



village news

October / November 2026

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Dear Reader

Autumn has arrived - although, judging by some of the weather we had in summer, it has been waiting in the wings for quite some time.

Autumn is very good at reminding us that nothing lasts forever. Summer has packed its bags, the last of the barbecues are probably behind us, and the garden is beginning to look as though it would quite like to be left alone for a few months. The leaves are turning, then falling, the flowers are fading and the wellies are coming out of retirement. Before long, the first fire of the season will be lit, and there is something wonderfully comforting about settling down beside it while the wind and rain do their worst outside.

But autumn isn't just about things coming to an end. It is also a season of new beginnings. Across our villages, the summer holidays are over and village life gets back into its familiar rhythm. Schools reopen, clubs restart and there are suddenly more events than anyone can possibly fit into a weekend. It is one of the things that makes village life so enjoyable - there is always something going on, and usually someone who knows someone who can help organise it.

And then, of course, there is Christmas. We mention this cautiously, because there are still those of us who consider November far too early to be discussing it. Unfortunately, Christmas apparently does not agree. It is already lurking in the shops, waiting to ambush us with tinsel.

So, as we move through October and November, perhaps we can enjoy the best of both worlds - saying goodbye to summer while looking forward to what lies ahead.

Whatever you are doing this autumn, we hope you enjoy this issue and support some of the events taking place in our villages.

**L, C and L
and the team**

IN THIS ISSUE

5 Sicklinghall

6 North Rigton

13 Kirkby
Overblow

17 Benefice
Matters

24 Pool &
Arthington

31 Huby and
Weeton

36 Other News

Cover photo: Audrey Meredith

Linda Bullus, Caroline Henderson and Liz Barrett: joint-editors
email: lwparishnews@yahoo.co.uk

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News from Sicklinghall Village Hall

Now that autumn is setting in, it's a time when we often stay close to home. Why not try one of our classes at the village hall?

Some of our regular classes continued over the summer; now they are all back with renewed enthusiasm and are happy to welcome new members.

We would also like to hear from you if you have an idea for a community activity or new class.

For information about booking the hall, contact the booking secretary via the website sicklinghallvillagehall.co.uk or on 07761 207141.

For regular classes contact:

Yoga	Suzanne	07762 541083
Pilates	Tracy	07500 909638
Zumba Gold	Jacqui	07974 330725
Art	Mary	01423 439289
Number Train	numbertrainwetherby.classforkids.io	

(Art and Number Train may have a waiting list for this term's activities.)

Suzanne Phillips
on behalf of the committee

Sicklinghall Village Act of Remembrance

Wednesday 11 November 2026, 10:50 am
War Memorial in the Sicklinghall Cemetery, Geecroft Lane, Sicklinghall

Our annual ecumenical Act of Remembrance service will again take place this year. It will be led this year by Bill Campbell, with prayers by the Revd Stroma McDermott and Father Andrew Summersgill. It is hoped that the pupils of Sicklinghall School will also be participating again.

Wreaths will be laid on behalf of St Peter's Church, The Church of the Immaculate Conception and the Sicklinghall Parish Council.

There will then be an opportunity for members of the congregation to place personal crosses of remembrance at the memorial, in memory of their loved ones.

Whilst this is a standing service, seating will be provided for those people who are unable to stand. The service will last approximately 15 minutes. Everyone is welcome.

A Bradley Bench

A number of years ago, an old, damaged bench was removed from Church Hill and the cast iron frame and bolts were put into storage by the Parish Clerk, Mike Richards. The bench was dedicated to the memory of John Bradley, a member of a well-known village family in North Rigton.

After several attempts to get the bench restored, Cllr Richard Farrar offered to attempt to carry out the restoration.



“After stripping the old bolts and remnants of rotten wood from the ends, they were shot blasted and painted. A trip to Machells in Guiseley established that they had a large piece of hardwood reclaimed from a structure in Ilkley and so it was sawn into three pieces to form the new slats. With new bolts and some careful positioning of the holes in the slats, the bench was re-assembled.”

The Parish Council is now considering where to re-locate the restored bench within the village, together with the original plaque.

Many thanks to Richard for all his work.

Mary Hopkins

Ladies' Lunch formerly Yorkshire Countrywomen's Group

Are you free on the third Monday of each month? If so, why not join our friendly group for lunch at 12.15 pm at The Square & Compass in North Rigton?

This is an informal group of ladies who meet up for a meal and a chat. Usually between six and twelve people attend. We are happy to welcome new residents to the area and not just from North Rigton! If you're short on time then just come and join us for a coffee.

If you can let me know whether you can come, then that helps the pub with numbers. Do text or ring me on 07957 451304 or respond to the post in the North Rigton Facebook group.

The autumn meetings will be:

Monday 19 October 2026
Monday 16 November 2026
Monday 21 December 2026

We look forward to seeing you there.

