



Number 144, August 2023

Never too old or young to learn

We have been members of the Farmer Network (FN) for several years. FN is basically a club for farmers and is good for many things, for instance we buy fuel through them meaning it is only outrageously expensive instead of catastrophically expensive, which is quite a saving. They also organise education for farmers (that can't be easy) on topics such as the safe use of sheep dip. Dip is a powerful and mightily expensive chemical which peasant farmers are not allowed to buy without having the necessary training in the safe use of it regarding handling and disposal. Plunge dipping sheep is the only sure way of eliminating a nasty little creepy crawly known as sheep scab and our sheep are dipped twice a year. Neither the sheep nor the peasant enjoys dipping day but that is not the point, a bit like a visit from the vet or a trip to the dentist - it has to be done.



FN is funded from bodies such as the Prince's Countryside Trust as well as the government and, of course, subscriptions. FN has a very good knowledge of current government schemes and legislation, which is something the government has never had. This helps out the farming community and has saved my bacon several times.

Over the years, the knowledge, professionalism and work ethic of FN has become recognised by the government as actually quite important, useful and even impressive. So much so that they have now become involved in training some of the two thousand employees of Natural England and some of the eleven thousand employees of the National Trust. One example for that number of staff is that a single government scheme dealing with peasant farmers and land

management has recently been replaced, at the last count, with twenty-three, which has to be considered remarkable even by government standards.

It must be remembered that many Natural England staff have little or no knowledge of an upland family farm or the amount of effort that goes into staving off financial disaster on an almost daily basis. Most of their knowledge comes from a university education and many of them consider peasant farmers as something they have heard of but are unlikely ever to see in real life, much like a unicorn or a doctor.

A training day is always enjoyable if our visitors approach the day with an open mind. I like to put minds at ease by pointing out there will be no role play or workshopping and all that nonsense. We start with a brew and a ginger biscuit (why not?) and have a short slideshow which gives a brief outline of what we do at Bleak Bank and how we fit into our tiny role of helping to feed the nation and care for the environment.

Next, it might be a walk onto Ingleborough if the weather is tempting. Here we explain the cultural heritage of hefted flocks, the importance of blanket bog, limestone pasture and calcareous grassland, not to mention wading birds such as oyster catchers and curlew. We have a good knowledge of what grows where and why on the mountain, and I have often seen National Park and Natural England staff corrected by a local peasant about what they think they have just seen. That takes them aback just a little bit.

In the afternoon we often do some dry-stone walling, sheep shearing or worm-drench some lambs

Cont'd p3

Welcome to the August edition

Welcome to another packed newsletter.

As you can see there is plenty going on in our local community over the next few months - lots of opportunities for us to get together. We look forward to receiving reports of all these summer happenings. If you would like to contribute an article to the October edition please see the information given below.

Please remember the Newsletter is also available online on the village website, see: <https://claphamyorkshire.co.uk>
Thank you.

The Newsletter Committee



October 2023 edition

Deadline date: 20 September

Email: claphamnewsletter@gmail.com

Newsletter information

Editions are produced February, April, June, August, October & December. Next issue: **October, 2023. Deadline: 20 September.**

Please note that we reserve the right to edit copy, or to refuse to publish submissions, and that the Newsletter Committee's decision on such matters is final.

Articles

If you want to submit an article it should be c250 words and, if possible, accompanied by a high resolution photo (at least 300 dpi). **Contact Andy: claphamnewsletter@gmail.com**

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Advertising rates start from £11. We print in colour. We

would love to hear from you if you, or your business, would like to advertise or sponsor colour printing.

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Distribution

If the printed edition is usually delivered to your home and you haven't received one by 5th of the publication month, please collect a copy from one of our distribution points: Clapham Village Store, the porch at St. James' Church Clapham, the porch at St. Matthew's Church Keasden, Newby Methodist Church. Distribution points will have copies at the beginning of every publication month. If you would like to help with distribution – please get in touch.

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Cont'd from pl depending on the time of year. Whilst I firmly believe there is such a thing as a daft question, I also believe they should be asked. Those that benefit most from the day are those that are prepared to ask questions and engage.

A few weeks ago, we hosted a visit from St. Stephen's Primary School in Skipton. That was entertaining. I remember many years ago my old Uncle Bill attempting to count the swallows in our yard as they swooped and whirled about. He got thirty-five (we had eight) before wondering if he had counted some of them more than thrice. I think attempting to keep a head count of twenty-nine children on a farm was a similar challenge. Those poor teachers never got a moment.

The children did some walling, which tested the nerves of the teachers again with various nipped fingers and bruised shins. We also spent time discussing the positive environmental impact of wool and measured the depth of the peat on Ingleborough. My favourite part of the day was the teacher asking them to lie on their backs on the blanket bog with closed eyes and just listen to nature. I am also sure it was an opportunity to get an accurate head count.

I have always believed there is room for mother nature and food production on every farm. In fact, they complement each other, and if any of our visitors go home with that message, I am happy...

John Dawson

Bleak Bank LA2 8HY

is hosting a **BBQ 150**
on
Saturday 12th August

There will be a shortish walk c6.30pm

Please contact to advise numbers
015242 51350

Feel free to bring a salad or a pud

Funds raised will be for
the Church on the Green, Newby

All welcome

Keasden rainfall report

	2022	2023
May	5½" or 13.97cm	1¼" or 3.175cm
June	6¾" or 17.15cm	3½" or 8.89cm

Keasden - Newby Walk

The day that St. Matthew's Church, Keasden was consecrated, way back on 22nd September 1873, was described in a local news report as 'a glorious day', weather wise, with the sun shining 'in full splendour'. As the Methodist Chapel on the green at Newby had been opened just a few days previously, we might imagine that the sun shone on that occasion too.

