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REETH & DISTRICT GAZETTE



Marjorie Daniels

IN THIS ISSUE

It' a Doc's Life - A Winter in Southern Italy
The Methodists of Arkengarthdale
Muker Parish Snippets - Life in the Arakan
Running for St. Theresa's - Letters
Parish Council Report - Market Place
Film Programme & General Information

The Local News Magazine for Swaledale & Arkengarthdale

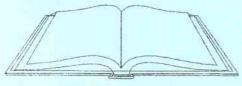
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February 2001

CHURCH SERVICES

4th February 9.15am St Mary's Muker Eucharist 10.30am Gunnerside Methodist Low Row URC Reeth Methodist 11.00am Reeth Congregational St Edmund's Marske Family Eucharist Holy Trinity Low Row **F.ucharist** 2.00pm Keld Methodist Covenant Service 2.30pm Arkengarthdale Methodist Muker Methodist 4.00pm St Andrew's Grinton Evening Prayer 6.30pm Reeth Congregational

Page 2



18th February				
9.15am	St Mary's Muker Eucharist			
10.30am	Reeth Methodist			
	Low Row URC Communion			
11.00a m	Reeth Congregational			
	St Edmund's Marske			
	Holy Eucharist			
	Holy Trinity Low Row			
	Eucliarist			
2.00pm	Keld Methodist			
2.30pm	Arkengarthdale Methodist			
	Gunnerside Methodist			
	Muker Methodist			
6.30pm	Marske Methodist			
	St Mary's Arkengarthdale			
	Evensong			
	Reeth Congregational			

11th February 9.30am St Andrew's Grinton Eucharist St Michael's Downholme Holy Eucharist Rite B 10.30am Reeth Methodist Low Row URC Reeth Congregational 11.00am St Edmund's Marske Holy Eucharist 11.15am St Mary's Arkengarthdale Holy Communion 2.00pm Keld URC 2.30pm Gunnerside Methodist Family Service 4.00pm St Mary's Muker Sunday School & Eucharist 6.30pm Marske Methodist Reeth Congregational

	25th Fe	bruary
	8.00am	Holy Trinity Low Row
		Holy Communion
	9.30am	St Andrew's Grinton
		Euchar i st
		St Michael's Downholme
		Holy Eucharist Rite B
	10.30am	Low Row URC
		Reeth Methodist Communion
	11.00am	Reeth Congregational
		St Edmund's Marske
		Morning Prayer
	11.15am	St Mary's Arkengarthdale
		Holy Communion
	2.00pm	Keld URC
	2.30pm	Gunnerside Methodist
	Ď.	Holy Communion
j		Muker Methodist
	4.00pm	Marrick Priory Compline
Ì	6.30pm	Marske Methodist
		Holy Communion
		Reeth Congregational



EDITORIAL

Hi again! Thanks for reading. Hasn't it been cold, or is it that as we get older some of us are just feel it a little more. Talking to someone the other morning about the weather - and how we wished that we could have clear seasons - made me think a little. It does feel as if the seasons are not clear cut - we are getting a true winter with the cold when we should now be thinking about spring. We know the 'Job's Comforters' amongst us will say that there is still time for a 'real' winter and that we haven't really 'had one for years'! At least not like the ones of '79, '63 and of course '47. But, not withstanding what we feel, nature itself does still works to seasons. Already we can see buds forming and the tip of green shoots that tell us snowdrops are on the way. This never ceases to amaze me, that despite the weather/climate/ season, the normal cycle of events goes on. Our winter - good or bad - spring, summer, autumn and winter will continue in spite of what we feel and what we do. Sometimes there seems to be such confusion in all other aspects of our lives, it's a shame we cannot just take a leaf out of nature's book. The use of the building of Barclay's Bank as a 'Community Office' seemed to take another step forward last Wednesday with the general meeting held. You will no doubt have heard that a small panel of trustees will be formed to further

investigate the project. If? this is what the people need, then I hope it is achieved. But I couldn't resist a smile on reading the report in the two local newspapers about the current situation. It was interesting to see that thanks are now due to Barclays for their generosity in allowing the 'community to buy' the building at a special price. What a change from last year when the news was given out that the local bank was about to be closed, and everyone was comparing the loss of premises in small communities with the rise in profits of the institution! Odd isn't it how opinions change - so quickly. But as someone once said "A week is a long time in politics" - I suppose then that a year is a lifetime. But as opinions change, so the year changes and the changes that are about to happen in nature we can do very little about. But other changes in our lives we can try and do something about - if we so wish. We can try and effect change by making our voice heard on all aspects of life, whether it is local or national. We need to talk to people, attend the meetings held, make our voice heard. Any views can always be aired through the columns of our local community paper - the "Gazette"! Shortly there will be a General Election in this country, and if the public so wish, there will be a change of government and a change of direction. But that is for the 'spring' to unfold what will happen. GMLPlease address ALL items to:-The Editor, Gallows Top, Low Row, Richmond North Yorks. DL11 6PP

Tel/FAX: 01748 - 886505 E.Mail:

gallowstop@netscapeonline.co.uk.

MUKER

PARISH

Diary Snippets

" Plenty of folk

have said they

have seen it"

MUKER AULD ROY

The Literary Institute raised over £275 at the annual Auld Roy Domino Drive. Eighteen tables played with the new dominoes so kindly donated by Marjorie & Chris Bellwood of the Farmers Arms from part of the proceeds raised during the Muker Annual Duck Race. This

traditional 'do' held always on the first Friday of the new year was a thoroughly enjoyable event at which both adults and youngsters mingle and show their skills. Following a plentiful supper (still some

food left for carry outs) at half time, the Dominoes winner eventually turned out to be Raymond Calvert of Hoggarths with 118, followed by Norman Guy 117, Adam Hunter 116 and a further 17 prize winners. Young Gary Coates had to play well in the second half to win the booby prize with 90. The raffle draw was won by Miss Victoria Woollett (On holiday at William & Carol's Raws') second Raymond Calvert, Hoggarths (good do Raymond) and followed by John Kilburn, Ian Reynoldson Joyce Kilburn, Kate Mirick and a further fourteen prize winners. The Trustees of the Institute wish to say thank you to all who donated prizes and food for the evening and for the excellent attendance on the night.

HEAVENLY BODY

This ???(star) Flashing red/green/ white thing I reported seeing in the last issue. Plenty of folk have also said they often see it, but no one has written with any constructive or reasonable explanation. Surely someone must know the answer.

I have written to an acknowleged expert and shall tell you his answer hopefully in the next issue of this "Gazette".