Rosemary Hunt

St John's Church

Sharing Gratitude and Joy at St John's

Having local pets join our family service brought so much warmth to our church family at our August Family Service and as autumn arrives, we turn our focus to giving back. Our Family Service on **27 September** was a celebration of Harvest, when we gathered donations for those less fortunate.

Following the success of our **Magical Christmas**, we are already looking ahead to our 2026 event. **Welcome to Christmas** will be a family evening with a different approach to the Christmas story.

Put the date in your diaries now!
Saturday 5 December

*Francesca Jenkinson
& Mary Hopkins*



**North Rigton
Village
Community
Association**

In Association with
The Square &
Compass



Community Event

The Square and Compass are hosting this special event for us to raise funds for our community.

There are still some tickets available.

We invite you to join us for this special event.

Open to all

£20.00 per person



Scan to Book!



NORTH RIGTON CE PRIMARY SCHOOL



New Starter Visits

VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR MORE INFORMATION:
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01423 734540**



**YORKSHIRE
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North Rigton Village Christmas Dinner



at
The Square & Compass
**SAVE THE DATE
NOW!**

Friday 4 December 2026

Welcome drinks at 7.00pm

Meal from 7.30pm

NEW FORMAT!

Details, once finalised, will be posted on the village notice boards, on North Rigton Community Facebook page and on the North Rigton website under the Rigton Events section. www.northrigton.org



NORTH RIGTON

CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL

Stay & Play Sessions

Do you have a child due to start school in September 2027? If so, please join us on the following dates:

Monday 12th October: 10.30am - 11.30am

Thursday 3rd December: 9.00am - 10.00am



Please call or email to book a space

01423 734540

admin@northrigton.ycway.uk

North Rigton Parish Council

High Moor Road

Unfortunately, there have been further delays in the resurfacing due to the discovery of drainage problems. These have been partially resolved but further work is still required. This further work is scheduled for mid-September and, according to NYC, the re-surfacing will immediately follow. Hopefully when you are reading this, all work will have been completed.

Hedges and Verges

It would be much appreciated if homeowners could maintain the hedges and verges around their properties, especially if they're overlapping the pavement. This benefits both pedestrians and the overall appearance of the village.

Bus Shelter – bottom of Church Hill

As previously reported, Openreach was requiring access to a manhole obscured by the shelter. This would have required removal of the shelter, but Openreach have now decided not to proceed with the work.

Car Parking on pavements (especially on Rigton Hill)

Could motorists please have regard for pedestrians, as obstructing the pavement means pedestrians have to go into the road which can be dangerous with passing vehicles. This is particularly dangerous on Rigton Hill where there is no alternative pavement on the other side of the road.

Overweight lorries

There have recently been a significant number of overweight lorries passing through the village (both loaded and unloaded). These have been reported to NYC Trading Standards and it would be appreciated if residents observe any repetition of this practice, they could also report vehicle registration numbers and company names to Trading Standards.

Mike Richards

Parish Clerk

Contact via northrigtonparishcouncil@gmail.com

Please note that the views and contents in Village News are not the responsibility of the editors of the magazine but of the individual contributors.

Kirkby Overblow Educational Foundation

If you live in the village of Kirkby Overblow and are planning to go to college or university this year, then read on.

This charity was set up in 1922 to give financial assistance to children living in the village of Kirkby Overblow who were proceeding to further education. In those days, secondary schooling was not free, so help was given to those few individuals who passed the exam into the grammar school. Nowadays, such schooling is available to all and the remit of the charity has changed to reflect this. One-off grants are given to those persons who go on to university or college, to help towards the purchase of books or equipment needed for the course.

If you feel that you may qualify for such an award, please apply in writing to:

The Treasurer, Dr S Noble
The Lodge
Kirkby Overblow
HG3 1HH

giving details of the course of study and the university or college you hope to attend.

Only those living in the village of Kirkby Overblow are eligible for a grant.

Applications must be received **by 31 October** for consideration by the Trustees at their next meeting

A Caribbean Evening

KO events will be putting on a Caribbean evening on **Saturday 16 January** to hopefully help blow away the January blues.

There will be live music from the well-known double act of Shorrel Jade and Wayne “Reggae Man” Simon, and Caribbean themed food will be provided as part of the ticket price of £20. We will have a bar selling the usual array of drinks and possibly a rum punch!

Doors open at 6.45 and the evening closes at 11.30. All proceeds will go to local charities.

Tickets are available via the Kirkby Overblow website:
<http://kirkbyoverblow.org/page/events/>

SAVE THE DATE

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TICKETS WILL BE AVAILABLE FROM
1ST OCTOBER 2026



 VIA THE KIRKBY OVERBLOW WEBSITE

<http://kirkbyoverblow.org/page/events/>



MACMILLAN COFFEE MORNING

Wednesday 7 October

All Saints' Church, KO

9.30am till 11.30am

TARGET

To raise £1000.00 to pay for a Macmillan nurse for one week

HOW?

In addition to donations for coffee and cake there will be

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(and maybe a sausage plait or two)

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Where is God when disaster strikes?

