GARGRAVE &

CONISTON COLD

April 2026



£1:50

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Coniston Cold Parish Council		
Clerk	Rachel Jones	748125
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St Andrew's church is aware that people from marginalised groups have experienced discrimination in churches for reasons of race, gender or sexuality. To counter this the Parochial Church Council has agreed the following:

"St Andrew's offers everyone a warm and open welcome where all are included; a place of belonging and connection."

COLLARED ! *Rev. Andrew Steer*

Life to the full

If you've been to St Andrew's annual Beer Festival you will be familiar with Jesus' words from John's Gospel - "I have come that they may have life and have it to the full" - which is printed on our festival glasses. A slight play on words implies a full glass of beer, and the suggestion of a splendid time to be had. However, when Jesus talks about 'life', 'life to the full' and 'eternal life', there is far more to it than meets the eye.

We all know individuals who are 'the life and soul of the party' - full of vitality and joy; life just seems much better when they are around. And most of us, hopefully, will have encountered times when we feel fully alive - those intense experiences when senses are heightened and our entire beings simply resonate with the sheer delight of being human. But what about this unique sort of 'life' that Jesus is talking about?

The Bible speaks of 'eternal life' and we imagine this is about just living forever - a life that lasts for eternity - just like now but going on forever. Now, call me cynical, but I doubt many of us would want to continue in this present state to the end of time - that just doesn't sound very appealing. The trouble is, when Jesus talks about eternal life, He doesn't mean a span of time but He is referring to a certain *quality* of life. Theologians like NT Wright suggest that we should think of eternal life in a completely different way - as 'the life of the age to come' - in other words a taste of what is in store for us in the next life – a down payment of heaven, right now.

God gives us glimpses of this quality of life right now – in those fleeting moments when the whole of creation seems to come together in a beautiful symphony, whether it be in a moment of family life, the joy of falling in love, a perfect meal, or a stunning vista on a sunny day. All of these magical experiences offer a foretaste of what God offers us.

But if we want more of this 'life of the age to come', then we need to begin now by re-framing our perspective and by taking practical steps to follow Jesus Christ. We are called to live in communities with other believers where we must exercise disciplines of kindness, patience and tolerance, growing in humility, service and love. We must nurture our faith through prayer and Bible reading, devoting time to meditate on God's presence in our lives and worshipping Him with our lives.

Easter offers us a tantalising foretaste of this astonishing prospect, and in the empty tomb Jesus shows us what lies ahead – not just freedom from death, but an astonishing new dimension of life for which we were created. Easter is an invitation to a whole new existence. Will you accept it and begin to experience life to the full?

DIARY FOR APRIL

Church Services – St Peter's, Coniston Cold

5 April – Sunday: Compline Evensong, 4pm

12 April – Sunday: BCP Holy Communion, 9.30am

19 April – Sunday. Compline Evensong. 4pm

26 April – Sunday: BCP Holy Communion, 9.30am

Church Services and Events – St Andrew's, Gargrave

Daily – Share a Prayer, 9am

3 April- Good Friday Service 2:30pm, service of quiet reflection

5 April – Sunday: BCP Holy Communion 8am, Easter Communion 11am

12 April– Sunday: Matins 8am, Sung Eucharist 11am

19 April – Sunday: BCP Holy Communion, 8am, Morning Worship, 11am

26 April - Sunday: BCP Holy Communion, 8am, Family Communion 11am

Repeating Events

Every Monday: Coffee Mondays, St Andrew's,10:30am-12pm

First and third Monday of each month: Model Railway and Transport meeting, Village Hall Annexe, 7pm

Every Tuesday: Craft and Chat, St Andrew's, 2pm

Every Tuesday: Let's Sing, St Andrew's 12:30-2pm

Every Tuesday and Thursday: Indoor bowling, Village Hall, 2-4pm

Every Friday: Coffee Morning, Neville Crescent Community Centre, 10am-noon

Alternate Fridays: 10/24 April: Man Friday. A men's social morning. Village Hall Match room. 10am - Noon. £3.00 per person to include tea, coffee and biscuits. Cards, dominoes, board games, table tennis available. All welcome.

April's Events - local

1 April - Wednesday: Parish Council meeting. Village Hall Annexe, 7:15pm.

5 April - Sunday: Collectable and Craft Fair. Village Hall 9:30am-3:30pm. Food available all day. 50p Admission

8 April - Wednesday: Gargrave 22 Group AGM. Village Hall Annexe.7:30pm

10 April – Friday: Picnic Supper Dance with Live Music from Philip Randall, Village Hall 7:30pm- 11:00pm. Admission £6 per person.

