds Church Institute where volunteers went for training.

Part of the success of the project was that it was time-limited and achievable. The hosting church had to offer an evening meal, and to ensure that the venue was a safe and warm space where our exhausted guests, some of whom had experienced significant trauma, could simply rest and be. The project changed attitudes, hearts and minds about asylum seekers. I was proud that we were the first Church in Leeds to host, and we did so for the next three years.

In the first year we were overwhelmed with offers of support from the local community. Of the 72 volunteer's half of whom weren't churchgoers, simply those who wanted to help out and do what they

could. For me when we hosted it felt that the kingdom had come closer.

At such times the Church discovers a shared vocation with the Son of Man who came "not to be served but to serve" (Mark 10.45).



Tom

From the Churches & Villages

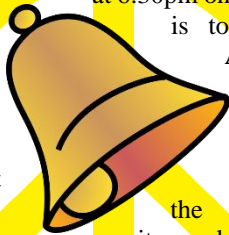


Tony and Jenny Inocco have had their family up to visit this month. Tom christened their youngest grandchild, Lara Hutchinson, on Tuesday 21 May at Kettlewell Church, where her brother Alistair was also christened in 2017.

'Ring Out for Peace'

If you should hear the bells of Kettlewell, Hubberholme and Arncliffe Churches ringing at 6.30pm on Thursday 6 June it is to mark the 80th Anniversary of D Day when Allied forces mounted the largest amphibious invasion the world has ever witnessed. In 1944, Operation Overlord saw over 5,000 ships and landing craft set down more than 130,000 troops on five Normandy beaches in an action that would bring about the liberation of north-west Europe.

If you would like to be involved in the 'Ring out for Peace' simply come along to the church tower in Kettlewell, Hubberholme or Arncliffe before 6.30pm on 6 June, and help us ring with churches throughout the country.



Pentecost, Cake & Coffee!

Cake and coffee were on the menu at Kettlewell church on Sunday 19 May, when we celebrated Pentecost and the 80th birthdays of three remarkable people who continue to serve the parish in so many ways; Myra Eteson, our organist, Pauline Thompson, our lay reader, and Jane Way, who recently stepped down as church warden at Hubberholme. That's an amazing 240 years between them – a significant portion of which has been spent serving in our parish. Happy 80th birthdays to you all!

Organ Recital

Matthew Atherton, the acclaimed organist and pianist from Thirsk, will be giving an organ recital at Arncliffe Church on Saturday 22 June.

Refreshments served from 7pm for a 7.30pm start.



From the Parish Registers

FUNERALS

6 April – St Mary’s Church, Conistone – Ian Norman Hall.

1 May – St Mary’s Church, Kettlewell – Jennifer Muriel Cuthbert.

St Mary’s, Kettlewell

June Rotas

Sidespeople

2 Colin Fairweather

9 No one required

16 Clare Blakey-Williams

23 Phil Burgin

30 No one required

After Service Tea/Coffee

2 Vivienne Fairweather

9 No one required

16 Di Blakey-Williams

23 Judy Burgin

30 No one required

Cleaning

Sue Nelson

Flowers

Sue Nelson

St Michael & All Angels, Hubberholme

June Rotas

Sidesperson

9 S&D Lusted

16 J Yarrow & L Hird

23 H&K Jeddere-Fisher

Flowers/cleaning

2 R Hall

9 R Hall

16 L Sowden

23 L Sowden

30 V Bliss

Thank you to everyone who supported our **Coffee Morning** on May 4th Bank Holiday Saturday. The event raised £354.50. We do appreciate your support to the Parish and

hope our next fund raiser will be as well supported.

Our next fund raiser is the August 26th **Bank Holiday Monday Refreshments and Stalls** from 10am to 4pm at Buckden School Room. It is our intention to have Refreshments, and Tabletops. If you would like to have a pitch for a tabletop for £10, please contact Josie Tel. 01756 751154 for more details. More information will be in the next Link.

After our August Bank Holiday event, the next one is on Friday 25 October in Buckden Village Institute when Cliff and Gill Gosden give an illustrated talk, “**Just Coasting – Our Walk Around the Coast of Britain.**” They will be picking out highlights and lowlights of their walk to provide a flavour of their experiences of walking the whole British coastline. Before the talk there will be a Pie and Pea Supper which is included in the price of the ticket. Further details will be in the next Link magazine - this is just to whet your appetite about a fantastic trip, and to encourage you to put the date in your diary.

