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## REETH & DISTRICT GAZETTE



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December MM

#### Page 3

#### **CHURCH SERVICES**

#### 3rd December

9.15am St Mary's Muker Common Worship

10.30am Gunnerside Methodist Reeth Methodist Low Row URC Communion

11.00am St Edmund's, Marske Family Eucharist Reeth Congregational Holy Trinity Low Row Common Worship

2.00pm Keld URC

2.30pm Arkengarthdale Methodist Muker Methodist

4.00pm St Andrew's Grinton

Evening Prayer 6.30pm Reeth Congregational

#### 10th December

9.30am St Andrew's Grinton Common Worship St Michael's, Downholme Holy Eucharist 10.30am Low Row URC Reeth Methodist 11.00am Reeth Congregational St Edmund's Marske Morning Prayer 11.15am St Mary's Arkengarthdale Holy Communion 1662 2.00pm Keld Methodist

2.30pm Gunnerside Methodist

Sunday School/Baptism

Reeth Congregational

4.00pm St Mary's Muker

6.30pm Marske Methodist

23rd December

## **CHRISTMAS SERVICES**

**CHRISTMAS EVE** 



#### 21st December

7.00pm SHORTEST DAY and CAROL SERVICE Gunnerside Methodist Church

6.30pm CANDLELIT CAROL SERVICE with the Swale Singers Gunnerside Methodist Church

#### 24th December

Holy Communion 8.30am St Andrew's Grinton 10.30am Low Row URC Village Carol Service Reeth Methodist 11.00am Reeth Congregational Family Christmas Service

2.00pm Keld Methodist Carol Service Gunnerside Methodist 2.30pm

St Edmund's, Marske Lessons & Carols

Muker Methodist

6.00pm Arkengarthdale Methodist Carol Service 6.30pm Marske Methodist Carol Service

Reeth Congregational Carol Service 8.00pm Reeth Methodist Carols on the Green

11.30pm St Mary's Arkengarthdale Christmas Eucharist St Andrew's Grinton Christmas Eucharist

St Michael's, Downholme Christmas Eucharist

Family Service

Holy Eucharist

Eucharist

#### Thursday 7th December

UNITED ADVENT SERVICE with Parish Choir 7.30pm Low Row United Reformed Church





## 17th December

9.15am St Marv's Muker Common Worship 10.30am Reeth Methodist Low Row URC Readings, Carols & Communion 11.00am Reeth Congregational St Edmund's Marske Holy Eucharist Holv Trinity Low Row Common Worship 2.00pm Keld URC 2.30pm Gunnerside Methodist

Muker Methodist 4.00pm St Mary's Muker

6.30pm St Mary's Arkengarthdale Marske Methodist

Reeth Congregational Carol Service St Michael's, Downholme Lessons & Carols

Holy Communion

Crib Service

Carol Service

#### 27th December 10.00am

St Andrew's, Grinton Common Worship

6.30pm St Mary's Muker CAROL SERVICE with MUKER BAND



#### **CHRISTMAS DAY** 25th December

8.00am Holy Trinity Low Row Common Worship 9.30am St Mary's Muker Common Worship Low Row URC Christmas celebration 10.30am Reeth Methodist

11.00am St Edmund's, Marske Reeth Congregational 7.00pm Keld URC

Christmas celebration

#### 31st December

10.30am Reeth Methodist Holy Trinity Low Row United Parish Eucharist Low Row URC

11.00am St Edmund's, Marske Reeth Congregational

2.00pm Keld URC Gunnerside Methodist

6.30pm Marske Methodist 11.00pm Reeth Congregational

Watchnight Service

New Year's Eve

#### 2.15pm St Andrew's Grinton

Wednesday

20th December

**CHRISTINGLE** 

**SERVICE** 

## REETH & DISTRICT GAZETTE EDITORIAL

What a month its been! Virtual standstill of the country with all the water. Train services stopped and cancelled, roads closed and traffic greatly disrupted Apparently - according to the boffins the weather is going to get hotter and wetter! This is all due to global warming, vet on the news we hear that the international conference to discuss the situation has been abandoned without any agreement made. Two reasons given are firstly that the French lady who was chairing the procedures was too tired to understand what was going on, but also the more realistic and fundamental reason that the USA would not agree to restrictions of "greenhouse" gases, because, although one of the worst offenders, it cannot afford to alter its industry! That seems to some an incredible excuse - can the world afford not to alter its industry? If these floods continue in future years - apparently the worst in some areas for over 200 years then a lot of people are going to regularly experience true misery. The train service disruption, which of course does not immediately effect us up here, was exacerbated due to the speed restrictions that were in force whilst repair work was done following that terrible disaster. But why do we have to wait for a disaster to force a change? Do we have to have major world catastrophes to change to USA governments mind?

What is the underlying reason for the apparent general apathy towards all world problems. Some say that it is the force and power of the major companies, whose sole aim is to make more profits, some feel that it is still a general lack of understanding of the problems, and some say that it is really general apathy of the ordinary man in the street. Certainly that seems as if it could be the case in our country. The by-elections last week got a turn out of between 28% and 38 %. (something like the average local council elections) That means that the MPs were voted in by between 15% and 19 % of the franchise. Hardly a resounding vote for them! Perhaps it is because people feel that there really isn't any point in voting, one cannot change the situation. Certainly in local elections that feeling is very prevalent. After all up here we have only two councillors representing us - no matter how dedicated they are, how effective are they allowed to be? We always notice do we not that when the snow comes - or indeed the recent floods that we have been forgotten about (although I did see one cleaning blocked drains and gullies in the apparent absence of road men!) But is anything better elsewhere in the world? The American Presidential vote does not inspire one with confidence, and it looks as if it will only be resolved through the law courts. In any case many feel that whoever is elected, they will have very little power, the main power being with the major financial companies through their lobbying.

continued top next page...

#### Editorial continued....

December MM

As we fast approach Christmas, the worldwide season of goodwill and peace, we forget the political problems # 3 for a while, but unfortunately the season of Peace and Goodwill is all too short. The political problems do not go away. Yet at Christmas most of our churches 🛊 and chapels will be full for the Carol Services, and then be back to normal in January. Christ was not apathetic. When the world celebrates His birth, it should also try to remember His life. Let those of us who profess to be Christians, try and act so throughout the year. But, whatever your religious belief's speak up against injustice wherever it is, not just when it effects us. Let your feelings be known - write to your councillors, MP., the papers (and us!!). Don't be apathetic, show that you care, and if lobbying is so effective for the big businesses, it can a same a same as a same a same as a same a same a same as a same a same a same a same a same a same a sam also be effective for the ordinary person. There will always be another election! Let us all try to continue the Season of Goodwill throughout all the year if possible - make it a New Year tesolution! In the meantime, a very Happy Christmas to you all.

