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# REETH & DISTRICT GAZETTE

Issue N°4

November 1995

## THE SCOTT MOTOR CYCLE TRIAL


By now the Scott Trial has been and gone and history has been created by having the most beautiful October day possible. This does mean that riders and their support teams from all over the country, including Devon, Kent, Cambridge, Ireland, Isle of Man have had the opportunity to see it at its best. Over 140 riders, including all of the best and most skillful professionals in the country had to cover 75 miles of rugged country and have their ability marked and recorded on sections from Marske to Gunnerside Gill. The convincing winner was Robert Crawford who not only set standard time but was only beaten on observation by the second man Graham Jarvis. Congratulations are due to Stuart Raw of Reeth, winner of the Alan Longfield Memorial Trophy for the best local rider. But surely everyone of the riders to finish in time could be called a winner, none more so than Philip Alderson (a past winner - 4 times since 1987) who achieved the incredible feat of finishing in 9th place in spite of having to cope with five punctures on the way.

Little imagination is needed to visualise the mammoth organising task of running this Trial and many helpers take their holidays and time off work to assist.

Reeth can take great credit for a major share of the vital officials concerned. None more so than Mr. David (Tubby) Allison, the President of Richmond Motor Club, who once again undertook his fifth term as Secretary of the Trial. The incredible success of the event must compensate him a little for the volume of effort expended. Congratulations also to Mr. R J Bailey one of our local farmers, as assistant Clerk of the Course for helping to produce such a brilliant Course. Also the charming Mrs. Rosalind Brown, normally found tending the Dale finances in Barclays Bank who acted as Treasurer. It is hoped that last year's £3,000 for local Charities can be exceeded.

## Swaledale Nurses Appeal Fund.

At the time of going to press - the Appeal stood at £577. A tremendous achievement in just a short timescale and we know of many other fund raising events being planned, especially by the Brownies and at the Kings Arms. If the target is exceeded there are other items of equipment that our Nurses need and we'll certainly keep you updated through the Reeth and District Gazette. Well done to date. The Nurses do cover the whole of Swaledale and Arkengarthdale.

 English Nature have recently notified the ENGLISH Owners of a large new NATURE Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) in the Yorkshire Dales. The site, of over 10,000 hectares, covers the heather moorland between Wensleydale and Swaledale. That is all the moorland between the Buttertubs road and the MOD Moorland above Grinton and onto Stainton Moor, including Harkerside and Whitaside. The farmers and landowners are being offered payments under a Wildlife Enhancement Scheme to promote sympathetic management of the land. Peter Welsh, from English Nature's Leyburn Office, explained "This is an outstanding moorland area with a good range of plant and animal communities - from wet, western blanket bog to the drier, eastern heathlands. The breeding birds are internationally renowned with large populations of birds such as golden plover, merlin and red grouse." As to English Nature's approach, he continued, "we want to work with the farmers and land owners, through the SSSI payment scheme, to protect and enhance the high quality wildlife interests of the land. We have been very encouraged by the response and hope to achieve much positive work, such as restoration of some of the shrub and woodland on the steeper valley sides."

English Nature is the statutory adviser to the Government on nature conservation and promotes the conservation of England's wildlife and natural features. Its work includes the selection, establishment and

management of National Nature Reserves; the identification and notification of Sites of Special Scientific Interest; the provision of advice and information about nature conservation; and the support and conduct of research to these functions.

The Wildlife Enhancement Scheme approach is being used very successfully in the Dales. Local farming knowledge and skills are utilised both in the development and implementation of the schemes.

Continued farming and sporting management is important for the maintenance of the wildlife interests. The vegetation and bird communities we value today have developed over the centuries in response to sympathetic farming and keeping management. However there have also been significant losses in wildlife interest. In places the high pressure of sheep (and rabbit) grazing has reduced the heather, other 'dwarf shrubs' and areas of taller shrub and woodland as well as other plants and animals. Moor drainage and over-intensive burning have also caused losses.

Sheep grazing, at sustainable levels, is needed to maintain the moorlands and the structural variation in the vegetation that benefits birds like golden plover, curlew and red grouse.

Grouse moor management, notably heather burning and legitimate predator control is similarly important in providing structural variation and in enhancing the breeding performance of ground-nesting birds.

There is much to be gained by farmers, sporting managers and nature conservationists working together to enhance the wildlife of the hills in the

context of a healthy upland economy and society. English Nature wants to help to achieve this by encouraging good shepherding and keeping management of the moors and by restoring areas of more natural wildlife habitat as native shrub and wood land.

For further information please contact Peter Welsh or Paul Evans of English Nature at their office in Thornborough Hall, Leyburn DL8 5ST, Tel. 01969 623447.

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### Upper Swaledale and Arkengarthdale Business Association AGM

At the recent Annual Meeting of the local Business Association, held at the Bridge Hotel, Grinton, the Chairman Philip Bastow was able to report on the recognition and close links the Association now enjoys with the District Council, the National Parks and NYTEC in particular. The Association is proving to be a leading voice in supporting businesses in Upper Swaledale and Arkengarthdale. They are able to tackle such issues as high business rates, extra charges for refuse collections from certain businesses and help promote new ideas. Tourism is now a major industry in the Dale and both farming and local businesses need to work together too achieve the maximum in funding that can be currently available. The popular "On Route Guide" Business Directory is now established and being copied by other similar organisations with the current print run of 30,000 proving insufficient. More local businesses are to be encouraged to make use of it

especially as it proves so handy to give to visitors enquiring about accommodation, local shops and facilities.