Bingo Evening in December at the Buck Inn, Buckden - watch out for further details.

Remember our **Annual Fund-Raising Quiz** is still available to buy for £1 until September at The Buck Inn, Buckden, The George Inn, Hubberholme, the Parish Churches, and from Josie. 01756 761154 or Deirdre 01756 760296. Thank you to all who have already bought one.

Readers: Remember if you need a book to read go and have a look in the porch at Buckden School Room where there are some books to choose from, for a donation to church funds. For your interest, by December 2023 the **Porch Bookcase** had raised £411.74 in donations.

St Mary's, Conistone

June Rotas

Sidespeople

2 Allison Clarke and Philip Butterfield

9 Kathryn and Philip Butterfield

16 Hilda Dibb and Jo Foster

July 7 Hilda Dibb and Jo Foster

Flowers and Cleaning

2 Ruth Hall

9 Ruth Hall

16 Hilda Dibb

23 Hilda Dibb

30 Hilda Dibb

July 7 Vicky Fattorini

Open Church w/c

3 Lewis Adams

10 Allison Clarke

17 Jane Pighills & Michelle Parkin-Vaughan

24 Philip Butterfield

July 1 Lewis Adams

St Oswald's, Arncliffe

June Rotas

Opening church w/c

2 Elspeth Miller

9 Sarah Paul

16 Rebecca Ward-Dooley

23 Hilary Follows

*30 Sally Smith

Sidesperson

2 Sarah Paul

9 Elspeth Miller

16 Not required

23 Hilary Follows

*30 Sally Smith

Coffee

2 Sarah Paul

9 Elspeth Miller

16 Not required

23 Sally Smith

*30 Rebecca Ward-Dooley

Cleaning

Mrs J Raper

Flowers

Rebecca Ward-Dooley

*Parish Holy Communion at 11.15



**Buckden Gala
& Sheep Show**
Saturday 15th June
12.30 - 4.30pm

Hot Dog Stall
Children's Races & Activities
Dog Show
Crafts
Plant Stall
Tombola
Coconut Shy

Music
Buckden Pike Fell Race
BEER TENT
Raffle

Tea Room with fresh Tea, Coffee & Home Made Sandwiches and Cakes

visit - www.buckdengala.co.uk
or use the QR code for smartphones

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Buckden & Langstrothdale

Buckden Gala

Saturday 15 June, 12.30 - 4.30 pm

Live music, stalls, fell race, sheep show, dog show, children's races, crafts, grand draw, beer tent, hot and cold refreshments.

As usual we would be very grateful for donations of cakes (to sell both whole and in slices), tombola or raffle prizes. Please contact Pete (01756 761155 or gala@buckden.org) if you have any contributions. We are very grateful for the support that everyone gives us to run this event which raises money to support our thriving village hall. Please do come and join us, as a helper or visitor, to make this another fabulous day!

'Strawberries and Song'

Buckden Singers, fresh from their success at the Spring Sing in Grassington Town Hall with Grassington Singers are delighted to present 'Strawberries and Song' on Sunday 21 July at 3.00pm in Kettlewell Village Hall. Join us for a mixture of inspired singing ...nor forgetting the strawberries, cream and cake! Tickets @ £ 8 are available from Anne and Peter Vetch on 01756 760882 or email us at tickets@buckden.org

Buckden Art Group Exhibition

The Buckden Art Group's annual exhibition will be taking place in Buckden Village Institute from 24 to 26 August. Further details will be widely available nearer the time.

Kettlewell with Starbotton

Kettlewell Scarecrow Festival

The Scarecrow Festival is approaching with stealth, and rotas are being compiled as you read this article. If you are contacted by one of the committee members to request your help, **PLEASE** respond as soon as possible so we have an idea of numbers of volunteers.

If you are relatively new to the village, or simply have not had the time to become involved in the past but could spare an hour or two (or twelve!!), please do contact the person on the committee responsible for rotas as follows:

- 🔗 Serve in the Village Hall (Peter [07506780128](tel:07506780128))
- 🔗 Sell our merchandise on the stall (Nicky [07854443464](tel:07854443464))
- 🔗 Help with car parking (Peter 761953)

Requests for items of clothing - any clothing will do, especially bright coloured clothing, but we especially need **adults white collared shirts** (does not matter about condition as they will be underneath a jacket), a **light-coloured jacket** and **adults black trousers**. We also need any



old stuffing - old duvets, pillows, cushions, etc. Please contact Clare 07779933262 who can collect any items or drop them off at the Village Store.