19 April Sunday: Tea Dance popular sequence dances to great Music. Hosted by Cath and Richard. Village Hall 2:00pm-4:00pm. Admission £3 t include tea and biscuits

24 Friday – Cinema Club Film Night. Local Hero 7:00pm for 7:30pm. Normal café style seating. Tickets £5 on door, bring your own refreshments.

EVENTS

Share a prayer with St Andrew's Church *Peter Poulter*

St Andrew's has a regular programme to pray for the church and the village. You are welcome to join them. Either make a special time of day or maybe just pause for a moment, wherever you are, and share a prayer.
If prayer is not a word you use, then just pause and reflect in your own way hopefully and lovingly for the life we share in our community.
Each month our prayer will focus on a particular part of the parish. In April we will be praying for those who live and work in the North Street, West Street, Old Hall Croft and Gargrave House area, including the library and village hall.

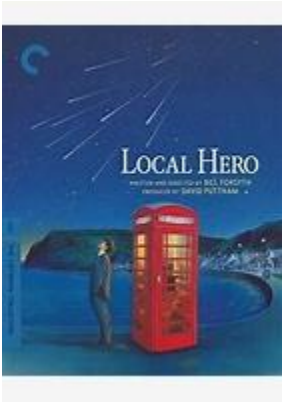
Coming up on 17th May – A Special Service For Sudan

You are invited to St. Andrew's church to join us in a spirit of solidarity, compassion and generosity for a nation faced with the world's biggest humanitarian crisis. For the last three years the tragedy in Sudan has been overshadowed by world events in the Middle East and Ukraine, as well as political scandals at home. Over 14 million people have been displaced including 6 million children while nearly half the population are threatened with starvations. Tens of thousands have been massacred and UN reports of genocide, sexual violence, wrecked churches and persecuted Christians.
This year we will focus on the plight of women caught up in the war. The service will be conducted by the women of the church. Full details next month.

Library News and Event *Dave Smith*

On Friday 24th April Gargrave Cinema Club will be showing **'Local Hero'.** This film is a gentle 1983 British comedy-drama which follows an American oil company executive sent by his eccentric billionaire boss to a small Scottish coastal village to buy the village and surrounding land for a new refinery. As he negotiates with the quirky locals and spends time in the beautiful surroundings he becomes increasingly charmed by the community and their way of life.

Starring: Peter Riegert, Burt Lancaster, Denis Lawson, Peter Capaldi, and Fulton Mackay.



The customary Cafe style seating will be in place, so please bring your own refreshments. The Village Hall doors open at 7.00pm with the film starting at 7.30pm. Tickets are £5.00 on the Door with under 16s free. Sorry but we can only allow Guide Dogs into the Hall.

All proceeds from the film nights go towards the running costs of the Community Library and the Library Committee thank you for your support.

Our final film of the Spring season will be on **Friday 29 May** when we will be showing **The Ballad of Wallis Island.**

The film shows will start again on Friday 25th September and run through to Christmas.

To celebrate **World Book Day** on the **23rd of April** we are partnering with the Gargrave Let's Sing group for an event which will be hosted in St Andrew's Church. There will be singing, poetry reading, reading of prose, refreshments and a chance to take home a book supplied by North Yorkshire Library Service
Thursday 23rd April from 7.00 to 9.00pm. Free Entry, donations welcome.

For further information about the Community Library please visit our website at www.gargravelibrary.co.uk

A Walk in the Dale

Good Friday, 3rd April 2026
Start: 9am at St Andrew's Gargrave

Calling at the Friends Meeting House Airton, Kirkby Malham (lunch at the Vic or bring your own pack-up), St Peter's Coniston Cold for tea, and returning to Gargrave by around 5pm. A gentle walk of 14 miles, which can be done in sections. Dogs welcome.



If you'd like to come, please contact Paul McWhinney phm@mcwhinney.info and 07973 396948 and see the Malhamdale parish magazine for more details

Organised on behalf of the churches of Gargrave, Coniston Cold, and Kirkby Malham

Skipton Railway Society *Alex Dewar*

The last two months we have had interesting talks. Bob Hordern gave us a history of the Nidd Valley Light Railway, how the club built the Exhibition layout based upon the station at Lofthouse-in- Nidderdale and the operation of the various trains taking materials and workmen to the construction sites at Scar House and Angram Reservoirs being built by Bradford Corporation. I gave a talk on the various types of electric traction introduced by the North Eastern Railway and its subsequent development.