Officers elected were: Chairman: Philip Bastow; Vice Chairman: David May; Treasurer: Ian Whitworth; and Secretary: Steve Ottevanger. Martin Bearpark on stepping down as Secretary was thanked for his sterling work for the Association during its infancy.

Future plans include a trade exhibition next February and the launch of a full colour leaflet, or folder, promoting both Swaledale and Arkengarthdale. Funding for such a leaflet is currently being explored and there is very much a need to attract more visitors to the area. Some consolidation may be necessary as many local businesses and crafts already spend much of promotional material.

Meetings run throughout the winter period at various venues and the officers are always keen to hear of suggestions for guest speakers. The next Meeting is scheduled for 7th November and the Guest Speaker will be Sarah Hudspith from NYTEC whom have been very supportive with Grants and other assistance to the Association.

The packed Annual Meeting heard of very humorous account of the guest speaker's, Andy Kluz, presenter of Tyne Tees Television Network North, work in journalism and television.

Any person interested or wishing to support the Association should contact Philip Bastow, Tel. 884555

### Silent Auction:

The recent Silent Auction at the home of Sue and Laurence Allison raised £485.21 for Reeth Primary School Funds. Thanks are expressed for the many donations and to the supporters who made the evening a success.

### Christian Aid 50th Birthday

The recent Market Stall on Reeth Green raised £177.94 and the Birthday Concert in the Memorial Hall £123.50. Together, with collections from the Harvest Suppers at Grinton and Muker the total for this important Anniversary now stands at £603.11 with more to come. Secretary Joy Court wishes to convey many thanks to all the generous supporters.

### Swaledale British Legion

At their recent AGM in the Memorial Hall the following Officers were elected: President: Mr. J Blenkiron; Vice President Mr. W E Blenkiron; Chairman: Mr. T Guy; Secretary: Mr. J Alderson; Treasurer: Mr. W Dolphin; Sick Visitor: Mr. W McCleary; and Standard Bearer: Mr. W Walker. Fund raising events include a Pea and Pie Supper on Monday 20th November at the Bridge Hotel Grinton and, a Whist Drive on December 8th

### Royal British Legion

#### Women's Section:

At their recent AGM the following Officers were elected: President: Mrs. Griffiths; Chairperson: Mrs. M Pleasant; Vice Chairperson: Mrs. Hansen; Secretary: Miss E Barker; Treasurer: Mrs. F Stabler and Poppy Organiser: Mrs. A Alderson.

It is hoped that all members will be attending the Remembrance Service in Grinton Church on 12th November and also to bring refreshments for the usual tea afterwards.

The next monthly meeting is on 13th November in the Memorial Hall

### Dales Ladies

Would like to thank all who supported their recent sale in aid of MENCAP which raised over £1000 of which 27% is retained by the Northallerton and Dales Mencap Society.



Barclays Bank Plc in Reeth officially became part of the Darlington and Dales cluster on the 21st August. This cluster is one of the largest in the Northern Region, with Branches from Newton Aycliffe to Hawes, which will provide a significant enhancement to Customer Service.

Bryan Smith has been appointed as Customer Services Manager and will be able to assist with any of your personal banking requirements, including savings and investments; loans and overdraft facilities; home contents and car insurance; and all other services. Steve Charlton continues to look after the interests of all the Agricultural and Small Business Accounts. Whilst based at Richmond he can be contacted direct or an appointment can be made to visit Reeth Branch.

The opening hours will remain the same and Bryan is looking forward to meeting as many customers as possible in the forthcoming months.

### Youth Club.

Positive efforts are being made to reopen a Youth Club at Reeth to cater for the needs of young people from Reeth and District.

At a recent open meeting in the Memorial Hall it was pleasing to see that some of the young people concerned were actually interested enough to provide the encouragement that they need a Youth Club. From that Meeting determined efforts are being made to start meetings from January but in the interim some of the young people will be invited to attend some of the current Youth Activities organised in the Richmond Area.

Various resources are currently available including the community youth minibuses. What is even more encouraging is that there is funding available, not just to meet the hire costs of any proposed venue, but for a part-time youth worker. Ideally this should be a person local to Reeth.

To emphasise support Viv Osborn the Community Youth Worker from Richmond School and Tommy Burns from the YMCA Rural Youth Project (see feature elsewhere) were also at the meeting. Vast resources, from training for leaders, specialist instructors; programme material to certain funding are now available and the County Education Committee has recently altered its criteria to be more supportive of youth work in Rural areas.

However, before any Youth Group can be properly re-established a Management Committee needs to be formed. Potential Officers with youth work experience have already been identified for such a Committee but

commitment is still required from parents, interested adults. The young people would also be encouraged to be represented on such a Committee for the success of any Youth Group not only relies on its positive support structure but its willingness to listen and act on the needs of the young people. We should never forget that today's Youth are the adults of tomorrow.

Some of the young persons interested in, and needing, a Youth Club, raised some £33 from a cake stall on the market during the recent half term holidays for the Swaledale Nurses Appeal.

A further open meeting has been arranged for November 13th at 7.30pm in the Memorial Hall

Meanwhile any person interested in becoming a youth worker, helping with or has ideas on, the reopening of a local Youth Group is invited to contact either Sian Casson Tel. 884757 or Viv Osborn Tel. 850161.