Kettlewell Lunch Club

Kettlewell Lunch Club will meet on Thursday 20 June, 12.30 for 12.45 in Kettlewell Village Hall. If you didn't put your name forward at the May lunch please ring or text (I prefer these modes of communication, please) Sue Nelson, 760887 land line, 07765506738 mobile, by 4pm on Sunday 16 June to reserve your place. If there's no answer, leave a message. The cost is £6 for two courses plus coffee/tea. Wine is available by donation. If, for any reason, you need to cancel your meal between Monday 17 and Thursday 20 June or are an absentee on the day, the meal will still need to be paid for as provisions will have already been ordered or purchased. The Lunch Club is open to anyone who is over 55 and lives in the Parish Council area of Kettlewell with Starbotton. If you are able, it would be helpful if you could assist with clearing following the meal. Thank you.

The Mystery of the River Wharfe

Geoff Queen has an interesting question: “My eldest grandson married recently, and at the ceremony, his mother (my daughter) read the following poem which she said I had read at her wedding over 30 years ago but which, to my eternal shame, I did not remember but it is recorded on a video!

The River Wharfe

The River Wharfe has great beauty,
It changes and it flows.
It has strength and power and is a central
part of the landscape.
It is unobtrusive and doesn't parade its
powers and influence, and sometimes
meanders slowly through the valley.
It sometimes almost dries up and at other
times freezes solid and sometimes turns
into a raging torrent, destroying everything
in its path.
It is also very vulnerable to undercurrents.

This does sound remarkably like married life so, to the newlyweds, may your marriage flow as sweetly as the River Wharfe. May it have great beauty and strength, may it sparkle in the sun and may it give pleasure and sustenance to all around. I have no recollection of the origin of this poem, I may even have concocted it myself but if anyone can shed any light on this issue I would be delighted to know.” Please contact Geoff Queen, email cgg@charlesqueen.plus.com

Kettlewell & District WI

Very sadly, on 14 April, our friend and long serving member, Jennifer Cuthbert died. We shall miss her calm and capable manner and be grateful to her for the years she served as secretary. Thank you, Jennifer, you were loved and will be long remembered.

The exciting May Meeting took place at Grassington Fire Station where we were

looked after by five of the ten retained Fire Officers. We were told about fire safety and many of the main causes of fires in the home. We were given the history of the station and of the fire equipment which was held at Kettlewell for local emergencies. Then we had a tour of the very smart Station and given a demonstration of the equipment in the Fire engine, which attends not only fires, but road incidents, flooding, and many accidents other than those below ground.

We were made to feel really welcome, and the team answered all our questions. Thank you very much for your kindness and dedication to the Fire Service, you are very much appreciated. Home safety advice and testing and replacement of fire alarms may be offered, and anyone interested should visit www.northyorksfire.gov.uk/your-safety/book-a-visit.

Our next meeting will be held on 11 June in Kettlewell Village Hall at 1.30pm. Our speaker will be Mrs Sue Nelson telling us of about her many years' involvement with the Scargill Community. Our hostesses will be Linda and Barbara and the competition is 'S'.

Kettlewell Primary School News

We have newts in our pond and birds nesting in one of our boxes. Everyone has been excited looking for them and hearing the chicks.

Year 2 have started their weekly forest school classes at Kettlewell alongside our federation schools. The children have enjoyed climbing trees, using tools, hunting for insects and making dens. So far, the Monday weather has been kinder to us!

Class two took part in a water safety session. It looked at safety around reservoirs, rivers, canals, and at the coast. An important lesson in the area we live in.

We have all been busy practicing for our musical mash up in July. All the schools in the federation will be performing at



Grassington Town Hall, keep up the hard work, we can't wait to watch it.

Class one designed and brought home a questionnaire to ask their grandparents about the seaside when they were little. Its lovely to include everyone in our learning and learn from our family. Class Two have been in their time travelling machine, landing firmly back in the Stone Age, and getting their hands on actual artefacts from the time. The ingenuity of our ancestors was astounding. Some of the class have been so inspired that they have been hunting for historical clues at their own property too – we have some budding archaeologists!