GL. Ed.

The Editorial team of the Reeth and District Gazette will consider for publication all articles and letters received, but reserve the right to edit or omit due to restrictions of space or content. The "Gazette" will continue to be free from bias and will remain a free issue Community Magazine serving the people of Swaledale & Arkengarthdale.







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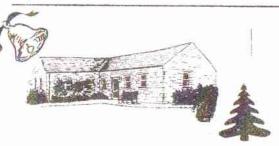
Mike Beckwith at above address Articles and adverts are better sent but telephone with details if necessary.

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December MM



#### It's a Doc's Life

#### A column with a medical slant

No column last month as I was taking an exam. You would think I was old enough to know better.

Firstly, I would like to thank everyone who filled in the patient satisfaction survey questionnaire. I know life is full of these at the moment but the response was very heartening. The Community Health Council in Northallerton are the patients "watchdogs" and are collating the results (so that I don't cheat) and will let me have them in due course. I hope we will learn something useful from it and get some tips on how to improve the service.

My work on the Primary Care Group continues. My role is to be the lead person for the Heart and Lung disease part of the Health Improvement Plan. Part of this is to do with looking at ambulance response times. As you know if someone has a heart attack it is vitally important to get them in to hospital as soon as possible. Part of the delay involved is to do with the time it takes an ambulance to arrive in these remote rural areas. The

Government has set new targets for the ambulance service cutting the response time down to eight minutes. Of course there is no way to get from Richmond to Reeth in eight minutes even with a blue light. So one possible way around the problem is to have "first responder units". This is a group of trained volunteers, living locally, operating in a rota to carry a telephone and a defibrillator. The idea being that ambitance control can despatch the first responder to a suitable case and he (or she) can give life saving first aid to the patient until the paramedic arrives.

This may sound a bit hit-and-miss but in countries where it has been tried before the evidence is that it is successful and that more patients live to leave hospital than those who received no help from a firstaider.

In Wensleydale, the Wensleydale Rotary are keen to see a scheme like this set up. And here in Swaledale I have had discussions with the ambulance service and representatives of the Swaledale Christian Council who are concerned about ambulance response times.

Use of the defibrillator is an uncommon occurrence. In the 13 years I have been here I can count one fingers of one hand the number of times I have had to use mine. However, heart disease is common and a quarter of patients die during their first heart attack, most within the first hour. Any volunteers?

Dr. Paul Bond, The Sargery.

## REETH SURGERY CHRISTMAS & NEW YEAR OPENING TIMES

Saturday 23rd. December ---- 9 am - 10 am

Sunday 24th. December ---- Closed

Christmas Day

Boxing Day

----- Closed

Closed

Wednesday 27th December - - - - Normal surgery times

Sunday 31st December ---- Closed New Years Day Closed

Tuesday 2nd January ----- Normal surgery times

*Please* ensure that you have enough medication (repeat prescriptions) to last over the holiday and that you collect it in sufficient time.

Dr Bond and all the Staff wish everyone a Happy and Healthy

CHRISTMAS & NEW YEAR

#### **GUNNERSIDE VILLAGE NEWS**

Who would have thought a year ago, that Gunnerside shop would now be closed, emptied and up for sale again; that the King's Head would change hands after less than 18 months with Pete and Linda, and that the bank in Reeth would be gone? There are indeed many changes taking place around us.

But don't despair - be positive and optimistic. Our 10-hours-a-week Post Office has come into being, daily newspapers and milk do still arrive, and there is a definite improvement in the bus service, thanks to energetic campaigners. The Chapel and the Village Hall have both been refurbished, providing bright and cheerful venues for events and functions. In spite of a blip in the number of infants coming into our school next year, the future looks good as they are expecting to open a new IT suite next spring, bringing our youngsters firmly into the 21st Century. The Ghyllfoot Tearoom offers excellent food and service for luncheon clubs and for family parties as well as catering for tourists. Jackie and Stephen Calvert's new enterprise, a working museum in the Old Smithy, is expected to open next spring, and its small shop is already in business selling ices, sweets, soft drinks and postcards—good luck to this new venture! And a warm welcome has been given by the village to Fred and Chris Bristow as they begin life in the pub, Chris working hard to provide quality home cooked food, and Fred's famous brews bringing in customers from far and wide.

As winter approaches, visitor numbers dwindle and holiday cottages remain empty. Through the quiet months it is important that local businesses are supported. We should thank all who serve the community by making their living in the dale, for without them the heart would disappear from our village. We would be the losers, and tourists would go elsewhere.

This is true for Gunnerside, but it applies equally to all the dales villages.

Florence Bland.

## A PASSAGE TO INDIA—IN WAR-TIME!

The "Memories of National Service" article in the November edition was most interesting. It served as a reminder of the conflicts that raged after the end of the Second World War, which had not been a "war to end wars" as had been so passionately believed of the Great War of 1914-1918.

I liked the point made by the writer, 'that after fifty years only the good times are remembered', and whereas I am still vividly reminded at times of the horrors of the Blitz and the atrocities of the Japanese (I was in the Burma campaign of 1944-45) I agree that it is good to remember the happy times. For me one of those occasions was the voyage to India.

It was 1942 and we had come through the Blitzkrieg. Pearl Harbour had been bombed bringing the USA into the war. Japan had invaded Siam and Burma and was engaging the Indian Army on India's North East frontier (Manipur) and Eastern frontier (Arakan). Calcutta had been bombed from the air and the Indian Navy and Indian Air Force were fully stretched.

I was with 79 Squadron (Hurricanes) and we were posted to serve in India. The Air Ministry had commissioned liners from the South African Union Castle Line with the intention of posting whole units abroad, i.e. air crews, ground staff and with the aircraft crated for assembly on arrival. This was an experiment as hitherto personnel had travelled by troopship and the aircraft flown out in stages.