The modular layout being built continues to develop with all four baseboards brought together at our last meeting.

The programme for the next four meetings is:

April 13 Modelling and discussion
April 20 Model Competition
May 4 Modelling and discussion
May 18 Talk – Absolute Block Signalling

Meetings are held in the Annexe at the Village Hall from 7.00 pm to 10.00pm. If you are interested in Railways and or modelling them and wish to join our group then just pop along on a meeting night or call me on 07341 345312

CRAVEN WILDLIFE RESCUE BECOMES YORKSHIRE DALES WILDLIFE RESCUE *Jill Franklin,*

We are delighted to advise readers that **Craven Wildlife Rescue** has become **Yorkshire Dales Wildlife Rescue**. The charity - the only wildlife rescue of its kind across hundreds of square miles - has rescued, rehabilitated and returned to the wild thousands of sick, injured and orphaned wild animals since launching in 2019. Most of the charity's patients are endangered or species facing conservation challenges.

"We have a strong relationship with Gargrave," says **Jane Carpenter, Co-Founder. "**We have cared for many animals from the area, returning them later to live out their wild life. This name change shows not only how much we have grown, but acknowledges the vital role we now play in this special part of the UK. The Yorkshire Dales is a protected, living landscape, vital for biodiversity, and we are honoured to be one of the organisations at the forefront of protecting that."

"When we started, Craven was our patch," adds **Penny Hunt, Co-Founder**. "However, we now run a professional wildlife hospital, with some of the best release rates in the UK, caring for the full range of Yorkshire Dales wildlife from right across the region. Now seems the perfect time to recognise this and launch our new name."

The charity has received support from Sir Julian Smith MP, who said it "plays a vital role in protecting wildlife across the Dales"; and Councillor David Staveley, Councillor

for Settle and Pen-y-ghent, who called it “a major player in wildlife rescue in the North [with] a vital role in the protection and conservation of species that are under threat.”

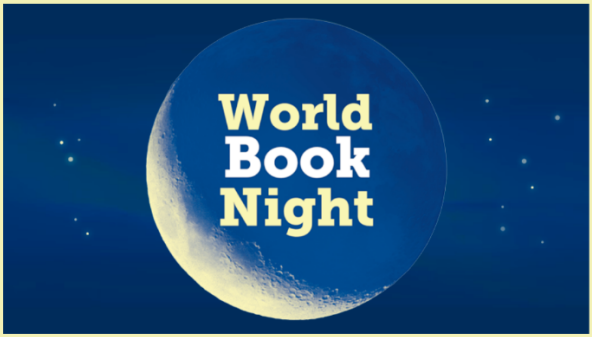
Penny adds - “We are keen, though, to reassure our supporters and wildlife living outside the Dales, particularly those in the Craven area that live outside the National Park boundary, that we remain as committed to them as we have always been. In truth, the name change reflects our true scope as an organisation, as we are now, rather than any change in our offering.”

In January, the charity announced a steep rise in the number of injured and sick wild animals that are coming into its care. In 2025, it took in over 750 mammals and birds - nearly double the amount of the previous year - citing a number of reasons for the growth. This included increased demand across the Yorkshire Dales National Park and, due to the lack of facilities elsewhere, from the Forest of Bowland National Landscape, Cumbria, Lancashire and wider North and West Yorkshire; as well as the increasing toll that climate change and human activity is having on wildlife. The charity also announced that its release figures are way above the national average - increasing from 68% of those patients admitted in 2024 to 74% in 2025. The UK national average is 42.6%.

Patrick Grant, Craven Wildlife Rescue’s Patron, adds: “The UK’s wildlife is in a parlous state. The State of Nature 2023 report shows that about 1 in 6 of our native species are at risk of extinction. Through their outstanding clinical and rehabilitative care Penny, Jane and the team at Yorkshire Dales Wildlife Rescue are such an important force for the preservation of the precious wildlife of the National Park (and far beyond). And the new name is spot on; it says what they do and where they do it. Perfect.”

The organisation recently learnt that the premises in which it is based is likely to be put up for sale. The charity has been a tenant of the former Church of England Primary School at Horton in Ribblesdale for over a year, where it has created a professional wildlife hospital for the care and rehabilitation of its patients. The Anglican Diocese of Leeds has recently gained ownership of the school, which closed in 2017, and can sell the site following an application to the Secretary of State. Last month, the Diocese confirmed that it was considering its next steps.

www.yorkshiredaleswildliferescue.com



Join Gargrave Library & Let's Sing for a home-grown evening of song, poetry and readings.

