GARGRAVE &

CONISTON COLD

June 2026



£1:50

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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*

An English Country Garden

This glorious month of June sees our villages open their gardens to welcome hundreds of visitors from many parts of the UK and even from abroad. Gargrave Open Gardens (including gardens at Coniston Cold and Bell Busk) is a major date in the calendar and is part of the national 'Open Gardens' scheme. Organised by Duncan and Bea Faulkner and assisted by a large team of volunteers, the event has traditionally been a vital fundraiser for St Andrew's Church. Once again we are pleased to be supporting Martin House Children's Hospice and Sue Ryder Manorlands Hospice.

Gardens have always been significant places for Christians - where God is experienced more acutely. Gardens of the Bible were places of beauty, shelter, and sustenance. The fruit trees and vines, fragrant herbs and other useful plants, as well as natural water supplies, were all key elements of design. The very first garden in the Bible was the one at Eden, in which Adam and Eve were charged with taking care of God's creation. The account tells us that God enjoyed walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and we can imagine Adam and Eve walking with God each evening to enjoy the heady scents and beautiful colours.

Gethesemane was another garden of great importance - a bittersweet place of prayer and beauty where friends often met; latterly it became a place of suffering and betrayal, where the long journey to the cross began. Gethsemane is synonymous with tears and sadness but it must also have been a place of beauty and spirituality where Jesus found respite and could spend precious time in prayer.

It was in a garden near Golgotha in a newly hewn tomb where the cold, lifeless and broken body of Jesus was placed. The tomb was sealed with a huge stone and guarded in case anyone should attempt to steal the body within. Three days later in that same garden, Mary met a mysterious man she though was a gardener. In one sense she wasn't mistaken as this was the Great Cultivator of life!

Finally, in the book of Revelation we see glimpse the future Heavenly garden which contains the tree of life. The creation story has come full circle with the restoration of all that happened in Eden. Here we find healing, hope and restoration, with the Tree of Life and a crystal-clear river flowing from the throne of God. This is the place of ultimate victory where creation finds its true meaning and life itself blooms into a glorious symphony of concord and harmony with its Creator.

Thank you for opening your garden this summer, for welcoming strangers, and for all the hard work that goes into showing off our little village. May your little patch of sweet England be a place of blessing, peace and restoration for you and many others. I pray that you might even glimpse the hand of the Creator amongst the beauty and life in your garden.

DIARY FOR JUNE

Church Services – St Peter's, Coniston Cold

7 June – Sunday: Compline Evensong, 4pm

14June – Sunday: BCP Holy Communion, 9.30am

21 June – Sunday. Compline Evensong. 4pm

28 June – Sunday: BCP Holy Communion, 9.30am

Church Services and Events – St Andrew's, Gargrave

Daily – Share a Prayer, 9am

7 June – Sunday: BCP Holy Communion 8am, Family Service 11am

14 June– Sunday: Matins 8am, Sung Eucharist 11am

21 June – Sunday: BCP Holy Communion, 8am, Morning Worship, 11am

28 June - 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

June Events - local

3 June Wednesday: Parish Council meeting. 7.15.p.m. Village Hall Annexe.

5 June Friday : Man Friday. A men's social morning. Village Hall Match room.10.a.m-Noon.£3.00 per person to include tea, coffee and biscuits. Cards, dominoes. All welcome.

6 June Saturday: Book Fair. Village Hall.10.a.m - 4.p.m. Food available all day. 50p admission.

10 June Wednesday: 22 group. Village Hall Annexe. 7.p.m. Non members £5 to include refreshments.

11 June Thursday: Advice and information morning on staying safe and well. Plus a slipper social, free pair of new non slip slippers! Incorporating a coffee morning with bacon sandwiches and cakes. Village Hall. 10.a.m - 1.p.m.

12 June Friday: Picnic supper dance with live music from the group Silhouette. Village Hall. 7.30.p.m - 11.p.m. Admission £6.00 per person.