All this took a very long time. The Union Castle ships were fast, diesel engined craft which did not travel in convoy, it being said that they could outrun any U-boats. Thankfully, this was not tested! With two other squadrons we embarked on the "Stirling Castle" and sailed out from Liverpool en route for India. Once at sea we were to be allocated jobs to occupy us during the voyage. Now the old sweats always maintained that you should never volunteer, but in my experience it never did me any harm - certainly not on this voyage. When the Flight Sergeant asked for volunteers without stipulating what for, some of us - all friends - looked at each other and said, "Shall we - yes!", and stepped forward "Report to the Chief Steward in the First Class Dining Saloon", we were told. That was that! We became waiters! Turn to page 33 /

#### Barlington & Stockton Times

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#### NORTH COUNTRY THEATRE

December MM

You may have seen Spielberg's awesome "Jurassic Park" on the big screen - you may have seen the BBC's "Walking with Dinosaurs" on the small screen - but we bet you never thought Monday to Saturday 9 am - 5.30 pm you'd see such things on (a rather small) stage. Well now you can N because North Country Theatre are bringing their latest ripping yarn The Lost World to Reeth Memorial Hall on Friday 29th December at 7.30 pm.

The Lost World written in 1912 by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle is a classic 'boy's own' adventure story with prehistoric monsters, ape men and madcap professors. The story is a fast action All the ingredients are of course packed tale of derring-do, men against the elements, talking dinosaurs and a gal back home. Tickets at £6 (£4 children under 14) from Reeth Post Office, The Red Lion - Langthwaite and Muker Village Store.

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- 1 tin kidney beans (drained)
- 1 half pint of water pinch chilly powder

Method :- Place all the ingredients in an ovenproof casserole dish and cook for 40 minutes at 180 deg. (Gas 6)

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#### LOCAL HISTORY GROUP

The newly formed Upper Dales Family History Group got off to an excellent start at its November meeting with an informative talk by Ruth Wilcox who has traced her family back to the village of Arkendale near Knaresborough. She explained how she had used a variety of sources to produce a picture of her ancestors back to the 17thC.

The next meeting takes place on Wednesday, December 13th 1pm—4pm in the Dales Countryside Museum, Hawes. Future meetings will take place on the second Wednesday of each month in Hawes and on the fourth Wednesday (from January) in the Methodist Schoolroom in Reeth. For further information please contact Glenys Marriott on 01969 663738 or e:mail - glenys@bishopdale.demon.co.uk

#### MELBECKS SOCIETY

Christmas Meeting
Thursday 14th December at 7.30pm

Entertainment by the Swale Singers Conductor - Duncan Bythell Supper, Glass of wine, Raffle

Visitors most welcome. £ 2.00

ALL DEADLINES FOR THE JANUARY ISSUE MONDAY 11th DECEMBER

## REFUSE COLLECTION CHRISTMAS & NEW YEAR

Normal day Revised day
December

Monday 25th **Dec.** - Wednesday 27th Tuesday 26th - Thursday 28th

Wednesday 27th
Thursday 28th
- Friday 29th
- Saturday 30th

Friday 29th - Tuesday 2nd Jan.

January

Monday 1st Jan
- Wednesday 3rd
- Thursday 4th

Wednesday 3rd - Friday 5th

Thursday 4th - Saturday 6th Friday 5th - Monday 8th

Monday 8th - Tuesday 9th
Tuesday 9th - Wednesday 10th

Tuesday 9th
Wednesday 10th
Thursday 11th
Thursday 11th
- Friday 12th

Thursday 11th - Friday 12th Friday 12th - Saturday 13th

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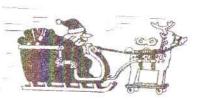
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Fanned Melon with a Duo of Fruit Coulis

Champagne Sorbet

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Roast Topside of Local Beef

With Yorkshire Pudding and Horseradish Sauce Fillet of Salmon

Poached with Lemon and Tarragon Sauce

Terrine of Layered Vegetables Courgettes, Mushrooms and Carrots layered

between Pan Tossed Crepes

-000-

Rosie's Christmas Pudding with Hot Brandy Sauce Lemon Syllabub Apple and Blackberry Pie with Custard Winter Pudding

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#### THE METHODISTS of REETH

About one mile north-west of Reeth, on the eastern bank of the Arkle, we find the decaying remains of Castells, the first meeting place, from 1760, of the Methodists of Reeth. This was the home of William Spence, who was probably related to the Spences of Low Row. It was to this little society beneath Fremington Edge, that Rachel Hird used to battle, as she regularly journeyed from Helwith in all weathers, demonstrating a degree of commitment that is scarcely obtainable in this our day and age. It was an impoverished little group of miners and landless farming people, who found within the society a sense of dignity that was missing from the rest of their lives. Not surprisingly, they could not readily raise the resources to build a chapel. They were visited once every six weeks by Jacob Rowell the travelling preacher. In 1766 he noted that there were 32 members, from whom he collected £1-3s-0d., well short of the total that would have been expected from a group of this size, which clearly underlined their impoverished state.

One of these members, James Peacock, who later became its leader, was involved in a bitter dispute on Grinton Moor, when the smelting mill there was put out of action several times. He along with others were hauled before the courts, but merely received a token fine, it being acknowledged that they were only pawns in a much bigger dispute.

On the death of William Spence in 1781, the society transferred its meeting venue to a room in the vicinity of the

present post office, and thereafter for several years, held their services in a room of the Red Lion Inn, which was then located in the area of Harker's Garage. The innkeeper of the day, was probably of the Bradberry family, who might well have been a Methodist.

December MM

It may come as a surprise, that an inn played a part in the birth of Methodism in Reeth. It should however be remembered that it was only after excessive drinking amongst the miners was identified as having a devastating effect upon their families, that the message of the Temperance Movement was ultimately embraced by the Methodist Church, and that in the teeth of opposition from the bulk of its ministers. See top page 13

## Reeth Village Store

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During 1794, Reeth was visited by a remarkable young lady, named Mary Barritt, described as 'a plain rough country girl' who came from near Coln. She was the sister of an itinerant preacher, who was stationed in the Hexham area. She felt called to hold prayer meetings at first, and later began to preach, making herself something of a controversial figure. Such things were considered unscriptural, and were banned, but Mary ignored these strictures. Her influence affected one John Stubbs, a haberdasher, who determined that the society should have its own chapel.

He took over the 'copy hold' of a dwelling house, with garden and stable, which was on the site of the present Methodist Church, in June of 1796. The chapel then was a long room, entered by a flight of steps on the south side of the building, and was registered as a place of worship in January 1797, having at the time 39 members. Worshippers then sat on backless forms, and since the ability to read was scarce, hymns had to be learned line by line, and as they sang, the members joined hands as they swayed to the tune.

