Three years and still going strong!

The start of 2018 has been busy one at Clapham Village Store. It seems incredible that we are nearly at the end of March and that, furthermore, the shop will celebrate its third birthday at the end of the month. As I write this it seems impossible that three years ago we were nervously planning our ‘Soft’ opening on March 26th and our ‘Grand’ opening on March 28th. So many things seem to have happened since then. On reflection, perhaps the most amazing thing is that we have managed to stay open (in all winds and weathers as recently illustrated). However, we have also moved into profit, albeit a small one, more quickly than we had anticipated; we have increased our paid staff from one to three, who actually cover five different roles between them; and we still have over 40 active volunteers whose time, if paid, would amount to a cost of £25,000. So it does seem that, at the end of year three, we do have something to celebrate.

The start of the year has seen some physical changes in the shop. We are all delighted by the improvements in the back room where work to the plaster, improved lighting, some new shelving and re-decoration have created a fresh new finish. It looks modern but has not lost the ‘rustic look’ which has been much admired by so many people. The area behind the till is also having a “new look” which should make better use of the space as well as smarten it up. These improvements are possible as a result of the award of £8,000 we received for Rural Enterprise and Employment from the Yorkshire Dales Millennium Trust and the continuing support of the Ingleborough Estate.

We are now looking forward to Easter and the busy summer months. Remember that your local community shop can provide Easter eggs, Easter cards and lovely gifts at very reasonable prices. We also have our usual selection of fresh fruit and vegetables, a full range of dairy products, deli goods, homemade sandwiches, great bread, cakes and biscuits as well as all the things you need for a regular weekly shop at very competitive prices. And they all come with a smile!

As one customer said:

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I am looking forward to joining you in the parishes of Clapham and Keasden, Austwick and Eldroth this spring. Currently Rector of the Cam Vale Benefice (six parishes near Yeovil, South Somerset) I’ve also held parish posts in Exeter, Chester, and Liverpool dioceses.

Before going into ministry I was variously an apprentice welder, draughtsman, civil servant and computer programmer. The transition came in my mid-thirties when I swapped computing for a role as church-community worker in Toxteth, from where I went on to ordination training.

Living on the Yorkshire / Lancashire border is ideal for me as I come from a Merseyside family and am ‘Yorkshire’ on my mother’s side. I know the Dales and Forest of Bowland very well from many years of day trips (cycling and motorbiking), walking weekends, leading Boys Brigade camps etc.

As well as feeling very blessed to have the opportunity to live in this lovely family, my wife Diana and I are thrilled about being near our family and closest friends again, and we’re keen to get settled and involved in the life of the village communities. As your vicar I hope that you will find me down-to-earth, friendly and approachable, a prayerful, caring and creative leader. I’m looking forward to getting to know you.

We will be bringing with us one son James, a cairn terrier Lily and a cat Jess; we have two sons and one grandson in Liverpool, a daughter in London, and a son, daughter-in-law and grandson in Japan, each of whom will no doubt be joining us in Austwick Vicarage from time to time.

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**For baptisms, weddings and funerals**

During the period of Anglican interregnum (up to 19th April), please contact:

**Clapham**

Church warden Liz Mason - 015242 51319  
Church warden Colin Brindle - 015242 51426  
PCC Secretary Sue Mann - 015242 51792

**Keasden**

Church warden Graham Taylor - 015242 51636  
PCC Secretary Angela Peach - 015242 51108

From 20th April, please contact:  
Revd. John Davies, Priest in Charge,  
The Vicarage, Main Street, Austwick, LA 8JT  
015242 51313

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**Church news**

_The Revd. John Davies writes:_

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**Church services**

**St James’ Church, Clapham**

*April*

Every Sunday - Holy Communion at 11am  
Except Sunday - 29th April - United Service at 10.30am  
Thursday, 19th April - Licensing & Induction of Revd. John Davies at 7.30pm

*May*

Every Sunday - Holy Communion at 11am

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**St Matthew’s Church, Keasden**

*1st April - Easter Day Holy Communion at 11am*

*8th April - Holy Communion at 2pm*

*15th April - no service*

*22nd April - Evensong at 2pm*

*29th April - United service at Clapham at 10.30am*

*6th May - Holy Communion at 11am*

*13th May - Holy Communion at 2pm*

*20th May - Lambing Service at Wenningside Farm at 7pm*

*27th May - Evensong at 2pm*

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**Bethel Chapel, Cross Haw Lane, Clapham**

*Sundays:*

Sunday School 10.15am, Services 11.00am & 6.30pm

*Weekdays:*

Bible Study Tuesday at 7.30pm  
1st Thursday Senior Citizens at 2pm, 3rd Thursday Fellowship at 2pm, 4th Thursday Coffee Evening at 7.30pm

**Children’s activities:**

a) Kmotion (primary school aged children) at 6.00pm  
b) Encounter (10 years and up) at 7.30pm

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**Methodist Chapel, Newby**

Service - 1st Sunday in month at 2pm, all other Sundays at 11am

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**Diary dates**

*April*

Saturday, 14th - Coffee Morning, 10am-12 noon, Village hall  
Thursday, 19th - Licensing & Induction of Revd. John Davies, 7.30pm at St James church, Clapham  
Tuesday, 24th - Lecture Group AGM, 7.15pm, Clapham school

*May*

Friday, 4th - Scandimoot drop in c8.30pm, Village hall  
Saturday, 5th - Scandimoot dance, evening, Village hall  
Monday 7th - Scandimoot concert, c1.30pm, St James church, Clapham  
Friday, 25th - Art exhibition preview, 8pm, Village hall  
Saturday, 26th to Sunday, 3rd June - Art exhibition, 11am-6pm, Village hall  
Sunday, 27th - Joan & John Farrer memorial sculpture dedication and tea, 2pm, St James churchyard

_Village hall: Clapham Village hall, Cross Haw Lane, LA2 8HR_
Scandimoot

Scandimoot is inviting you to a wonderful FREE concert in the church in Clapham with the performers from this year’s event. From Sweden we’ll have Ditte Andersson, playing the nyckelharpa and fiddle; Ida Meidell Blylod, a violinist specialising in English and Swedish folk music, as well as Anna Rheingans, half of the UK award winning Rheingans sisters, a fiddle player and singer of great talent. Also our dance instructors Leif and Margareta Virtanen will demonstrate some of the dances they have been teaching, with Peter Westerlund on fiddle. Leif and Margareta will be wearing the stunning traditional dress from their area.