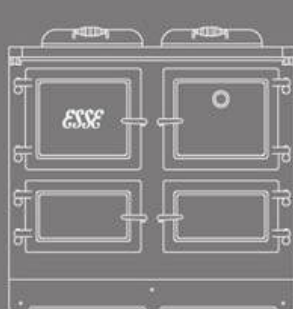
Whenever we see terrible events unfolding around the world, like the devastating floods in Nepal and Tibet, there is a question that inevitably comes to mind: **Where is God in all this?** It is an understandable question. If God is loving and all-powerful, why does he allow these things to happen? Why doesn't he step in and stop them? Interestingly, these aren't modern questions. People were asking Jesus much the same thing two thousand years ago. In one such story, we read about people dying when a tower collapses and the survivors ask Jesus, **"Why?" "Who is to blame?" "Why did God allow this to happen?"**

But Jesus doesn't give his listeners a neat explanation. And perhaps that's because there isn't one. The Bible tells us that God created the world and called it good. But it also describes a world which has become broken; a world in which human beings hurt one another, in which bodies become ill, in which creation itself can be dangerous, and in which ultimately every one of us will die. Christian faith has never promised that believing in God somehow gives us immunity from all of that. Jesus never said, "Follow me and nothing bad will ever happen to you." Quite the opposite. His first followers experienced illness, persecution, imprisonment, shipwreck and death. So, what *does* God promise? Well, perhaps one answer is found in a beautiful verse from Psalm 34: ***'The Lord is close to the broken-hearted.'***

Christians don't believe in a God who watches human suffering from a comfortable distance. We believe in Jesus Christ: God coming among us and experiencing this broken world for himself. Jesus knew grief. He wept when his friend Lazarus died. He knew betrayal, loneliness and physical pain. And ultimately, on the cross, he knew what it was to suffer and die.

So when we ask **"Where is God when people are suffering?"** Christianity gives us the answer: **He is there.** He is with the frightened, the grieving and the broken-hearted. He is alongside those desperately searching in mud and wreckage for people they love. He is there in the rescuers risking their own safety for strangers, in communities opening their homes, in those giving food and shelter, and in countless acts of compassion and kindness.

But Christianity makes an even bigger claim than that. It says that suffering and death will not have the final word. At the end of the Bible we are given a glimpse of God's future: ***'He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death or mourning or crying or pain'.*** I love the fact that it doesn't say the tears don't matter. Instead, it says God **wipes them away.** Human suffering matters enormously to God because human beings matter enormously to God. Every person whose face we see on our television screens is someone made in God's image.



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Every life lost is precious. Every grieving family matters. Which means that when disaster strikes, the Christian response is not to come up with answers about why it happened. It's to respond with compassion: through prayer; through financial giving; through standing alongside those who are suffering.

And perhaps tragedy also reminds us of something we spend much of our lives trying not to think about: life is fragile. Jesus' response to the falling tower was, in effect, to say to those who survived: *You have seen how fragile life can be. So think about how you are living yours:*

*What really matters to me?
What am I living for?
Where is my hope?*

Those of us who are Christians believe that, whatever happens, **we belong to God; that he will be with us through it; and that even death cannot separate us from his love.**

There are times when I wish Christianity gave us a simple answer to every 'why?' It would make my job much easier! There are tragedies for which I don't think any explanation will ever feel adequate. But instead, at the centre of our faith is not an explanation, but a person: Jesus Christ: the God who enters our suffering, carries wounds himself, defeats death through his resurrection and promises that one day he will make all things new. So, when terrible events fill our screens, yes, we all ask difficult questions. But, as Paul in the Bible says, **we do not grieve without hope.** Because however dark the story may sometimes seem, we believe that suffering and death are not the end of it.

With every blessing,

Rev'd Emma

From the Registers

Baptisms

23 August	Pool in Wharfedale	Sienna Grace Ridealgh
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Weddings

18 July	Weeton	Jennifer Claire Barrett and Peter William Sharp
25 July	Sicklinghall	Claire Helen Lenighan and Justin Matthew King
13 August	North Ripton	Georgia Rose Booth and Michael Paul Martin Cocker

Funerals

23 July	Kirkby Overblow	Alan Douthwaite
18 Sept	Kirkby Overblow	Robert Myles Gibson

Interment of Ashes

6 July	Pool in Wharfedale	Margaret Godley
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Lower Wharfedale Benefice Nepal Disaster Relief Appeal

Many of you will have seen on the news the devastating scenes following the monumental scale of flash flooding in Nepal's Rasuwa district and the Xizang area of Tibet.

Families have lost loved ones, homes and livelihoods in a matter of hours. Many have been forced from their homes and face an uncertain future, even as rescue efforts continue. So far, hundreds are known to have died, with thousands, including children, still missing. The priority for aid agencies and disaster recovery workers is saving lives through search and rescue and providing urgent aid.