February 2001

SADNESS IN MUKER

Muker and most of the Upper Dale are in shock at the number of well known and respected local folk who have suddenly and sadly died

recently. Laurie Rukin, Molly Whitehead, and this week after a period of illness Jennie Raw died in hospital. Full obituaries on Molly and Jennie will I believe be carried in next months issue. Our condolences and thoughts go to both the families at this sad time.

Treatment Works - The work to build the new water treatment works for Yorkshire Water has gone on in all weathers. A quite large building is appearing. The road over the moor to Tan Hill, is however, taking a beating by contractors wagons. It is to be hoped that the highways authority is closely monitoring the situation and that full re-instatement will take place once the work is completed.

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12/00

WEA SPRING COURSE VICTORIAN SWALEDALE Tutor - Duncan Bythell

On Wednesday evenings, starting on Wednesday, 28th February, the Reeth branch of the W.E.A. is mounting a six-week course on Victorian Swaledale'. The course tutor, former Durham University historian Dr. Duncan Bythell, is well known in the dale, and has contributed several articles on local history to the "Gazette". Readers who have enjoyed the recent spate of T.V. programmes on the Victorians prompted by the centenary of Oueen Victoria's death should find the themes of the course particularly interesting. Among the topics to be explored will be the history of parliamentary elections and local government; churches, chapels, and schools; the growth of friendly societies, literary institutes and other leisure organisations; and the social and economic changes which followed the closure of the lead mines.

Intending participants should enrol at the first session in :-

Reeth County Primary School at 7.30 pm on Wednesday 28th February. Course Full Fee £21.50 Conc. Fee £ 15.00 Full Details from:

Ray Wright Tel. 01748 884652 All are welcome.



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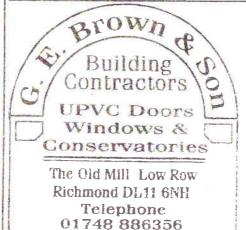
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It's a Doc's Life

A column with a medical slant

Prognosis

I hate giving people bad news; it is one of the most difficult parts of being a doctor. There is no easy way to say, or receive, some of the news that doctors have to break. One of the questions I am usually asked as result of that news is "How long have I got, Doc?".

It is very flattering to think that patients imagine that, just because I have a medical degree, I can foresee the future. If that were the case I would predict the next set of National Lottery numbers and retire.

You are probably thinking, "that is a very flippant attitude to take to someone who is seriously ill", but it illustrates a very important point. Many times in my career, I have come across patients who say "The doctor at the hospital only gave me three months to live, and that was a year ago". On the other hand, "They said he would live six months but he died in a fortnight".

For a doctor to assume he knows what is going to happen to a patient is a

presumption. If he imparts that information to the patient then it becomes a lie.

I do not know what is going to happen in the next 15 seconds let alone the rest of someone's life.

The arrow of time, which thankfully only points one way, insulates us from our own mortality. We are shielded from the future. We can remember the past but no-one can foresee the future. Imagine if you knew that you were going to die on February 13th 2003 and there was absolutely nothing that you could do about it. You would spend your whole life dreading that day and waiting for it to arrive instead of getting on with living your life.

Things happen that are totally unpredictable and we must spend out lives coping with whatever life throws at us. Some things however are certainties; for example, I know for certain that I will die before a large number of my patients do.

If there has to be a message then it is that you should live your life as though every day were your last and, if you want to have a lot of "last days", then don't do things that shorten the number you are likely to have.

Finally, remember: Life is a terminal condition.

Dr. Paul Bond, The Surgery.

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Page 8

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THANKS

Sarah Waggett would like to thank everyone who so kindly sent her cards and presents at Christmas.

St. Mary's Arkengarthdale
Thank you to all who kindly gave their support to the Christmas Quiz. The quiz raised £82.00. The £10 prize was won by Mrs Margaret Winkfield.

CHRISTINGLE SERVICE 2000

A magnificent sum of £ 202.64 was collected by Arkengarthdale, Gunnerside and Reeth Schools for the Children's Society. Many thanks to all who donated to this worthwhile cause.

Alan & Deborah Brown wish to thank their many friends for the cards, gifts and good wishes received following the birth of their daughter, Samantha Megan, on 29th December 2000. Thanks also to Alan's customers for their patience over this period.



February 2001

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Deadline for "Gazette" MARCH ISSUE **NOON 16th FEBRUARY** Send or leave items at Reeth PO

The Dales Initiative Group AGM - in the Buck Hotel 26th. February at 6 pm

THE METHODISTS OF ARKENGARTHDALE

No one had to bear a harder lot, than the mining community of \rkengarthdale. With the miners norching up a mere average age at death of only 45 years, cursed with a pay system stretching deeply into the nineteenth century, that only rewarded them twice a year, unfairly labelled filthy and intemperate, many of their number were destined to leave behind widows with young families that they would never see grow to maturity. Even the elements often conspired against them, with excessive rains that saw the price of bread soar. Did someone mention global warming! Despite these crushing burdens, these people were no ones fools. Perhaps this point can be best illustrated, by the young woman who asked her grandfather to sum up his thoughts on a recent politician's speech that he had heard. His reply was, "Whya lass, he was gosterin on varra like Ah dew when Ah's cawkin at a teeap sale." In other words he did not believe what he had heard.

However something was stirring in Arkengarthdale, and the people were beginning to fight back. A body of worthy men in 1783, had banded together to found a friendly society with strict rules that encouraged healthy and sober habits. Drunkenness, swearing and obscene talk were frowned upon. Already with true Yorkshire grit, a Mrs. Atkinson was walking over the Stang from Kitley to Startforth, to a Methodist class meeting there.

In 1757, Jacob Rowell came over the hills from Barnard Castle at the behest of John Wesley, to encourage the birth of an infant Methodism that was already taking root. By 1760 there were fourteen member, who raised five shillings to assist in the support of the travelling preacher. Wesley himself passed through Arkengarthdale in 1761 on his way to Blades. By 1769, Rowell frequently visited the society, an attention that was witness to its growing importance. In its earlier days, meetings were held in the large room at the C.B. Inn, but by 1796, with 80 members and additional adherents, inevitably the society began to contemplate the building of a permanent chapel. A piece of land was acquired at High Green for 5 guineas, upon which a building was erected for the sum of £400.

At around this time there was a breakaway movement from Wesleyan Methodism in the shape of the New Connexion, which championed a more democratic form of church order, and it seems to have attracted some of the

Turn to page 30...

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A WINTER IN SOUTHERN ITALY

By Major FTC Williams

INTRODUCTION:

This is a further instalment continuing the Service exploits of Major "Bill" W.

By the time Operation "BAY TOWN" had been launched (Assault on the Italian mainland from Messina in Sicily) in September 1943, most of the original "desert rats" of 23 Armoured Brigade had been dispersed far and wide. found myself in, of all unlikely places, No.3 Company, 15 Army Group Signals.