From 1818 to 1822 was a time of severe depression, congregations declined and the society teetered on the verge of extinction. However there was a swift turn around, and in 1823 a property, probably Wesley Cottage, was rented as living accommodation for the minister. The chapel was steadily improved, and altered under the leadership of the minister John Rawson. He encouraged the members

to incorporate the ground floor of the Property, the stable, and an extension into the garden, into a single building, at the then huge cost of £1000. During 1840, the building was given a new front, followed by pews in the 1860's. At the time of the 1851 Census, the chapel was declared to have 98 members, and recorded service attendances of 70 adults and 42 Sunday school children during the morning, 140 adults and 67 Sunday school children during the afternoon, and 180 adults and 4 children during the evening.

One Sunday in 1887 after a prayer meeting had been held, the building was discovered to be on fire, but thanks to the resolution of those who fled to the scene, the complete destruction of the building was averted, although the pulpit and choir seats had been totally destroyed. During the renovations, the Congregationalists generously shared their building with the Methodists.

In 1900 the foundation stone was laid for the existing Methodist Manse; in about 1907, the front of the chapel received its final alterations, and 1911 saw the introduction of the present pipe organ.

continued page top 28 /

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#### THE SWING BRIDGE AT HARKERSIDE - NEAR REETH

After reading about the storm damage to the swing bridge at Harkerside near Reeth in the Darlington & Stockton Times, I would suggest after completion it may have been taken over by the Reeth Rural District Council. The Bridge was built in 1921. I lived in sight of the Bridge all my life until I moved to Reeth 15 years ago. I walked over the Bridge all my school days to Reeth School and many times after.

The Bridge was originally built for the benefit of people living on Harkerside, especially for the children to attend the school at Reeth. The first three children to cross the Bridge on their way to school were:- Jim Calvert, Bleak House; Harry Calvert, Plain Tree House; and Bessie White, Stubbin Farm, all of Harkerside.

I have in my possession a note book with the following heading:-

"Subscriptions are solicited towards the erection of a wire Bridge over the Swale leading from Reeth to Harkerside. The Bridge is estimated to cost £100 towards which the Reeth Rural District Council has promised one third."

Then it gives all the names of people who subscribed and the amount they gave. I happen to have this book as my father, Matt Calvert, did the collecting. I dare say a lot of the work would be done voluntarily. I do know that my father built the pillar nearest Harkerside.

I also have two postcard photos (taken by Postgates Photos, Reeth) of the Bridge newly built and also showing the stepping stones and the plank, which was the only way of crossing the river before the Bridge was erected. It was in the summer of 1991 that major repairs were done to the Bridge.

I was very sorry indeed to see it when I walked down on the afternoon after the disaster. To build a new bridge I believe is going to cost as many thousand pounds as it cost pounds in 1921.

> Marjorie Longstaff, nee Calvert Rokeby House, Reeth.



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#### BARN TREASURE

All of us who know "the striding dales" love those grey stone field barns, which like dour jewels scatter the Yorkshire valleys. Those familiar sturdy buildings punctuate the rolling hills, the flowing rivers, the rushing, chattering streams. Form and function at one with and part of the very fabric of nature. And many of these barns, which we treasure, themselves hold treasure. Who can resist exploring a remote and derelict barn in the hope of discovering.....what?

December MM

Well usually, to be honest, no more than broken worthless machinery. rotting timber, a sheep's carcass. But sometimes you fall lucky. I could take you now to an old barn close to an abandoned house, many scores of miles from sea or lakes, where lie, mouldering and dust covered, two sailing dinghies, each complete with mast, sails and oars. One can't help but wonder at the story of broken hopes and dreams that lie behind these sad relics. Only three years ago I met two men descending the old Corpse Road from Kisdon into Keld, each pushing a pre-war Scott motorcycle. They claimed that these had been rescued from a neighbouring barn - with, I hasten to add the farmer's permission. As an enthusiast for classic bikes, it galls me to think how many times I must have passed that particular treasure and never suspected a thing!

But my treasure is rather different. For many years my family owned a small parcel of land in Upper Swaledale which included a prominent barn, conveniently

close to the road to afford shelter to those whose lives are spent wandering the dale in all weathers. To my delight I noticed that many visitors had pencilled messages and comment on the plastered walls, and some years ago I noted those that remained, before age and damp finally destroyed them.

Many entries are the hum-drum recording of weather conditions:-

"May 6th. 1939 been wet getting out fine been in here for dinner"

"R.A. Scott S. Fawcett - Here Nov 15th. 1947. Snow and very cold First Snow." "April finished Cold East Wind"

Some though, add comment. Maybe for example, a farmer's lament. Echoing down the years :-

'March 4th. '37 Big snow storm, many Turn to page 26 / sheep dead"



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#### SWALEDALE FESTIVAL

The recent AGM was well attended by Board members and members of the public. They heard from the new Director Philip Parr his ideas for the future as the Festival moves into the 21st century.

Yorkshire Arts and Richmondshire District Council were thanked for their support and funding.

Officers on the Board were unchanged. Elizabeth Sutherland: Chairman Shirley Ross: Treasurer and Felicity Manning: Secretary
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## Global Warming? The Month in the Dales

This report is prompted by a letter from a subscriber "Friend" of the "Gazette" enclosed with her annual renewal subscription.

The lady who loves our dales and is a regular visitor, after reading in the last issue of the damage to Reeth Swing Bridge, asked if we could give news of how or if, the recent heavy rain and widespread floods had caused damage or disrupted normal daily life.

At the height of one weekend of wind and rain storms. I had to turn back from my normal dog walking route, along the banks of the Swale from Muker to Keld because the river was running wild and fast across the whole width of the valley floor. My Labradors', who love being in water, would have been swept away to Reeth and beyond, together with all the other trees, branches, old tyres, buckets, the odd sheep carcase and a broken ladder. The water was up to the first of the steps, beyond the last stile of the seven meadows, so preventing any access round to Rampsholme footbridge. Looking across from Mr William Raws' field at the force of the current pounding at the eastern buttress of Rampsholme foot-bridge, made me wonder just how long it could stand. Later in the week I walked to Swinnergill along the eastern side of the Swale.