Full concert in Settle Victoria Hall on Sunday at 8pm. (Tickets via Victoria Hall). You are welcome to drop in to the Village Hall (if you are a Clapham resident) around 8.30pm on Friday May 4th. We have an informal intro to Scandimoot where we meet the artist-instructors. It is aimed at participants but we can fit in a few extra people and we like sharing our love of this music and dance. Visitors are welcome to the dance in the Village Hall on Saturday evening too, for a small charge.

The free concert in church will run from approximately 1.30 till 2.30pm on Monday 7th (watch for local notices at the church in case times change slightly).

Pat Goodacre

Age UK Group

Clapham Age UK Group meets on the first Wednesday of every month at 11 a.m. in the supper room at the Village Hall. We have coffee/tea and biscuits followed, usually, by a speaker, often with a slide show. During the meeting we discuss where to go on our monthly outing. After the meeting we are invited to Clapham Primary School for lunch, which is always delicious and is a very enjoyable occasion at a modest cost.

On the Thursday of the week following the meeting we have the use of the Age UK minibus from Settle, with a volunteer driver, to visit a destination of our choice. We have been in every direction to a great variety of venues. The time of year dictates the sort of place where we can go. Obviously in the winter it has to be mainly indoors, but we can spread our wings a little in the summer and our wonderful driver David makes sure we always travel the scenic route.

We would love to welcome some new members and we hope some of you will feel encouraged to give us a try. If you are interested do give me a ring on 51816. I would love to hear from you.

Brenda Pearce

Autumn lectures in Clapham

A new season of autumn lectures will begin in Clapham on Tuesday 18 September 2018.

In preparation for this, the Lecture Group will hold its AGM on Tuesday 24 April 2018, 7.15pm, in Clapham School (classroom at rear)

The meeting will be followed by an illustrated talk by Andy Scott on the topic of Clapham and its environs during the Civil War

Ken Pearce

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**Loki’s big day out at Crufts**

Last year we lost our dog, Rex, who was a Finnish Lapphund. Lappies are Arctic Spitzes and have been bred for a thousand years by the Sami people of Northern Finland to herd their reindeer. For the uninitiated, they have the intelligence of Border Collies, the sweet temperaments of Golden Retrievers, leavened by the mischievousness of Jack Russells, all wrapped up in the good looks of a young Robert Redford (biased? moi?). They’re generally a very healthy long-lived breed and we both wanted another one. Sammy Critchlow of “Pavoskas Finnish Lapphunds” kindly put us on the puppy list of her lovely bitch, Mocha, who was pregnant. The pups were born on June 8th, and on 29th June we went to Highworth to see them.

The Lapphund owning community is small, so Sammy knew about us and knew the pup would have a good home. There was one teeny thing: Mocha is a U.K. Champion and Tilti, the stud dog, is a Finnish and Norwegian Champion so would we consider taking the pup to a few shows? By then, Loki, as we decided to call him, had fallen fast asleep with me holding him, and there’s little that Sammy could have asked that I wouldn’t have agreed to. Loki went to his first show in January where he won one class and was second in another which qualified him for entry to Crufts.

We had to be at the NEC for 7am to make sure we could park as close as possible to the hall where Loki was going to be shown. This was vital and we were loaded down like Sherpas on an Everest expedition. “Team Pavoskas” were all together so it was a reunion for both dogs and owners. Dogs have to be prepared before any competition. For Lapphunds this means a quick brush through and a check of the bum and the willy to make sure they and the fur around them are clean. For the Old English Sheepdogs next to us it meant a full shampoo and set. At a show, dogs are separated from bitches and judged according to age and experience, from puppy dog or bitch, to veteran dog or bitch. Loki was in the puppy dog class. The judge felt the pups over all over to check their conformation, watched them move, and then seemed to take ages before calling out Loki as winner of Best Finnish Lapphund Dog Puppy at Crufts 2018!!!

The rest of the day was equally successful. Two of Loki’s sisters, Ceili and Cali, were first and second respectively in the Puppy Bitch class, with Ceili (shown by 13 year old Rebekah) winning the Junior Bitch class too, before beating Loki for Best Puppy in Breed. Jo, who was showing Cali, did a super job at her first Crufts. “Team Pavoskas” also won Veteran Bitch with Apina, were third in Open Dog with Arttu and Third in Veteran Dog with Kippis. We all had a great day, and we all took the best dog home.

Ann Sheridan

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**Sunday 27th May at 2pm**

There will be a short service, followed by tea in the churchyard, to dedicate the sculpture made for the memory of John and Joan Farrer.

Please do come to one or both to remember them with joy.
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**Age UK North Craven**

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www.ageuk.org.uk/northcraven
Registered Charity number: 1141867
The Parish Council met on 27th February, 2018 with two members of the public in attendance.

The local police were unable attend but had forwarded a written report informing the Council of three incidents that had occurred in the parish in the preceding month. These were an attempted burglary in a shed, a theft of tools from a vehicle in Clapham and a report of men seen in suspicious circumstances in the Keasden area.

The clerk was instructed to report a collapsed culvert and potholing on Keasden Road and the lack of road salt in Newby. It was noted that issues relating to a dog-waste bin in Newby, undercutting on Old Road, Clapham, road-salt bins on Keasden Road and earlier potholing on that road had been reported to the appropriate authorities.

The Council discussed arrangements for the forthcoming Annual Parish Meeting which is to be held on Tuesday 27th March, 2018 at 7.30pm in Clapham Village Hall. A number of local organisations to be invited were identified. All parishioners are, of course, welcome to attend.

Updates were received in relation to the hyperfast broadband project and neighbourhood planning. The council was also informed that efforts to appoint a Parish Caretaker have so far come to nought. It therefore decided that, for the time being, work would be allocated to local contractors as and when required.

The Council learned that efforts to have a possible further bus stop in Clapham Village are still ongoing.

Donations were authorised in favour of Settle Swimming Pool, Craven and Harrogate Citizen's advice Bureau and Clapham Park Association.

There was little planning business before the Council. Two decisions were noted, namely, the granting of a certificate of lawfulness of existing use at The View, Burnhead Farm, Mewith and the granting of an application for a single storey rear extension at the rear of 19 Dalesview Close, Clapham.