Aid agencies including the Red Cross are already helping people in Nepal, and disaster recovery groups are at work trying to rescue survivors and ensure victims have some safety and security and can be connected with news of loved ones.

Could you contribute to this work by donating to the disaster fund today?

Your money will go towards:

- establishing emergency camps and providing essential support and shelter for people left homeless
- providing emergency supplies like food, drinking water, first aid kits, blankets, sleeping mats, ropes and other emergency equipment
- supporting search and rescue teams
- supporting people to find lost loved ones and supporting those bereaved

Please, whatever you can afford will go to help people living in and through this crisis and will make a difference. If you are a taxpayer and can give your generous donation with Gift Aid, this will add an extra 25% to whatever you give.

All the monies raised is given to the Disaster Relief Fund so you can be sure that your generosity goes to where it's needed.

Thank you.

Rev'd Stroma

on behalf of Lower Wharfedale Benefice



Benefice marquee

This is a picture of the Benefice marquee that was hired by Tommy and Vicky Eyre for their son Henry's 30th birthday party.

The marquee measures 18m by 6m and is relatively quick to put up. You need 7-8 able bodied Gents /Ladies.

The hire fee is £350 which will go into village funds/charitable causes.

Please contact me should you wish to hire it.

Jim, 07970 374658



Benefice of Lower Wharfedale church services

Sunday 4 October

Kirkby Overblow	BCP	8.30am
Pool	Civic Service	10.00am
Kirkby Overblow	Celtic Service	11.00am
Sicklinghall	Parish Communion	9.30am
Weeton	Family Service	11.00am

Sunday 11 October

Kirkby Overblow	BCP	8.30am
North Rigton	Parish Communion Service	9.30am
Pool	Patronal Festival	3.00pm
Kirkby Overblow.	Family Service	11.00am

Sunday 18 October

Kirkby Overblow	BCP	8.30am
Sicklinghall	Parish Communion	9.30am
Weeton	Parish Communion	11.00am
North Rigton	Peace and Praise	6.00pm

Sunday 25 October

Kirkby Overblow	Parish Communion with Sunday Club	11.00am
North Rigton	Family Service	9.30am
Pool	Parish Communion	9.30am

Sunday 1 November

Kirkby Overblow	BCP	8.30am
Pool	Parish Eucharist	9.30am
Sicklinghall	Parish Communion	9.30am
Weeton	Family Service	11.00am
Kirkby Overblow	All Souls Service	3.00pm

Sunday 8 November

Kirkby Overblow	BCP	8.30am
Kirkby Overblow	Remembrance	11.00am
North Rigton.	Parish Communion then Remembrance at Village Memorial	9.30am
Pool	Service at Methodist Church then laying of wreaths at Cenotaph at	10.00am 10.45am

Sunday 15 November

Kirkby Overblow	BCP	8.30am
Sicklinghall	Parish Communion	9.30am
Weeton	Holy Communion	11.00am
North Rigton	Peace and Praise	6.00pm

Sunday 22 November

Kirkby Overblow	Holy Communion with Sunday Club	11.00am
North Rigton	Family Service	9.30am
Pool	Parish Eucharist	9.30am

Sunday 29 November

Weeton	Benefice Service	10.00am
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All Souls' Service

Sunday 1 November at 3pm All Saints' Church, Kirkby Overblow

Each year we hold an All Souls' Service in the benefice to remember by name loved ones who have died.

This year this is at All Saints' and we invite anyone from across the benefice to come and be part of the service and to cherish the memory of their loved ones.

The service involves some gentle, reflective liturgy including poems, familiar hymns and bible verses, the reading out of the names of loved ones and lighting a candle in their name, and prayers.

Everyone is welcome to attend and nearer the time there will be sheets at all of the churches where you can write the name of the loved one you would like to be remembered and included within the service.



Whether they died recently or not, we would like to help you to honour their memory before God.

Rev'd Stroma

Pool Primary A great start to the new school year

We have been delighted to welcome our pupils back to Pool Primary for the start of another exciting school year. The new term has brought a wonderful sense of energy, enthusiasm and new beginnings, with children settling quickly into their classes and embracing new opportunities for learning and growth.

This year, our school is placing a strong focus on the importance of community. Through our curriculum and wider school experiences, we are helping pupils understand what it means to be part of a community and the responsibilities we all share in supporting and caring for one another. We believe these values are vital in helping our children become kind, respectful and active citizens.

We currently have spaces available in a number of year groups and warmly welcome visits from families who may be considering a move to Pool Primary. We would be delighted to show you around and share all that makes our school such a special place to learn and belong. For more information, please contact the school office to arrange a visit. We look forward to welcoming you.

Claire Taylor, Headteacher

Friends of Pool Primary School

We're delighted to share that Friends of Pool Primary School (FOPPS) **raised an amazing £8,098.01 during the 2025 academic year!** 🎉

This fantastic total would not have been possible without the incredible support of our school and village community. A huge thank you to everyone who has volunteered, donated, sponsored, attended our events, bought raffle tickets, baked cakes and supported FOPPS in so many different ways.