Crossing the Rampsholme foot bridge (still there) and jumping directly down to the left side of the bridge I could tell by the debris in the tree branches that the water level would have been well above my head at the height of the storms. The force of the water has scoured out

the stones at the edges of the banks and there are many trees and branches with other debris, left high and dry across the valley floor, some over 100 ft. from the normal river bed. When we came to live in Muker some sixteen years ago, I placed two stones and a post near the river bank below Raggam, and it was seven and a half paces to the river bank edge. The post went years ago, pushed down and over by stock using it as a rubbing post, the two stones finally slipped from their resting place, over night, one day last week. This means that more than twenty-two feet of river bank has been lost in sixteen years. Regular visitors will see the amount of land lost opposite and below the Scarr's, a popular sun bathing and swimming spot. The Gunnerside Estate have had to reconstruct a new track further away from the river edge. Looking up from the track, there are at least eight landslips where hushes, due to the quantity of water gushing off the fells, have finally given up the struggle and let go their precarious grip and tumbled down, some many feet, leaving large black tears down through the bracken and reeds. Turn to page... 24 /

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## OR A VISIT TO THE DOME

journey south to the big city, to determine for themselves the controversial Dome. We arrived by coach on Sunday afternoon traveiling along Baker St. and negotiating Oxford St., which proved even easier than Levburn Market on a Friday!, and finally arriving at the London Eye. Our 'flight' had been pre-booked, and as I Gazed upwards-a height of 450 feet, I initially had a moments doubt, but thought it will he similar to the views over Richmond from the Castle, yes perhaps we could have a Richmond Eye?. The journey was brilliant. The wheel turns very slowly and the glass pods, each holding 20 -25 people, revolve in their own brackets and there is plenty of room to walk around with a bench along the centre in case you 'come over queer'. The views were stunning, all the famous landmarks, -Houses of Parliament, Post Office Tower, The Cenotaph, to mention a few, and the River Thames full of craft of various sizes. boats decorated with strings of lights, and people, cars and buses appearing like Toy Town below. It was a unique experience - top marks to the engineers who designed it. I hope the 'Eye' will keep turning for many years and with the help of a spot of WD 40 may be become Londons' "Eiffel Tower".

Four Swaledale lady pensioners decided to

From the 'Eye' we journeyed on to our hotel near Canary Wharf. It was really swish, fabulous rooms with views over the Thames and with the Dome in the background. Our intention was to explore London and eat at a local restaurant, but it was raining, so we

decided to partake of the 'Early Bird' menu in the hotel. The right choice - the food was delicious and good value. Next morning at 10am the coach took us on to our destination. When we arrived I felt really sad, only two coaches and hardly any bodies, but as the morning progressed it became busier. We all agreed that the No.1 attraction was the floor show. This was fabulous, the scenery, costumes, acrobats and performers were wonderful. There are about fourteen zones to visit but we only managed half of them, stopping often at one of the many cafes and snack bars to sit sipping coffee and listening to a children's orchestra. They have a different school performing each day - I believe this particular group came from Cornwall.

.... continued top page 23/

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Friday 22nd December ---- Normal surgery hours
Saturday 23rd " " --- Aysgarth 9.00 am — 9.45 am
(Urgent cases only) Hawes 10.15 am — 11.00 am

Christmas Eve )
Christmas Day ) CLOSED
Boxing Day )

Wednesday 27th — Friday 29th December ... Normal surgery hours Please order repeat prescriptions by Wednesday to obtain before New Year.

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Saturday 30th December ---- Surgery times as Sat. 23rd December above New Years Eve )

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72							
Week	One	Week	Two	Week	Three	Week	Four
8th Jan	30th Apr**	15th Jan	7th May**	22nd Jan	14th May	29th Jan	21st May
5th Feb	28th May	12th Feb	4th June	19th Feb#	11th June	26th Feb*	6th Nov
5th Mar*	13th Nov	12th Mar	20th Nov	19th Mar	27th Nov	26th Mar	4th Dec
2nd Apr	11th Dec	9th Apr	18th Dec	16th Apr	25th Dec	23rd Apr	1st Jar
a.m	p.m	a.m	p.m	a.m	p.m	a.m	p.m
Dr France	Dr France	Dr Jones	Dr Jones	Dr Jones	Dr Jones	Dr France	Dr France
Dr West	Dr West	Dr West	Dr West	Dr Pain	Dr Pain	Dr Pain	Dr Pain
	Antenatal		Antenatal		Antenatal		Antenatal
Dr Jones	Dr Jones	Dr France	Dr France	Dr France	Dr France	Dr Jones	Dr Jones
Dr Pain	Dr Pain	Dr Pain	Dr Pain	Dr West	Dr West	Dr West	Dr West
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#### PULL OUT AND KEEP FOR REFERENCE

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	5th Mar*	13th Nov	12th Mar	20th Nov	19th Mar	27th Nov	26th Mar	4th Dec
	2nd Apr	11th Dec	9th Apr	18th Dec	16th Apr	25th Dec	23rd Apr	1st Jan
	a.m	p.m	a.m	p.m	a.m	p.m	a.m	p.m
Monday	Dr Jones	Dr Jones	Dr France	Dr Pain	Dr France	Dr France	Dr Jones	Dr West
	Dr Pain	Dr Pain Antenatal	Dr Pain	Dr France Antenatal	Dr West	Dr West Antenatal	Dr West	Dr Jones Antenatal
Tuesday	Dr France	Dr France	Dr Jones	Dr Jones	Dr Jones	Dr Jones	Dr France	Dr France
	Dr West	Dr West	Dr West	Dr West	Dr Pain	Dr Pain	Dr Pain	Dr Pain
Wednesday	Dr Jones	Dr Jones	Dr France	4.00	Dr France	Dr France	Dr Jones	
	Dr Pain		Dr Pain	Dr Pain	Dr West		Dr West	Dr West
Thursday	Dr France	Dr France	Dr Jones		Dr Jones	Dr Jones	Dr France	
	Dr West		Dr West	Dr West	Dr Pain		Dr Pain	Dr Pain
Friday	Dr Jones	Dr Jones	Dr Pain	Dr Pain	Dr France	Dr France	Dr West	Dr West
Saturday	Emergency Doctor		Emergency Doctor		Emergency Doctor		Emergency Doctor	

More information on your practice website www.centraldalespractice.co.uk Surgery Times: - Monday to Friday morning 9am to 10am & evening 4pm to 5.30pm