Celebrate World Book Night with specially commissioned short stories, communal singing, and the chance to share your favourite poem, reading or song.

Tea, coffee & homemade cake provided. Everyone welcome. No need to book

Thursday 23rd April 7–9pm
St Andrew's Church
Free entry — donations appreciated.

Gargrave Annual Plant Sale

Chris Bolas



In Aid of St. Andrew's, Martin House and Manorlands Hospices

Scheduled for 16th May 2026

Gardeners, please can you help by:
Popping a few seeds in a pot
Putting some divided perennials in a pot
Potting a few summer bulbs

Any unusual plants will add interest to the sale!

Please add a label with plant name and flower colour. All offers will be gratefully accepted. Further details to follow in later issues of the Parish Magazine.

Good Friday Reflection

Joanne Ackroyd

Join us in church on Good Friday, 3 April, for a 30-minute reflection. Listen to the stories of 3 woman whose lives were changed by an encounter with Jesus as they look back from the foot of the cross. Quiet music and time for reflection on this momentous day. All welcome.



NEWS

The Parish magazine is seeking a new editor.

Organizational skills and timeliness are important, in addition to a knowledge of Microsoft Word, Google Drive, and email.
Please indicate your interest via an email to the Editors at
gargraveparishmag@gmail.com

Following on….

We hope you like our new colour version of the magazine. Do subscribe and save. Subscriptions remain at £10 per year, individual copies will now have a cover price of £1:50 per copy. So subscribe and save and encourage friends to do the same.

A Meditation for April *Richard Rohr*

The Wisdom of the Desert Fathers and Mothers



Around 313 CE people who became known as the desert abbas (fathers) and ammas (mothers) withdrew from cities to live freely, apart from the economic, cultural and political structures of the Roman Empire. They went out into the deserts of Egypt, Palestine, Syria and Arabia away from the influence of an empire that first persecuted the church then gave it privileged status. These people knew, as we should, that empire would be an unreliable partner. They recognised that they had to find inner freedom from external structures before they could return to them in true love, wisdom and helpfulness. This is the continuing dynamic to this day, and on which the later monastic traditions laid their foundations.

How do we find inner freedom? Notice that whenever we suffer pain, the mind is always quick to identify with negative aspects of things and replay them over and over again, wounding us deeply. Almost all humans have a compulsion to fixate almost entirely on what's wrong, which is why so many people become fearful, wrapped around their negative commentaries and even hate-filled. Peace of mind is actually an oxymoron. When you are in your mind, you're hardly ever at peace, and when you are at peace, you're never only in the mind. The Early Christian abbas and ammas knew this, and first insisted on finding the inner rest and quiet necessary to tame the obsessive mind. Their method was first called 'the prayer of quiet' and was referred to as contemplation. It is the core teaching in the early Christian period and emphasised much more in the Eastern church than in the West.

In a story from Benedicta Ward's 'The Sayings of the Desert Fathers': "A brother came to Scetis to visit Abba Moses and asked him for a word. The old man said to him 'Go sit in your cell, and your cell will teach you everything'". But we don't have to have a cell and run away from the responsibilities of an active life, to experience solitude and silence. Amma Syncletica said, "There are many who live in the mountains and behave as if they were in a town, and waste their time. It is possible to be solitary in one's mind while living in a crowd, and possible for one who is solitary to live in the crowd of his own thoughts".

By solitude the desert mystics didn't mean privacy or protected space, although there was a need for that too. They saw solitude, in Henri Nouwen's words as a "place of conversion, the place where the old dies and the new self is born, the place where the emergence of the new man and the new woman occurs. Solitude is a courageous encounter with our naked, most raw and real self, in the presence of pure love. Quite often this can happen right in the midst of human relationships and busy lives.

Acknowledgement: *Adapted from Richard Rohr's Daily Meditations,10.4.25 - visit cac.org*

Family Service Review March

Peter Gardner

We sang, 'My Lighthouse,' a jumping-up-and-down type song, and finished with that Graham Kendrick all–time favourite, 'Shine Jesus Shine'. Then. finally I was able to get my bacon buttie. – Phew, almost missed it.