The money raised has enabled us to provide a range of additional resources and experiences for the children at Pool Primary School, including new vinyl interactive wall displays throughout the school, new books and learning resources, as well as Christmas and Easter gifts for every child in school.

Our Summer Fair in July alone raised an amazing £2,297.95. Thanks to everyone who came along, volunteered, donated, baked, bought raffle tickets and supported the event. We'd also like to say a special thank you

to our fantastic Summer Fair sponsors, Weidmann Whiteley, who generously sponsored our inflatables, as well as Asda and Morrisons for their support.

As we begin planning future Summer Fairs, we'd really value the views of our school and village community. Whether you came along this year or weren't able to make it, we'd be grateful if you could spare just two minutes to complete our short survey. Your feedback will help us make future events even better.

 **Summer Fair Survey:** <https://forms.office.com/e/hJJPXFQVYv>

Thank you once again for your continued support of FOPPS and, most importantly, the children of Pool Primary School.

Sarah Cliff and Sarah Corr
Co-chairs FOPPS

Pool Methodist Chapel

It has been a fabulous summer for the Methodists in Pool. The Afternoon Tea service was a highlight – a real mixture of praise and refreshments, as was our monthly Sing the Faith service in August, where we shared a journey through the life and hymnody of the Rev'd Fred Pratt Green. Once serving as a minister in our chapel, his hymns hold profound themes, weaving compassion, justice and a deep love for God. Heartfelt thanks to Judith for her scrupulous research and engaging delivery, and to Lindsey for playing the piano and organ.

In the meantime, the Methodists in Pool continue to share their faith through community support and simple services of worship. Our services are calm, friendly, intimate and reverent yet informal. We meet twice a month for worship, sharing *Craft and Communion* on the second Sunday of each month. This is an uplifting worship service for all ages.

All are welcome to join us.

Grace and peace,

Wendy

Rainbow Charity Shop

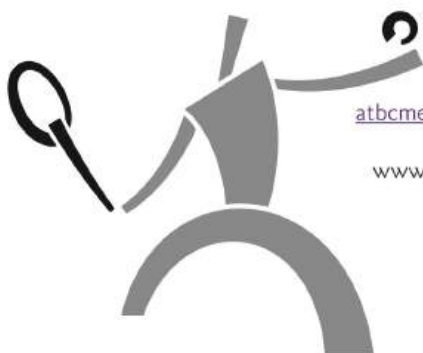
We have had a busy start to the autumn. A stall at the Pool Feast attracted a good crowd of customers, together with a jumble sale in the church hall, raising a total of £360.

The Team Charity Shop thank all who have supported them.

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www.atbc-huby.org.uk



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Donations this year have been given to Otley Men's Group, Otley Women's Group, Otley Space, Bramhope Dementia Cafe, Prickly Pigs and Moor View Yorkshire Pet Rescue.

The success is due to a dedicated team of volunteers

Penny Gwilt, Manager

News from St Wilfrid's

We have had a busy summer at St Wilfrid's with numerous events taking place.

On 9 August, Pool had our first pet service when we welcomed a few pets into the church. Those of us unable to bring our pets showed pictures, and prayers were said for all.

On 30 August the much-awaited Pool Feast took place. This is a wonderful day for all the Pool community, with stalls, games, food and entertainment. St Wilfrid's congregation ran the refreshments in the village hall. Many teas and cakes were sold, raising valued funds towards St Wilfrid's.



We have enjoyed not one but two Messy Church sessions over the summer break. This is a joint venture with the Methodist Church, held at the Methodist Church in Pool. Children from the village were welcomed with snacks, crafts and stories. Our first session was based on the theme *Fishers of Men*, when we made small sailing boats from corks. The second was on the theme of a new start, where the children made butterfly prints, caterpillars changing to butterflies and some wonderful creations from junk modelling.

Our Harvest Service was on Sunday 13 September, when all food donated was given to the Otley Food Bank.

28 September, new term and we started again with our Lego Church in Pool Primary School hall.

On **Sunday 4 October** we shall be holding Pool Civic Service, this year at St Wilfrid's, when the local Councillors, Mayors and MP for the village attend the service, which is followed by refreshments.

Finally, on **Sunday 11 October** we shall be celebrating St Wilfrid's Day, when the Dean of Ripon will hopefully be attending our service to celebrate with us.

We look forward to seeing some of you at these events.

Gill Damp

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Pool Scouts

Hello from all at Pool Scouts. We hope you had a lovely summer and spent time soaking up the sun while it visited our lovely part of Yorkshire.

Pool Scouts has been on hiatus over the summer holidays while we allow our young people (and our leaders) some much needed time with their families. It's not been all relaxation, however, as we participated in the fabulous Pool Feast to raise money for Pool Scouts and to recruit more leaders for Squirrels and Beavers.