19 June Friday: Man Friday. A men's social morning. Village Hall Match room.10.a.m-Noon. £3.00 per person to include tea, coffee and biscuits. Cards, dominoes. All welcome.

20 June Saturday: Coffee morning run jointly between Gargrave Village Hall Management Committee and Gargrave Library Committee. Village Hall. 10.a.m - Noon. Bacon sandwiches and homemade cakes.

26 June Friday: Charity picnic supper dance in aid of Manorlands. Live music from Denis Westmorland. Village Hall. 7.30.p.m - 11.p.m. Admission £6.00 per person. 01535 656884

28 June Sunday : Collectable and Craft Fair. Village Hall. 9.30.a.m. - 3.30.p.m. Food available all day. 50p admission.

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 June we will be praying for those who live and work in the Swire Croft, Smithy Croft and Meadow Croft

Gargrave Open Gardens: 13-14 June *Bea & Duncan Faulkner*

Discounted advance tickets are now on sale for Gargrave Open Gardens, online at gargraveopengardens.com. They are valid for both Saturday 13th and Sunday 14th June, 11am to 5pm.
To receive your pre-paid Passport to the Gardens once you have paid for your ticket online, on the Open Gardens weekend go to Gargrave Village Hall, and give your name. The passports detail all the gardens opening. You can also buy tickets on Open Gardens weekend for £8, in person at the Village Hall. Accompanied children can attend for free.
This year's Gargrave Open Gardens will once again raise money for St Andrew's Church and local hospices (Sue Ryder Manorlands and Martin House).
All gardens in Gargrave will be within walking distance of each other. There's a bonus large garden opening in Bell Busk, a short drive away or a 1 hour walk via Mark House Lane. No dogs please, apart from guide dogs.
Lunches and refreshments will be on sale as usual all day at the Village Hall, and afternoon refreshments at church. If you can help with the catering, please contact Ali Lucas on 07921 970961.
This year look out for a new musical act for Open Gardens: a fairground organ, courtesy of Eatons of Skipton. We are looking forward to another weekend full of community spirit when Gargrave is thronging with visitors to the gardens.

Weather recording at Bank Newton
We have something in Gargrave parish that is increasingly rare: a Met Office weather station, run by volunteers. By the canal in Bank Newton, it has been keeping daily records of the weather since the 1970s (or perhaps longer). Nearly all the readings are now done by two people. It would be great to have some more volunteers to share the load. You need to be available at 9am GMT (10am BST) one or more days a week. It takes only about 5 minutes to do all the readings. It's a

great way to start your day, in the fresh air, as part of a nationwide network of people whose work provides valuable data for climate science, engineering design, keeping track of climate changes and extreme weather.
If you are interested, please contact Duncan Faulkner on 07979 304914.

Craven Lawn Tennis Club
This year we are supporting St Andrew's Church Annual Open Gardens event in the village.

Craven Lawn Tennis Club, based in Gargrave, have traditionally opened their grounds for this event as one of the "gardens" to support these wonderful causes. This year the club are going one step further by opening their grounds for **FREE Tennis and Croquet** to non members from 11am-5pm on both days. The club has 7 courts (4 grass and 3 all weather) so, weather permitting of course, there should be plenty of capacity for anyone wishing to come along and play for no charge. All the club asks is that anyone wishing to play wears appropriate clothing and especially footwear so there's no damage to the court surfaces.

This is a wonderful opportunity to try out the facilities offered by the club for the whole family and it is hoped that many of those coming along to play might also buy a "map" of the Open Gardens available to visit that weekend
to support the fundrasing efforts overall.

Settle Orchestra Seeks New Leader to Shape Next Chapter of Musical Excellence *Jill Gates*

Settle Orchestra has announced an exciting opportunity for an accomplished violinist to take on the role of Orchestra Leader from September 2027, as the current postholder prepares to step down after many years of dedicated service.