## The Swaledale Festival

Love it or loathe it - has been with us for some fifteen years. It has become one of the premier Music and Drama Festivals in the country and is Internationally renown. However its roots remain firmly here in Swaledale and Arkengarthdale. It may have expanded to include Wensleydale and Coverdale but the festival does need more venues here in Swaledale.

Plans are well advanced to make the 1996 Festival - which incidentally takes place from 24th May to 9th June so make a note in your Diaries - the Best yet. The current Director Elizabeth Carter is very enthusiastic and has plans to involve local children.

One particular project is Poetry - Children's Poems - and during November she will be visiting local Primary Schools with the nationally acclaimed Poet Ian MacMillan. Not only will they be teaching Poetry but collecting Poems from which a book will be published and launched at the start of the 1996 Festival. It will be a Book by children from the Dales so let's hope that she uses the capital of Upper Swaledale to launch the Book.

Another book that will be published during the 1996 Festival is for Children. It will be a fictional story based on the Wensleydale Railway, set some time in the 1950's, by Christopher Awdry (of "Thomas the Tank Engine" fame) and illustrated by Colin Smithson from here in Reeth.

There is also great potential to reintroduce some event, project, whatever to acknowledge the great wealth of youth talent that is so apparent within our Brass Bands. The Swaledale festival takes place in our

Dale so it is our Festival and we need to make it so.

The Festival does attract many visitors and there is great scope for many local events to come under its "umbrella." For example the Duck Race last year in aid of the Playground and the many events organised to raise funds for the restoration of Grinton Church. The talks at Fremington Sunday School and the Guided walks are now so sought after they are a must in the Festival's Programme.

The Festival does attract and bring in many events and artistes that would probably not come to the Dales. For example the Black Dyke Mills Band, the Northern Sinfonia and those popular puppettlers that were so enchanting in the Memorial Hall. As Elizabeth Carter states in the opening paragraph of her Report on this year's Festival, "Where else can you enjoy an International String Quartet, visit a variety of exhibitions, go on a guided walk, watch a sheepdog demonstration or listen to a Brass Band and all within an area of outstanding natural beauty."

Despite its success the festival finds it difficult to attract major sponsors. Businesses in the Dales certainly support the Festival in many ways but are unable to provide suitable sponsorship for such a major Music and Arts Festival. Major Grants from the Yorkshire and Humberside Arts and Richmondshire District Council assist to ensure that the 1996 Festival will very much go ahead.

At the Festival's recent Annual General Meeting held in the Fremington Sunday School it was noted that events in the Dale were better

supported than those at Richmond. It was an opportunity to hear the enthusiasm of its Director Elizabeth Carter (which was also conveyed in a Profile of her that was featured in the October 14th edition of the Darlington & Stockton Times.) Much praise was given to army of volunteers without whom the Festival could not succeed. One of the popular events is very much the Palm Court Teaparty for the senior citizens held at Tennants at Leyburn.

Professor David Blake of Askrigg was re-elected Chairman; John Wade of Bellerby re-elected Treasurer with Mrs. Roxanne Wharton of Middleham elected to the new office of assistant Treasurer; Mrs. Elisabeth Sutherland of Grinton was re-elected Secretary. The Committee has been enlarged to increase experience and to give a varying approach. There are now 14 members from Swaledale, Wensleydale and Richmond.

Any person with ideas for any event in next year's Festival, suggestions for potential sponsors, or just wanting to be included on the mailing list is invited to contact the Festival Director through the Festival Office at Thornborough Hall, Leyburn DL8 5AB Tel 01969 622217.

Richmondshire District Council recently agreed to continue its Grant to the Festival. The application met some opposition from Councillors and was only approved on the Chairman's casting vote. It is understood that the majority of the £9000 plus grant is in "kind" with the provision of an office, telephone, etc at Thornborough Hall, Leyburn.

## Richmond YMCA

Richmond YMCA are pleased to announce that their Rural Foyer work has now been extended to the community and that includes Upper Swaledale.

In January of this year the YMCA opened a six bedroomed house as accommodation for single young people, aged between 16 and 25. The accommodation project is being run as a Rural Foyer. This means that young people coming into the house will be given help and support to enable them to eventually live independent lives.

This help and support is now available to all young people within the area. The Foyer Workers, Tommy and Thea are able to help with employment, training and retraining, education, benefits, accommodation and any other area that young people feel they need assistance with. The help is given through work on an Action Plan. The person identifies their need and then agrees a way of working towards that need. The workers will give as much or as little support as the young people want. For further details please feel free to contact either Thea or Tommy on 01748 850989 or call in for a coffee and a chat at the YMCA (above Oliviers in the Market Place, Richmond.)



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A Seasonal offering of the exceptional poetic talent that exists locally:

### CHRISTMAS GOES WRONG

The pudding melted when the freezer broke,

The crackers wouldn't snap,  
The carol singers could only croak,  
And the snowman lost his hat!

The sledges flipped and cracked in half,  
The tree fell down and broke,

Santa lost his jolly laugh  
And blew up with a puff of smoke.

Rudolph lost his bright red nose,

It turned sky blue instead,

And so the poor old reindeer

Had to go to bed!

The elves did try to drive the sleigh,

But only managed half the way,

For when the driver gave a frown,

Suddenly they'd broken down.