So, it was fitting that we were in the middle of a heatwave in June

when around 40 people gathered for a walk between the two churches to celebrate their 150th anniversaries, and the sun shone brightly again.

Starting from Keasden Church with a cuppa, a rendition of Morning Has Broken and a blessing by Vicar John Davies to send us on our way, the happy band of pilgrims wound our way through Reebys Farm and over the Wenning at Skew Bridge before some had to take a little detour to avoid the attentions of a group of over-interested young dairy cattle. We then crossed the railway tracks by Hardacre Wood, and a few meandering fields later enjoyed a welcome stop



at High Hazel Hall where Kevin and Maggie McSherry served much-appreciated refreshing drinks to our very overheated company. Then some tracks through Newby Moor, a dash across the A65, through Staveleys', and over

the green to Newby Chapel, where an afternoon tea of very generous proportions was awaiting the walkers.

Suffice to say this munificent hospitality was very well received,

and there was little left on the table by the time we ended the occasion as we'd begun it: with a song and a prayer, this time led by Revd Tim Broughton, Circuit Minister.

The 150th anniversary of Newby Chapel will be celebrated in a special service on Sunday 17th September at 11.00, and on Sunday 24th September at 11.00 the Lord Bishop of Leeds Rt Revd Nick Baines will preside at a celebration for St. Matthews' Church, after which he will consecrate the newly completed New Burial Ground adjacent to the church. There is so much to give thanks for - and to look forward to. Please join us!

John Davies



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Austwick WI



Are you curious about WI? Do come as a visitor to Austwick WI and you will receive a very warm welcome. We meet on the second Thursday of each month in Austwick Parish Hall at 7.30 pm. We have a variety of

interesting speakers and activities and, to give you a taste, this is what we have in store for the rest of this year:

- August 10th Tales of a Customs Officer – Brian Topping
- September 14th Backstage at the Ballet – Hilary McCumiskey
- October 12th AGM
- November 9th Butterflies of the North West – Chris Winnick
- December 14th Festive Sketches – The Three Peaks Players

Dates of outings, workshops and walks will be announced throughout the year. Do have a look at our new website: <https://austwickwi.wixsite.com/austwick-wi> or phone me on 01729 823 218. We look forward to meeting you.

Angela Rogers

Benjamin Saunders' concert



On Saturday June 17th, St. James' Church hosted a concert "Music for a Summer's Evening" which was well attended by an appreciative audience.

The guest musician was Benjamin Saunders, Director of Music in the Diocese of Leeds, and leader of the UK's new National Singing Programme.

Ben had recently "found" the organ in St. James', describing it as a gem, and was delighted with the sound produced and the excellent acoustics of the church. He gave a recital to suit all tastes - not all church music - with introductions given in a delightful manner.

During lockdown Ben had learnt to play the accordion and delighted us all with his renditions. Ben has played for the Queen and former President Carter amongst others.

He will be coming again next year to Clapham so don't miss it - a wonderful evening to be experienced, all rounded off with good company and tea and cakes!

Liz Mason

Clapham Cemetery

Recently, John and Judith Dawson took a stroll through the Cemetery, on Station Road, and listed the plants they found: 1. Self heal, 2. Dandelion, 3. Germander speedwell, 4. Ladies mantle, 5. Wood avens, 6. Ladies bedstraw, 7. Salad burnett, 8. Meadow sweet, 9. Creeping cinquefoil, 10 Red campion, 11. Creeping jenny, 12. Pig nut, 13. Heath speedwell, 14. Oxeye daisy, 15. Birdsfoot trefoil, 16. Hawkbit, 17. Fox and cubs, 18. Ribwort plantain, 19. Buttercup, 20. Betty, 21. Common spotted orchid, 22. Bush vetch, 23. Red clover, 24. White clover, 25. Common sorrel, 26. Knapweed, 27. Daisy, 28. Wild strawberry. 28 flowers and grasses: 1. Yorkshire fog, 2. Ovine fescue, 3. Meadow fescue, 4. False oat, 5. Cocos foot, 6. Crested dog's tail, 7. Sweet yellow vernal.

This was by no means an exhaustive list; a dedicated survey would doubtless have found more. It's safe to assume that the variety of flora is also complemented by a good amount of fauna, from bugs to birds and night creatures.

The Parochial Council of St. James' Church, (PCC) is responsible for the upkeep of the Cemetery, which is always open for all to visit and enjoy. We take seriously the views of all parishioners about the 'look' of the churchyard. These views differ between those who prefer regular mowing and tidying, and those who support developing the area as a place of environmental value. In every burial ground in England, there are different opinions about the balance needing to be struck between 'tidiness' and 'naturalness'. Strong emotions are often involved, understandably, for these places are significant to those whose loved ones are laid to rest there. They are also treasured spaces to those awake to the life of the trees, shrubs, grasses, ferns, mosses, and creatures who make the place their home.

The PCC recognises the Cemetery as a place of remembrance. Equally, the PCC supports the ethos of the national 'Living Churchyards' initiative by seeking to enhance wildlife and its habitat in our cemetery, and as an historic heritage site. Our aim is to ensure that it is a place which all visitors will enjoy and find beneficial.

To try to accommodate all perspectives, the PCC's policy on upkeep is as follows:

- To mow and tidy the entire churchyard, in season, and during the spring and early summer to permit most of the area to lie fallow to encourage flora and fauna.
- The exception to the above is the area containing the most recently installed burial plots and memorials, which will be mown during spring and early summer, out of respect for family visitors.
- To affirm that families are responsible for the general care and maintenance of their individual plots, so that those who prefer to mow and tidy their plots during the fallow season are at liberty to do so.

We are grateful to those who tend this special place, and are sensitive to all who visit, and appreciate the differing points of view about its upkeep. All of this highlights how collaboration and compromise make for good community. If you have questions or concerns about our churchyard, or enquiries about burials or memorials please contact me.