2 Oct 1943 - Arrival in TARANTO

When we tied up, the LST (Landing Ship Tank) doors were opened, ramps let down, and then hordes of men and vehicles poured out in their customary confusion. It was near midnight and, to make matters worse, there was an air Every AA gun in ships and harbour opened up. The sky was a brilliant kaleidoscope of crimson, orange and white. I spent most of the time dashing about the docks, trying to check locations of our 100 or so vehicles in any one of a dozen LSTs. Everything was either brilliantly lit by searchlights and flares, or else dead black, so I tripped over countless anchor rings, ropes and other impedimenta.

10 Oct 1943 - Among the technical wizards

15 Army Group Signals consists of 26 officers and 1450 highly intelligent men-which frightens me. We provide Communications for 15 Army Group, with its HQ at Bari.

My job here is to "learn wireless" and to become Wireless Officer (Heaven help them!) The last Wireless Officer, I gather, was sent home with a nervous breakdown. The importance of things here appals me. For instance, one of the wireless operators made a mess of General Eisenhower's private cipher, so Washington got no news that day.

I live in a world of dipoles, rhombics and perforators, and no doubt my brain will be perforated before long.

However, everyone is very friendly and tolerant and kind, which is a mercy.

12 Oct 43- In Santo Spirito

We are well situated here. We occupy several small bright houses along the Via Napoli, about 10 km. From Bari. There are no water mains, though, so you life a square iron lid on the kitchen floor and uncover a shaft. You drop a jerrican on the end of some string for 20 fect or so and hear an echoing splash. Obviously quite a cavern down there!

Turn to page 28.....

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February 2001

Running for St. Theresa's

Having lived in Reeth for 14 years, some of you will know me from when we used to have the Spar shop. Others of you may have seen me during the last two vears out in all weathers running the roads around Swaledale and Wensleydale, probably thinking who is that stupid woman? Well, there is a purpose to all the running. Until now, it has been for fitness, as well as the fact that I actually enjoy it, but this year there's a 'special' purpose to it.

Let me start at the beginning. In 1998 I was 41, a heavy smoker, totally unfit and a couple of stone overweight. After lots of unsuccessful attempts I finally quit smoking and started to do exercise Gradually my tapes and videos. equipment began to take over the house. I stuck at it and began to lose weight, which gave me the motivation to carry on, although I was beginning to find the exercise tapes more and more boring as time went on.

In April 1999, my husband, Ken, suggested that I try jogging to relieve the monotony. I need to put that into context for you. I had never, ever in my life done any kind of sport at all. At school, I was the plump girl who avoided games and gymnastics like the plague. I was an expert only in forging letters from my mother, asking to be excused games lessons. I developed a million different excuses and managed to avoid everything energetic. So you can imagine how I laughed at his suggestion of jogging. But he persuaded me and one afternoon we drove over to Leyburn

(on the basis that no one there would recognise me) and I tried to run. I managed just over a mile and, despite thinking I was pretty fit after all those months of exercise videos, at the end of it I wanted to die, and swore it wasn't for me. A few days later, when the stiffness began to ease, I went out again. Then again. Each time I managed to run a little further and I slowly began to feel a little less self-conscious. As you know, there aren't many flat roads in the dale, so I had to learn hill running as I went along. At first I had to walk up most of the bigger hills, but after a few weeks I could run them and I built up my distances, until I was running 4 or 5 times a week and managing 6 or 7 miles each time. Most importantly, I found I enjoyed it and after avoiding sport all of my life, I began to take a real pride in what I was doing.

The next big step forward for me was to enter a road race for the first time.

I was so scared and convinced that I would be mortified to come in last.

I chose a 10K (6.1 miles) road race in Newton Aycliffe for my debut, again thinking it was far enough away for no one to know me. And I did it! I certainly didn't break any records, but I was a long way from being last. And I can't begin to describe the feelings of being with other runners, real athletes, and them taking me seriously as a running colleague. After that, there was no holding me. Next I ran the Darlington 10K, again doing reasonably well, then I took a major step and

Turn to page 16..

FREMINGTON SUNDAY SCHOOL

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? HAPPY BAGS? APPEAL

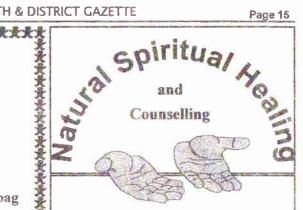
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For more information and appointments please telephone Maureen Clayton, a Chartered Psychologist. with Diplomas in Counselling and Natural Spiritual Healing, on 01748 886188

CHILDREN'S FOOTBALL

When pitches finally dried out our team was stricken with flu resulting in our cancelling our League match against Bishopdale. Our 2 Dales under 14's squad, with such of the younger ones as were available, played a friendly match which we won 8-0. Scorers were Lawrence Arnott 4, Robert Wilhelmly, Michael Harker, James Birks and Thomas Barningham. We decided to go ahead with the much postponed match against Hawes Boys, despite the hard. Pitch. The only drawback was the ball bounced more on the frozen pitch, frequently having to be retrieved from the river. Hawes are regarded as tough opposition and the lads did well to win both matches 4-1. In the under 12's league match the scorers were Harvey Pilgrim, Chis Westgarth 2, and Adam Calvert. Man of the match was David Addison for splendid work in defence while Harvey Pilgrim in this match, and at Bishopdale showed what he could do. The under 14's scorers were James Birks, Lawrence Arnott 2, and Thomas Barningham who was also voted man of the match. At the time of writing we remain unbeaten this season! Correction to January Issue: In the children's football match at Bellerby, Lawrence Arnott played part of the match in goal, not as was printed in Gaol'!! David Williams

Running for St Theresa's Continued from page 14...

entered the Great North Run half marathon. I was nervous, but motivated by sponsorship provided by family and friends to raise money for the Turkish earthquake disaster. I finished in the top one third of the field in a respectable time (for a woman of my age!!) of just over 2 hours. Since then I have run half marathons and 10K races around the country every 6 weeks or so, and still run 5 days a week around the local roads for my training, managing to improve my half marathon time by about 15 minutes in the process.