The presents fell from the sleigh,

And are still there to this very day,

But I think, I'd rather stick,

To having Christmas my own way!

By *Jemima Stubbs* of Langthwaite

### "Forum" Concert

Reeth Memorial Hall was packed for the recent concert by local Folk Group "Forum." Their Concert raised some £200 towards the Yorkshire Schools Fund for a South American Expedition next Summer. Hopefully the group, who have been writing and singing local Folk Songs for 25 years will be giving another local Concert very soon.

### Bonfire and Fireworks Display

Regrettably we were going to Press at the time of this event so we will feature comments and a report in our December issue. Local support for the event was tremendous and much

credit goes to Willy McCleary for his sterling Fund Raising events. The Discos and the Pram Race were all well supported. Thanks also to Reeth Firemen who put a great amount of effort into the event to make it a success. Most of all thanks to all of you who generously supported the fund raising and for the many donations. The collection on the night was in aid of the Fire Service Benevolent Society. Plans are in hand to improve on the event for 1996.

### Reeth National Park Information Centre.

The National Park are quietly confident that they will be successful in obtaining the additional Grants and Funding they have been seeking to complete the Reeth National Park Centre which is to be located in the old Institute. If all goes according to plan the Centre will be open for the 1996 Season and could provide some local jobs. The Centre will also include a Tourist Information Centre which will also provide a local accommodation booking service. It is accepted that there are some concerns about the service the Centre may offer and on its commercial operations. However before any final decisions are taken in this respect a meeting will be sought with the local Business Association and the Gazette will keep its readers updated of all progress. It is expected that applications for Tenders to complete the internal works will be advertised during November. Local National Parks Centres have set and achieved very high standards with the one at Malham coming top in a countrywide assessment of Information Centres.

### The Memorial Hall

Whilst the recent open meeting to discuss possible refurbishment of the Memorial Hall was poorly attended a firm decision was made to apply for the maximum funding currently available to undertake certain improvements.

Tony Clark from Richmondshire District Council was again present to advise and support the Management Committee on the various grants that are available. From a Grant Aid point of view there has never been a better time to undertake major improvements to Village Halls.

This factor is underlined in the Rural Development Commission's magazine "Rural Focus" which includes a supplement on Village Halls and features recent grant aided improvements made to Halls as local as Hawes and Cotherstone. So should Reeth loose out? Of course not, but we do need to consider very carefully what is needed, who uses the Hall and what will be the benefits.

If we consider what is needed - the Hall needs rewiring, certain roof repairs are required, the kitchen needs to be refitted, some alterations to the stage area even, and most certainly work is required in the toilets - not least the installation of a disabled toilet. "Cosmetic" features such as handrails and a safety barrier along the roadside need also to be considered. One proposal is to improve the current storage facilities with fitted cupboards and moving the access from the Hall to the kitchen to near the stage thus enabling the Supper/Committee Room to become a self contained room.

Who uses the Hall? Consider this very carefully for all users of the Hall be they frequent or occasional can considerably support and assist our Grant applications.

The Band, Play Group, Parish Council, Young Farmers, Swaledale Festival not to mention the various Groups such as the British Legion and the Athletic Club are but a few. The reopening of a Youth Club is being considered and then there are the many exhibitions, Craft Fayres and Charity events such as the recent Mencap Sale, the recent "Forum" Concert and the forthcoming Church Fayre. So the Hall is exceptionally well used and is essential to our community. Very easily we can make a very strong case for maximum Grant Aid.

And the Benefits - we will have a Hall upgraded to current standards that even more Groups and Organisations will be wanting to use thus ensuring that the Hall will remain a centre for local community events for many years to come.

With any Grant Aid applications there needs to be an amount of local commitment to raise funds. Some support will be needed from the Parish Council. If recent community fund raising events are anything to go by then fund raising will not be too difficult.

So when? As soon as we can decide on the necessary specifications, the cost and the Grants Aid required. If we act quickly some of the more urgent improvements could be completed next Summer.

There will be another open meeting to discuss and consider the Hall improvements at 7.30pm on Wednesday 22nd November. This time we hope that the attendance will be much better. It is essential that each affiliated organisation sends at least one representative with firm ideas of what improvements are necessary. The Committee wants to ensure that the whole community has had an opportunity to make suggestions on any Hall improvements. Sorry if the meeting time clashes with "Coronation Street" or a darts match but if you want to see the Hall improved make sure you come along for there will never be another opportunity to maximise on Grant Aid for Halls such as our Memorial Hall.

A final reminder the meeting is at 7.30pm on Wednesday 22nd November and of course it is the Hall. See you there.

## Christmas Shopping in Reeth



Christmas shopping in Reeth: The leaves are falling, Bonfire night is past; the dark nights are here again and now we start to think of Christmas. Before you all rush off to do your Christmas Shopping at Darlington, Northallerton, Ripon or even the Metro Centre lets us just take a look at what is on offer here at Reeth.

The various Craft Shops have plenty of quality gift ideas - Pots "N" Presents stock the exclusive range of Swaledale Pottery, Garden House Pottery have a superb range of Ceramic plant pots, souvenirs and there is even time to have a special house/premise name made; Stef's now in their new workshop and showroom in the Reeth Dales Centre have their unique vast range of dogs and animals models; then on Back Lane there is Philip Bastow's Workshop and showroom which stocks other local Swaledale crafts. Yes plenty to see especially when considering that special present.