Saturday: - 9.00am to 9.45am URGENT CASES ONLY please

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#### TWO IDEAL GIFTS FOR CHRISTMAS

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2) A New edition (No. 4 in the series) of Major F T C 'Bill' Williams popular books "Walking with the Major", profusely illustrated with drawings and sketches by our own famous local artist Marjorie Daniels has just been completed, set and The booklet contains a printed. selection of Walks in Arkengarthdale, Swaledale and Wensleydale together with a Survey of Castles, Sham Castles and Follies. The Majors distinctive descriptive prose in 'A Horse to go to Helwith' and 'Plunging Down into the Foregill' Will delight all who read his work. The price is £2.50 per copy - please add 25p postage. Orders sent direct from Mike Beckwith see address below. Cheques to Reeth & District

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Please Tel. 01748 886307	Signed :- Date:- Tel. No. :- e: mail :-
	i en ivo. :e; man :

The 'Body Zone' was very disappointing - it had such a big buildup perhaps we all expected much more. The 'Journey Zone' was marvellous transport through the ages - and wonderfully displayed. We visited the 'Mind Zone' where we could manipulate buttons to perceive how we would look in twenty years time, but it couldn't have been working properly because my screen just featured a pile of ashes! We did see the 'Millennium Star' and the collection of blue diamonds - we were there the morning before the attempted robbery - so missed the drama. There were no queues, but apparently the previous week had been busy because it was half term.

December MM

I thoroughly enjoyed the visit - very glad I went and didn't give a thought to the millions of pounds that the 'Dome' had absorbed. My only regret - only one of my ten grand children had the chance to take the trio.

Marion Thompson.

#### Friends of Reeth School

Our recent General Knowledge Quiz was won by Margaret Porter from Ellerton- Well done! Several spot prizes were awarded for things like the neatest handwriting, the most inventive wrong answer, the most colourful coffee stains on the sheet and so on. The Ouiz raised £109 towards the Friends' fund (including the £10 first prize, which was returned by Margaret) - a huge thank you to all who bought a quiz sheet and to the local businesses for selling sheets on our behalf. I have had several complaints from folk who couldn't get any work done - however we shall be doing it again next year. Answer sheets are still available send a SAE to me - Julie Bissicks, Watson House, Arkengarthdale Road, Reeth.

Merry Christmas from all the Friends of Reeth School. Please look for details of our future fundraising efforts.

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DORANT 4x4 · DORANT 4x4

Global Warming? Continued from p17 Nearer Swinnergill, the estate has again had to bring in an excavator to lift huge stones to rebuild and repair culverts running under the track and to restore the side of the old mining tip and the water course, below the wooden footbridge at Swinnergill, towards the Swale. The Estates' private swing bridge did, this time, come through unscathed. The description above is only an

The description above is only an example of similar damage throughout the two dales area, some folk have had water running through their homes. The B6270 has been flooded in many of the usual places, cars have been damaged caught in the water. Landslips at Gunnerside and Rowleth Bottom did block the road for a day until Highways could shift the tons of mud and stone.

The River Swale Regeneration Project certainly has a long way to go and money to spend to overcome the astonishing amount of damage caused by the fastest flowing river in the country.

We in the dales, whilst in the main not having standing water in our homes, are fully aware of where 'Our' water ends up - York and below. Our sympathy goes out to those folk that have lost those irreplaceable items of precious sentimental value and feel empathy with all the angst and futility of repeated tidying up and decorating. To be out of ones home during the festive season and also facing months of heartache and hard work without any firm reason to believe that it isn't going to happen again is a 'Sisyphean' task. We wish you every goodwill and all the Best. Is it really Global warming?

Mike Beckwith - Muker

#### ARKENGARTHDALE PARISH COUNCIL

The Parish Council held a meeting on the 24th October, with all councillors present. Councillors were pleased to receive a letter from Mr & Mrs Hall of Abrahams Cottage expressing their delight at the recent improvements to the High Green. It was proposed to put the Christmas tree lights on the copper Beech tree on High Green. It was decided to ask Richmondshire District Council again, to provide some lighting in the car park. The Archive project is well on course, the book contains some 250 pages and is due to be published in November. Mrs Whitworth identified after reading the '2 Dales Partnership plan' the lack of facilities for children in the dale. She proposed the possibility of providing a playground adjacent to the car park. All Councillors agreed this was a good idea and further inquiries will be made. Yorkshire Rural Community Council awarded the Council a certificate of achievement for the war memorial wall refurbishment. The sign near Langthwaite has not been fixed yet - Branches overhanging the road to Booze need cutting back - Highways dept asked to attend to these and other matters. The Parish Council next meet 2nd January 2001

#### ARKENGARTHDALE MILLENNIUM BOOK LAUNCH

The organisers of the Book launch Open Day, held in the Chapel on November 18th would like to thank all helpers and the many visitors for their support in ensuring that the event was so successful. In particular the Ladies of the Dale must be thanked for providing the high usual standard of refreshments.

The effort put in to producing this 250 page record of over 140 properties and people of the Dale together with chapters written by local people on many aspects of Dales life has been well rewarded in the sales of 'A moment in Time'.

Copies of the book can be ordered, still in time for Christmas, from Ray Wright on (01748) 884652 or alternatively they may be purchased from Reeth Post Office, and also from the Red Lion Inn or the CB Inn both in Arkengarthdale.



Barn Treasure .. Cont. from p 15

Page 26

"Dec 25th. 1942 Very mild weather War raging on all sides"

"Why does Mussolini want Abyssinia He wants to get Addis a Baba"

Interestingly the first of these two quotes does not refer to the fact that it was made on Christmas Day. Then there is the strangely threatening:-

"He roamed about on Kisdon Side till the Angram Boys they him did spy"

Tramps, those gentlemen of the road, also put in their half pen'orth. I submit this next piece of graffiti uncensored - I'm sure it won't cause offence:-

'I have come from Kirby Stephen and I am resting in this hotel. I am on the road to anywhere with never a heartaike or never a care got no home not even a shit house to rest in only my own

Tramp

Poor old Joe bending low"

Finally, I will end with an exhortation that we could all do well to follow:-

"Do the will of God and you will be happy"

And now the disclaimer:-

I am certainly not advocating trespass in a any form. You should always seek permission before entering any farm building.

Stephen Leathet, Bridge End, Keld

Ed. Perhaps Stephens' article may awaken others of a similar vein. If you have a story please send it in.