During 2000 my father, who had been ill for several years, took a turn for the worse. He suffers from a blood disorder (amongst other things) and has only been kept alive by the wonderful care of the haematology unit at The Friarage hospital in Northallerton, where he attends every couple of weeks for blood transfusions which together with chemotherapy has kept him going. As his condition has got worse, he has been attending St. Theresa's Hospice in Darlington. The work that they do there with terminally ill patients is fantastic. There is a small core of medical/ professional staff backed up by a large team of volunteers, who together provide care for a number of day guests. They have the facilities to become a 24-hour hospice, but not the funds. desperately need more money to continue the great work they do and to extend it. That's where this year's 'special' purpose to my running comes in. I have volunteered to run in 2001 to

raise funds for them. My plan was to enter the London Marathon and really go to town in drumming up sponsorship. I've never run a marathon before, and it means I have to do about 40 to 50 miles of training runs each week, but there couldn't be a better motivation when I see the joy St. Theresa's has brought to my father and the men and women who are ill like

Unfortunately, I hadn't appreciated how difficult it is to get a place in the London Marathon. Entry is limited to 30,000 and they receive over 100,000 applications each year, so places are allocated by a ballot. At the beginning of December I was devastated when my application was turned down. All my plans for St. Theresa's went out of the window. But last week my luck changed. I had entered a competition in The Times, who had 10 places in the race on offer for the winners. And I won!! One of the places is mine, guaranteed. Wonderful news.

Turn to page 25....



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DALES LADIES - REETH

Page 18

The meeting on January 8th was well attended by members for the Film show by Marjoric Daniels – "Swaledale Now and Then". She showed a series of old photographs of various places in the Dales, taken many years ago, and comparative photographs of how they look now, it was enjoyed by all, particularly by those who saw photographs of relatives and various events from their younger days.

The Annual Dinner was held at the Buck Hotel, Reeth on January 12th, and was well attended. This excellent meal was enjoyed by all as usual. Please note the next meeting will be on Monday, February 5th, at 7:30 pm in the Memorial Hall, Reeth, when Dr. David Hill, CEO of Ecoscope Applied Ecologists of Muker will give a talk on Ecology.

Jenny Attwood, Press Secretary

Reeth & District Memorial Hall

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The AGM of the Reeth and District Memorial Hall will take place on Monday 12th. March at 7.30 pm in the Memorial Hall. Nominations for the Committee (with the name of the proposer and seconder) may be given to the Chairman, Mr. J. Little, of 11 Silver Street, Reeth, prior to the meeting. Alternatively names may be put forward at the meeting.

All inhabitants of Reeth and the neighbourhood of eighteen years of age and upwards are entitled to attend and vote at the AGM.

SOUNDS FAMILIAR

Just a line to say I'm living
That I'm not among the dead
Though I'm getting more forgetful
And mixed up in the head.
I've got used to my arthritis,
To my dentures I'm resigned,
I can cope with my bi-focals,
But gosh I miss my mind.
Sometimes I can't remember
When I'm standing by the stair,
If I should be going up for something
Or have I just come down from
there.

And before the fridge so often
My mind is full of doubt.
Now did I put some food away
Or come to take some out?
So remember I do love you.
And wish that you lived near,
And now it's time to post this
And say goodbye, my dear.
At last I stand before the post box,
And my face – it sure is red.
Instead of posting this to you
I've opened it instead!! Anon.

JAMES PEACOCK



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LIFE IN THE ARAKAN - 1943 by Cyril Purver

REETH & DISTRICT GAZETTE

I wrote "A Passage to (December, Reeth & District Gazette) some people have asked me, "Well, what did happen in Bombay?" The answer to that is "very little!" Having disembarked from the "Stirling Castle" in Bornbay Harbour, under the shadow of the "Gateway to India", the squadron was located in a transit camp at Worli - a rather high class suburb of With restricted Bombay. accommodation at the transit camp some of us were lucky enough to be billeted out with resident English or Anglo-Indian families. It was only a short stay of about three weeks during which we attended lectures on how to live with the Indians, the problems we would face and the Medical Officer's warning talk of the perils and dangers of Grant Road (Bombay's Red Light District).

My next posting was to Base Headquarters of the RAF (India) in Calcutta - a train journey of three days and four nights. In 1943 Indian railways were excellent, reliable and comfortable and the journey to Calcutta was interesting, fascinating and exhibarating. Calcutta - the second city of the British Empire - was exciting and, having been built by the East India Company to the architectural designs of Nash and Lutyens, it was a delightful place to be albeit in transit camp ready to move on to the war zone. More lectures in Calcutta. more inoculations and vaccinations and the MO's talk on the perils and dangers

of Sonagachie (Calcutta's Red Light District!). After about three weeks the squadron ground staffs were amassed again and then travelled from Calcutta to Chittagong by rail and river boat. The train took 6-7 hours from Calcutta to Goalundo on the bank of the River Brahmaputra. Here one boarded a paddle steamer (reminiscent of Portsmouth to the Isle of Wight) and it was an 8 hour journey to Chandpur several miles downstream and on the Eastern bank of the Brahmaputra. This is one of India's great rivers, linking up with the Ganges on the Sunderbuns Delta and emptying into the Bay of Bengal. From Chandpur to Chittagong was another train journey of about 6 hours. A short stay in Chittagong (in a transit camp) and we were on our way again - by train to Dohozari and that is a train journey never to be forgotten. Chittagong is on the edge of the Arakan Jungle which stretches for over 100 miles across the hinterland between India and Burma. The rail track at Dohozari just ended, no platforms, no station - just a jungle track going on from the railhead. The track was to be a continuation of the railway to Ramu, a village in a fertile clearing of the jungle on the River Barrakuli. This was our destination and we had to prepare for an active airfield. The Royal Engineers had cut landing strips through the paddy fields and we employed local labour to construct living quarters, mess and engineering accommodation.

The style of building in East Bengal is simple – bamboo matting walls on a hard they could accurately pinpoint a target mud plinth with rice straw thatching on the roof making what was known as a "Basha". Ramu was a large village comprised of three communities, Sunni Muslim, Buddhist and Hindu, and all living together in peaceful harmony. They were simple peasant folk growing rice as a main crop, chillies, bananas, mangoes and other vegetables and fruit. The produce was marketed at Cox Bazaar, a one time East India Company station, at the mouth of the Barrakuli on the Bay of Bengal. We found the villagers of Ramu very friendly and, in spite of language difficulties, established good relationships. All went well until the aircraft arrived. The villagers were terrified and did not venture outside their "bashas" for two or three days. Aircraft flying above at a thousand feet was one thing but when they appeared on the ground that was something to be Of course they became feared. accustomed to the taking off and landings as we were flying daily sorties against the Japanese positions only twenty miles or so to the East in Burma. This, though, had its adverse effect when we came under attack from the Japanese Air Force low flying fighter aeroplanes, "Zeros", strafing with machine guns. The villagers continued to work in the fields (probably thinking it was just those made RAF men again) but this was disastrous for them and resulted in many casualties. We were subjected to bombing raids as well. The Japanese excelled with their low flying "strafing" tactics and also with their high level bombing.