Littondale

Amerdale Hall Events

'Littondale life through the years'

Thank you to everyone who helped create the exhibition held on the weekend of 11/12 May, and to all those who baked and served refreshments throughout both days. It was wonderful to welcome so many visitors and to hear shared stories, memories & laughter. £754 was raised for the Village Hall renovation project. THANK YOU ALL!

Coffee and Cake

Saturday 8 June. 10.30am – 12 noon

Our monthly coffee morning and opportunity to catch up with friends & neighbours in Amerdale Hall. Coffee or tea and homemade baking. Payment by donation.

Dates for your diary

Saturday 13 July: Coffee & Cake.

Saturday 10 August: Littondale Fete

Friday 20 September: The BIG Quiz!

Friday 25 October: Family Bingo

Saturday 7 December: Christmas Party

The next meeting of the Entertainment group takes place at the Queens Arms, Litton at 8pm on Tuesday 4 June. It is time to start planning for Littondale Fete 2024 and we would very much welcome any new ideas and offers of help, so please do come along. Everyone very welcome.

Parish wide & beyond

Upper Wharfedale Heritage Group Researching Field Walls in Conistone

Drystone walls are such an iconic aspect of the human created landscape of Wharfedale but are often not considered in any detail. We can see the impact they have on the valley scenery, and we know that visitors really love the visual impact they create. We know that many of them are extremely old, dating back far beyond the Enclosure Acts which caused the construction of many of the straight walls we can see. We can guess at the reason for building the walls – land ownership and stock management – but this has not been studied very much.

Over the next few months Upper Wharfedale Heritage group is undertaking a significant new piece of landscape research in Conistone looking at the drystone walls and investigating their purpose and age. With permission from landowners and farmers and others who use the landscape, members of Upper Wharfedale Heritage Group will measure walls and study several features which indicate age and purpose and

compare that with documentary information found in archives across Yorkshire.

On several days during the summer teams of volunteer researchers will visit selected sample walls in Conistone parish and record information about size and style as well as other features which indicate use and age of drystone walls. The project is under the guidance of Dr David Johnson who has already published significant research on walls in Westmorland and who provides academic focus. The results of the study project will be published.

If you would like to join in the Project, or are curious to know more, Upper Wharfedale Heritage Group welcomes your enquiries on its emails address: uwhg.enquiries@gmail.com

Mobile library

The **supermobile library** will be in Buckden car park on Wednesday 5 June, and in Kettlewell on Wednesday 19 June, from 10.00am until 12.00 noon.

Settle Orchestral Society

Our Summer concerts will take place in Settle and Skipton as follows:

- Saturday 22 June at 7.30 pm, Settle Parish Church
- Saturday 29 June at 7.30 pm, Christ Church, Skipton

We will be playing:

- Mozart Overture, 'The Impresario'
- R Strauss Horn Concerto No. 1, soloist Will Padfield
- Beethoven Symphony No. 7

Full details of future concerts and contacts are on our website www.settleorchestra.org.uk. We look forward to seeing you soon!

Rainfall for April 2024

Arncliffe: 152.1 mm/5.99 ins

Beckermunds*: 375.5mm/14.78ins

*Mar/Apr


This the seventh month in a row that rainfall has been higher than average!

April rainfall 2000-2023

Highest: 157.0 mm/6.18 ins

Lowest: 12.0 mm/0.47 ins

Average: 80.0 mm/3.15 ins




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information and support

2024 DATES

10th May	31st May
14th June	28th June
12th July	26th July
9th August	30th August



1pm - 4pm Church House, Grassington

Growing in the Spirit

This reflection is adapted from a sermon heard at a friend's ordination, and is based on Luke 1 57-66

Did you hear about the man who decided to become a monk and joined a silent order? They were only allowed to say two words every ten years. After ten years he went in to meet the abbot and he said: "bed hard". That was all right, they got more straw for his bed. The ten years rolled around and this time he said: "Too cold". They got him a thicker habit. Ten years later his words were: "I'm leaving". The abbot turns round and says, "Well, I'm not surprised. All you've done since you got here is complain".

I wonder what your first words would be after a long time of not being able to speak? After nine months of silence the first words of Zechariah, the father of John the Baptist, were to say that his son would be called the prophet of the Most High and that he would go before the Lord to prepare his way. The ordination service these days isn't as John's father's would have known it - no sacrificed bull or buckets of blood thrown over the altar - but we still recognise that some are called to particular forms of ministry. This month we pray for those preparing to be ordained.