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e:mail: stefsmodels@talk21.com RC

#### The Methodists of Reeth-. Continued from page 13....

It was the Congregationalists who brought me to Reeth in 1946, to take two services, and during my short stay, I spent the night with the Spence family, who lived in the old Congregational manse in Silver Street. It was a beautiful weekend, and when I was offered the ministerial post at Gunnerside, my previous memories influenced my decision to return. My first service on the Sunday morning was at the Reeth chapel. At its conclusion, I was approached by a very smart young woman, who informed me that I had been planned to have dinner with her parents, Clarkson and Alice Jackson, life long stalwarts of the Methodist Society in Reeth. I regretfully had to decline, since my parents were expecting me to return to Gunnerside. However, before I left the Reeth Circuit, to take up a post in Chopington, Northumberland, their daughter Thelma and I had become engaged to marry. Tragically Clarkson, Thelma's father, had died

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Langthwaite, Arkengarthdale, Richmond, North Yorkshire DL11 6EH before our wedding on the 28th July 1956, when we tied the knot with the help of three ministers, The Reverends' J. T. Lyon (Superintendent), John Barker and James Bestford.

My wife and I were to return to the chapel over the years, to present our two sons for baptism, and unbelievably, it was here in this building, where I allowed my wandering mind to formulate the early plans, that I would follow in my determination to explore the Swaledale mines, so that I could understand what the miners were doing. The saga of Reeth Methodist chapel, which it must be said, Margaret Batty has done so much to unearth, is a story of a humble and poor people, whose determination has given us this house of worship, and challenges us to hold on to what they achieved. Finally with brokenness of heart and spirit, I brought my wife's body to the chapel prior to its burial. Thus it has encompassed for me, the whole range of emotions from joy to sorrow. There is little wonder, that it holds such a special place in my affections.

John Hardy.



#### **REETH & DISTRICT GAZETTE**

December MM

The Editorial 'Team' wish all our readers and advertisers a Peaceful Christmas and Best Wishes for the New Year.

Thank you to all our contributors for the most interesting, informative articles and memories. Please keep submitting new articles and follow-up storics for publication. Kindly remember that the "Gazette" is prepared, set, printed and published by unpaid volunteers and we do occasionally make spelling & grammatical mistakes and we have also been known to make some rare omissions. We sincerely hope that the "Gazette" is improving and hope that 2001 will see further benefits.

This Months special frontispiece drawing is by:- Matthew Esarte-Sarries aged 10

Mike B'

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- Low Row Keep Fit Tues. 7pm 8pm in the Institute. Everyone welcome, see you soon,! (bring a mat)

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#### PLEASE SEE THE PROPERTY TO LET SECTION ON PAGE 10

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#### RICHMOND & SWALEDALE **COMMUNITY EDUCATION IT COURSES FOR 2001**

Tutor :- Geoff Westgarth

#### 1) Database & Spreadsheets

Starts 11th January 7pm - 9pm in Reeth Memorial Hall

This is an 11 week vocational course for those with little or no experience, enabling you to create databases and spreadsheets. Fee is £40. Concessionary fee £13 for those receiving a means tested benefit.

#### 2) Internet

There is the possibility of offering an Internet course at Reeth Primary School thanks to the generosity of the school. Anyone interested should ring the Community Education Office 01748850171

We are committed to offering IT courses in Swaledale to fit in with the needs of local people and would be interested in hearing from groups who wish to attend a specific course. The venue, time, date and course content could be set up specifically for the group, with a minimum of 6 and a maximum of 10 students.

If you are unemployed and claiming Jobseekers Allowance, a lone parent claiming Income Support, in receipt of Invalidity Care Allowance or Widow's Pension, you may be entitled to Free IT training. The Community Education Service is hoping to provide this training in your area, so if you think you might be eligible please give either Viv or Lynn a call on 01748 805171.

#### The Children of **ARKENGARTHDALE SCHOOL**

Will perform "THE STAR OF WONDER"

Friday 15th December at 6.00 pm.

in the school.

There will be a Cake Stall, Raffle, Tombola, and Refreshments **Everyone Welcome** 

#### **NEW YEAR FAMILY FUN**

Something for the whole family to enjoy! A Barbecue and Firework display, supervised by Reeth Fire Service will take place on Reeth Green at 7 pm on New Years Day.

## THE **BURGOYNE** HOTEL

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A Passage to India.... continued from page 8

The Dining Saloon was also the Officers' Mess for both RAF and Merchant Navy officers and also accommodated some civilians travelling to South Africa.

As soon as the ship had passed the three mile limit all the bars and shops on board were opened up and what a sight met our eyes! This was a South African ship out of Durban and was well stocked with all those good things denied to war torn Britain. There was an abundance of food, confectionery, wines and Spirits. In that Dining Saloon there was no limit to what was available, and certainly we had experienced nothing like it since 1939. If it was India that nurtured my taste for Gin and Tonic it was the Union Castle Line that titillated my palate for fine wines.

Our route was to sail to Bombay via the Cape of Good Hope and Durban. The Suez Canal was, of course, mined and closed to all shipping. We had been at sea about a week, crossing the North Atlantic Ocean while a big naval battle raged off the West coast of Africa resulting in the final capitulation of the French Fleet. We were immediately rerouted to Bahia (San Salvador) in Brazil where we sheltered for ten days. The beaches of San Salvador are a veritable paradise in October and November with glorious sunshine and excellent bathing and there we enjoyed the hospitality of the Brazilian people. next column>>



REETH & DISTRICT GAZETTE



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We sailed from Bahia harbour to cross the South Atlantic to round the Cape of Good Hope and docked at Durban for refuelling and re-victualling. Here we disembarked our civilian passengers and then on across the Indian Ocean to Bombay. It had taken eight weeks but it was a vovage to remember - one of the good things that happened during my RAF career.

Arrived in Bombay - - well, that is another story .....

#### CYRIL PURVER, Keld.

Ed. The Gazette welcomes articles on all subjects and wishes to encourage local folk to share their memories good or bad. Why not tell us about changes in the dales. Snow, Rain, Floods, Farming, Houses and Folk. Please tell us before these memories are lost.

#### **GUNNERSIDE WOMENS INSTITUTE**

Our President Margaret Rutter, welcomed members to the AGM, on the 54th Anniversary of the branch. A short silence was observed in memory of Marjorie Davis of Healaugh, who died recently and will by much missed by us all.