Revd John Davies



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Parish Council news

The Parish Council met on the evening of 21st June 2023.

With two members of the public in attendance.

The meeting started with several issues being raised by the public. The issue of dog waste at Clapham Station and the state of the overbridge were brought to the Council's attention. It was agreed that the Clerk would raise these matters with North Yorkshire Council and Network Rail Community Relations and would obtain quotes for a third party to supply and empty a bin at the station (this being the previous response received when the matter was raised with Craven District Council a few months ago).

The meeting received an update from the Police which detailed 11 incidents that had been reported between 16th May and 19th June. These included 2 false alarms, 1 abandoned call and 2 requests from neighbouring forces. The Clerk was asked to raise a question for the Assistant Chief Constable's Zoom meeting on 12th July as to why there was a freeze on PCSO recruitment in the Craven area given the drastic shortage of resources.

The meeting was advised as to the unsatisfactory response received regarding the Planning Enforcement for Great Harlow Lodges and it was agreed that the Clerk would follow up with Trevor Watson (the new head of Planning for North Yorkshire Council). This was done. Unfortunately the response received was simply that he supported that previously provided.

The meeting had once again received concerns on the issue of the discharges from Austwick Waste Water Pumping Station and the Clerk had been tasked with contacting the Environment Agency to request a water sample be taken from the River Wenning near Clapham Station. The advice back from the Environment Agency is that, rather than a random sample (when there may have been no discharge), what they need to compile is a dossier of "incidents". As such the Council would be extremely grateful if any parishioners who notice an "incident" please report this to the Environment Agency Incident Hotline on 0800 80 70 60 (a freephone number available 24 hours a day). Multiple reports for the same "incident" would help to stress the case. The meeting agreed it would be beneficial to reach out to the neighbouring parishes of Austwick, Lawkland and Bentham to gauge the support for a joint working party on this matter.

Following the audit recommendation to back up the Clerk's laptop more frequently, it was established that the whereabouts of the external hard drive was not known. Given the age of the laptop and issues with its performance it was

agreed that the Clerk should take the laptop to MultiMedia in Burton-in-Lonsdale for a review and obtain a quote for both the machine and external back-up facility ahead of the next meeting. This was reported back and agreed that the update should be undertaken at a subsequent meeting.

The Parish Council met on the evening of 19th July 2023,

There were two members of the public in attendance.

The Police report was given to the meeting and there had been 13 incidents between 20th June and 16th July. These included 3 abandoned/hoax calls, 4 Road Traffic Collisions, 1 speeding offence, a false alarm at YDMT, an online cyber crime, a potential abandoned vehicle at Newby Moor Bridge (which was found to be in order), a burglary and a lost dog. Cllr Elphinstone had attended an online question and answer session with the Assistant Chief Constable for North Yorkshire but, unfortunately, was unable to attend this July meeting and a full report will be given at the Council's September meeting.

The Clerk was asked to report potholes at the passing place on Keasden Road to the Highways Department and to write to both the Highways Department and Network Rail regarding water on Lawsings Brow which is believed to be coming from drains connected with the Railway.

The Risk Register and mitigating action were reviewed and agreed (this is available to view on the village website <https://bit.ly/parish-council>). Should any Parishioner believe there are any further risks, the Council need to consider they should email the Clerk and these will be brought before the Council for consideration.

The Neighbourhood Plan was presented to the Council for endorsement prior to submission to the planning authority for review. After that, the Plan will return for a referendum on adoption.

The endorsement was duly given, and the Plan will move on shortly to that planning authority stage.

Finally, another historic request to turn a Bridlepath into a Byway Open to All Traffic (BOAT) was considered. This relates to Bridleway 05.02/39, which is the Central Section of Crag Lane - although the review is considering the whole route from the Eldroth Road (Grid Ref: SD 747 661) to the Keasden Road (Grid Ref: SD 726 634) and is currently only considering whether any rights of way exist along the route in question. There will be an opportunity for comments on this proposal at a later stage in the process so, should anyone wish to do so, please contact the Clerk.

For more information on the work of the Parish Council and full meeting minutes, use the parish council link at: www.claphamyorkshire.co.uk.

Parish Council meetings will generally be held in Clapham Village Hall at 7.30pm on the **third Wednesday of each month**. There will be no meetings in August and November and the December meeting will be on 13 December 2023. The next meeting will be on **Wednesday 20 September 2023**.

The Parish Clerk & Responsible Financial Officer **Steven Culver** can be contacted..

By email: parishclerk.claphamcumnewby@gmail.com or **By telephone:** 015242 51862

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Summer event

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Cattle, Carbon, Conservation, Climate and Conversation
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There will also be chance to observe habitat creation and look at soil and its role in the carbon cycle. Due to livestock, no dogs are allowed on this walk. Places limited.

All events are free – find out more about who we are and what we do at: www.friendsofthedales.org.uk – and to book please email me at victoria.benn@friendsofthedales.org.uk

Victoria Benn



Clapham WI 1930-2023

“A public meeting in connection with the Women’s Institute was held in the village hall on Friday 26th September 1930” - so reads the first page of the first record book of Clapham’s WI.

The visiting speaker was Mrs. Hicks, who explained the aims of the WI and which originated in Canada in 1915, to promote social intercourse, stimulate agriculture, encourage handicrafts, for co-operative enterprise and to encourage women in hygiene and welfare work. Meetings must be held monthly, and the subscription was two shillings per year.

The first meeting was held on October 8th, 1930, and it continued to meet in the village right up until March 2023. For the last twenty of those years Mrs. K Hewitt has been president.

Yet times change and unfortunately the Clapham WI has now sadly come to an end. Horton in Ribblesdale had joined forces with Clapham, but with dwindling numbers, it was no longer viable to continue, and consequently has been formally closed.