On reflection, the St. Andrew's Family Service people are like ducks. You see them gliding smoothly and effortlessly along the canal (the ducks that is) and there's little sign of all that hard work going on beneath the surface. Same with the Family Service. The congregation arrives and receives a nice breakfast prepared by members of the kitchen team. The vicar/service leader appears behind the pulpit and says a few well-chosen words. The worship team leads the singing and the lady who fronts the interactive activity does just that. Readings are read, the preacher preaches and prayers are prayed, and at the end, a benediction is said before we all retire to have a nice cup of coffee and a chat. Yes – it all flows smoothly and effortlessly (usually). But like those ducks, a lot of work goes on

unseen, beneath the surface, to make what is quite a complex monthly undertaking, work as well as it does.

And so to today's service; the strap line was 'A Hunger for Holiness' and after we had sung, 'The Servant King', Vicar Andrew put the names of some well-known retailers on the screen and asked us to shout out their advertising slogans. Here are some of them: 'Because you're worth it," "Why have cotton when you can have silk," "This isn't just food, it's _____ food" *(Advertisers at the end)*. The point he was making was that these adverts are all designed to try to get us to indulge self. In short, we live in an age where we are encouraged to see me, myself and I as the three most important people in our lives.

As our preacher pointed out, Jesus was not like that. Jesus was holy, put others first, and through his life and death we can be reconciled to God, receive forgiveness and grace and also begin to live a more holy life rather than a self centred, self-indulgent one. In a wide-ranging talk - there isn't space to set it all out here - she led us through some steps we can take to recognise and combat what the bible calls 'those sins which so easily beset us.' such things as anger, pride, lust, gluttony, etc. It's not easy, but as we ask Jesus to help us and allow ourselves to be led by the Holy Spirit who always guides us in harmony with God's Word, the bible, we can actually experience more and more of the grace and mercy of God and live a more abundant and holy life.

In our family services we usually include an activity which follows the theme of the service and today was no exception. We were asked to reflect on what was the main thing which held us back in our relationship with God, and then to surrender this to God. Each of us was invited to write that down on a piece of paper and take it to the front of the church where it was symbolically incinerated in a 'sin-burner.' Many people found this quite a helpful thing to do.

The verses of the hymn, 'Dear Lord and Father of Mankind forgive our foolish ways' then served as a framework for some very powerful prayers, again following the theme of the service and majoring particularly, on reflection, repentance and reconciliation. And we finished by singing, 'The Lord's my Shepherd' followed by a benediction.

Just to say, "Do carry on being like ducks, Family Service team – it really blesses us.

(*Advertisers: L'Oreal, Galaxy and M&S*)

Gargrave Parish Council *Clare Cadman*

We have had another busy but very proactive month.
The playground repairs and maintenance should start soon, the Clerk received 3 quotes for the works and the most favourable one was voted for at the March meeting. We are hoping for the repairs to be complete prior to the Easter school holidays.
We will hold the two annual meetings on 7th May in the village hall. The first is the annual council meeting at 6.30pm and the business of this meeting includes the annual election of officers and reviewing the membership of the various working groups.
The second meeting, starting at 7.15pm on the same evening, is the annual meeting of electors where the business will include a summary of the parish council's work over the past year, a report from North Yorkshire Councillor Simon Myers and a public session during which electors may raise questions relating to the village. There will be a short interval between the two meetings with time for tea, coffee and cake.

The South Street substation works are on-going and we are expecting some roadworks as Northern Power Grid upgrades the network on the north side of the river. We will keep you updated with the progress and NPG aim to keep the disruption to a minimum.
On a sad note, there have been groups of youths around the village displaying anti-social behaviour which has distressed some villagers and caused damage to property including Neville House and the Summer Seat guttering. The Parish Council has no jurisdiction to confront this behaviour, and we urge all parishioners who witness to this to call the police on 101, this can be frustrating but obtaining an incident number adds the events to the police database and the more reports and information they have the more likely they are to identify those involved.

And finally on a lighter note, 35 children from Gargrave Primary School have designed posters to be displayed in the park at the end of Airedale Avenue. These posters promote keeping the park tidy, picking up and putting rubbish in the bin and looking after our planet. At the March meeting the top 10 posters were on display and members of the public and councillors voted for their favourite poster; we have taken the top 3 to be made in to signs for the park. We will do our best to have them displayed in the park by the Easter school holiday.

Our next meeting is on Wednesday 1st April at 7.15pm in the village hall annex. All welcome.