The main attraction for our Pool Feast stall was a Rowing Machine Challenge. This involved different age categories and the challenge of the fastest adult rower to 500 metres and the fastest child rower to 100 metres. It got a bit heated under our little gazebo! Competitive streaks were definitely revealed...and that was just the adults! We were also very impressed by the determination of all the young people that took part and it was nice to see some of our Squirrels and Beavers joining in the fun. Unfortunately, Mary, who volunteers for the Methodist Church, turned down our invitation to give the Rowing Machine Challenge a try; we all know she would've shamed the competition had she taken part though!



The sunny weather did turn to rain towards the end, but collapsing and putting away a soaking wet gazebo in the pouring rain is what Scouting is all about. At least that's what we told ourselves.

A big thank you to Mark Hill for organising Pool Feast, which is such an amazing, free event for families in Pool and the surrounding areas. It's obvious how much time and effort went into making it a success.

We have some exciting sessions already planned for this term, including a nature trail in the Chevin Forest, a visit from Prickly Pigs (a hedgehog charity in Otley) and science experiments. We look forward to welcoming all our young people back and hearing about the adventures they've had in the summer holidays.

We are always looking for volunteers here at Pool Scouts. If you are interested in volunteering for us and gaining valuable experience working with young people, please get in touch via <https://poolscouts.org.uk>.



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If you have a little time to help out in support of your village hall, can offer your skills to help maintain or advertise the hall, or would like to join the committee, we need your help and would love to hear from you. Please contact Charlotte Owers on 07597 630653 or email: almscliffehall@gmail.com

Community Coffee Morning

We hold community coffee mornings in Huby for anyone from any village to come and enjoy homemade cakes and tea/coffee in a great welcoming atmosphere. This is only made possible by the kind hospitality of Rod and Anne for the use of their party room. All funds go to the upkeep of St Barnabas Church, Weeton.

Dates: **Wednesday 21 October**
Donations will be taken for Macmillan Cancer Support during this coffee morning.

Wednesday 18 November - a special Christmas get-together, more later

Time: 10.00am -11.30am

Venue: Sleights Meadow, top of Crag Lane, Huby, where a notice board is put out.

Ros Bodsworth

St Barnabas Church news

We have had a lovely summer, with a wedding in July bringing the total to four. Autumn is now very much with us and the leaves are turning beautiful yellows and browns. Sorry, but I put the wrong date for the Harvest Festival in the last edition of the Village News; it was, in fact, on 20 September. Thank you to all who helped with flowers and decorating the church and for the bags of food for the food bank.

Upcoming events for your diaries:

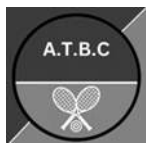
Wednesday 18 November 10.00am-12.00noon will be the **Christmas Coffee Morning** at Sleights Meadow. Thank you to Ann and Rod Thorpe for their kind hospitality. We will have the usual cake stall and raffle and hope to see as many folk as possible.

Saturday 28 November 5.00-7.00pm **Barney-Fest; a musical evening in St Barnabas, featuring young musicians**
 Please do come along and support this special evening.

Sunday 20 December 4.00pm **Carol Service**
 Our annual carol service is always a magical evening. A warm welcome is assured.

We look forward to welcoming you at one of the events.

Sandra Moss



Almscliffe Tennis & Bowling Club

What a summer!

A busy and successful summer at Almscliffe, with competitive sport, social events, coaching and plenty of community spirit



Bowls

As the 2026 bowls season draws to a close, it has certainly been a memorable one. The glorious weather created its own challenges, with the green needing plenty of watering and some matches being moved to cooler days or early mornings. We were delighted to welcome new players.

The *Wine 'n Chocs* social afternoon was a great success, with Bob Cockerham and Fiona taking the honours. In the leagues, the Almscliffe Climbers finished runners-up in Division 2, while the Strollers reached the Division 2 Shutt Cup final, losing to Wayside Ramblers.

Our Over-60s teams enjoyed competitive knockout matches. Special congratulations go to Margaret Atkinson, who won the Harrogate Area Bowling Association Ladies Merit competition at Dacre, winning the final 21–6.

In August, Almscliffe hosted the Harrogate Area 3rd/4th Division and Individual Merit Trophy competitions. John Shackleton of Pateley Bridge won the 3rd/4th Division Merit and Brian Walker of Bilton WMC won the Individual Merit. Many thanks to the Green Team, 'swishers', bakers, kitchen helpers, measurers and all the other volunteers who made the day such a success.





Tennis

It has been another excellent season for Almscliffe Tennis Club. Three teams competed in the Harrogate District Mixed Tennis League, with the 1st team earning promotion to Division 1. The 2nd and 3rd teams also enjoyed competitive and sociable seasons.

The Men's team gained promotion in the Leeds Doubles League, while our Ladies' teams continue to establish themselves in the Leeds Ladies Leagues. A huge thank you to all our captains for organising fixtures, and to the volunteers who keep the courts and surrounding areas in such great condition.