The Bottom Shop will be happy to supply all your Christmas Festive needs. The Gift Shop also has a good selection of gifts with a choice of Wines and Spirits.

The Post Office not only has one of the best selection of cards in the Dale but has a varied selection of gift wrap and packaging requirements. Have you seen the new range of collectables depicting post boxes and "Medici" Children's Books?

Our mobile Butcher J E Hird will be happy to supply the best in quality meats and poultry.

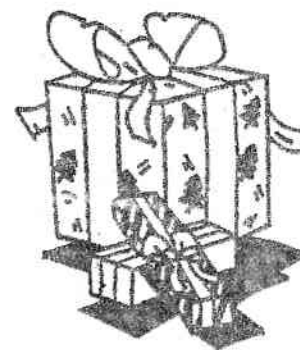
Not forgetting Reeth Bakery with their traditional baked bread and other

cakes and pies using many local recipes.

Then there is the Friday Market for your fresh fruit and vegetables, fish and many other items if the weather remains kind enough for you to browse.

The local Hotels, Restaurants and Pubs are taking bookings for a variety of seasonal functions and all provide a warm friendly welcome.

Additionally there are the various seasonal fund raising events:



10 Nov - 6.30pm Christmas Bazaar in the Methodist Church Schoolroom - come and have tea or coffee with mince pies and browse around the many colourful stalls offering cakes, preserves, gifts and competitions. Proceeds in aid of Church Sound System.

25 Nov - St Andrew's Church, Grinton annual Fayre in the Memorial Hall. Any offerings of cakes, gifts, etc for the various stalls will be gratefully received.

The Christmas stamps this year feature that favourite of seasonal birds - the Robin. The Robin was voted Britain's national bird in a poll conducted by "The Time" in 1961.

In the very early days of the Post Office - postmen were often called "Redbreasts or Robins" because of the uniform they wore and that also how red became the colour of the post boxes, mail vans, etc. Details of latest posting dates for Christmas are now available at all Post Offices.

Readers may be interested to know that with the new series of "Dales Diary" currently being screened on Tyne Tees Television on Monday evenings the "Dalesman" is releasing the third video in support of the series. Additionally in association with the Yorkshire Film Archive a very interesting video entitled "Yorkshire Remembered" which features archive film depicting life in Yorkshire, and especially the Dales since the times of Queen Victoria. Both these videos could make interesting Christmas presents and are amongst the range of local videos stocked in some local shops including the Post Office, Bottom Shop, and the Gift Shop.



## WALKING WITH THE MAJOR

Local writer Jonny Beardsall from Harkerside had an article published recently in the "Independent" which not only mentioned the series of Talks and Walks that have become a regular summer event at Fremington Sunday School but would whet the appetite of any town dweller to experience the delights of walking in Swaledale and Arkengarthdale.

Jonny writes, "Walks are led by various well-read and inspiring locals. One such is Major Bill Williams. Not yet ready for his pipe and slippers, he is a sprightly 82 year old and has been leading walks for the past 30-odd years. Not for him those north-face-of-the-Eiger boots, nor breeches, lumberjack shirt, survival bags and distress flares - he prefers wellies and a tweed jacket.

His routes are tailored to suit the less than hearty, none exceeds seven miles, and you do not depart before 11am. His only advice: bring lunch and please wear stout shoes. He enforces a steady 1mph which enables him to pause to tell a tale or relate a memory at every stile, streamcrossing, houses and barn.

I joined him at Surrender Bridge to walk the seven miles around Calver Hill, the 1600ft bulging lump which dominates the high ground north west of Reeth. Quickly, you stumble upon the derelict Surrender Smelt Mill. The Major's route then traces the edge of the enchanting Barney Beck Wood with the beck tinkling away beneath. In the clearings, sheep have trimmed the grass as smooth and close as a bowling green.

If you peer over the drystone wall, an unfeasibly large number of rabbits take cover. They live around the ruins of Low Cringley a traditional long house in which the occupants and the stock were all tucked up under the same roof with an adjoining door. It is a wild place and deserves to come alive again.

"There's a kind of magic about place names round here," says the Major. "Cringley, or Cringla was a name the Norse men gave a hut circle - these had probably already been standing a thousand years when they arrived."

After a lunch stop, you leave the wood to ascend the southern edge of Calver, You pass the empty, uncrumbling house, Novia Scotia, and walk past the renovated Moorcock Hall. Several modest dales houses are curiously called halls and their size and demeanour hardly warrant it.

Breaking out on to open heather moorland, you follow the contours around Calver and onto Reeth Low Moor, with views deep into Arkengarthdale, before heading for the edge of Foregill. As you arrive on the road again and negotiate a water splash, your start point is less than half a mile away - it has taken five hours!"

**Friday**  
**November 10th**  
10am to 2pm  
**Coffee, Cakes and**  
**Presents plus**  
**various stalls**  
at 2 Bridge Terrace, Reeth  
Everyone welcome.