Are the aims still being met but within different settings? I think they are within our village - coffee mornings, craft and chat, Age UK, computer club, village shop etc. but it needs willing helpers and fresh ideas to continue the vibrancy of the village. Fortunately, at the moment we have those.

Thanks must go to all members of the WI past and present who contributed so much to the life of Clapham.

All good things come to an end to be replaced by other good things.

Liz Mason



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Church news

John's Notes: News from the pews

Last issue I wrote about how our churches gently adapt to changes in society and local people's needs. You may know that in days past parish churches would host activities as diverse as local court trials and livestock markets, that they were used to store the village plough out of season, and often contained a set of stocks where local criminals were publicly punished or ridiculed.

Parish churches were wide open spaces back then, and people stood during services. Only after the Reformation did pews begin to be introduced, so people could sit during the often-lengthy Protestant sermons. Whilst this improved churchgoers' (relative) comfort, it formalised the service and restricted the variety of uses to which the building could be put. Not only that but pews reinforced social status: the wealthy sat near the front, in box pews they had bought, while the poor were seated at the back in the 'free seats'; churches in the United States employed 'slave galleries' and in England a contentious pew rental system was imposed.

Times change, fashions change, and nowadays churches are increasingly returning to their archetypal use as multi-purpose buildings. Here at St. James, besides lighting candles and using our prayer space, visitors can now also enjoy an exhibition area and visit a library run by the Sustainability Group; there are kitchen facilities and even an indoor loo.

On Sundays in the area by the bookstall at the back of church, we've created space for people to gather for a drink, a chocolate biscuit and a chat. Each month this area also hosts Easy Church, which is an informal gathering billed as being a short service for people with no prior experience of church (and which is proving so popular it's getting very cosy).

We do ok holding these things despite the cramped and poorly-lit area available. But, wanting to increase and improve our facilities for local people and visitors alike, the PCC (Parochial Church Council) has taken the decision to create more space for meetings, exhibitions and displays by applying to remove the remaining pews on the north side of the church (if you know the building, think bookstall to organ). We are also investigating replacing the existing oil-fired heating system (which is approaching its end of days) with localised electric under-pew heaters and, in the newly-created meeting area, wall heaters. All this potential work will be made possible through a generous legacy gifted to St. James from a late, much-loved parishioner.

We hope that Clapham residents will see the value in this proposed remodelling of part of the church building, and we hope for many fruitful collaborations with local groups over future uses for the meeting and exhibition space. If you have ideas, questions or concerns about these proposals please direct them to me: Thank you.

Revd John Davies

john.davies@leeds.anglican.org
01524 805928

Notes from a small vicar: bit.ly/johndavies-talks

Anglican Services

August

6th: 10.30 Austwick Benefice Holy Communion

13th: 10.30 Keasden Benefice Holy Communion

20th: 10.30 Eldroth Benefice Holy Communion

27th: 10.30 Clapham Benefice Holy Communion

September

3rd: 9.30 Eldroth Harvest Festival; 9.30 Austwick Holy Communion (TBC); 11.00 Clapham Holy Communion

10th: 9.30 Austwick Holy Communion; 11.00 Keasden Holy Communion

17th: 9.30 Austwick Holy Communion; 11.00 Newby Chapel 150th Anniversary Celebration Service; 6.30 Eldroth Evening Prayer

24th: 11.00 Keasden 150th Anniversary Service and Churchyard Consecration (Benefice Service)

Also, each Wednesday in September: 10.30 Austwick Holy Communion service

Churches Weekly Newsletters are available free to collect from church porches each Saturday or to view online at bit.ly/churches-newsletters

Methodist Church, The Green, Newby

Services take place on second Sundays of the month at 11am and fourth Sundays at 2pm.

Our coffee morning each Thursday 10.30am to 12.00 noon, is a great way to meet new friends.

Our **Harvest 150** will take place on **Sunday 17th September** at 11am and will be led by Matthew Dawson.

Our **Macmillan coffee morning** will take place on **Saturday 23rd September** from 10am to 12 noon.

Contact: Revd Tim Broughton, tel: 01729 822554 or email: tim.broughton@methodist.org.uk

Bethel Chapel, Cross Haw Lane, Clapham

Sunday services 11am & 6.30pm. Junior Church 10am.

Kids activities and weekday meetings will recommence in September.

Sportreach Soccer & Netball school 2 to 6 August.

Coffee, Chat & Cake & Foodbank Saturdays 19 August and 16 September 10.30 to 12 noon.

Harvest Weekend 23 & 24 September, supper on the Saturday at 7.30pm.

For further details and up to date information on all activities see:

www.bethelchapelclapham.org or follow us on Facebook.

Catholic Church - Bentham and Settle

St Boniface, Robin Lane, Bentham, LA2 7AB

Usual service times: Sun: 9:15am, Wed & Fri: 10:00am

St Mary & St Michael's, Tillman Close, Settle, BD24 9RA

Usual service times: Saturday Vigil: 5:30pm

Sun: 11:15am, Tues & Thurs: 10:00 am

Parish Priest: Father Frank Smith, Phone: 01729 822525

Email: stboniface@dioceseofleeds.org.uk

Website: www.ssmaryandmichael.co.uk

What a fete!



All photographs: Ann Sheridan

The build up to the fete was inauspicious to say the least. We spent the two weeks beforehand looking at various weather apps to see which gave the 'least worst' forecast for the day. The best we could get was 50% chance of heavy rain for the entire period of the fete, from setting up to taking down. So, we decided that we would have to go for Plan B which was to bring as much activity indoors as we could.

We have a very large church, and we could put the space to good use. All the stalls were moved inside with the exception of the Sustainability/Plant stall because of the space they needed, and the Bacon Butties for Health and Safety reasons and that the aroma of bacon cooking is a great inducement to getting people through the gate!