The Parish Council met on 27th February, 2018 with two members of the public in attendance.

In relation to planning matters, the Council supported an application for internal and external works at Hall, Donations were authorised in favour of Settle Swimming Pool, Craven and Harrogate Citizen's advice Bureau and Clapham Park Association.

Local elections - May 3rd
Parish council elections are coming soon, with six seats available for Clapham-cum-Newby. If you can’t get to a polling station then you should consider making a postal or proxy vote. If you are newly eligible to vote in the area then you need to register.

Monday 16th April - Postal votes are dispatched to those who have applied for them before the end of March 2018.

Tuesday 17th April - If you are not registered to vote, do so by this date. To register, go to www.gov.uk/register-to-vote.

Wednesday 18th April - The deadline to apply for a postal vote is 5pm. See: www.cravendc.gov.uk/elections-voting-democracy/postal-votes/

Wednesday 25th April - The deadline to apply for a proxy vote is 5pm. See: www.cravendc.gov.uk/elections-voting-democracy/proxy-votes/

Thursday 3rd May - ELECTION DAY!

Parish Council news

Clapham cum Newby Parish Council held two consecutive meetings on the evening of 27th March, 2018.

The first was the Annual Parish Meeting. This was followed by the regular meeting of the Parish Council. Both meetings were well attended by representatives of local groups and organizations and members of the public.

The Annual Parish meeting was opened by the Chairman of the Parish Council, Councillor Colin Price. Councillor Price then gave a report which set out details of the Parish Council and its activities over the preceding year.

Councillor Price’s report was followed by reports from representatives of local groups and organizations. In no particular order, the bodies represented were Craven District Council, North Yorkshire County Council, North Yorkshire Police, St James's Church, Clapham, Clapham Village Shop, a member of the public with an interest in future improvement of the environment at Clapham Station, Clapham Playpark, Clapham Sustainability Group, Clapham Art Group, Neighbourhood Planning, Age UK, the Hyperfast Broadband Project, Clapham Village Hall, The Ingleborough Estate, The Yorkshire Dales National Park and Cave Rescue Organisation.

At the end of the meeting there was an opportunity for parishioners to raise concerns. Among matters raised were concerns over the level of pruning of vegetation on parts of the beck-side in Clapham, the lack of a bus shelter in Clapham and the possibility of a 20mph speed limit in Clapham.

At the conclusion of the Annual Parish Meeting, the council moved on to its regular meeting. Highways matters were, as usual, discussed with the Council deciding to report, in some instances not for the first time, undercutting on Old Road in Clapham, windscreen glass on the same road, potholes on Keasden Road and near to Calterber Bridge, and problems with road signs in the Keasden Road area.

The Council noted that repair works were still outstanding at Newby and Clapham Station noticeboards and undertook to arrange for the required work to be chased up.

For some time the Council had been in correspondence in an attempt to arrange a recognised bus stop at the village end of Cross Haw Lane, Clapham. It noted that a reply had been received from North Yorkshire County Council to indicate that the location concerned would, from now on, be treated as a “hail and request” stop.

In relation to planning matters, the Council supported an application to extend an existing classroom and create a timber extension with veranda at Keasden Head. It further noted that planning permission and listed building consent had been granted for internal and external works at Hall Garth.

The next Parish Council meetings will be in the Village hall on Tuesday, 24th April & Tuesday 22nd May at 7.30pm. Everyone is welcome to attend.

The Parish Clerk & Responsible Financial Officer Nigel Harrison can be contacted by email: njhar1957@gmail.com
**Summer buses**

Weekday and Saturday services started in March, with the Sunday and Bank Holiday services added at the start of April.

The weekday bus route – bus numbers 580/581/582 - provides a through service from Lancaster to Skipton and return, via both Newby (Lane End) and Clapham (westbound stop: opposite the shop, eastbound stop: outside the New Inn).

On the weekday/Saturday service, the first bus of the day from Clapham in the Skipton direction is at 07:34 (this bus originates at Kirkby Lonsdale) with following services at 08:09 (except Saturdays when it’s at 08:24) 09:09, 11:09, 13:09, 15:09 and 17:39 (except Saturdays when it’s at 17:09). (Newby times all 3 minutes earlier.) The last bus back sets off from Skipton at 18:45.

In the opposite direction, the first bus of the day from Clapham to Lancaster is at 09:49 with following services at 11:49, 13:49, 15:49, 17:49, 18:49 and 19:49. (Newby times all 3 minutes later.)

Sunday services – bus number 881 - are between Ingleton and Malham, via Clapham but not Newby, with the first and last buses of the day extended through to Morecambe via Lancaster. From Clapham you can get to Settle or Malham at 09:53, 12:38 and 15:13. In the opposite direction, you can get to Ingleton at 12:19, 14:24 and 16:59, with this last going through to Lancaster (arrive: 18:05) and Morecambe (arrive: 18:25).

Timetables are available in the Village Shop or online (plus ticketing info) at www.daletravel.info

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**Voices of Craven 2018**

This is an Arts Initiative with the aim of bringing rural communities together through music and song. The choir will rehearse under the expert baton of Tom Leech, Director of the Diocese of Leeds School Singing Programme and MD of Bradford Festival Choral Society.

Rehearsals:
The first rehearsal was on Thursday 15th March from 7-9pm in The Bannister Suite at Coniston Hotel. Three further rehearsals, same time, same place, on April 19th, May 17th and June 21st.

Performances:
Songs of Praise - 3rd June at Hellifield Church - 6pm, 16th June The Square, Grassington - 3.30pm (as part of the Grassington Festival)

This year’s programme includes works by Mozart, Elgar, Gershwin and Vaughan Williams. Professional soloists will be singing alongside the choir.

So, dust off your vocal chords and come along and sing! There are no auditions and nothing to be afraid of. If you can sing in tune, we want to meet you.

For more information go to www.voicesofcraven.org or Facebook:@Voices of Craven.

Joan Horsfield
(01756 749802)

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Village hall news

We have made a great start in our refurbishment drive. As many will know the hall is in need of urgent attention. The roof on the car park side needs removing and re-fixing, as the nails have degraded and so have the flashings. The heating no longer conforms to current legislation and the boiler is on its last leg, so the whole system needs replacing. The glass sealed units are no longer sealed and steam up when the sun shines (it does occasionally) and, finally, we have damp on some of the walls in the hall and corridor. This will need treating before the decorating takes place, which is also necessary.