With a proud history spanning nearly 60 years, Settle Orchestra is a cornerstone of the local cultural scene, presenting three concert programmes each year to enthusiastic audiences in Settle and Skipton. The orchestra's repertoire centres on the classical canon, with regular collaborations with local choral societies on major works such as Brahms' *Requiem*, Beethoven's *Mass in C* and Verdi's *Requiem*.

The position of Leader plays a pivotal role in the artistic life of the orchestra. Working closely with an annually appointed conductor from the Royal Northern College of Music, the successful candidate will help shape each season's repertoire, lead the string section, and support the musical development of the ensemble.

One of the distinctive aspects of Settle Orchestra's model is its collaboration with emerging conductors from the Royal Northern College of Music, bringing fresh

perspectives and energy to each season. This creates a dynamic and rewarding environment for the Leader, who plays a key part in translating artistic vision into performance.

Looking ahead, the orchestra is committed to broadening its artistic horizons through future collaborations that celebrate music as a bridge between cultures, connecting communities and enriching shared musical experiences.

“We are incredibly proud of what the orchestra has achieved over many decades,” said Chair Charlie Dobson. “This is a unique opportunity for the right musician to play a central role in our future—working with talented conductors, committed players and a very supportive audience.”

The orchestra rehearses weekly in Settle, with concerts held in November, March and June in Settle and Skipton. The position is paid, with fees dependent on experience.

Applications are open until **31 October 2026**, with shortlisted candidates invited to interview and audition in January 2027.

To apply, candidates should visit https://www.settleorchestra.org.uk/vacancies/ and send a CV and covering letter to: Charlie Dobson (Chair) charles_snaygill@yahoo.co.uk

Library News and Events *Dave Smith*

Film shows are taking a break for the Summer and will be starting again in September. The films in the run up to Christmas have not yet been selected but the dates have:

Friday 25th September
Friday 23rd October
Friday 20th November
Friday 18th December



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You will read in the ' News from the Village Hall' section of this magazine that the Cyberblue line Van wil be at the Village Hall Thursday 11 June from 10.00am to 1.00pm. Alongside many local organisations the Library will be represented when, along with general information about the Library, representatives from N Y Council will be giving away free slippers to older members of the community in a drive to try and prevent trips and falls in the home..

Our next joint Coffee Morning with the Village Hall Committee is on Saturday 20th June when the usual refreshments will be available

Ancestry. Com

Did you know that as a member of North Yorkshire Libraries you can gain free access to Ancestry.com. This service can only be accessed via the Public Computers situated in the Library. Several of our volunteers have received training to help you access and navigate the system.

For further information about Ancestry.com and other free services available at Gargrave please visit our website at www.gargravelibrary.co.uk or call in and chat with one of our friendly volunteers.

Summer Reading Challenge

Jumping ahead, there will be this year's Summer Reading Challenge for children aged from 4 to 11 encouraging them to read six library books over the holiday period. This year the theme is **'Read to the Beat'** and several related activities are being planned, so watch this space.

ST ANDREW'S GRAVEYARD - BLUE PLAQUE *Sue Lyall Gargrave Heritage Group*
In the summer, we'll be unveiling a blue plaque attached to the wall of the hearse house. This is to commemorate the babies who were buried in unmarked or unrecorded graves. The area around the hearse house was designated 'The Children's Area', probably in mid Victorian times, judging from the burial dates in that area. Old plans of the graveyard show many little graves that were recorded in the church records.



However, it had been common practice for hundreds of years for stillborn or unbaptised babies to be buried in secret, often beside the walls of the graveyard. In those days, the church would not bury an unbaptised child in consecrated ground. Stories have been passed down by local families of babies who were stillborn, or who only lived for a few hours, being wrapped in a blanket and taken by the father under cover of darkness to be buried in a secluded corner of the graveyard. This practice went on until the early years of the 20th century.
We wanted to acknowledge the loss of these many little lives by putting a plaque on the hearse house wall.
The unveiling ceremony will take place on Sunday June 21 at 12.00 noon.