Tennis coaching

Kinetic Tennis offers a great introduction to the game through its Hit Start Tennis Adult Beginner Package, including a racket, balls, six weekly group coaching sessions and six weeks' free membership for £75. Friday sessions run from 7–8pm. Introductory coaching is also available for adult beginners and 'rusty racquets'.

Hit Start Tennis
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Friday 19:00-20:00

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- Tube of Tennis Balls
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Jamie Walters



Yoga

Long-time club member Sharon offers a welcoming yoga class on Thursday mornings, 9.15–10.30am. With more than 10 years' experience, Sharon focuses on how your body feels rather than perfecting poses, combining gentle movement, breathwork and occasional dynamic sequences. Every class finishes with a relaxing lie-down!

New to yoga or looking for something more personal? 1-to-1 sessions are also available, tailored to your goals and pace. Call or text Sharon on 07711 765055 to book or find out more.

New members are always welcome – come along and be part of the club!

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Weeton Parish Council

Vehicle Activated Sign on A658 in Huby

The Vehicle Activated Sign (VAS) on the A658 through Huby has been repaired and is now back up and running (and sadly flashing a lot). While I appreciate there are some in the community who are sceptical about the effectiveness of the sign, VASs are successful in reminding drivers who have inadvertently crept over the speed limit. The data collected from the sign will be used to press North Yorkshire Police/North Yorkshire Council (NYC) on the need for permanent enforcement cameras to deter those who have no regard for the speed limit. Monthly data will once again be published.

Grass cutting

The Parish Council undertakes grass cutting in areas of community value such as the village green in Weeton and selected urban highway verges. Costs associated with grass cutting are jointly funded by the Parish Council and NYC. As a result of feedback from members of the community, the Parish Council will review the list of sites that we cut. If there is an area of highway verge which you wish to be considered for inclusion from next year, then please email clerk@weetonparish.gov.uk. May I take this opportunity to thank those in the community who also cut the grass on highway verges.

North Yorkshire Local Plan

NYC has published the latest list of sites they are assessing for development suitability as part of the new North Yorkshire Local Plan. Since the last release, one additional site in the parish has been added, along with a large site in North Ripton. At this stage it is impossible to say whether any of the sites will be taken forward for development. As a result of central Government driven changes to the planning system, NYC is required to restart development of the North Yorkshire Local Plan, so consequently consultation on sites will not take place until autumn 2028. More details can be found on NYC's website: www.northyorks.gov.uk/localplan.

Juniper Solar Farm

The latest consultation on Juniper Solar Farm concluded at the start of August and thank you to those who submitted comments. NYC Highways has reconsidered its earlier position of not objecting to the proposal and now considers the information provided by the applicant as incomplete. Consequently, they have requested additional information from the applicant before they can conduct a full highway safety assessment. Additional information has also been requested by the NYC Building Conservation Officer who has issued a holding objection. Since it has previously taken the applicant 2-3 months to compile additional information requested by NYC it is looking unlikely a decision on the application will be made this year.

David Chalmers

Chair, Weeton Parish Council

chair@weetonparish.gov.uk

www.weetonparish.gov.uk

Rummiclub

A Rummiclub has been established for anyone who would like to play or learn the social game of *Rummikub*. All residents of the villages of Lower Wharfedale are welcome to attend.



We meet at the Shoulder of Mutton pub in Kirkby Overblow, from 3-5pm on Wednesdays and Saturdays. There is a spare game available, or bring your own. Refreshments are available from the bar.

A warm welcome to everyone, just turn up. Great fun and easy for all ages.

Tove Hoff Gascoyne
mobile 07711 776886

Farnley Estate WI



In July, Farnley Estate WI was invited by the Weeton Show Committee to take part in a new annual competition, along with Follifoot, Kirkby Overblow and Wharfedale WIs. Each WI had to produce items suitable for a garden party. Three members of Farnley Estate WI volunteered to produce the following items: a handwritten invitation to the garden party, a shawl, a batch of savoury scones, a jar of chutney, a Victoria sandwich cake and a flower arrangement. All the items had to be displayed on a table to be judged. The Farnley Estate entry came first and we were presented with the Weeton Show 80 years anniversary silver salver in the main ring on Show day.

The October meeting is an annual meeting when our members come together for a social evening. They are given the opportunity to get to know other members and share their experiences and the successes of the WI.

We continue having a great deal of fun in November when Pat Dunnill will show the members how to make simple jewellery etc with seed beans.

To view our programme for 2026 please visit <https://yorkshire-north-west.thewi.org.uk/find-wi/farnley-estate>. All our meetings take place on the second Wednesday of the month at Leathley Village Hall at 7:30pm unless otherwise stated. In addition, on the fourth Wednesday of the month our new social events begin and these have been chosen by our members.

If you would like to come to any of the events above or want to know more about our WI, please contact Diane Hanline, our president, by email to farnleyestatewi@gmail.com

Harrogate Forum

During the winter months, from October to April, the Harrogate Forum meets in St Paul's Church Hall, which is on Belford Road just opposite the main library on Victoria Avenue. Originally called the Harrogate Men's Forum, in 2020 we opened our membership to ladies and we now have a significant number of lady members including, for the first time, our Chairman and our Secretary.