At the end of January, we held a very successful Burns Night Supper and Ceilidh and we raised nearly £500. At the February Domino Drive we raised another £512. This is brilliant and a MASSIVE thank you to all who have supported us with our events so far!

On 6th June, we are very fortunate to be able to host an evening with Ian McMillan, assisted by accordionist Luke Carver Goss (see separate advert). Many will remember Ian McMillan as the voice of “The Yorkshire Dales and the Lakes” TV programmes which have been shown recently and featured our local heroes the Dawson Family. Ian is famously known as the Bard of Barnsley and the evening will include chat, poems and music, much of it generated “off the cuff”. Hopefully, this will appeal to all tastes. Tickets are available from the village shop, or via telephone from Sue on 015242 51792, or on line from me via jackieanddavid@yahoo.com

We have also started to apply for funding from other charities towards our refurbishment project. This is being coordinated by Sue Mann who has successfully raised a substantial amount for the church in recent years. We are pleased to announce a generous contribution of £5000 from the Farrer Trust to get us started so we hope that this work will be completed this year.

Future events planned are the ever popular “Duck Race” at the Street Fair in July and the usual Quiz Night in October. We also plan to fit in other social events in between, format still to be decided. All those involved in running the hall would like to offer a massive thanks to all who have supported us in our efforts so far.

Finally, the hall is now on the B4RN network so we have full internet access! This will allow us to add to the types of event that we can offer and to support different activities in the future. A big thank you to Simon and his team for all their work on getting this sorted and also for their efforts to get the rest of the village provided with such a good high-speed service.

David Kingsley
Treasurer

Discoveries

After 78 years during which neither Barbara nor I had ever been in hospital or visited A and E it seemed a good time to carry out some research so I have been twice in the space of one month to investigate for The Newsletter.

Here are my findings:

1. If you decide to collapse when you are out do so on the verge not in the road because tarmac is harder than your knees. Try to collapse in Clapham. You can be sure that some kind soul will pick you up and take you home instead of filming the drama on their phone and sharing it on Facebook.
2. Astonishingly, I am not always right. I insisted that I needed no outside help but Barbara overruled me and that is why I am still here.
3. Staff in Lancaster A and E and on the wards are wonderfully patient, friendly, professional and reassuring despite working under great pressure.
4. Men are less chatty than women. Six men, four days and not one word exchanged between us but I did read several newspapers and two books.
5. I don't often fall downstairs at home because we live in a bungalow but if you are away you can gain maximum attention by failing to put on the landing light and plunging downstairs. I was attended by two doctors, five ambulance crew and eight family members. Attention seeking? Me? As if!
6. Always wear boxers when you are expecting a night-time audience. A nightie or jim-jams are acceptable alternatives.
7. Blackburn A and E staff are also outstandingly good despite the fact that their corridors were lined with patients on trolleys at 4.30 a.m. on Sunday.
8. When one arm is in a pot and resting on the side of the bath, reading a newspaper is a frustrating and soggy experience.
9. If you practise you can learn to apply roll-on deodorant under your right armpit using your right hand. Go on, try it.
10. I started this list with Clapham. I want to end it with Clapham and, of course, our friends in Newby and Keasden. Barbara and I would like to say thank you for all your messages and kindness. I will now try to stay vertical.

Stuart Marshall
In the previous issue, I began to relate the story of what happened in the Clapham area during what we now call the ‘First English Civil War’ and which included Prince Rupert’s march through the Aire Gap prior to his defeat at Marston Moor. That war drew to an uneasy close in 1645, with Parliament in the ascendant. In this, the second part, I’ll continue the story through to the end of the conflict.

The second route-march through the Aire Gap was three years later in 1648 and much had happened in the meantime. The Scots had changed allegiance and now sided with the Royalists. With the Parliamentary army largely deployed on dispersed mopping-up operations against isolated Royalist garrisons, the Scots took the opportunity to march into England to support the King. From Carlisle they advanced slowly south and were joined along the way by Royalist regiments still operating the area. Soon they became a sizeable force. They were tracked all the way, however, by Parliamentary forces under John Lambert who now commanded all the Roundhead forces in the North. He skirmished with them all along their east flank, preventing them from crossing the Pennines.

Meantime, command of part of the Parliamentary army had passed to Oliver Cromwell and he reacted quickly to the threat by heading north with the bulk of the New Model Army. Rather than attacking the Scots “head-on”, he instead decided to join up with Lambert’s forces first, thus allowing him to re-equip on route. They met at Otley, by which time the Scots main force was badly strung out. Their advance guard was as far forward as Wigan whilst their rear-guard was still in Hornby. Marching via Skipton and then down the north bank of the Ribble Valley, the Parliamentarians caught the bulk of the enemy just outside Preston. They were met in the flank whilst they were in the process of trying to cross the Ribble and Hindburn. The Scots and Royalist army was heavily defeated and thus this Scots intervention was brought to an end.

Three years later, in 1651, the Aire Gap saw its final route-march of the conflict. By now, King Charles was dead and Royalist support had focused on his son, the future Charles II. Again, it was the Scots who made the first move, setting out from Stirling and following the same route down the west of the Pennines as before, via Carlisle and Hornby.

When the Scots set out, Cromwell was already north of the border, with Lambert in close support and General Harrison commanding a reserve at Berwick. Lambert was ordered to pursue the Scots south, with the cavalry, following them down the western side of the country, whilst Cromwell headed south more slowly, with the foot soldiers and artillery, down the eastern side of the country. Harrison, meanwhile, was to head quickly south, then cross the Pennines, and harry the Scots left flank. It was this flank march that took an army one last time through Gisburn.

Kept away from London, the Scots were to get as far south as Worcester where their ultimate defeat was to prove the last major encounter of the conflict and brought the Civil Wars to a close. Clapham appears to have escaped the worst of it but its influence will have been felt nonetheless. It is estimated that up to one quarter of all adult males had become involved in the fighting on one side or the other and it’s highly likely that one or two of the village’s men folk got caught up in it and may never have returned home.

But before we complete the story, it’s worth mentioning some important military figures from the wars who were born and raised not far from Clapham.