Well, whatever your beliefs, we can only conclude that someone was smiling on us because not a drop of rain fell until just before the Duck Race. Furthermore, masses of people came along and enjoyed the stalls, the refreshments and the entertainment. What's more they stayed, making the most of the opportunity to get together and chat. Many thanks to so many people who worked so hard in a variety of ways to put on a fantastic community event.

At the time of writing there isn't an exact figure for the sum raised for Clapham and Keasden churches but the support we received was tremendous. The fete showed that we have a great community and that we live in a very special place!

Sue Mann

Nature notes

Bilberry, blaeberry, whinberry, whimberry, windberry, whortleberry, heatherberry, huckleberry...

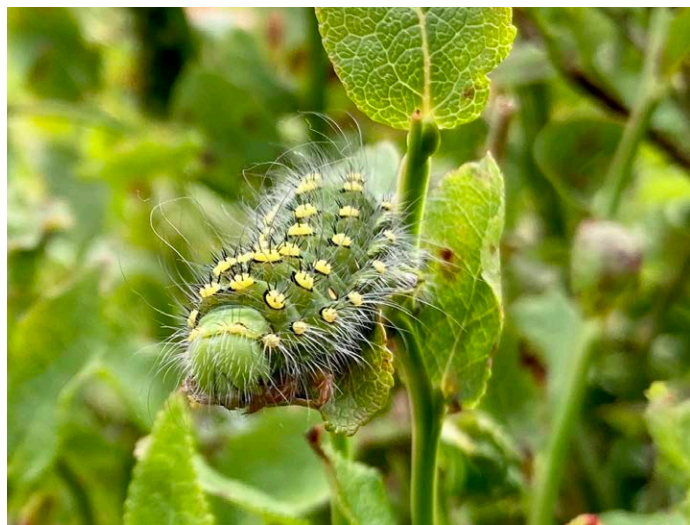
One of my favourite late summer treats, a juicy bilberry pie, is a hard-earned indulgence. Picking the tiny blue berries from beneath a low-growing blanket of concealing leaves is definitely not an activity I'd recommend if you suffer from a bad back. Picking a pie's worth takes time and, as they tend to grow best up on the heathery slopes of high moorland, you will usually have worked up a sweat before you even begin. It's hardly surprising that mediaeval herbalists used the berries and their juice to treat chronic fatigue and arthritis!

Just as their name might vary from region to region, or even village to village, so does the folklore surrounding them. Traditionally, either the last Sunday in July or the first in August was known as Bilberry Sunday and was closely associated with the Lammass – *Loaf Mass* - festivities held to celebrate the end of haytime and the beginning of the harvest. In many Gaelic communities, parents often seized on this as a match-making opportunity for a shy son or daughter who was in need of a gentle push in the right direction. Young couples would be given a basket and despatched to the hills in the knowledge that, by the time it was full and they could return, they would have had ample opportunity to get to know each other. Apparently, the ruse was so often successful that in some parts of the country bilberry picking now begins on *Courting Sunday!*

Unfortunately, I knew I was too late to see any of the adult moths. Had I been here in April or May, I might have felt I was being watched: amorous males would have been flitting frantically across the heather in search of a female hiding deep down in the vegetation, the staring, glaring eyespots on each of their four wings showing clearly only in snatched moments of rest. Although they are voracious eaters as caterpillars, the adult moths don't feed at all and only live for a few short weeks. Like the bilberry they offer only a fleeting, seasonal pleasure.



Male common blue damselfly.
Photo: Brian Christian



Emperor moth caterpillar on bilberry.
Photo: Brian Christian

I wonder if youthful passions might have been cooled a little if the purple-stained fingers of one of those courting couples had encountered a host of hairy, hungry caterpillars chomping their way through the bilberry bushes. On my first moorland foraging trip of the year, I was delighted to find that I was sharing a particularly bountiful patch with dozens of whiskery, bright green, yellow-spotted Emperor Moth caterpillars. One of the largest and most striking of our native insects, *saturnia pavonia* is our only silk moth and those rather luridly coloured caterpillars will eventually spin themselves a silk cocoon in which to wait out the cold winter months.

Damselflies and dragonflies are similarly ephemeral and can often be found much closer to home here in the village in the summer months. Like the Emperor Moth, they can spend up to two years hidden from sight before emerging and taking to the air as brightly coloured, short-lived adults, instinctively driven to search frantically for a mate along hedgerows, riverbanks and pond margins. The Common Blue damselfly is as widespread as its name suggests (although only the males are blue) and can be seen on any short walk round the village between June and early September. On one warm afternoon at the end of June I came across dozens of them flitting about just a couple of hundred metres up the track towards Clapdale Farm, hunting the gnats and midges that make up most of their diet during their short lifespan.

In the quieter, hazy days of late summer, when the birds we enjoy seeing in and around our gardens tend to be foraging further afield and so many summer visitors are beginning to make their way south, it's well worth keeping an eye out for the wide variety of *dragons* and *damsels* we can find here on our doorstep. Do let me know what you discover.

If you have news of any interesting or unusual sightings in the area, send me an email (bc.riverside28@gmail.com), drop a note into 2 Eggshell Lane or simply stop and chat if you see me around the village. Photographs are always welcome, and I'll continue to post regular local nature updates on Twitter: [@bc_riverside](https://twitter.com/bc_riverside)

Brian Christian



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Then and Now



Although it's easy to look at an old postcard and think "well, that's not changed at all", the reality can be somewhat different! I found it nigh on impossible to recreate this lovely old photograph, taken across Church Bridge towards the properties on Riverside, simply because of the increased tree cover surrounding the beck. The original postcard is dated 1907 so there's been well over a hundred years of growth I suppose!



Closer inspection shows that some windows in the buildings have been rearranged, with new ones inserted and old ones closed off, creepers have been cut back, and even a tree beyond the buildings appears to have come down. But those stone defenders of the bridge parapets – is there a correct term for them? - are still there!