Gargrave Art Exhibition 2026 – A Village Tradition to Celebrate

There's something truly special about the Gargrave Art Exhibition. Since it began in 1970, it has grown into a much-loved village tradition, drawing visitors from near and far who return year after year to enjoy its warm welcome and inspiring creativity. For a few days each summer, Gargrave Village Hall is transformed into a vibrant gallery, filled with colour, imagination and the unique talents of our community.

What makes the exhibition so unique is its inclusive spirit. Artists of all ages and abilities exhibit side by side — from experienced painters and makers to those showing their work for the very first time. The Young Artists' section is always a highlight, celebrating the creativity of children and young people, while the main exhibition showcases an exciting variety of styles and media. Many of the artworks are available to purchase, offering visitors the chance to take home something original while supporting local artists.

Importantly, the Gargrave Art Exhibition is entirely run by volunteers. From planning and setting up the exhibition, to welcoming visitors and serving refreshments, it is a true community effort. We are always delighted to welcome new volunteers, whether you can spare a couple of hours or more. It's a wonderful way to meet people, be part of something special, and help keep this much-loved event thriving.

The exhibition also plays an important role in supporting our village. Funds raised go towards the upkeep of Gargrave Village Hall — an incredible community asset that hosts a wide range of activities and events throughout the year. By attending, exhibiting or volunteering, you are helping to sustain this valuable space for everyone to enjoy.

If you've ever thought about entering your artwork, this is your moment. The exhibition is open to all, and you don't need to be a professional artist to take part. Whether it's a painting, drawing, photograph, textile piece or something entirely

unique, we would love to see it. Entries are open until **17th June**, so there is still plenty of time to get involved.

Visitors can also look forward to a relaxed and friendly atmosphere, with delicious homemade cakes and refreshments — the perfect setting to browse the artwork, perhaps purchase a favourite piece, and catch up with friends.

Make a note in your diary: the exhibition runs from **Thursday 9th July to Sunday 12th July**. Whether you come to exhibit, volunteer, or simply soak up the creativity, you will be very warmly welcomed.

For more information and entry details, visit www.gargraveart.uk or or email **exhibition@gargraveart.uk** or call Sarah on 07971 162901

We look forward to seeing you there





A Shepherd's Year

A new community choral work celebrating Dales farming life



Composer Vahan Salorian working with Settle schoolchildren
[Photograph supplied by Janine Bebbington of Gorgeous Media]

On 4 July 2026, Langcliffe Singers will premiere ***A Shepherd's Year***, an exciting new choral work by locally-raised composer Vahan Salorian.

Commissioned to mark the choir's 40th anniversary, the piece reflects the cycle of Dales farming life.

The project began at Skipton Auction Mart, where the rapid-fire of the auctioneers' calls and the rhythms of the mart sparked musical ideas. The work traces the agricultural year:

- Autumn – The Auction Mart
- Winter – Bringing the Animals Inside
- Spring/Summer – Country Life

Salorian and librettist Dominic Kimberlin have worked with schoolchildren, farming families, auctioneers, and others to gather stories of Dales life. The result is a piece co-created by the community and dedicated to the people of Craven.
The premiere will be at Settle Parish Church. Langcliffe Singers will be accompanied by members of Settle Orchestra, and renowned deaf musician Paul Whittaker OBE will sign the performance.
The project has been supported by the Victoria Wood Foundation, whose backing enabled the commission and workshops to go ahead.

A documentary film about the project, including interviews, auction mart footage and workshops, will be shown and then archived at The Folly Museum in Settle, creating a lasting record of rural life in Craven.

More than a concert, ***A Shepherd's Year*** is a community portrait in music, giving voice to farming families whose work is often unseen.

You can find out more about the premiere at langcliffesingers.org.uk

NEWS

Background and updates on the River Aire

Everyone in Gargrave has no doubt observed the Middle Green stepping stones lying toppled in the river and the section of wall collapsed next to the Northern Powergrid substation. Many will have also seen the gabions along Mill Lane, installed by Highways to protect the riverbank but which have slid away and are partly in the river. Pipes that cross the river have also been exposed. These damages are consequences of the failure and subsequent removal of a weir located near the entrance to Mill Lane. The weir was breached when the river flooded after heavy rainfall in February 2022 and was removed the following year after permits and planning permission were obtained.