We’ve met John Lambert before. He was from Calton Hall, near Kirkby Malham, and he rose to become one of the most senior military commanders of the Parliamentary army, as well as an astute politician. When war broke out in 1642, he was studying law at the Inns of Court in London but returned home to help raise troops for Parliament with a commission as Captain of Horse. His recruits were to join the Northern Army being raised by Ferdinando, Lord Fairfax. Lambert was evidently successful since he was soon appointed colonel of his regiment, and served with distinction during the Siege of Hull, at the Battle of Nantwich and at the Siege of Bradford. He fought at Marston Moor in 1644 where Royalist hopes in the North were quashed.

When the New Model Army was formed in 1645, he was initially put in charge of the cavalry in what remained of Parliament’s Northern army, but he was later rewarded with a Colonelcy in the New Model itself. Then, at just 28 years old, he was appointed Major General in charge of all Parliamentary troops in the North.

In the squabbles which interspersed the fighting, his political skills came to the fore and he became a key player in the establishment of the way Britain was to be governed – perhaps the most enduring legacy we have today from this period of unrest. His military skills had kept him employed away from London during the trial and subsequent execution of the King so he did not commit regicide. Nevertheless, with the restoration of the monarchy in 1660, he was still charged as a traitor, captured and sent to The Tower. He escaped but was recaptured (by one of his old colleagues, who was trying to win a pardon for himself from the new regime), sent back to The Tower and thence to Castle Cornet on Guernsey. Ultimately, he was transferred to the prison on Drakes Island in Plymouth Sound where he died during the severe winter of 1683/4 after 24 years in captivity.

Slightly further away, Denton Hall, on the outskirts of Ilkley, was the home of the Fairfaxes who were a military family through and through. Father – Ferdinando, Lord Fairfax – was a
professional soldier, a skill he had learnt as a mercenary in the Netherlands during the 30 Years War. When hostilities broke out, he took Parliament’s side and was put in charge of the Northern forces although he was already in his late 50s at the time. He got a sizeable army together and had some early successes, including ensuring that the important port of Hull was secured for Parliament. However, his luck ran out further west since the Royalists were at that time dominant in the area, and he was defeated at the Battle of Adwalton Moor just outside Bradford in 1643. Although he commanded his army at the Battle of Marston Moor, he was afterward made governor of York and, ultimately, had to resign his command as a result of the “Self-Denying Ordinance”. This was a piece of legislation brought in by Parliament in that year to prevent members of either house of parliament from holding military office. He died in 1648 after an accident caused an infection in his foot.

In the meantime, his son Sir Thomas Fairfax was rising to prominence. His father had given him command of the cavalry of the Northern army at first, but he took overall control when his father resigned. When the New Model Army was formed, he was promoted to command the whole as its Lord General thus becoming the most senior Roundhead officer. In that role, he proved his mettle at the Battle of Naseby and went on to lead the army as it mopped up the remaining Royalist garrisons in the West Country in the aftermath. Under his guidance, the New Model became a very efficient and effective fighting force.

Although he was well loved and respected by most of his soldiers, he disagreed with the hardliners in Parliament and withdrew from his command when it became clear that there was an intention to put the king on trial for his life. He retired to his estate and his command passed to Cromwell.

Ultimately, Fairfax emerged from retirement one more time as a statesman in the arrangements for the restoration of King Charles II to the throne: he even provided the new king with the horse that he used for his coronation! He died in 1671, aged just 59.

The research into all of this is very much a “work in progress” and I’m keen to learn more. I’m also delighted to have been asked to address the Clapham Lecture Group at its forthcoming AGM (advertised elsewhere in this newsletter) where my illustrated talk will expand on the same subject. So if you’d like to come along and hear more about this fascinating period of our history – or you have some additional snippets of information to offer – then I’d be glad of your company. I’ll be the one in the funny outfit!

Andy Scott

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**Keasden rainfall report**

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Art group annual exhibition

Clapham Art Group, which comprises practising and experienced artists, will be holding their annual exhibition this spring. The group was started in 1949 by Peggy MacDonald, an RA trained artist, and Cyril Harrington, Head of Art at Giggleswick School. It still thrives, meeting weekly to take the time to paint, share ideas, critique and explore new techniques.

Each year members produce new and original work in a variety of media. In addition to fully framed work there are sketches, mounted pictures and cards to buy. Members of Clapham Art Group are holding their annual exhibition at the Village Hall, Clapham, LA2 8DZ

Preview: Friday May 25th at 8pm - All Welcome

Dates: Saturday May 26th to Sunday June 3rd inclusive

Open daily: 11am–6pm

Entry fee: 50p - Homemade refreshments available - Wheelchair access

Further details telephone: 01729 822476

Coffee Morning

There will be a coffee morning in Clapham village hall on Saturday 14th April from 10 a.m. until 12 noon raising funds for Bentham Pet Rescue, Craven Cats Rescue and Derian House Children’s Hospice.

We are having a Raffle and Tombola along with stalls selling cakes, books, crafts and bric-a-brac.

Homemade refreshments will be available for you to enjoy with your tea and coffee, so please come along and support us on the day.

Everyone welcome!

Sally, Kristen and Rosie

Steam update

The long awaited restoration and return to service of steam loco 35018 “British India Line” – reported in the August 2017 issue – has been beset with problems. The rebuilt Merchant Navy class 4-6-2’s early trial runs during last summer identified a number of issues and the loco failed again at York on its maiden revenue-earning run last September when it was hauling the Lune Rivers Trust charter train. Further attention in the workshops over the winter was followed by trial runs in recent weeks, but it failed again on the first of these at Hellifield and had to return to base tender first. At least all these trials pass Clapham so we get to see the engine in action!

The popular “Fellsman” rail tours over the Settle and Carlisle start again every other Tuesday from the end of May. If the format this year is the same as in the past then the trains will be diesel hauled from Carnforth to Hellifield via Blackburn and then switch to steam there. Clapham will see the light engine movements as the steam loco’s travel-light-engine at the starts and ends of their workings.

Over on the “S&C”, the 24th February steam run of the “North Briton” special attracted a good crowd, though most were disappointed with the result. The booked engine was new-build A1 pacific 60163 “Tornado” – the same engine as was used on last year’s Northern Rail “Plandampf” service – and should have made a fine sight powering up the steep gradients between Settle and Ribblehead. Unfortunately, those watching were treated to the train headed by a powerful diesel, with Tornado tucked in behind and hardly having to do any work at all. Apparently this was because 60163 had a problem with some of the modern age safety equipment which all locos must have fitted before they can work on mainline railways. At least those just watching hadn’t had to pay!