Short piece on petition and events:

Three Reforms to Stop the Criminal Killing of Birds of Prey

Despite more than 70 years of full legal protection, raptor persecution remains a serious and persistent wildlife crime. The Yorkshire Dales is one of the UK's worst-affected areas, with 152 confirmed incidents of persecution or suspicious disappearances recorded between 2009 and 2023.

To tackle these wildlife crimes effectively, the charity Friends of the Dales is asking people and supporting organisations to add their name to its Petition to Government seeking **better national recording of wildlife crime**, the **introduction of sentencing guidelines and the strengthening of penalties for offenders**, and **more effective regulation for those industries where the crimes often happen.** Head over to its website at www.friendsofthedales.org to find out more and add your name.

The charity also has the following events scheduled to support its **Eyes on the Skies campaign** speaking out against birds of prey persecution:

Birding for Beginners

Saturday 9 May, 10am – 4pm

Designed especially for 18-35 year olds, this event offered in collaboration with the Upper Wharfedale Field Society, comprises an informal but informative morning session near Grassington to get you clued up on what to look (and listen!) for. In the afternoon participants will then venture out on a **4–5 mile scenic walk**, spotting birds along the way and learning how different species use the landscape throughout the year.

To book email: victoria.benn@friendsofthedales.org.uk

Online Talk – Talking Raptor Persecution with Dr Ruth Tingay

New date Wednesday 20 May, 5.30pm – 7pm

A unique opportunity to hear from wildlife conservationist Dr Ruth Tingay, who has worked in the field of raptor research and conservation for more than 30 years. A former President of the international **Raptor Research Foundation**, **Ruth now focuses on campaigning against the illegal killing of birds of prey in the UK through the blog Raptor Persecution UK**. Ruth is also a co-director of the wildlife conservation organisation **Wild Justice**, with Chris Packham.

Book at: www.friendsofthedales.org.uk/events



Female Hen Harrier in flight. An increasingly rare sight.

News from the Village Hall

Caroline Thompson

I am writing this piece in haste to meet the Parish Magazine publication deadline which seems to come around quicker than ever. We have just had a very hectic weekend at the Village Hall with the first Book Fair of the year on the Saturday followed by a Collectable and Craft Fair on the Sunday. One hundred and fifty-eight people visited the Book Fair whilst two hundred and seventy-nine people came through the door on the Sunday, not to mention a lot of dogs – they weren`t all at Crufts!

Hosting the two events on the same weekend means one journey out and in with the roadside signage and the tables for the fair on the Sunday are already in place and in position. However, it's a tiring weekend for those involved in both fairs and hard for Jo and her son Carl who provide the catering at both events. So, there are both positives and negatives in the dual weekend.

We were delighted to welcome two authors to the Book Fair on the Saturday. They were both promoting their books. Twenty-seven-year-old Ben Kilgallon originally from Keighley but now living in Colne is a medieval fantasist novelist, his books are set in the world of Fulminia. The Making of a hero is a coming-of-age story and a Kingdom in peril is the direct sequel. Ben said the writing of his books was the easy part, though he admitted to having to re-write his first one a few times, he found the promoting of them was the difficult bit. We are sure he will be successful, and who knows he could be the next J.R.R. Tolkien. Copies of the book are available on Amazon.

Children's author Mary Brown from Ribbleton, a suburb of Preston, has released her first book, Mrs. Brown and friends: The morning rush. Mary works with year one children at Moor Nook Primary School near Accrington where she specialises in speech and language. Her journey to becoming an author started when she decided to create a wider area in part of her garden and soon there was a significant increase in wildlife with birds, shrews, mice, squirrels and even a hedgehog arriving. She decided to share the names she had given to her wildlife residents with the children in her school and they soon began to ask for pictures of the animals and wanted to hear stories about them. Hence the idea of a book was formed. Mary secured the services of an illustrator; Glen Holman and the rest is history. The book is a joy to read and celebrates both nature and kindness as Mrs. Brown and her animal friends navigate a busy morning and start their day with fun and adventures. I can highly recommend the book, my grandchildren, aged eight, six and four all love it and it even has a handwritten message from Mary on the inside cover, Dream big - From my garden to yours. Mary hopes to return to another Book Fair as she has another book in the pipeline, she thoroughly enjoyed her visit to the Fair and both she and her husband enjoyed a look around the Village. The book is available by contacting 07809643310/ beaurudpublishingltd@gmail.com or facebook: Mrs.Brown and friends. Please mention Gargrave Village Hall if you are in touch.