## Pram Race

A warm, sunny, Sunday afternoon heralded the first Sponsored Pram Race. Seven teams of all ages entered and all were in Fancy Dress with the winners Nicola Raw and Nicola McCleary being so declared by a visitor selected at random from the crowd of onlookers to be the Judge. They were presented with a cup kindly donated by Mr. F (Fremmy) Hutchinson. At 3pm on the dot race organiser Willy McCleary signalled the start. As the competitors raced down the bank towards Bridge Terrace even the escorting police vehicle driven by PC Mark Rasbeary was startled by the speed of the leaders and had to quicken his pace. The organisers had needed to modify the rules slightly due to the lack of suitable prams and therefore quite an assortment of "chariots" were used. The race leaders and eventual winners James Markham and Jamie Davies had been busy constructing their carriage the weeks beforehand and in their eagerness to achieve championship status had had a slight accident which necessitated some rebuilding literally days before the event. The competitors were required to call at the Bridge Inn, Grinton; the Copper Kettle, the Black Bull, the Kings Arms, the Buck and the Burgoyne before the final lap around the middle Green to the finish at the Bus Shelter. All competitors received a prize. The event was much enjoyed by all and proved to be great fun, and will be repeated next Autumn. Thanks are expressed to all competitors, the refreshments hostesses and the organiser Willy McCleary. The event is expected to realise some £100 in sponsorship for

the Firework Display. The local fire lads did enter a team and they actually found a pram ..... which collapsed after losing tyres and other parts somewhere near Grinton - they were last seen walking back across the fields but it is rumoured that they sustained substantial refreshment for their endeavours when they eventually did return to Reeth.



Oldlady: "ooooh is he yours?"

## Open Meeting

The newly formed Association of Rural Communities plans to hold an Open Meeting in the Memorial Hall on 29th November. The ARC was formed to enable local communities to unite against certain high handed and unrealistic policies of the National Parks. Come along to the meeting if you want to find out more.

## Lost - one "Spider!"

Anyone seen "Spider" lately? "Spider" of Black Bull fame went on holiday to Belgium but failed to meet his rendezvous, where is he? Does anyone care? We'll have to wait and see if he returns to usual resting place.

## LETTER

It should be brought to everybody's attention in Reeth that property can go missing. It is a disgrace to think that in a village such as ours, where everyone knows everyone else, that people's belongings can disappear without a trace. The item in question is of no value, half a telegraph pole when all is said and done, but the fact remains it was removed illegally from in front of the garages, opposite the Bottom Shop. I would like to solve this mystery. So if anyone has any ideas on the whereabouts of the above mentioned item please ring 884669.



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## THE CHILDREN'S PLAYGROUND

It is very pleasing to be able to report that children were seen making full use of, and enjoying some of the equipment recently installed at the Playground. After many months of fund raising and hard work it is grand to see those efforts coming to fruition. "Wonderful," "marvellous," "great" are some of the words heard expressing general approval of the works to date.

We are advised that final installation of all equipment stills awaits the transfer of the Euro Funding Grants that have at long last been approved. Still great credit is due to all involved in the project for the progress to date. We trust that having regard to the efforts that have been made that the equipment will not be abused by the few. A playground has been long overdue.

## QUIZ

K	A	R
T	A	S
E	F	B

See if you can make 80 words or more using each letter only once. The letters also make a nine letter word, what is it? Small prize for the first longest and complete entry drawn. Drop in your entry to the Post Office by 21st November.

Last months prize winner was  
Mrs. C. Duck

*Arkleside Hotel*  
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Dorothy & Richard  
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&  
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## Comment

In a month when much media attention has been on Rural Issues, especially with the publication of the Rural White Paper, Reeth and District has been featured many times on both television and the Press. The needs of rural areas such as ours are quite plain and were very clearly identified in the recent Two Dales Appraisal. Time will only tell if the fine words contained in that White Paper are for areas such as ours, or as stated locally, for areas such a Kent which have always been the traditional "rural" areas for implementing and considering policies. Much emphasis is being put on the amount of grant aid currently available to support rural projects, such as village halls, playgrounds, sportsfields from the EEC and possibly even the Lottery. To date their seems to be many administrative problems with the Euro money and the objectives of the Lottery Charities Board seem ill defined. We must not be down hearted for there has never been a better time for Grant Aid and we would rather see such money assist our community than those more traditional rural areas mentioned above. Every other publication this last month seems to have featured this area but what they all have in common is the need to be working as a partnership. The future prosperity of the Dale lies in a partnership with the local community - farmers, landowners, business people - with organisations such as the National Parks, the Rural Development Commission, Housing Associations, the Tourist Boards, English Nature, Richmondshire District Council, etc. Suddenly many positive things are happening, the playground is now in use, "Stef's" have moved into one of

the new Units and some low cost housing is being built.

We also have this Newsletter which already is proving to be useful. It can convey much to our readers for already it has become a very sort after publication. Already we cannot consider publication without a cartoon. The publication of this "Gazette" is very much a community effort from the typesetting, to the printing, and the folding. The advertisers are ensuring our future so that we can now go "independent." Reeth Parish Council took a bold step to sponsor the first three issues. The more contributions the easier it is to compile and ensure that every future issue remains eagerly waited.

It is pleasing to the backroom team to assist the trustees of the Friends School at Reeth Trust and highlight the needs of the local District Nurses. Incidentally that appeal has to date realised the grand total of £577 - that's great thank you and hopefully there is still more to come.

Once again thanks to the team - Richard Birks, Eleanor Reddington, Matthew Frankland, Elaine Johnson, the "folders" and the "distributors" such as the Bottom Shop.