It was a good thing John could not hear all that was being asked of him. What a weight of expectation on his shoulders, not just from his parents but from the whole community. The challenge for Zechariah and Elizabeth was to raise John to be himself so that he could be what he was called to be for others. The call today is no different, for people to be themselves.

The Gospel reading ends, "The child grew and became strong in spirit". For all of us that is the important question: whether we are growing strong in spirit, growing up into ourselves, waking up to God in our lives. May we daily be renewed in that Spirit, sharing God's grace and love with all we encounter.

Labyrinth of Attentiveness

...Who can travel the miles who does not put one foot in front of the other, all attentive to what presents itself continually?...

Mary Oliver



MEADOW LABYRINTH KETTLEWELL CHURCHYARD

To walk a labyrinth is to step into an ancient space for the soul. Take a moment to unburden yourself of expectation. Become aware of the present moment, then ...

walking in gently let go of preoccupations - open your eyes, ears and soul to the life around you

in the centre be attentive to what presents itself, continually

as you return along the same path reflect on what thoughts and feelings are with you as you leave to take your place again in the world around you

Kettlewell Churchyard Project - upperwharfedalechurches.org

Tom

Memorial service for Tom Priestley



The Bishop of Ripon, the Right Rev Anna Eltringham, has paid her first visit to one of the Churches in our Parish. The Bishop, who took up her post in the summer of last year, was at St Michael and All Angels Church, Hubberholme, to conduct a memorial service for the late Tom Priestley on Monday April 22.

Mr Priestley was an Oscar-nominated film editor and the only son of author and broadcaster JB Priestley, whose links to Hubberholme are celebrated in the Church. Tom Priestley died on 25 December 2023, and a funeral service has already been held for him in the south of England. The memorial service was partly intended to allow relatives in the north of England to pay their respects to him.

The Bishop, who was invited to attend the service by Mr Priestley's family, has been in our Parish previously for an event at Scargill House near Kettlewell, but this was the first time she had attended a service or event in one of our Churches. We are looking forward to seeing her again soon.

Picture shows members of Tom Priestley's family outside the Church following the service, with The Bishop of Ripon, the Rev Tom Lusty, recently retired

Hubberholme Church Warden Jane Way and Parish Administrator Andrew Hitchon also in the group.

Coincidentally, a few days later, we received an email from Don Salter (a subscriber to the Link and visitor to Hubberholme church) who drew our attention to JB Priestley's first visit to Upper Wharfedale, which he described in a short essay '*A Walking Tour*' in 1950:

"On a dazzling morning in the early summer of 1919 I left the bus at Buckden in Upper Wharfedale, to carry my rucksack over the pass into Wensleydale. I was beginning a walking tour. But no ordinary one. It was my first since I had left the army, from which I had recently been demobilised, after four-and-a-half years of what it seemed to me its idiotic routine. ... I took with me into the dales, like an enchanted passport, a commission from the editor of the "Yorkshire Observer" to write several articles on my walking tour, to be paid for at the rate of one guinea per article. ...; larks sang above the moorland grass; the little streams glittered and gurgled among the rocks; the sun was high, and a wind blew from Paradise..."

🔗 Refugee Week 17-23 June

Refugee Week is an annual festival of arts and culture that celebrates the contributions, creativity, and resilience of refugees. This year's theme is 'Our Home'. Our Home maybe the physical place where we live or have lived, a place of comfort, wherever those we love are, our culture or landscapes. Refugees, in rebuilding their lives, define and redefine what 'our home' means.

During Refugee Week we are encouraged to share our homes, hospitality, and neighbourhoods with others, to be a welcoming place where everyone can feel 'at home'. People from Upper Wharfedale have been welcoming refugees for many years and helped them create a new home and community. Others have supported refugees indirectly – including ensuring new homes have furniture! Even small actions can make a difference. For further information and ideas about how to celebrate Refugee Week, visit <https://refugeeweek.org.uk/>