In the Presidents review of the year, she confirmed that we had had an excellent Millennium year with a varied programme of speakers and enjoyable outings, as well as involvement in the village millennium concert. Freda Stabler gave her Treasurers report, showing a satisfactory financial situation, whilst Kay McDermids report as Secretary highlighted the addition of new members to give a healthy membership of 28. The three officers were all re-elected, as was the committee with the addition of two of our newer members, Helen Bond and Maureen Clayton. It was decided that the starting time of the meetings should be changed to 7.30 pm from January next.

Jennie Mansfield suggested the possibility of linking with her sisters W I in Dorset and it was agreed that this should be followed up. A long serving committee member, Roasa Laurie, then cut the Anniversary cake, which we all enjoyed together with a glass of wine.

The business meeting was followed by a fascinating talk illustrated with slides by Margaret Crapper, who had visited Beijing last year. Her excellent slides showed a surprisingly modern city, alongside the historic Forbidden City and also sections of the Great Wall where Margaret had walked.

Thanks were expressed by the President for this interesting talk.

The Christmas Dinner and Party will be held at the Buck Hotel on 21st December.

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#### **OBITUARY**

#### **MARJORIE DAVIES**

It is with much sorrow that we report the death of Miss Marjorie Davis of Raisbeck House, Healaugh and of Bowden, Altringham. Miss Davies died on Monday, November 6th, following a long and courageous battle against illness. Marjorie was an active participant and supporter of many local clubs and organisations through which she made many friends, by whom she will be sorely missed. A memorial service will be held on

Friday 8th December at 12 noon in the United Reform Church, Low Row.

#### **ARKENGARTHDALE** SPORTS ASSOCIATION

**DOMINO DRIVE** & SUPPER

**THURSDAY** 21st DECEMBER - 7.30pm TO BE HELD IN ARKENGARTDALE SCHOOL £2.50 Adults - £1.50 Children **Includes supper** 

#### LOW ROW INSTITUTE

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SATURDAY 23rd DECEMBER 7.30 pm

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#### GENERAL NEWS ITEMS & INFORMATION

#### Arkengarthdale Methodist Church Christmas Fair

on Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup>. December at 3:00 pm Cake Stall etc., raffle and afternoon teas. Proceeds for Chapel Funds - all welcome.

Christmas Eve 24th. December at 6:00pm. Children's Candlelight Carol Service followed by light refreshments.

#### **ARKENGARTHDALE**

The United Carol Service will be held in St, Mary's Church, Arkengarthdale on Sunday December 17th. At 6:30 pm. All are welcome

#### Parish Choir & Reeth Band in CHRISTMAS CONCERT

There will be a Christmas Concert with the Reeth Brass Band and the Swaledale Parish Choir on Thursday December 21<sup>st</sup> in St. Andrew's Church, Grinton. The concert will start at 7:30 pm and entry is £3:50, children £2:00.

#### Christmas At Marrick Priory

The Friends Of Marrick Priory have organised a musical concert on Thursday, December 7th. At 7:00pm. There will also be refreshments and a raffle. Tickets are available from Marrick Priory: 01748 - 884434

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#### **CHRISTMAS AT LOW ROW**

December MM

The Low Row Village Carol Service will be held in the United Reformed Church on Sunday Dec. 24th. at 10:30 am.

On Christmas Day at 8:00 am there will be a Eucharist Service in Holy Trinity Church, and at 9:30 am, there will be a Christmas Family Service in the United Reformed Church. Everyone is welcome to all the services.

#### REETH LATE NIGHT SHOPPING

Many people turned out on Friday 24th. November to take part in the late night Christmas Shopping event in Reeth. There was mulled wine and roast chestnuts available, a Christmas Quiz, and music by Reeth Brass Band and The Swaledale Parish Choir. A most enjoyable evening was had by all. Thanks to the organisers, and don't forget, when shopping for Christmas try locally first, it's usually cheaper and of course many gift items are manufactured locally, by locals..

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ember MM

#### The Low Row Millennium CD

Following the book 'A Pictorial Record of The Low Row Area, Swaledale' the CD of the same name is now ready.

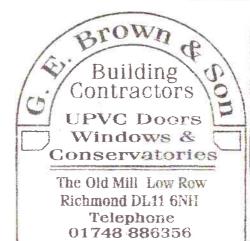
It has been produced by the residents of The Low Row Area to celebrate the new millennium. The aim has been to put on record old and new photographs of the area, and preserve the images for future generations. Many photographs were collected for the project, but not all could be included in the book.

The CD is therefore an expansion of the book, without the photographs of the residents, but with many additional photographs. It is divided into two parts.

Part one contains the images of over 330 old photographs covering the area from Richmond to Keld to Tan Hill to Arkle Town. Some of the photographs are believed to date from the early 1880's. Pictures of Grinton Church inside and out, the shops of Reeth, the combined chapel and school in Low Row, Tan Hill in very poor times, and many others give a fascinating insight of the area in times gone by.

Part two contains over 600 photographs taken around Low Row during 1999-2000. Nearly all the houses are included, even those which are now uninhabitable. There are general views, plus photographs of some of the millennium functions in the village. All the old pictures can be viewed in the form of a book with descriptions, and most of the new photographs can also be viewed in the same way. However all the images in high resolution are included for separate viewing in great detail.

The CD has been professionally copied in limited numbers. It is available from Low Row Post Office, Reeth Village Stores or David Bulman on 886345/194 for a donation of £4 to the Low Row Millennium Fund.





DEADLINE FOR JANUARY ISSUE - MONDAY 11th DECEMBER

December MM

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'BROTHER WHERE ART THOU?'(12)

Wednesday 6th at 7.30 pm LIVE THEATRE!

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Friday - 15th at 5 pm & 8 pm & Saturday 16th at 2.30 pm, 5 pm & 8 pm 'MY DOG SKIP' (U)

Thurs - Sat 28th - 30th at 3 pm & 5.30 pm only 'CHICKEN RUN' (U) Nick Parks 'Creature Comforts' also shown

> Thurs - Sat 28th - 30th at 8 pm only **'BILLY ELLIOT'** (15)

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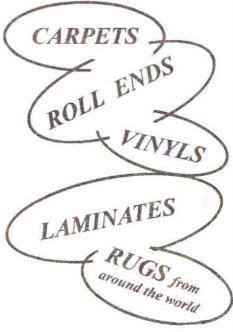


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