Our next issue will be the Christmas issue so we need the details of the many functions and events coming up. We are seeking some extra competitions, funny seasonal stories or just different seasonal recipes. So if you have anything of interest please can we have them as soon as possible, to Reeth Post Office, and in any case by the 20th November.

Peter Brant.



# PARISH COUNCILS

## Arkengarthdale

The new car park has been well used during the summer but it was noted that many cars were only there for a short stay. An honesty box system is being considered.

It is disappointing that no progress has been made with the footpath planned on High Green.

As the Parish was only awarded very low marks in the Best Kept Village Competition a more concerted and definite effort needs to be made next year.

The archway in Booze Wood has been reopened as the footpath passes through the archway and the National Parks have fitted a new stockproof gate.

The next meeting is 7th Nov.

## Grinton

Villagers are congratulated for their efforts as the village came third in the section of population under 200 in the recent Best Kept Village Competition.

A Meeting with the Parish Hall Committee is to be held to decide how a recent gift of £500 from the late Miss F W R Mallender could be spent.

A report was given on a recent site meeting arranged by the National Park to examine the resurfacing recently carried out on the bridleway linking Whitaside and Harkerside Moors.

It was agreed to invite the Chairman of the District Council, Coun Watson to the next meeting.

## Reeth

Plans were approved and a financial pledge was made for the Healaugh Square project. A copy of the plans are available for inspection at Healaugh Post Office. The project is being coordinated by the National Park.

Car Park - the Rural Development Commission is prepared to allow use of its land to the rear of the units off Silver Street as a Car Park at Weekends and Bank Holidays for the 1996 season. Regrettably certain financial considerations probably mean that the site is not feasible for the placing of recycling bins.

Bulbs - to date the Playgroup, Brownies and Cubs have indicated their willingness to help plant the daffodil bulbs for which delivery is expected early the month. The School is also to be invited but the main planting will be on Saturday 18th November and volunteers are asked to meet at the Bus Shelter at 10.30am.

Tree Planting - the Chairman of Richmondshire District Council will perform the tree planting ceremony in recognition of our success in the recent Best Kept Village Competition on 11th November. A site has been identified for the tree - a Rowan - on the High Green in front of the Burgoyne Hotel.

Fireworks Display - fund raising has exceeded the required target and any excess will be held over for next year's display. Richmondshire Council has again been asked to clear the bonfire debris before the next Friday Market.

Youth Club - the Parish Council is

keen to support any initiative to re-open a Youth Club - see feature.

Christmas Tree - arrangements are being made to purchase the tree from the Bolton Estate. The traditional Carol Singing led by the Reeth Brass Band will be on 24th December and the collection will again be in aid of Cancer Research.

Seats - the Council is to seek tenders for the reproofing/restaining and repairs of all public seats in the Parish.

Market - to date 11 stallholders have pledged their attendance throughout the winter months - weather permitting.

Street lighting - certain works is still progressing in respect of additional lights on Silver Street and the Back Lane. Fremington - is subject to the undergrounding scheme currently out for tenders. The additional light on the Methodist Church is still subject to certain paperwork from the National Parks but should be operative by Christmas. The lighting around the Green is defined as amenity lighting and not highway lighting. Residents with any comments/complaints about street lighting are asked to write to the Clerk.

Correspondence - various items of general correspondence were noted and where relevant a precis will be appear in the December issue of the Reeth & District Gazette. Three planning applications were considered - approval for two and objections for the other were noted.

The next Meeting will be on 6th December.

## REETH BRASS BAND

Reeth Brass Band are currently hard at work rehearsing for their forthcoming concert of Friday 10th November at Arkengarthdale Chapel which they have organised with the Swaledale Choir. New conductor Peter Cuff, who guided the Band to success at the recent Hardraw Brass Band Contest, says "the rehearsals are going really well at the moment and I am looking forward to the Concert which will be my first in front of a "home crowd." The music we have chosen to play will be a mixture of old and new with one or two 'novelty' items thrown in and, if all goes well, we will finish the Concert with the Choir in true "Last Night of the Proms" style with arrangements of Fantasia on British Sea Songs, Jerusalem and Land of Hope and Glory where we hope the audience will join in to give a rousing end to what should be a very enjoyable evening."

Other forthcoming events in the Band's calendar are:-

Sunday 12th November, Leading the Armistice Day Parade from Reeth Green to Grinton Church (and back).

Thursday 14th December, Carols in Richmond Market Place

Saturday 16th December, Carols in Grassington Market Place

Christmas Eve, Carol Concert in Arkengarthdale Chapel followed by Carols around the Tree on Reeth Green.

The Trophy which the Band won at Hardraw, the "Richmond Cup", is currently on display in the Gift Shop on High Row.