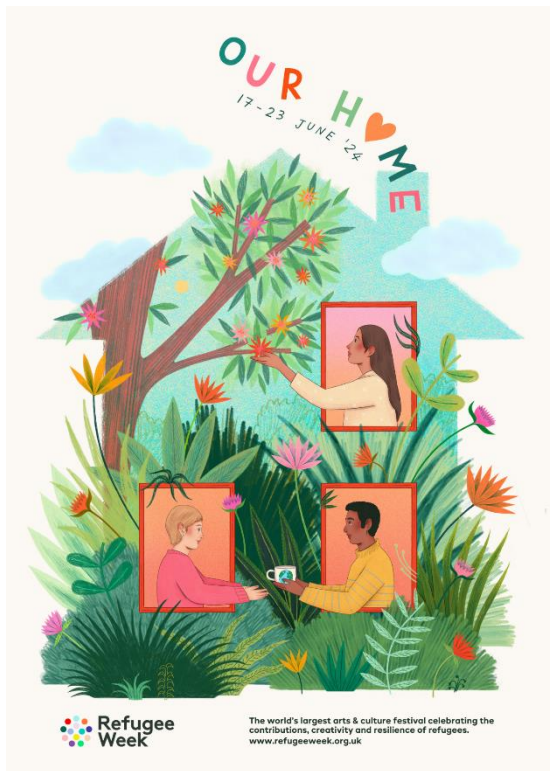
Local events

This year, Upper Wharfedale Refugee Support Group (UWRSG) and other local groups will have displays at Skipton Library and in the Foyer at Skipton Town Hall throughout the week.

15 June @10am - 12 noon. Stall outside the library.

16 June @10.30 am. Church service at Trinity St Andrews Methodist Church, Skipton at @10.30am followed by a shared lunch and walk. Contact Judy on 07891 193877 if you would like to join this event.

18 June @7 pm: an online talk on asylum seekers in Greece. Please contact Charlie at Charles.snaygill@yahoo.co.uk if you would like to be included.



20 June @7-9 pm: A social evening in the library. Please let Charlie know if you are attending and let me know if you would like a lift.

The Annual Fact Sheet will be available in time for refugee week. It provides an authoritative summary of statistics on refugees world-wide, in Europe and the UK about the numbers seeking asylum, the generating and host countries, and asylum decisions. It will be available on-line but if you would like paper copies for distribution, please let me know how many by June 3. If you would like further information about how to support refugees or would like to become to be involved in UWRSG please contact refugees@upperwharfedale.net

Stella Perrot (stella@stellaperrott.com)

Country Diary – June

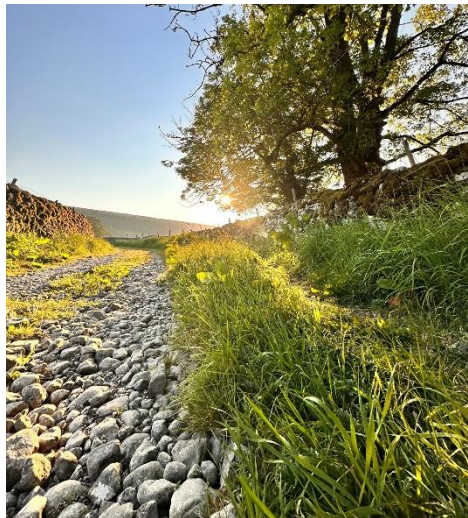
“.....Rich fresh wine
of June, we stagger into you smeared
with pollen”

Marge Piercy – More Than Enough

June opens out before us like a children’s pop-up book; layers and layers of vibrant wildflowers and lush verdant greens. The light has a clarity and precision that elevates the landscape; the morning and evening sun offers the most sublime sunshine that floods the land with buttermilk yellow, and burnished gold. After the greyest and longest of winters, these days and weeks feel like the most precious of gifts to savour unwrapping.

We were privileged to have a wonderful exhibition in Arncliffe recently: *‘Littondale Life Through the Years’*, offering a rich source of information and photography documenting life in the dale from the 1800s onwards. It got me thinking about how the dale’s flora and fauna might have changed over the years with some species in sharp decline (hedgehogs, curlews, and otters to name but a few) along with the addition of invasive species that threaten many of our native animals.

The River Skirfare now teams with signal crayfish – these crustaceans originally escaped from farms in the 1980s before their threat as a rapidly proliferating species was fully realised. They have



caused a sharp decline in native crayfish, akin to the effects of grey squirrels upon the red squirrel population and also cause erosion of riverbanks with the many inter-connecting burrows that they create.