In the clear blue skies of the Orient for attack from 20,000 feet. Our biggest problem, however, was the monsoon which breaks in East Bengal in mid May and lasts for ten weeks with incessant heavy rain. This is excellent for growing rice, but it is useless to Hurricanes taking off and landing in paddy fields, so we had to move out and went back to Base Headquarters in Calcutta for onward postings. We left behind many happy memories of living in Ramu with the delightful yet simple Bengalis. They had made us so welcome even to the extent of inviting us to eat with them. An unforgettable experience is to sit in a basha with a Bengali family. There is no furniture; you sit in a circle round large plantain leaves on which is placed a mound of rice and a large amount of curried meat and vegetables. Using only the right hand you take a portion of rice, roll it into a ball, soak up some curry and pop it into your mouth. With water to wash it down the flavour stays with you for hours.

The Squadron returned to active service, after the monsoon, to another part of East Bengal and thence to the North East frontier for the offensive to relieve Burma of the Japanese oppression, but my impressions of Ramu have remained with me all my life since. I was only 21 but it was the experience of a lifetime.

Cyril Purver

The "Gazette welcomes articles on all subjects and items of general interest. Let us know your ideas or concerns.

MARRICK INSTITUTE Whist & **Domino Drive Monday 19th February** 7.30pm

MUKER LADIES GUILD will meet on

Thursday 8th February (not 1st Feb) at 2,30 pm in the Tearoom

MUKER PUBLIC HALL Peggy & Cyril Purver on Their visit to the Holy land

RICHMOND COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP

February 2001

At last the new Ringmaster ring around computer system has arrived. Over the next week or two we shall be inputting the information and once this is done we will be testing the machine. Thank you for your patience on this matter.

Theft of car Airbags is becoming a nuisance and one means of reducing the risk is to purchase a good quality steering wheel lock. Look for the "Sold Secured" badge on the packaging. In the UK a vehicle is broken into every 23 seconds. By taking a few simple measures you can reduce the chance of your car being damaged or stolen. Do not leave saleable items on display.

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The "Gazette operates a subscriber service for folk away from the dales

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SWALEDALE FESTIVAL Volunteer's Meeting

Annual meeting for Volunteers of the Festival is to be held on Wednesday 14th. March 2001 from 6:30 pm at Fremington Old Sunday School. Please come along to help mail the brochures, new volunteers always welcome. Light refreshments.

THE MELBECKS SOCIETY

The Society meet in the Institute, Low Row, on the second Thursday of each month at 7.30 pm from October to March. We aim to offer pleasant, interesting evenings to all and cater for a wide interest range. New members and visitors welcome.

Reports: Manuscripts: Letters

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PLEASE NOTE ALL DEADLINES MARCH ISSUE **NOON FRIDAY 16th FEBRUARY**

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REETH AND DISTRICT AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY

REETH & DISTRICT GAZETTE

Reeth Show this year will be held on the 29th. August. The A.G.M. of the Society will be held in Reeth Memorial Hall on Friday 16th. February at 7:30pm. Everyone is welcome. The Annual Whist/Domino Drive and Draw will be held in Reeth Memorial Hall at 7:30 pm on Friday 2nd. March. The society is looking for more helpers on Show Day. If you can spare an hour of your time we would be very grateful. Please get in touch, or come along to the AGM.

Secretary: Mrs. B. Harker: 884247

SWALE BRIDGE CLUB

The club, an average of four tables, meets on Mondays at 1.30 pm. in the very comfortable refurbished Fremington Old Sunday School. New members, with or without partners are welcome. Sec. 01748 884611. E.B.U affiliated.

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REETH & DISTRICT GAZETTE

Running for St. Theresa's Continued from page 16...

So now I'm in full training for the race on April 22nd. That's the easy bit for me. The hard bit is going to be in raising as much sponsorship as possible, which is what this article is really about. I'll be contacting all of the local businesses in person, to try and persuade them to contribute, but having lived here for so long, I know how warm-hearted and generous dales people can be. So how about it, folks, It doesn't matter how much or how little you can give, every penny will go to St. Theresa's to help with the wonderful work that they do. I'm going to ask the local pubs and shops to have a contribution box, and I've opened a special charity account (kindly provided by Nat.West who have agreed to waive any charges). Or, if you're so inclined, just ring our door bell and

we'll gratefully accept your donations.

Over the next few months I'll write in the Gazette to let you know how my training is progressing, and how the fund-raising is going. Please help me.

One final word. Many of you already support me by pipping your car horn in encouragement when you see me out training on the local roads. It really does help. But could you wait till you've passed me before you do it. I've jumped out of my skin more than once when some well-meaning friend has pipped their horn as they're coming up behind me!! I'm nervous enough about the race without having a heart attack before hand.

Ros Camsey

Bracken House High Row, Reeth.

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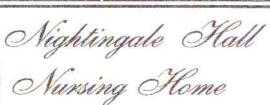
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Dear Sir.

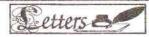
Congratulations to all those involved in the recent refurbishment of Fremington Old Sunday School. I wonder if readers know of an earlier refurbishment in 1980. The building had fallen onto disuse and there was talk of selling it. A group of ladies on St. Andrew's PCC had fond memories of the Sunday School. Concerts had been held there when they were These ladies were Mrs. Alice vounger. Barningham, Mrs. Margaret Barningham, Mrs. Margaret Porter and Mrs. Taylor, who had been a teacher at Arkengarthdale and Reeth Schools and was a stalwart member of the Bible Society. invited me to join the group, because I had some knowledge of planning applications and how to apply for grants. In fact, we were able to get a small grant from Richmondshire District Council, and our plans for toilets, a septic tank and a small extension of the kitchen area were Mrs. Margaret Barningham accepted. remembered when Grannie Hall had boiled a kettle on an open fire, in what is now the store room, to make tea. There was also a coke stove for heating at the entrance end. Improvements had been made since those days, but the Sunday School was a sorry sight on first inspection in 1980. We all set to, took down the curtains, swept and scrubbed the floor, and looked under the platform. There was a wonderful collection of costumes and props from earlier concerts. Mrs. Taylor in particular remembered when many of the hats were worn and could not believe that they were still there!

There had been annual concerts on St. Andrew's day in which the Pedley brothers and their sister Elsie had taken part along with Mary Allen. The other function of our small committee was of course to raise funds, which we did with coffee mornings, sales, and a concert in St. Andrew's Church on May 10th. billed as a Family Concert in aid of Fremington Sunday School restoration Fund. The performers were young musicians from Sheffield (including a violinist of 5) and from the Dales - Jill Kendall (guitar), Muker Brass Quartet, Victor Pollard (harpsichord) and Nigel Blenkiron (trumpet). The concert was directed by my husband, Trevor Woolston (violin), who went on, in 1981, to found the Swaledale Festival. We ran the Festival from our home in Grinton for 12 years. It grew from that first concert, in aid of the Fremington Sunday School, to become the wide-ranging, 3 week festival, which now attracts visitors from all over Britain and from abroad.