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## DIARY DATES

### November

- 6 Reeth Dales Ladies - illustrated talk  
by John Hawkrige on "Walk to  
Anaperna" in the Memorial Hall at  
7.30pm
- 7 Reeth Amblers Walk - Meet 10am at  
Hawes Station Car Park - Gayles  
- Richmondshire Volunteer Centre  
AGM - 7pm Richmond Town Hall -  
Guest Speaker - Colin Stegman  
"Volunteering in the Countryside."
- Business Association, Talk given by  
Sarah Hudspith North Yorkshire  
T.E.C. What the T.E.C. can do for us.  
at the Black Bull 7.30pm
- 9 Melbecks Society - Low Row  
Institute 7.15pm Guest Speaker Dr.  
John Apps on his Travels in Norway.
- 10 Christmas Bazaar in the Methodist  
Church Schoolroom at 6.30pm  
- Concert with the Reeth Brass Band  
and the Swaledale Choir in the  
Arkengarthdale Methodists Church  
at 7.30pm
- 11 Punch Bowl, Low Row, Dave Hardy  
Popular Music in the Bar
- 12 Remembrance Service St. Mary's  
Church Arkengarthdale - 11am  
- Eucharist with act of remembrance  
Low Row - 11am  
- British Legion Remembrance Service  
St. Andrew's Church Grinton - 3pm
- 13 Open Meeting about the reopening  
of a Youth Club, Memorial Hall  
7.30pm  
- Monthly Meeting of the Women's  
Section of the Royal British Legion  
7.30pm Memorial Hall
- 14 Reeth Amblers Walk - Meet 10am  
on Bainbridge Green - Semmerwater  
- Arkengarthdale Jubilee Club -  
Demonstration on flower  
arrangements by Margaret Brookes -

- Arkengarthdale School at 7.30pm
  - 16 Melbecks Society - Coffee Morning  
at Spring End to support Cancer after-  
care from 10am to 12 noon
  - 17 Punch Bowl Domino Drive £1  
including supper, details: 886233
  - 20 British Legion Pea and Pie Supper -  
Bridge Hotel Grinton
  - 21 Reeth Amblers Walk - Meet 10am  
for a Mystery Tour  
Open Meeting for all re the
  - 22 Memorial Hall Refurbishment  
Project at 7.30pm  
- Monthly Whist Drive at Grinton  
Institute
  - 24 Marrick Institute - Whist and  
Domino Drive - Supper and Good  
Prizes - 7.30pm
  - 25 St Andrew's Church Grinton -  
Annual Fayre - Memorial Hall
  - 28 Reeth Amblers Walk - Meet 10am at  
Redmire for a circular walk
  - 29 Association of Rural Communities  
Open meeting in the Memorial Hall
- ### December
- 1 Reeth and District Angling Club -  
Annual Dinner and Presentations - at  
the Buck Hotel, Reeth - for  
tickets/information contact Willy  
McCleary Tel 884428
  - 5 Reeth Amblers Walk - Meet 10am at  
Gunnarside for a circular walk  
- Business Association, Talk given by  
Pam Whittaker Richmond District  
Torism Officer, details to be  
announced
  - 6 Reeth Parish Council Meeting - 7pm

Every Monday evening Aerobics at  
Marrick Institute 7 to 8pm  
Every Friday evening - Quiz Night at  
the Bridge Hotel, Grinton

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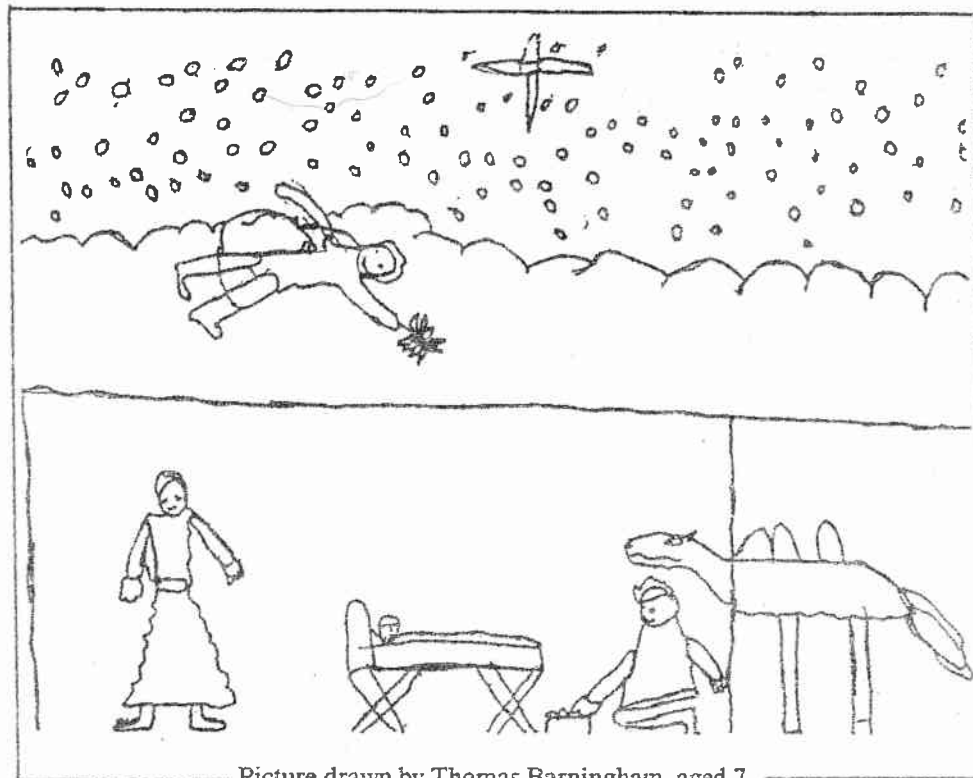
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# REETH & DISTRICT GAZETTE

Issue N°5

December 1995

*A Very Merry Christmas to all our readers & supporters*



Picture drawn by Thomas Barningham, aged 7.

# Christmas Issue

Memorial Hall, Booze Wood, Youth Report,  
Diary Dates, Christmas Services, and lots,  
lots more!!