Andy Scott

60th Anniversary - or Then and Now Take 2!



Congratulations to Stuart and Barbara Marshall who celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary at a drinks party held on 24th June as seen in this "Now" photo.



We're not sure where the "Then" photo was taken but can only imagine that they were United in Sheffield.

The Newsletter Team

Park Association update

The Clapham Park Association would like to send a huge thank you to Jackie Kingsley for a very generous donation. We're now able to replace the edging to the play area. Thank you, Jackie! Coming up on the park calendar, we have ...

Mon 28 August, 11am–3pm House to House Table Top Sale

Sell your wares outside your front door and make a donation to park funds. Contact Amy on 0740 229 3326 for further details or to take part. For those who want to see what's on offer - maps of all table top locations will be available on the day in various places in the village and online.

Sat 28 October, Children's Halloween Party

Save the Date! More details to follow.

A reminder, you can contact us by email. There is a WhatsApp Noticeboard for regular updates, let us know if you'd like to be added.

Eleanor Whitley
claphamparkassociation@outlook.com

Keasden 150 Celebratory Supper

Saturday 23rd September 2023
from 7pm to 11.30pm

Drink and canapes on arrival
Two-course, locally sourced, supper

After Supper entertainment
plus the Keasden 150 Grand Draw

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or Jules 07816 826481

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Steam update

The summer season for steam excursions is now well underway, with two or three trips over the Settle and Carlisle every week, and the resumption of the popular Scarborough Spa Express. These last appear to be steam-hauled throughout again this season, meaning that we should be seeing full trains – with their engine facing the correct way around! – passing through the station again. 46115 *Scots Guardsman* seems to have been given the job for 2023. 60103 *Flying Scotsman* continues to celebrate its



On Wednesday 7th June, Pen-y-Ghent rears above 45231 *Sherwood Forester* as the *Black Five* heads the *Settle and Carlisle Fellsman* service up Ribblesdale. Photo: Andy Scott

centenary and is booked to haul over the S&C on Sunday 6th August, no doubt bringing the usual hoard of photographers to Ribblesdale to record the occasion.

In mid-July, I had the chance to do something that's been on my "bucket list" for a few years – this was to take a ride on the Welsh Highland Railway. Now I've travelled

on the famous Ffestiniog Railway on several occasions over the years, but the same company's sister-line had eluded me since it was first reopened in 2011. It had always amazed

me that a narrow-gauge heritage railway company, originally rebuilt by volunteers, would have the wherewithal, resources or even desire to re-open a second route, and particularly a route of such length and complexity – the WHR runs from Porthmadog to Caernarvon, a distance of 25 miles. Yet, it did – overcoming

objections, fighting legal battles as well as those against the terrain and elements, to create a truly spectacular route right through the heart of Snowdonia (or Eryri as we now have to call it). It was well worth the visit despite the rain, and I will return - next time it may even be sunny.

Andy Scott

New Grants Programme

Local charity Yorkshire Dales Millennium Trust (YDMT) has launched a new grants scheme for projects and organisations that benefit the people, landscape and wildlife in and around the Yorkshire Dales and Nidderdale. The scheme can support a wide range of projects, including natural, built and cultural heritage, access improvements, educational and training initiatives, and activities that support community development. Grants can also contribute to an organisation's core costs such as rent, insurance and volunteer travel expenses.

Grants of £250 to £10,000 are available, and there could be larger grants for exceptional projects. The new scheme aims to improve community cohesion, reduce the impacts of climate change and biodiversity loss, and help to conserve and protect the area's fantastic built and cultural heritage.

The application process is designed to be simple and straightforward while ensuring that we get enough information to make quick decisions for projects that will make a real difference.

Alongside grants, we can also provide advice and support to strengthen applications and to enable projects to have the maximum impact. Applications for the programme are now open. Visit www.ydmt.org/what-we-do/grants/grants

to download the application form and guidance notes. Applications can be submitted at any time and decisions are usually made within six weeks.

The grants scheme is supported by an award from Postcode Earth Trust thanks to funds raised by players of People's Postcode Lottery.

If you'd like more information, then please contact me on 015242 51002 or email grants@ydmt.org

Mike Appleton

Grants Officer - Yorkshire Dales Millennium Trust

CLAPHAM cum NEWBY VILLAGE HALL

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

27th September 2023

7pm

Village Hall

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Autumn Lecture Series

Starts Tuesday 26th September

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7pm

Fee for full series: £50

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Programme of 10 lectures ending on 5th December,
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Saturday 7th October

Save the date & watch out for posters nearer the time!

Neighbourhood Plan update

Thanks to everyone for spending time reading the Neighbourhood Plan and submitting your comments on the draft document, in person at one of the consultation events at Clapham, Newby or Keasden.

We are very pleased to have received a range of responses, some of which relate directly to the draft Neighbourhood Plan and some of which will be fed into the accompanying Community Action Plan which picks up on community concerns that are not strictly planning matters.

The comments have now been considered by the Steering Group and the draft document has been modified and sent to the Parish Council. After that, it will be submitted to North Yorkshire Council and the Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority who are responsible for checking that the submitted Plan has followed the proper legal process. Following a six-week period of publicity, the local planning authorities will arrange for an independent examination of the Plan.

The independent examination stage is normally conducted by written representations. The inspector will be sent a copy of the Plan, accompanying documentation and appendices and, also, copies of any comments received during the publicity period. The independent examiner will take these comments into account insofar as they relate to the remit of the independent examination and if necessary, the examiner may invite interested parties to a public hearing to present their comments. Subject to the plan meeting the basic conditions at the examination stage, the local authorities will also organise the public referendum.