With the ice and snow now, with luck, behind us, and a touch of spring in the air, it’s to be hoped that future runs up the “Long Drag” will be a bit more photogenic. From mid-May throughout the summer, there will be almost weekly steam runs on Saturdays. However, the special (mentioned in our last issue and due to run on Friday 20th April) has had a change to its booked engines and is now not planned to be double-headed. Do get the date Saturday 11th August in your diaries since the current plan is for three different steam trains over the S&C in one day!

Previously, I mentioned the huge, static, steam mill-engines at Bancroft Mill in Barnoldswick. They have announced their “steaming dates” for 2018 when you can see the engines properly working. The full list, along with prices, timings and directions, is on their website which is: www.bancroftmill.org.uk/steamingjpg.html

Dates for the coming couple of months (all Sundays) are: 15th April, 6th May and 27th May.

Andy Scott
escapebikeshop

• Fully equipped service & repair workshop
• Demo & hire bikes available from £50
• On site test track
• Free on site parking for local trails – Park & Ride!
• Members of Bike2Work & Cyclescheme
• 0% finance available up to 36 months
• Stocks of Specialized, NS Bikes, Santa Cruz
  & Whyte

www.escapebikeshop.com
015242 41226 – Kirksteads, Westhouse, Ingleton, LA6 3NJ

Mon – Fri: 10-5 / Saturday: 9:30-5:30 / Sunday: 10-4

BRIDGE COTTAGE
Bed & Breakfast

This charming 18th-century B&B with its sunny cottage garden is at the heart of Clapham, and has been extensively refurbished to reveal oak beams, window seats and slate floors. Enjoy a good selection of locally-sourced cooked breakfasts, homemade cake and biscuits.

Choose from three bedrooms: two doubles with ensuite showers, plus one twin/superking suite with ensuite bathroom and separate shower.

From £40 per person.

We are dog-friendly and are delighted to provide day care to our four-legged guests.

Station Road, Clapham LA2 8DP
Telephone 015242 51506
www.bridgecottageclapham.co.uk

Westby Dairy
Robert and Janet Townson

We deliver Milk, Cream and Eggs from our family dairy farm.

Our families have been producing milk for local delivery for generations, and now, along with the help of our son and daughters we are very proud to provide a great British tradition that is the doorstep milk delivery service!

We bottle milk from our own herd of cows for delivery to homes and businesses the very next morning.

Westby Hall Farm, Gisburn
Tel. 01200 445283
School news

Our children are very talented at Clapham and, last month, the Garth family were invited to take part in a children’s TV show. Called ‘Down on The Farm’, Alfie and Connor are featured on an episode about sheep scanning. This was broadcast on 9th March. It’s wonderful how confident the children in our school are! Alfie and Connor take part in our Monday after school club ‘Fame Academy’, which is led by Amy-Jo Clough who is part of the Grand Theatre in Lancaster. Amy-Jo teaches the children performing arts whilst juggling her pop music career and tv appearances. During the sessions there is a tremendous energy and enthusiasm which is infectious - you just cannot help smiling when you see the children giving 100%.

The children have continued their ‘Food for Life’ project this term, where they have learnt about growing food and cooking. Miss Rowe is working towards a Silver Award for the school so, as winter turns to spring, the children can get out into the school grounds and begin planting vegetables and fruit.

This term, class 2 were set homework to make a planter to grow vegetables. Molly and Alfie created two excellent planters from recycled materials! Every week the standard of children’s homework gets better and more creative. I’m sure these planters will produce a bounty of crops!

Matthew Armstrong, Headteacher

Playpark news

Our recent fundraising efforts have gone really well, thanks to:

- a Roger Stott Community Grant of £1500 from Yorkshire Dales Millennium Trust;
- £400 from Cllrs Lis and Ireton through Craven District Council’s Ward Member Grants scheme; and
- very generous donations from Clapham residents.

Sincere thanks to everyone who has helped.

At the time of writing, the play-grade bark is scheduled to be delivered on 28th March. Access is tight to the playpark and so Simon Coultherd has kindly suggested that the bark can be delivered to his farm and he’ll then move it to the playpark. Local volunteers will then spread it around the play equipment.

If you’d like to help then please contact me via dongamble62@gmail.com or on 015242 51775.

Don Gamble

TEATIME VINTAGE

Curios, Collectables & Creations

Vintage Heaven
in the heart of the Yorkshire Dales

Tracey Bilton
Home Barn
Church Avenue
Clapham
LA2 8EQ

015242 51804
07534 302135

Teatimevintage14@gmail.com

CLAPHAM & DISTRICT NEWSLETTER

The newsletter is a community initiative which shares news, announcements and items of interest. It is funded mainly from advertising revenue and relies on volunteers to get it together and distributed. The newsletter is produced in black & white, though we aim to produce one colour edition per year.

It is distributed free to the communities of Clapham, Newby and Keasden. Copies are available in the Village Store and local churches. Electronic versions are displayed on the Clapham Village website (in colour) thus increasing the audience by potentially large numbers.

The intention is that it’s both ‘for you’ and ‘by you’, so we rely on submissions from readers and the village institutions which make up our community. The next edition is due out at the beginning of June. Copy deadline: 20 May.

Items should be around 400 words and, if possible, accompanied by a high resolution photo: we can be flexible so contact me. Contact: Andy Scott Email: claphamnewsletter@gmail.com

To advertise in six editions (one year) the costs are:

1/8 page - £17.50 : 1/4 page - £35.00
1/2 page - £70.00 : Full page - £140.00

Contact: Judith Dawson
Email:claphamnewsletter@gmail.com
Settle Photographic Group  
Meetings April/May 2018

Monday 2 April - No Meeting – It’s Easter
Monday 16 April 19.30 - Townhead Court, Settle  
AGM Gallery: Bricks and Mortar
Tuesday 17 April - in the morning  
Visit - RSPB Silverdale
Monday 21 May 19.30 - Townhead Court, Settle  
It’s all in the Planning - John Cooper-Smith
Friday 25 May – in the afternoon  
Visit – Bluebells at Feizor
See: www.settlephotos.org for further details

Clapham Village Hall Committee proudly presents

An evening with
IAN McMillan and LUKE CARVER GOSS

Poet, broadcaster & comedian  
Ian McMillan
(The Bard of Barnsley and narrator of the Yorkshire Dales and the Lakes - featuring our own Dawson family)  
and Olympic composer Luke Carver Goss
present a hilarious night of words, music & breath-taking comedy,  
featuring songs, stories and a musical created out of thin air!