We will soon be launching our new poster to advertise the Flea Markets (Collectable and Crafts) as Mary kindly produced one for us after we admired the one she created to show her attendance at the Book Fair. It is much more imaginative to say the least than the one I have previously printed off. I just need to work out how to adjust the dates on the poster each month so please keep your eyes on our noticeboard and website. The visitor numbers were good for our last Fair so I am sure they will increase even more with our eye-catching new poster, please call in and see the great array of stalls on Easter Sunday 5th April.

Looking a few months ahead, we are planning an information, help, advice and wellbeing morning on Thursday 11th June. The Cyberblue line van will be in the Village Hall carpark. It is a digitally equipped vehicle, designed to improve the awareness of cyber security in communities. Representatives of the Parish council will be in the hall to answer any queries and The Carers resource, and Dementia Forward will also be represented. The library will be open, and volunteers will be there to help with applications for things like bus passes and blue badges. Hot drinks and cakes will be for sale as you process the information that will be available. As you will appreciate this event is in the early planning stages so there will be lots more to see and hear about as we get nearer the time. We will be informing the teachers who hire the hall for health and exercise classes and hopefully they may be in attendance to let you know more about the range and benefits of their classes. We also look forward to welcoming voluntary groups in the area who may be hoping to attract more volunteers to help with their activities. Please call 07989 585564 if this may be of interest to your group.

Wishing everyone a very Happy Easter and good luck if you are on an egg hunt!

Gargrave Church of England (VC) Primary School

Sarah Peel

LOVE, PEACE, HOPE

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We are a church school and as we have a church foundation we are inspected through Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools SIAMs as well as Ofsted.
Our recent one was a couple of months ago and the report is now available. Full report is available through their website.
The report says:
Gargrave Church of England Primary School is living up to its foundation as a Church school and is enabling pupils and adults to flourish. It has the following notable strengths

Notable Strengths

- The Christian vision, expressed through core values and the parable of the Good Samaritan, is understood and embedded. It unites the community and enables pupils and adults to flourish.

- A rich variety of collective worship sets a positive tone each day. Inclusive worship provides purposeful opportunities to engage with and reflect on the school's Christian vision and values.

- Pupils are given meaningful responsibilities that help them to contribute positively to school life. This nurtures a sense of ownership and shows the vision in action.

- Highly effective care and support enable pupils and families, including those considered vulnerable, to overcome challenges and thrive.

- Religious education (RE) is planned to create an engaging and creative sequential programme of learning. This ensures clear progression of knowledge and skills and helps pupils deepen their understanding of diverse religious and non-religious worldviews.

We are delighted with the report which celebrates how we seek to meet the needs of every individual, compassionate support is encouraged and actively lived out. There are six aspects which are reported on and the report outlines strengths in all of these.
One aspect is Religious Education. Here is a flavour of some recent work through the RE curriculum.
Christianity is 50% of our RE curriculum and across the school the pupils are learning about Easter. The youngest ones are thinking about new life and changes at spring. This includes growing seeds and having caterpillars growing. Ash class are thinking about the last supper, where Jesus has a meal with his disciples. Their

art work is amazing to reflect their interpretation of the story, including the darkness surrounding Good Friday.
Pupils learn that Easter is the most important celebration for Christians during the year. It is a time for them to reflect on events in the life of Jesus through to Easter Sunday.
The oldest pupils reflect on the story and are challenged to think of questions to ask. They looked a variety of images and wrote questions.

Prospective Parents 11 years and under.

We have space in some year groups, please call school if you are interested in viewing the school to provide education for your family.

Please contact school on admin@gargrave.n-yorks.sch.uk or ring 01756749433 if you wish to arrange a time to see our amazing school.
We welcome in-year transfers.