The weir was constructed prior to the 1880s to feed water to a mill leat, and over the intervening years a considerable amount of sediment became trapped behind it. Sediment deposits extended for some distance upstream due to the lower energy conditions in the impoundment created by the weir. After the weir breach, flow rates increased and the river began to move sediment downstream. Sediment was

thickest just behind the weir where 1.5 metres had accumulated, and this washed out soon after weir removal. Sediment further upstream was removed progressively over the next few years. The point in the river where sediment starts to be washed away is referred to as the ‘knick-point’ or ‘head-cut’ and it has now moved upstream as far as the Roman ford. Sediment removal has changed the slope and base level of the riverbed, and water flow has been subtly reoriented to erode different parts of the riverbank. The Roman ford is currently acting as a dam to prevent further sediment removal and bed lowering, however its toe is being undercut and there is a risk that it could fail, which could further change the river’s flow pattern.

Conditions within the Upper Aire catchment play a significant role in the river’s ‘flashiness’ (water levels that rise rapidly) and tendency to flood. Rainfall runs off quickly from the steep hillsides in the upper elevations, especially in winter when the peat soils of the moors are typically saturated. Gully erosion is a problem in some moorlands that also contributes to runoff. Soils in areas other than moorlands tend to be clayey, and rainfall does not infiltrate as quickly as in coarser soils. Some soils are also compacted from agricultural practices and livestock. Tree cover that would help slow runoff is lacking, only about 5 percent of the catchment is forested. Also, the river has been straightened in places, causing it to flow faster, and the riverbed is lower than it was in pre-industrial times. Some of these factors are inherent because of topography and elevation, but others are related to human uses and the industrial past. These are issues beyond the control of the village, but groups such as the Aire Rivers Trust, the Upper Aire Project, and the Yorkshire Wildlife Trust are working toward correcting problems created by past uses. Sadly, winter rainfall has been increasing in amount and intensity, and could create more problems in the future.

Gargrave Parish Council has been working to find a solution for the damages along the stretch of river adjacent to the greens, where it is a riparian owner. Obstacles of funding as well as process requirements mean that there is not a speedy resolution. The River Aire is classed as a ‘salmonid river’ because it connects to the Ouse where salmon have been observed in recent years, and there is a possibility that salmon could reoccupy the Aire. No work can be done in a salmonid river from 1 October through 31 May, leaving only four months of the year for undertaking stabilisation and repairs. Furthermore, the Environment Agency does not allow concrete to be poured in the river unless a containment system is put in place to prevent silt movement. Due to the expense of containment, replacing the fallen wall with a similar one is likely not an option. The stepping stones are important to the village and have been a focus of discussions since immediately after they began to tip over in August 2023. After pursuing several possible options, the Council decided that a more comprehensive look at the river was needed to also address the gabions, and subsequently from the wall collapse of September 2025. A report was commissioned from JBA Consulting Ltd. prior to the wall collapse, and was presented to the Council at the January 2026 meeting (a slideshow presentation is included with minutes on the Council’s website).

The Parish Council is now proceeding with plans to stabilise the area of wall collapse, to prevent further damage until such time as funding can be raised to plan and construct a long-term option. Funds may not be sufficient, but bids will also be taken on stabilising the Roman ford. The stepping stones will be removed during the coming summer and stored until such time as the riverbed is stable and they can be placed back. The gabions are still under discussion as it is unclear what entity is in charge. Yorkshire Water has taken responsibility for the exposed pipes, which are said to be stable and are being monitored. Northern Powergrid has constructed a temporary substation which will protect the power supply until such time as it can be routed through other substations in the village. The Council has formed a River Aire Project working group to allow more time and expertise to be focused on these issues.