Sincerely, Mrs I Woolston Guntan

It's Panto Time Again

Feetham Fools are presenting their annual pantomime in the Low Row Village Institute from Thursday 22nd. to Saturday 24th. February. This year the Pantomime is Jack and the Beanstalk. Tickets will be on sale from the Low Row Post Office - tel 01748 - 886 373 - from Monday 5th February. Book early to get a ticket!!



Dear Sir.

I was very pleased to read Mrs Kitsons' letter in the January issue of the "Gazette". I get one or two for my friends in Richmond and they really do enjoy reading it.

Further to Mrs Kitsons letter there is just a little correction my name should read Mrs Francis Kendall not James. Thanking you,

Mrs Francis Kendall (nee Annie Brown) Richmond



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Closing Deadlines for the MARCH Issue of the "GAZETTE"

NOON FRIDAY 16th FEBRUARY Articles may be sent to Mike or George or left for collection at **Reeth Post Office**

Objective 2 Masterclass

County Councillor Blackie advised that the areas of Grinton and Upper Swaledale had been highlighted for this money which worked out at £44 per person per year or £60,000 per year. There was an opportunity for community grants out of this ring fenced fund. . Rural workshops etc. could be funded and individual businesses connected with farming. Muker Parish Precept arrangements for the Financial Year 2001/2002 - Mrs Margaret Beckwith, the Parish Clerk advised that basic expenditure for this period was estimated at £1082.20. The balance at 31.03.00 was £164.58 and Expenditure over Income was £180.92. Councillors agreed to precept for £900, proposed by Councillor Kilburn, seconded by Councillor Porter.

Major Williams

Continued from page 13...

Morbidly I sometimes wonder whether there has ever been any trouble with babies or, er, unwanted wives, in these wells ... there is no main drainage either, and the sump is next to the well. Hmm!

Above my bed hangs a brightly coloured picture of "Santa Irene, Vergine e Martire, Protettrice della Citta di Altamura". Also three of the Madonna and Child. (I have rather hesitantly added an English hunting scene, cut out of "Country Life")...

13 Oct 43 - Bare - On the sea front

With Capt. John English tonight to dinner at the Hotel Imperiale, marvellously situated on the sea front. Good interior decoration and smart waiters. A further decoration: the English nursing sisters from 58 and 98 General Hospitals. Dining room crowded with officers of all Services, British, American and even Italian.

We conversed shakily with an Italian colonel who had been at El Alamein, but our appetites too keen for much against-the-current chat of this kind and we soon fell to our dinner of soup (minestrone), fish (nil), entrée (nil, dash it all), and roast veal, potatoes and cabbage of sorts—all nicely served.

14 Oct 43 - Our troops in Bari

You enter Bari by the Via Napoli from the north, and it really is a handsome town. The local folk are as pleased as Punch to show our troops round. A far cry, indeed, from those described by Augustus Hare, the traveller, when he was here in 1883: "A swarming, noisy, dirty, brutalised people, in every lowest stage of beggary and filth". (!)

February 2001

The carabinieri (police) are bravely decked in Napoleon-style hats in grey and blue, Italian troops in bright uniforms mingle with our own, and good-looking girls promenade along the sea-front in the sunshine.

Mind you, all this is dashed demoralising for our fellows, and I doubt if Monty would approve!

16 Oct 43 - At the Theatre

With Major Shaw to a performance of Donizetti's "Lucia di Lammermoor" at the Teatro Petruzelli, one of the splendiferous buildings on the sea front.

The Italian audience, jabbered excitedly and ate green ice-cream. Latin notions of a Scottish laird, his castle and kilt, all hilarious. The villain drew his sword for a duel but couldn't return it to its scabbard. He tried and tried, but then gave it up and threw the sword off stage amid shrieks of applause. (I'm told that Donizetti also wrote "Emilia di Liverpool"!! Can this be a leg-pull?)

Continued on page 29...



Major Williams

Continued from page 28...

28 Oct 43 - In the shops

One shop-keeper supplied me with picture postcards, free gratis and for nothing, of Messrs A. Hitler,

B. Mussolini and H. Goering - probably thankful to get rid of them, what?

Another shop had lots and lots of patriotic pictures, no doubt meant for homesick Italian soldiery, of glamorous ladies with a big teardrop below one eye, or of a little boy with faraway look in his eye, waving the national flag of Italy plus the swastika one of Nazi Germany, both flags in the same hand, of course.

However, the rate of exchange, at 400 lire to the \mathcal{L} , is a bit of a farce, and in all these shops we find that what really passes for money is cigarettes!

2 Dec 43 - Out and about

The nice thing about this sort of static armchair existence is that one does get to know the surrounding countryside. So, having been on duty in the Signal Office all last night, I now have the day off to visit Bari, which in more peaceful times with all its friendly folk and glittering chain of bright townships all along the coastline, would make quite a jolly holiday haunt after the war, perhaps.

3 Dec 43—Brock's Benefit at Bari

Last night I was processing films in my room after dinner when there was an earth-shaking *Crump*, and in blew all the windows.

I heard the sound of shattering glass in Major Gibson's room next door and also his remarks on the present world situation.

We rushed out and saw a first-class Brock's Benefit over Bari Harbour in the night sky. It was, of course, an air raid, and an ammunition ship in the middle of the harbour had blown up, setting fire to all the other ships round it. So there was a fine old bonfire.

Popped into town this morning. Streets covered with broken glass glittering in the sunlight. The Banco di Napoli had collapsed—I mean literally—and the roofs of many a "splendid, imposing and beautiful building" (see Fascist guidebook) had fallen in. As I passed by a man was trying to shut his front door. It wouldn't shut properly so he banged it and several window-frames (minus glass, anyway) crashed down into the street! Of the raiding aircraft (Focke-Wolfes) not a single one was shot down.

Continued on page 33....

ALL DEADLINES FOR THE MARCH ISSUE NOON FRIDAY 16th FEBRUARY

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Arkengarthdale Methodists...

Page 30

Continued from page 11-Arkengarthdale membership, for a building was commenced at Eskeleth, but it was never completed. The church was left in comparative peace for a quarter of a century, until the arrival of the Primitive Methodists in 1824, who gained acceptance and support from some of the people of Booze, and a chapel was built at Langthwaite in 1839.