Each week, on Thursday mornings, we offer tea/coffee and biscuits followed by a talk, the subject of which may be serious or humorous but certainly interesting and thought provoking. Our members start to meet at about 9.30am when we enjoy social interactivity and the talk then starts at 10.15am, ending at 11.30am.

Our annual subscription is £10 and we pay £4 for each attended meeting, which helps to offset some of our weekly costs. We welcome new members and we offer a free-of-charge visit to anyone who would like to meet us and experience one of our meetings. You can find much more information about us on our website www.harrogateforum.org on which our 2026/2027 programme is available. At the same time, it will also be on a poster in the 'Clubs & Societies' folder in the main library.

Should you wish, you can speak to either our Secretary or our Registrar, Gillian and Roger Oldfield, who are both on 01423 507083.

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Kearby with Netherby	Attached to the outside wall (to the left) of the Family Room at Maustin Park
North Rigton	Attached to the side wall of The Square & Compass on Rigton Hill
Huby	In the doorway of Almscliffe Hall
Pool	On the wall outside Pool Post Office Outside Pool Sports and Social Club On the wall adjacent to the main entrance of Old Pool Bank village hall on Quarry Farm Road
Weeton	Phone box opposite village green
Castley	Next to the seat on Castley Lane at the junction of Chapel Hill Lane
Dunkeswick	On the side of Sturdy's Cottage
Wharfedale Grange	In the lobby of the barn Open Monday - Saturday 9am - 5pm



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A recipe for chilly, autumn days

Apple Gingerbread

Ingredients

250 g golden syrup
125 g black treacle
125 g butter
250 g plain flour
2 tsp bicarbonate of soda
1 tbsp ground ginger
1 tbsp cinnamon
1 large egg, beaten
200 ml milk
6 balls stem ginger, chopped
2 tbsp ginger syrup from the jar
1 cooking apple, grated

For the icing

175 g icing sugar
1/4 tsp ground ginger

Method

1. Heat together syrup, treacle and butter until melted. Cool slightly
2. Sift the flour, bicarb and spices into bowl. Pour on syrup mixture and mix well then add egg, milk, ginger syrup, stem ginger and grated apple
3. Pour into roasting tin 20x30cm, lined. Bake at 180C for 45-50 minutes
4. Mix ground ginger with 2 tablespoons boiling water. Gradually add icing sugar until pouring consistency. Pour over cake and allow to run down sides. Keeps for 1 week. Great for Bonfire Night parties

Directory of village groups and organisations

Group and Contact	Telephone/email	Website
All Saints' Church, Kirkby Overblow Jim Bennett Jeremy Cross	enquiries@allsaintschurchko.org 07970 374658 01423 879066	www.allsaintschurchko.org
Almscliffe Villages Community Association		northrigtonevents@gmail.com
Girlguiding Harrogate SW Division		www.girlguidingnyw.org.uk
Kirkby Overblow Village	info@kirkbyoverblow.org	www.kirkbyoverblow.org
Kirkby Overblow Drama Society (KODS)	Richard Gisborne gisborne.richard@gmail.com 07710 511640	
Pool in Wharfedale News	poolinwharfedalenews@gmail.com	www.pool-in-wharfedale.com
Weeton Show Candy Waller	01423 733404 e-mail via the website	www.weetonshow.co.uk
Sicklinghall Cricket Club Andy Wood	07816 347789 andy.wood@bl.uk	
Yorkshire Flower Club Sandra Harder	01943 877516 bobandsandraharder@gmail.com	
North Rigton Ladies Lunch Rosemary Hunt	07957 451304	

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CURATE: The Revd Emma James
Tel: 07856 198293 email: emma.james@leeds.anglican.org

READER: Moira Keith
3 Park Way, Pool in Wharfedale, Otley, LS21 1LD
Tel: 07794 488706
email: moirakeith2@gmail.com

READER: Jan Ali
Tel: 07554 458131 email: jan.ali@leeds.anglican.org

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email: lowerwharfedalebeneficeoffice@gmail.com

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PASTOR: The Rev Gillian Robertson,
10 Whitsundale Close, Knaresborough HG5 0HX
Tel: 01423 869730 email: rev.g.r.robertson@btinternet.com

MINISTER: The Rev Gordon Hay
1, York Road, Knaresborough HG5 0AF
Tel: 01423 863298 / 07852817475 email: gordon.hay@methodist.org.uk

Methodist Church and Rainbow Centre in Pool

MINISTER: The Rev Wendy Walker
Circuit office: 07482 717810
email: wendy.walker@methodist.org.uk

Roman Catholic Church

Church of the Immaculate Conception administered by the Peter Middleton Trust
Tel: 01937 581744

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Diana Ball 07862 722450

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village news

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