Wednesday, June 6th  
7pm for 7.30pm start  
Clapham Village Hall

Tickets £12.50
Bar and Raffle
Tickets available at the village shop,  
or via telephone from Sue on 015242 51792,  
or on line via jackieanddavid@yahoo.com

This event is to raise funds for  
the Village Hall refurbishment

Clapham Street Fair  
Saturday, 28th July, 9.30 - 4.00

This year will be the 39th Anniversary of the Street  
Fair, organised by Saint James's Church.

There will be:
Music from Dales Jam  
Morris dancing from the Flagcrackers of Craven  
Classic cars  
The Duck Race  
Many stalls run by the church and community groups

Save the date!

If you would like to be involved or would like to organise a stall for a good cause please contact:  
Sue Mann, 51792  
Suemann.wyvern51@gmail.com

Number not recognised!

If you ring a five digit Clapham number and get a message saying that your neighbour’s number isn’t recognised, don’t worry.

There could be a simple explanation.

They are likely moving telephone company in order to get a better deal, and save money on their landline rental, by using their new B4RN broadband.

Try adding 015242 before the number for the next day or so.

Or try again a couple of hours later if that doesn’t work.

Once the move is completed, the five digit number should work again.

Notification of road/footpath closure
Part of Cross Haw Lane, Clapham  
2 April - 4 June 2018

Essential structural repairs are required to Jacques Barn, which is located immediately adjacent to the public highway (Cross Haw Lane running up to Eggshell Lane). Scaffolding needs to be erected, which will result in the closure of a section of the road.

The road closure is being dealt with in conjunction with North Yorkshire County Council Highways and alternative routes for vehicles and pedestrians are available.
We apologise for any inconvenience this may cause.
Notice posted by:
Managing Agent of the Ingleborough Estate on behalf of the Trustees of Dr. J. A. Farrer's Discretionary Will Trust

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Wildlife in Clapham

Tree sparrow – Passer montanus
The tree sparrow is about the same size as the house sparrow but the main difference between the two species is that male and female tree sparrows both have the same plumage. This comprises brown upper parts and pale under parts and both sexes have a brown cap with a black spot behind the eye. The male house sparrow, on the other hand, has a brown cap with a grey centre to it and the female is grey brown all over. The tree sparrow feeds and breeds around farmland, and usually nests in a tree hole or nest box: the house sparrow feeds and breeds in any habitat going.

Both tree and house sparrows will come to feeders. The nearest breeding tree sparrows to Clapham are around Low Bentham and in the Long Preston/Hellifield area. On 3rd March, three tree sparrows were found with a house sparrow flock at the old police house in Clapham. The following day they were seen at the feeders at Mark and Christa Nelson’s house, and they were then seen again by Clapham Beck on Station Road on 15th March. They were first seen the weekend after ‘The Beast from the East’, so the tree sparrows would have moved into the gardens looking for food: where they came from I don’t know (there could possibly be a small population breeding locally). Previously, I had only seen one tree sparrow locally in 24 years and that was about 4 years ago at River Bank Cottage.

Also during the week of ‘The Beast from the East’, lots of snipe were seen flying around or in unusual places looking for food, including two found on the main lawn of Ingleborough Hall. One woodcock was flushed from a boggy area at River Bank Orchard on 3rd and 4th March. One curlew flew inland over Clapham on 26th February then, after the big freeze, large flocks were seen flying inland. Also three oystercatchers have been seen near the sewage works and up to twenty more are at Crook Beck near Nutta Farm accompanied by a redshank.

Before the big freeze a flock of fifteen hawfinches were seen early morning on 23rd February at Ingleborough Hall. On the same day a flock of fifteen whooper swans flew north-west over Ingleborough Hall. The previous day, fifty pink-footed geese also flew north over the Hall.

Tim Hutchinson,
Smithy Cottage

Spring lamb and roasted vegetables

For the lamb
Preheat the oven to 190°C/Fan 170°C/Gas 5.
Using half a leg of lamb (about 1kg), score the skin of the joint and place small sprigs of rosemary and thin slices of garlic in the incisions.
Place the lamb in an ovenproof dish with a little water and cover with foil.
Cook for c90 minutes depending on how well done you want the meat to be. Rest the meat for 10-15 minutes before serving.

For the roasted vegetables
Scrub and cut up a selection of potatoes, carrots, parsnips, butternut squash, onions, beetroot.
Spray or drizzle with oil.
Season with salt and pepper.
Cook at 200°C/Fan 180°C/Gas 6 until tender.

The first of a series of seasonal recipes using locally sourced produce.

Recipe provided by Clapham with Horton W.I.

Bulk oil buying scheme

We are now collecting the £1 yearly contributions for the bulk oil buying scheme run by Glenys McMahon.

Those already participating will be aware that these contributions go towards the costs incurred by Glenys who, as well as keeping in contact with members, also tries to get the very best deal from the supplier(s) of domestic fuel.

The Village Shop has the collection box behind the counter together with a list of subscribers. Please put a tick against your name when you have added your contribution. If you cannot find your name then please just add it to the list.

Glenys reports that the scheme, which is now in its 10th year, has 79 members. She also wishes to remind you that the next delivery is scheduled for May. The previous delivery in February was for a total of 38,000 litres of oil.

Thank you for supporting the project and for your donations.

Jill Buckler,
Clapham Sustainability Group
Perhaps the most dramatic changes witnessed in the area in living memory – apart, perhaps, from the building of the bypass – are down at the station. What was once an important junction is now just a through route as this month’s pair of photos illustrates. The “Then” picture was taken in April 1965 when steam power was still the norm, the lines onward to Ingleton were still open, and freight trains were still passing through. Just over 50 years later, one of the most obvious changes is the number of trees now in the vicinity whilst closer inspection also shows the now repositioned “down” platform. And of course, steam has now been replaced with our rattling diesel units!

The Lees of Clapham

In heat exceeding 46°C temperatures last summer in Goodyear, Arizona (a suburb of Phoenix), a breakthrough the size of a seismic shift occurred for me. After years of not knowing where my surname, Lee, originated, up popped a clue on the Internet. MyHeritage.com, revealed an Edward Lee who immigrated to Quebec, Canada having been born in Clapham.