It was known locally as the Ranters

Chapel, a description that drew attention to what was considered a noisy form of worship. In about the mid 1850's, support for the Primitive Methodists collapsed with a decline in mining activity, which led many families to leave the dale to seek work elsewhere.

It was during the 1830's, that the

It was during the 1830's, that the Teetotal Movement made its appearance in Arkengarthdale. It brought with it the emergence of the Barkerites, who built a chapel at Eskeleth. Joseph Barker, a minister of the New Connexion, refused to administer the sacrament with fermented wine, and for his pains, was expelled from the New Connexion. The hard line taken by the Wesleyan Ministry on this question, led to some great disturbance, and several Weslevan Methodists, finding common cause with the Barkerites, joined them. There can be little doubt that the dreadful level of alcohol abuse that had developed within the dale, was leading to untold misery and deprivation amongst the families of the miners, and teetotalism gradually gained ground. It was finally accepted as a part of the Church's life, making the Barkerite society redundant, and encouraged former members to return to

the mother church. The little Barkerite chapel, can still be seen at Eskeleth to this day.

 ${f T}$ he attendance for Wesleyan worshipers recorded on Census Day in 1851, were for morning, afternoon and evening services, 32, 110 and 97 with 70 children for the Sunday School, against averages of 30, 250 and 200, with a figure of 75 for the children. The most notable event of the 1860's, was the great revival that took place in 1868. It started with George Harker praying for his two sons, who were kneeling with him at the place of penitence. The prayer meeting went on until one in the morning, and many found the peace of God within their souls that day. George was taken ill the following day, and as he lay dying, converts passed the open door of his bedroom as he gave his blessing to them all. The revival continued, and its noted feature was, that it did not rely upon outstanding sermons. As one old sage put it, "Whya lad, God can save souls to a tin whistle, if it is played to His glory." The membership of the chapel leapt from 93 to 180. After this revival, members began to think of building a new chapel, which was duly opened in 1883 having cost £1631 to build.

Turn to page 36...

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GUNNERSIDE W.I.



There was a good attendance at our first meeting of the New Year, when the President, Mrs Margaret Rutter welcomed the members. The business meeting included plans for the forthcoming High Dales Group Show in March, and for a Coffee Morning on the 31st. March in aid of the Marie Curie Nurses. Jennie Mansfield outlined arrangements for a proposed visit to Walditch WI in Dorset, as a first event in the twinning of our two branches.

We were then entertained to a programme of music on the keyboard by Mary Thomas, entitled "From Bach to Bop", which certainly proved to be the case. Mary gave us a varied selection of music, culminating in audience participation in an extravaganza entitled 'The Dump', which she had devised and set to familiar Gilbert and Sullivan music. She had based this on a true incident of WI initiative in 1938, when the ladies of a village in Dorset organised a scheme for the disposal of rubbish when the problem had become acute in their area and no one else was willing to take responsibility. The President thanked Mary for an enjoyable and original programme.

Our next meeting on 15th, February will be a members evening, followed by a buffet super.

Audrey Jagger, Press Secretary

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R/C

Major Williams

Continued from page 29

11 Dec 43 - Football on the seashore

Extremely stiff today after a hilarious football match yesterday beside the sea, Officers v Sergeants. It drew a huge crowd, Italians as well as troops. Cheers when Major Gibson in goal missed the ball completely. Boos whenever the OM kicked it. Pandemonium when a goal was scored (usually accidentally). Our CO, Lt. Col. V. Mitchell, disappeared down a deep bomb crater to retrieve the ball, whereupon someone shouted "Fill 'im in!"

Some of our officers will have no truck with Mess life, and have taken flats in town, shacking up with chorus girls of the Petruzelli Theatre!

21 Dec 43 - To Molfetta for a bath

Tuesday is our bath day, so off today to Molfetta, one of the little coastal towns above Bari, where they have some rather pleasant Public Baths. About five hundred others all seemed to be waiting patiently for a bath in a queue two or three hundred yards long, so touted round the town, where they build

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wooden ships of a pretty substantial size - not just pipsqueak barges or vachts, etc., but hefty great sea-going craft of several hundred tons. Phalanxes of sailing ships ride at anchor in the harbour here. Quayside a -buzz with shipwrights building gaunt shipskeletons and echoing to the continuing roar of wood-cutting. A dashed interesting place, I must say - I almost forgot what I'd come to Molfetta for!

22 Dec 43 - The Castel del Moante

The first sight of the Castel del Monte on its lonely hill from several miles away made me jump! It is about 10 miles S of Andria. First seen as a speck on the skyline, it grows larger and lonelier and more eery with every yard, until at last you are gazing up at what must be one of the most impressive castles in the world-a great octagon of rose-coloured stone with an octagonal tower at each corner. Built by Frederick II, Emperor of the Holy Roman Empire, "Stupor Mundi" ("Wonder of the World") in 1240, the walls still stand at their original height of about 100 ft., and they are said to be about eight feet thick!

Turn page 35....



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ARKENGARTHDALE PARISH COUNCIL

REETH & DISTRICT GAZETTE

All councillors were present at the meeting on the 2nd. January, when the Chairman welcomed County Councillor John Blackie to the meeting. The Parish Council asked for a tall light in the car park but are still waiting for a reply. Mrs. Whitworth reported on the archive project. There are only about 100 books left for sale. Mrs. Whitworth also brought a thank you letter from the secretary to HRH the Prince of Wales for the copy of the book sent to him. Mr. Blackie said that Mr. Heseltine of RDC was delighted to receive a copy of the book from the Chairman, Mr. Clark Stones. Mr. Blackie also brought a photograph of the presentation. A letter of thanks was sent to Mr. George Birks for donating the Parish Christmas Tree. Thanks were also expressed to Mr. Stephen Stubbs, Mr. Bob Gale and helpers for putting up the tree and putting the lights on. Thanks are due to Mr. Richard Smith for providing the power for the lights. It was decided along with the archive group, to purchase a Millennium Seat. The seat maintenance tin kept at the CB Inn was emptied, realising £16.36. Thanks were again expressed to Mr. and Mrs. Cody for keeping the tin in their bar. Over the years these tins have realised in excess of £360 for the seat maintenance account. Mrs. Angela Whitworth provided plans from Playdale for a children's playground next to the car park. Mr. Stubbs, Mrs. Whitworth and Mr. Andrew Stones attended a meeting at Hawes about Vodaphone providing masts for mobile phones in this area. They were very concerned that no provision was made for Arkengarthdale and pointed this out at the meeting. Concern was expressed about the inadequate gritting on the Durham side of the Stang Top. Councillor Blackie offered to look into this matter.

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February 2001 Major Williams..

Continued from page 33...