It is a similar story with the American Mink, mass farmed for their fur in the 50s and 60s, before several escapees bred to create a population that affected native species such as water voles. Like all mustelids, mink are sophisticated predators that can wreak havoc with the population of the riverbank, and also go further afield to raid domestic chicken coops and the like.

Despite the inevitably changing nature of the species that inhabit our dales, and the effect of the footprint of human progress, we are still blessed to have a rich and diverse range of native species and continue to enjoy those mammals and birds that have completely disappeared from many other areas of the UK – something that I’m grateful for every day. Long may we continue to notice, cherish, and conserve the dales and allow their flora and fauna to flourish.

Rebecca Ward-Dooley

Community Events

The following events have been announced and details are inside the Link, however, please confirm with the organisers, as the situation may change.

THIS MONTH

Wed 5 Jun	Supermobile library, Buckden
Thu 6 Jun	'Ring Out for Peace'; Arncliffe, Hubberholme and Kettlewell Churches
Sat 8 Jun	Coffee & Cake, Amerdale Hall
Sat 15 Jun	Buckden Gala & Sheep Show
Wed 19 June	Supermobile library, Kettlewell
Thu 20 Jun	Kettlewell Lunch Club, Kettlewell Village Hall
Sat 22 June	Organ Recital by Matthew Atherton, Arncliffe Church
Sat 22 June	Settle Orchestra Summer Concert, Settle Parish Church
Sat 29 June	Brushing Up Your Shakespeare, Kettlewell Village Hall
Sat 29 June	Settle Orchestra Summer Concert, Christ Church, Skipton

FUTURE EVENTS

Wed 10 Jul	Tapestry Weaving with Anna Weatherall, Conistone with Kilnsey Hall
Sat 13 Jul	Coffee & Cake, Amerdale Hall
Sun 21 Jul	' <i>Strawberries and Song</i> ' with Buckden Singers, Kettlewell Village Hall
Sat 10 Aug	Littondale Fete, Arncliffe
Aug 10-18	Kettlewell Scarecrow Festival 30 th Anniversary
Aug 24-26	Buckden Art Group Exhibition, Buckden Village Institute
25 Aug	Buckden Duck Race
26 Aug	Bank Holiday refreshments and stalls, Buckden School Room
Sun 8 Sep	Kettlewell & District Horticultural Show
Fri 20 Sep	BIG Quiz, Amerdale Hall
Fri 25 Oct	' <i>Just Coasting...</i> ' talk by Cliff & Gill Gosden, Buckden Village Institute
Fri 25 Oct	Family Bingo, Amerdale Hall
Sat 7 Dec	Littondale Christmas Party, Amerdale Hall

REGULAR EVENTS

What	When	Where
Chess Club	1 st and 3 rd Tues, 7-9pm	Kettlewell Village Hall
Play Table Tennis	Wed 3.15-4, 4-5.30, 5.30-7.15pm	Kettlewell Village Hall
Funk Wire	Thur -fortnightly 2pm	Conistone & Kilnsey Village Hall
Buckden Singers	Thurs – 7.30pm	Buckden Village Institute
Indoor Bowls	Wed 1.45-3.35pm	Kettlewell Village Hall
Coffee Morning	Thurs – weekly 10.30-12.00	Halton Gill Reading Room



The following schedule of church services in our parish is planned for this month, however, please check the parish website for confirmation at www.upperwharfedalechurches.org

Sunday 2 June

09.30	Arncliffe	Holy Communion
11.15	Kettlewell	Iona Communion
18.30	Conistone	Holy Communion

Sunday 9 June

09.30	Arncliffe	Morning Prayer
11.15	Hubberholme	Holy Communion
18.30	Conistone	Holy Communion

Tuesday 11 June

18.00	Kettlewell	Sanctuary@6 Healing
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Sunday 16 June Fathers' Day

09.30	Hubberholme	Holy Communion
11.15	Kettlewell	Holy Communion
18.30	Conistone	Evening Prayer

Sunday 23 June

09.30	Arncliffe	Holy Communion
11.15	Kettlewell	Morning Prayer
18.30	Hubberholme	Evening Prayer

Tuesday 25 June

18.00	Kettlewell	Sanctuary@6 Healing
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Sunday 30 June

11.15	Arncliffe	Parish Holy Communion and celebration of Tom's 25 th anniversary of ordination
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Holy Mass is celebrated on Sundays at 9.00 am at St. Margaret Clitherow's R.C. Church, Threshfield