My full name is Robert E. Lee - with “E” standing for Edgar - close enough to the American Southern Civil War General Lee’s name, Robert Edward Lee. All my life I was asked if I was related to the General, and I really could never say for sure. Now I can proudly claim my heritage of lesser-known Lees, though decidedly poorer 17th, 18th and 19th century Craven District farmers.

Today, there are no Lees in the Clapham area. Records show many were baptised and married at St. James, and buried in the churchyard between 1682 and 1802, but no gravestones mark their burials. Then in 1805/1806 Edward Lee moved his wife Agnes (born Howson) and their first child, Robert, to Rochdale in the Greater Manchester area, making a momentous shift from rural farming to urban labour. Emma Griffin writes: “Manchester’s growth rested largely on the growth of the cotton industry, and by mid-century the city typified Britain as the ‘workshop of the world’. Young people poured in from the countryside to find work in the new factories and mills. The mills paid relatively high wages and they employed large numbers of children. As a consequence, families migrating to the city often saw a considerable rise in their incomes.”

Genealogical records show that Edward and his wife bore six children in Rochdale (December 1806 - September 1817). During those years, speculation is that they earned enough to pay for a passage to North America for their families, and enough to purchase land in Shipton, Richmond, Québec.

So, what are the pushes and pulls in migration? What forces drive people to leave one location, and attract them to another place? Conflict, pestilence, famine are common reasons, but for the Lee families moving to find cheap land and an independent lifestyle is the more likely explanation. The parents grew up in a rural setting and likely yearned to return to a rural area, but one that provided opportunities for land ownership and a better life than urban Manchester.

Without exact facts and documentation, tracing family genealogy often falls to suppositions. In the 1820s Richmond, Québec was an enclave of English speaking communities, with many people settling there from England. Perhaps the Lees knew people that had previously settled in Richmond and knowing people is a strong pull to relocate. Newspaper accounts and letters from friends are powerful attractions to relocate, combined with disincentives to remain.

Edward, Agnes and seven children sailed to the new world - along with Edward’s brothers, Robert and John, and their families - between September 1817 and January 1820. We can determine those dates by the birth of their 7th child, Ann, in Rochdale and their 8th child, Leonard, in Shipton.

The pushes and pulls of migration continued with descendants moving to Iowa, Maine and Ontario. Succeeding Ontario generations for my direct ancestors came through Richard Lee (1846-1933); George Alvin Lee (1871-1941); and my father, Arthur Mahlon Lee (1907-2003).

So my family search came full circle when in May last year I visited the beautiful village of Clapham after previous correspondence with Revd. Ian Greenhalgh and Ken Pearce. Ken and Brenda introduced me to many of you and I am grateful to finally find my roots.

Robert E Lee
Clapham Village Store

the heart of our village

Summer Opening Hours
from Monday 26 March
Mon to Wed: 8am - 5.30pm
Thu: 8am - 7.00pm
Fri: 8am - 5.30pm
Sat and Sun: 8am - 3.30pm

Main Street, Clapham, LA2 8DP
Tel. (015242) 51524
Email: info@claphamvillagestore.co.uk
Website: www.claphamvillagestore.co.uk
Industrial and Provident Society registered in England and Wales with number P032434
VAT Registration No. 199858635
News from the farm - it’s snow joke

As the aging process begins to bite I notice that I often feel the cold more than I did maybe 20 years ago; despite the fact I often think I am 25, and act it, I am getting older, and yet, no wiser. All my life, I have worn cheap and cheerful wellies in the belief they are perfect for the job, but this winter I have discovered the joys of insulated wellies which, it seems to me, are a life changer. I remember the first time I ever stayed in a hotel, which had been a long-held ambition of mine. I clearly remember the feeling of luxury and contentment; little did I know that wellies could provide just the same emotions for a lot less money and possibly be of more use.

I have also taken to wearing gloves which are of the cheap variety. Simply because it’s virtually impossible to open a pen knife (or pick my nose) with them on. I pop them down somewhere and forget to pick them up; often they are left in a tractor or on a bale of hay.

The recent spell of cold weather tested the resources of many of our local farms, for example, with water pipes freezing day and night. It’s well known to farmers that the minute livestock see you having to carry water to them, they start drinking at least twice the normal amount. I think it must be in their job description. If given the opportunity, cattle like nothing better than to tip a bucket of icy cold water down the inside of new insulated wellies, especially after watching the poor peasant farmer struggle across frozen, icy, dangerous yards with a full bucket in each hand and a howling easterly wind trying to blow his hat off - and all without gloves as he can’t remember where they were last seen. It’s a similar principle to the arctic convoys: they must get through.

Dairies are notorious for freezing due to there often being a residue of water from the washing process. The whole plant must be carefully drained and then we leave two paraffin storm lamps lit all night under the milk pump: that can save half an hour of pouring hot water into the pipework at some unreasonable hour in the morning.

I like to leave my winter coat in front of the Rayburn overnight but it can only be put there after all are gone to bed due to what we might call it’s own unique aroma. Obviously, I deny any knowledge of “a funny smell” at the breakfast table.

The sheep have had a difficult time in the last few weeks with the wintry weather coinciding with the final trimester of pregnancy, meaning they are burning energy keeping warm as well as trying to look after the unborn babies. Luckily the shepherd is never off duty and, with the trusty quad bike, is able to provide lots of fodder and concentrates to maintain her body condition and give as much help as he can.

A while ago we were approached by a vet student looking for a placement as a lambing assistant as a requirement of her course. She came to meet us for coffee and ginger biscuits and seemed enthusiastic and very keen to be involved. I like to think a few cold wet days in the lambing fields at Bleak Bank with the inevitable disasters will dampen any misplaced optimism: it works for me.

The True North team are still filming for series two of the “Lakes and Dales” and turn up every week or so to see what is happening. (I wish I knew). Meanwhile, series one has won an award, and this arrived from the series producer a few weeks ago…

“We’re very pleased to announce that ‘The Yorkshire Dales and The Lakes’ is now an award-winning series – winning the Best Factual category at the North East Royal Television Society Awards on 24th February. The team would like to thank the community of Clapham and the nearby villages for their ongoing support with the series – and hope you’ll all be watching series 2 later this year.”

John Dawson