Ann Sheridan

'Feast' of events in Bowland

The Forest of Bowland is full of opportunities as the summer continues. The natural world offers masses of inspiration so, whether you're looking for something new, or you're already a seasoned creative, why not sign up for a relaxed, friendly workshop?

Sunday 9 August Scorton: Watercolour workshop for accompanied children (aged 4 to 10), hosted by local artist Carla Gebhard. Places for the hour-long session are limited, so book early. Email: hello@carlagebhard.com for details.

Friday 11 August Grindleton: Traditional rug hooking with textile artist Kit Wood and the chance to take home your own miniature "proddy" rug.

Tuesday 15 August Gisburn Forest Hub: Photo workshop with Mark Sutcliffe sharing practical hints on how to get the best smartphone pictures when out and about.

Sunday 20 August Wigglesworth Community Hall: Half-day workshop with printmaker Nita Burrows a chance to discover intaglio printmaking and drypoint etching.

For further info for these last three events, contact me.

September, the spotlight turns to the best of delicious Bowland, with foraging walks, feasting, cycle trails and food tours celebrating local food producers and distinctive dishes.

Sunday 17: Valley & Villages Cycle, Monday 18: Pendle Pub Pie & Valley Walk, Tuesday 19: Herbal Medicine Walk,

Wednesday 20: Bowland & Bay Food Tours, Thursday 21: Elderberry Forage & Jam Making, Friday 22: Foraging

Walks, Saturday 23: Picnic in the Park, Sunday 24: Bowland Villages Cycle Tour. Full details of the Feast Bowland events,

prices and booking info at www.forestofbowland.com/Feast

Sandra Silk

sandra.silk@lancashire.gov.uk

Art and Craft Sale

A sale featuring original art and craft work produced by local makers will be held in the Village Hall. All proceeds will be donated to two charities. This year we are supporting *St Johns Hospice* and *Mind*.

Any donations of your art and craft work, however large or small, would be very much appreciated. This advert is going out now to give all you talented people time to get busy making. I can't wait to see what is brought to us; we have some very talented crafters in this area.

Saturday 11th November

10.00 - 16.00

Clapham Village Hall

There will, of course, be refreshments on offer too. Another way for you to contribute?

Any queries to Chris Horsewill Tel. 07771 621016 e-mail ajhnottm@gmail.com

Please bring any donations to ... Long Barn, Cross Haw Lane by 1st November.
The maker/artist can determine their own level of donation eg 20% - 100% of the sale price.
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Early morning walk

It's Gathering Day, but too late for the 'off' now at 5.15am. "6am on th' top" is what JD usually says and whilst he and his helpers and fellow farmers get a lift halfway up, they then set off at Turbo Plod. I'm currently reduced to Slow Plod and road walks.

As I get up there's a curlew calling just outside, but none to be seen or heard in the first hour. A hare in Bleak Bank's big meadow below the farm and fifty jackdaws on fence railings on the way down to Cold Cotes. A quad and trailer disappear up the hill from Cod Bank and a Land Rover parks up at the gate – he's missed a possible lift by a few minutes.

Another curlew, in the big pasture next to Garden Toys where three of Tom's coffee-coloured cows with their calves, and plenty of sheep, reside for the summer. What determines which meadow is cut and when? JK's meadow opposite, on the same road, I think was cut earlier last year but it's still growing now. Others that were late last year are first now.

Another curlew flies over towards Yarl's Farm. Last year we had two nests in this area, one successful but the other predated. None that we're sure about this year, though there have been successes over the other side of the valley. Bird flu and suitability of land for breeding - could those be the problem?



Photo: Ann Sheridan

The top of Ingleborough is in cloud, I can see. Have they started to sweep sheep off the fell to the sorting pens? They have – by 10.30 a flock is being driven along the road towards Bleak Bank, distinctive red spots on side and rump.

Another hare loping off at our approach. A wren twittering away in a branch over our heads, not concerned or it would be shouting its alarm call. A shower behind me, coming this way, and a larger one across the valley, heading for Clapham, columns of water falling from dark clouds.

Home, and in the dry. Dogs to feed and breakfast to prepare.

John Elphinstone

Photographic exhibition



Avocet Reflections.
Photo: David Crutchley

Settle Photographic Group (SPG) has announced its first greetings card range celebrating the work of its members which will be launched at its Annual Exhibition. This yearly event, a feature of the area's arts calendar since 2009, will be held in Clapham Village Hall from Saturday 26th to Monday 28th August. The exhibition will be open 10am to 5pm daily.

The card range features members' favourite photographs

from their personal collections. For sale for the first time at the Exhibition, SPG plans to make the cards available for sale through local outlets afterwards.

With images covering subjects like farming, flowers, insects, landscapes, trains and much, much more, this year's Exhibition demonstrates a wide range of techniques and styles including close up and monochrome. Many of the exhibited photographs will be available for sale alongside a selection of additional work by members. The Exhibition will be preceded by SPG's Town Trail (2nd to 21st August), which sees a selection of Exhibition photos on display in shop windows around Settle.

Tim Fearon, Joint Co-ordinator of the Exhibition, comments: "We reach a large number of people through our Town Trail and even more when the full selection of photos goes on display in Clapham. Our members come from all over the area, so you can see a wide range of influences from across Craven, as well as lots of individual photographic passions and styles. We hope visitors find our photos stimulating on a creative level, as well as inspiring budding photographers to join us. It's fantastic that we have more members joining who use mobile phones as their main or only camera and we have some of these pictures in the exhibition. We hope that many will come to the Exhibition, have a cuppa and some cake and see what we have to offer."

SPG's aim is to help every member develop their photographic skills through a varied programme of talks, demonstrations, discussions, challenges, online galleries, outings and exhibitions. Members share their knowledge about a range of cameras, photographic accessories and software. Details of all meetings and further information about the Group can be found at www.settlephotos.org. Visitors are welcome to any meeting.