12 Jan 44 - Crossing the Appennines from Bari to Caserta

Moved off in the first of several convoys, bound for Caserta on the other side of Italy, north of Naples. My jeep was packed by many hands until the springs sagged, and I lam OC Convoy. Morning cold and as clear as crystal. We passed airfields by the score on the Foggia Plain, and sky as nearly "black with aircraft" as I've ever seen it - a mass of bombers was flying NE, another mass was flying NW, and there were dozens of fighters weaving apparently aimlessly all over the sky. Our road zig-zagged up wide valleys into the Appennines. We could see a bost of mountain peaks all round us, dazzling white in sunlit snow, reaching into a sky of deepest blue.

The British Army road-signs were a constant delight, e.g., "All traffic for London straight on, 9181/2 miles" (the "1/2" being a nice tough, what ?), and "It looked like a mole on her neck until it moved. BEWARE TYPHUS" (alluding to the present scare in Naples).

In the wild highlands round Monteforte

One of our lorries did not come into the fold last night, so I in my jeep went back to look for it while J. Rollings took the convoy on. Hanford my batman and I pushed along the lonely road until we reached the remote village of Monteforte. Here we found the missing lorry and its crew, happily brewing up for a huge breakfast with what appeared to be the entire population of Monteforte!

Blown bridges at Avellino

At Avellino we crossed the stormy track of the German Army retreating northwards in face of our troops. The many diversions past blown bridges had names like Mareth Diversion. Akarit Diversion, etc. Along which we bumped our way at 2 mph across endless stony valleys in clouds of dust, fearful of trackside mines.

A never-ending stream of transport groaned up the steep gradients and screamed down the hills with burning brake-linings, each driver hoping for dear life that his brakes would hold, and fearful of the giant precipices on either side. (One lorry's brakes did NOT hold - it crashed into a tree with nothing between its wheels and a riverbed 500 ft below)

14 Tan 44—Caserta

So at last we reached the enormous Royal Palace of Caserta, modelled on Versailles and built by Vanvitelli for Charles III, King of Naples, in 1752. You approach from the S along what must be one of the world's grandest avenues, a quadruple line of colossal plane trees, a hundred or more feet high, absolutely straight for 4 miles!

The HQs of General Alexander's 15th Army Group and General Mark Clark's 5th (US) Army are housed under one mighty roof, and the Palace contains 1200 rooms on six floors. Our Signal Office is on the fifth floor, and we have found that the most expeditious way of despatching Signal traffic is by hauling it up and down from a window on the end of a rope! Turn to page 37...

Arkengarthdale Methodists ... Continued from page 30....

Revivals continued to take place, based on the enthusiasm and prayerfulness of the Church's members. Fortunately we possess some memories of these times, that have been passed on to us. Granny Peacock, tells of her mother's brother, who went to collect some milk, returning with an empty can saying, "It's no good going yet, they've only just got to 'O for the wings of a dove!" She reported that miners used to have meetings down the mine, and the dale rang with gospel songs. They sang she said as they went to work, and as they made their way home. Another witness tells of an Old Gang miner, who indulged in every manner of wickedness, writing in chalk one Saturday on a slab of stone, 'Almost Persuaded'. The following Saturday there was written; 'Saved: Hallelujah, W.B.' Granny Peacock recorded, that after the Whitsuntide love feasts at the chapel had ended, and both men and women had given witness to their faith, the congregation was loath to depart, and would gather in the road to sing hymn after hymn. The hillside echoed to their praise she recalled, "It was like Pentecost".

We are indebted to Margaret Batty for culling much of this information for us, but what an extraordinary picture of Arkengarthdale it presents. Little wonder that there was so much joy and enthusiasm. Although this church did not come under my pastoral care in 1954/5, the backwash of this great occasion that I have just recorded, was still in evidence. There were some fine young people in the church in those days,

and not surprisingly, I became very friendly with many of them. As is so often the case in the dales, many had to leave to make their way elsewhere, and a large number of the present dwellings are little more than second homes. A week or two ago, I had to take a service at Arkengarthdale, to a faithful but exceedingly small congregation. As I did so, I wondered where the young people, our successors were, and what had become of the missing adults? Then I remembered the hustle and bustle of Sunday traffic, and sadly recalled the forgotten injunction, delivered by God to Moses, which was confirmed by Jesus, 'Remember the Sabbath day to keep it holy'. When we think upon what we consider to be the impoverished existence of our forbears, and measure That existence alongside our own experience of plenty and privilege, could it be in reality, that the boot is on the other foot?

John Hardy.

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Dales Ladies, 7.30 pm Reeth Memorial Hall

Melbecks Society, 7.30 pm Low Row Institute

Muker Ladies Guild, 2.30 pm Muker Public Hall

Whist & Domino Drive, 7.30 pm. Reeth Memorial Hall

13th Muker Parish Community Forum, A.G.M., 7.30 pm. Muker Institute

15th Gunnerside W.I., Gunnerside Village Hall.

16th A.G.M. Reeth & Dist. Agric. Soc., 7.30 pm. Reeth Memorial Hall

Domino Drive, Marrick Institute

22-24th Feetham Fools, 'Jack & the Beanstalk', Low Row Village Institute

Muker Show Annual Domino Drive & Raffle, 7.30 pm. Muker Public Hall

W.E.A. Spring Course, Victorian Swaledale, 7.30 pm. Reeth Primary School Monday's - Swale Bridge Club, 1.30 pm. Fremington Sunday School

MARCH

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Annual Whist/Domino Drive, 7.30 pm. Reeth Memorial Hall

'Wensleydale Stompers', 8 pm. Buck Hotel, Reeth - tickets £6.50 inc pie & peas 3rd

Big Breakfast, 11.30 am - 2 pm, Muker Public Hall

Melbecks Society, 7.30 pm. Low Row Institute

A.G.M. Reeth & Dist. Mem. Hall, 7.30 pm.

14th Swaledale Festival, Volunteers Meeting, 6.30 pm Fremington Sunday School.

21st Coffee Morning, 10 am-2 pm., Hilltop, Healaugh Rd., Reeth

Fremington Sunday School - Happy Bags deadline.

Major Williams: continued

I am one of the Signalmasters here, and life is fast and furious. For instance, one of us, a subaltern, had a terrible row on the telephone the other day with a rather pompous colonel. Eventually the subaltern thundered out: "Do you know who I am?" "No - and I don't care who you are!" from the Colonel. "Well that's all right then," said the subaltern very quickly, and slammed down the phone!

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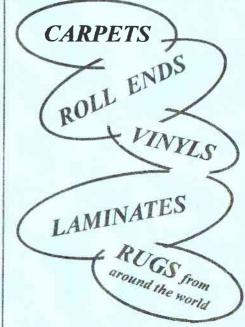
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