FARMING ON SCALEBER HILL *John Hall*

I recently gave talks on two occasions to the Gargrave 22 Club. My speeches were mainly based on farming in years gone by and quite a bit of interest was shown in the topic of Gargrave farms around the war years. In those days there were quite a number of farms in the village which over the years have been converted into residences. One particular farm, which was situated by the Church, had 2 fields belonging to it which were either side of the railway on Mosber Lane. The farmer, quite a character, had quite a walk to collect the cows and take them back home to milk so he took his horse and float to the fields. Here he would hand milk the cows into his bucket whilst sat on a stool. Whilst he was milking, his horse would wander off grazing around the field. The farmer would then walk to the float to empty his bucket into the churn before milking the next cow. Time was obviously no object, a far cry from today's fast paced world.
This year marks 25 years since the foot and mouth outbreak. The cause of the outbreak was attributed to discarded food waste from airline travel finding its way into pig swill which resulted in the slaughter of millions of farm animals across the country. This was a financial and welfare catastrophe for many farmers. Memories of those dark days still send a shiver down the spines of the people affected. There have been recent outbreaks in Germany and the disease is currently active in Cyprus and South Africa. Last month over 34 tonnes of Illegally imported food was seized trying to circumvent border control in Dover. This no doubt makes farmers fearful that another outbreak is almost inevitable.
As I write lambing time is fast approaching. The sheep all look to be in good condition despite looking like Toblerones and huffing and puffing with the unborn lambs weighing heavily on them. We will be keeping our fingers crossed for the

weather to improve as there is nothing nicer than seeing a ewe out in the meadow with her new born lambs content in the Spring sunshine.
Whilst the vast majority of dog owners are respectful of the countryside and the animals which reside in it, there is aways a small minority with total disregard. Most people associate sheep worrying with dogs actually biting or attacking sheep. However, a loose dog chasing sheep and causing them stress and to panic is also classed as worrying as this can result in the miscarriage of unborn lambs or mis-mothering of new born lambs. It is therefore appreciated if dogs are kept under close control on any footpaths through fields.
The snowdrops which were an absolute picture this Spring have now all finished flowering. However, a hint of green is appearing in the hedgerows and the daffodils are bursting into bloom. The birds are showing signs of pairing up for nesting time as are the little owls which nest in the barn wall. They may only be small but they are certainly very vocal no matter what time of day or night!



Public Transport Serving Gargrave: *Peter Hardyman 6 March 2026*
TRAINS Photocopies of the current timetables for Leeds-Gargrave-Settle-Carlisle and Leeds-Gargrave-Lancaster-Morecambe routes (to 16 May 2026) are available from Gargrave Library and from Gargrave Village Hall foyer. Timetables are also displayed on Gargrave Station platforms and at the Summer Seat Bus Stop.
Notes: For live information on the next few trains, text GARGRAVE to 84950, or use www.realtimetrains.co.uk
As of 5 March, no Engineering Works affecting Gargrave train services during April 2026 have been identified. *That may change*. See https://www.northernrailway.co.uk/check-before-you-travel

Operator: northern railway www.northernrailway.co.uk 0800 200 6060 [Travel Assistance 0800 138 5560] **Traveline:** www.traveline.info 0871 200 22 33 **National Rail Enquiries:** www.nationalrail.co.uk 03457 48 49 50 **Rail Ombudsman:** www.railombudsman.org 0330 094 0362.

Living in BD23, you can buy a DALES RAILCARD: *£15.00/ year. 1/3** off All Tickets (dep after 0815 M-Fri + All w/e + Bank Hols)* between Gargrave, Leeds, Bradford, Carlisle, Lancaster, Morecambe. Big discount for children with you. ***Winter Offer (due again late 2026) raises this discount from 33% to 50%.*
BUSES
Timetables are displayed at the Bus Stops at the Gargrave Summer Seat and outside The Dalesman shop.
Services: to Malham/ Skipton : 210/211(M-F) by North Yorks Council, 75(Sat) by Lonsdale Buses; 866/873(Sun) by Keighley Bus Co [Summer Timetable 5 April to 18 October 2026]
to Skipton/ Settle & beyond : 580 etc(M-Sat) by Lonsdale Buses.
Bus Services Information: Traveline www.traveline.info 0871 200 22 33 ; North Yorkshire Council www.northyorkstravel.info/route/2358 0300 1312 131 ; Keighley Bus Co www.transdevbus.co.uk/the-keighley-bus-company/ 01422 553 576 ; Lonsdale Buses www.klch.co.uk 01524 733 831.



Hedgehog helped at Wildlife rescue

Gargrave Parish Magazine contributions and advertising

This magazine is produced by St Andrew's Church for the benefit of the whole community of Gargrave & Coniston Cold Parishes. We welcome short articles, news, notices of events, anecdotes, announcements and photos. Handwritten submissions can be delivered to 5 Walton Ave, BD23 3NP.

Advertising - parishmagads.gargrave@outlook.com

Ads cost £11 per ¼ page per month, other sizes pro rata (discounts for annual ads)
Editorial volunteers: Sheila Bloomfield, and Peter Poulter at gargraveparishmag@gmail.com

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Read the magazine online at https://www.standrewsgargrave.org.uk

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