Jill Franklin,
secretary@settlephotos.org

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Village hall news



The hall has been busy and has hosted a number of events over the last couple of months.

These have included the stage performance of **Eddie and the Gold Tops** (an excellent night's entertainment from Badapple Theatre Company) and the ever-popular **Clapham Art Exhibition**, with refreshments supplied by St. James' Church. In addition, we continue to provide a venue for a raft of meetings by various community groups and institutions. It really is good to see our community hub used so well by our regular groups and private hirers.

But we can't stand still and, by the time you read this, work should have been started on improving the flooring. The carpet tiles in the supper room should have been replaced with a new covering, which should make it much smarter and easier to keep clean, whilst the lovely wooden floor in the main hall is due to be repolished.

The hall's constitution requires us to invite each local group to nominate a representative to join the committee to help ensure that the building and its facilities meet the changing needs of the whole community. We've had a good response so far to the letters of invitation we sent out earlier, so thank you to all who have come back to me already. However, I'm yet to hear back from all of the groups contacted. Even if your group is intending to have the same representative for the coming year, or doesn't wish to be represented, could you please let me know at the email address given below?

The new committee, including the group representatives, will be appointed at our AGM on 27th September at 7.30pm in the hall, and will then serve for a period of a year. The AGM is open to the public, and all are invited: please remember that Clapham cum Newby Village Hall belongs to us all in the parish and that everyone's views matter.

Looking forward to future events: we have a **Domino Drive and Supper** on Friday 22nd September at 7.30pm. These are always a great way of socialising as people move from table to table (and it's not necessary to be a good domino player!).

On Saturday 7th October, Badapple Theatre Company will be returning, in a joint venture with St. James' Church, for a double-bill performance of **Yorkshire Kernel** and **The Land Girl**.

A **Stuart Marshall Quiz Night** is booked for Friday 3rd November, and the church and hall will be jointly hosting

Village hall regular events

Indoor Bowls

Mondays 1.30 - 4pm (starting September)
David and Jackie Kingsley 015242 51240
jackieanddavid@yahoo.com

Clapham & Austwick Guides & Brownies

Mondays 5 - 6.30pm Brownies
Mondays 6.30 - 8pm Guides
Karen Fielding 07748 164409
claphamandaustwickguides@hotmail.com

Lecture Group

Tuesdays 7pm (starting 26th September)
Andy Scott 015242 51749 andy@station-hse.co.uk

Age UK

Wednesdays 10.30am (1st Wed of the month)
Brenda Pearce 015242 51816
kenpearcela2@gmail.com

Clapham Art Group

Wednesdays (mornings)
Linda Clemence 01729 823767
linda.clemence@googlemail.com

Clapham DEW Drop-In

Digital Equipment Workshop PC support group
Wednesdays 7pm (next meeting 6th September)
Andy Scott 015242 51749
claphamdewdropin@gmail.com

Clapham cum Newby Parish Council

Wednesdays 7.30pm
(Usually 3rd Wednesday of the month)
Steve Culver 015242 51862
parishclerk.claphamcumnewby@gmail.com

Tai Chi

Thursdays 9 - 10.30am
Tony Bennet taichiqigongteacher@gmail.com

Craft & Chat

Thursdays 2 - 4pm (1st & 3rd Thurs of the month)
Chris Horsewill 015242 51716 ajhnottm@gmail.com

Sustainability Group

Thursdays 7.30pm onwards
(2nd Thursday bi-monthly – Sept, Nov, etc.)
Jill Buckler jillbuckler@me.com

Board Games Group

Fridays 2 - 5pm (2nd & 4th Fri of the month)
Jackie Kingsley jackieanddavid@yahoo.com

a pantomime – **Robin Hood** – on Saturday 30th December at 6pm.

As for the start of next year, we have something new to offer: **Siren and Strings**, a live band from the Leeds area, will be coming to Clapham on Friday 19th January. They play popular music from the 1970's onwards, so get your dancing shoes ready, prepare to sing along to old favourites, or just come along and listen, but get the date in your diaries now! More details in the next issue.

Angie Martin
claphamcumnewbyvillagehall@gmail.com

From our sponsors



At Settle DIY you will find a treasure trove of everything for your home and garden, situated in the Ashfield car park on Station Road.

Established in 1991, we are a traditional DIY and decorating centre, supplying quality DIY products to the general public and trade customers.

Looking for some advice on your next DIY project? Head to Settle DIY. Our cheerful, knowledgeable and well trained staff will always be happy to share their expert advice. No matter what you need for your home or what your next DIY project will be, Settle DIY are sure to be able to kit you out at a competitive price!

There's no better place to start!

Get the paint you want without hassle. We've got over 15,000 colours to choose from. All you have to do is choose your colour, the finish you want and we'll mix the paint up while you wait. It couldn't be easier!

And there are many products and services we stock and provide:

Timber, PSE, white melamine, rough sawn timber, Sheets of MDF and Plywood

Paint, Leyland, Crown, Macpherson, Sikkens, Hammerite, Cuprinol, Ronseal

Gardening products, Lawn care, Gardening tools, weed killers, fertilisers

Key cutting while you wait, Cylinder, mortice, padlock keys

Electrical items, LED Light bulbs, cable, batteries, smoke alarms


Ironmongery, door furniture, padlocks, hasps, hinges and not to forget the screws, nuts, bolts and washers to hold it all together!

We have Power and Hand tools to make your project that bit easier


Pest Control products, Bird food and feeders

Plumbing and Kitchen essentials. Plus much more!

A big thank you to all our amazing customers new and old,
we wouldn't be here without you!



SETTLE DIY at ASHFIELD



Ashfield Car Park, Station Road,
Settle BD24 9AA
Tel: 01729 823002

www.settlediy.com
Opening Times:
Mon - Fri: 8.30am - 5.30pm
Sat: 9.00am - 5.30pm