Historically, the river channel through Gargrave has been straightened and the bed was already downcut to some extent prior to weir removal. Soils information indicates that river deposits underlie most of the village on the north side of the river, indicating that this is the area where it formerly meandered. If left to itself, the river could possibly reclaim old channels to the north of its current route, but this cannot be allowed to happen. There may be possibilities for widening the river in the future to slow its flow. Changing the shape of riverbanks and the riverbed could direct more of the flow towards the Middle Green on the south side, thus limiting damage to the north bank and nearby infrastructure but taking space away from the green. These are topics that will be discussed over the next year and beyond, and the public will be consulted at various points during the planning process. Members of the public are welcome to attend parish council meetings where reports and recommendations from the River Aire Project working group will be presented.

On behalf of the River Aire Project working group of Gargrave Parish Council,
Jayne Dunlop (Clerk) & Eunice Padley (working group member).
12th May 2026

Skipton Railway Society

At the meeting held on the 20th April we held our annual Model Competition. Ther was a good number of entries in the three categories of Motive Power, Rolling Stock and Infrastructure for our invited judge, Charles Oldroyd, from the Keighley club. The first place in the Motive Power class went to our oldest member, Geoff Holmes, for a scratch built, LNER class A8 Tank, on “O” gauge. Geoff Peacock took first place in the Rolling Stock category for a scratch built GWR Brake Van in 4mm scale and Marl Allatson won the Infrastructure category for a modern warehouse in 3.5mm scale.



Forthcoming meetings are:
June 1st Modelling and discussion
June 15th Talk = The Burbank Branch in HO
July 6th Modelling and discussion
July 20th Talk – A Great Western Layout
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

A Meditation for June *Richard Holloway*
Richard Holloway, former Bishop of Edinburgh, brings his usual wisdom, humour and compassion to reflect on what is often a taboo subject.

Waiting for the Last Bus!
I am well passed fourscore years and though my life is not yet the 'labour and sorrow' forecast in Psalm 90 I am in the last swing of the dance, and I can feel the beat quickening. That's what has prompted these reflections on being old and facing death.
Throughout most of history, humans had no alternative but to accept those certainties. In our western, advanced technological and leisure societies that is no longer the case. We spend fortunes trying to refashion our bodies and postpone our deaths through health remedies and fitness regimes. And it is easy to understand why. Anguish is a hard thing to bear, even if it is only the anguish of not liking the way we look. The anguish of dying is even harder, especially if it comes before we are ready for it, and we feel cheated of the time we thought we had left.
But there is no escape from anguish. It comes with the human condition and the self awareness that is its key component. The secret is to learn how to live with it. Accepting the reality of the way we look and the certainty of death, maybe one day soon, won't make us happy, but it might save us from the greater unhappiness of

trying to ignore or hide from these realities. It takes fortitude one of the most useful of the old virtues. Fortitude is one of the most important lessons life teaches us, and ageing may be the last chance to learn it. It was well stated by the gay cowboy in the 2005 movie 'Brockback Mountain': 'If you can't fix it, you gotta stand it'. And there's a lot you gotta stand when you get old.
Such as losing your hearing, mobility, or short term memory. My wife and I joke we have one good memory between the two of us. That's the best way to handle the ageing business - with a sense of humour, the blacker the better. In his nineties, my father-in-law stopped buying green bananas because he wasn't sure he'd live to see them ripen. Perhaps it is better to give up our fading energies and begin to appreciate the humour and understanding that old age can bring.
Much more difficult is giving up the future. Not so much my own as that of my children and grandchildren. Not to see them make their way through life. But it is not the thought of being dead that troubles us; it is the prospect of leaving those we love that grabs us by the throat. We only have to recall the memory of other separations to realise how wrenching the last one is going to be. I look at my grandchildren now in all their vivid promise, knowing I will miss seeing where their lives will take them. When I gaze on them with pride and wondering affection I hear a distant bell toll. And I know it tolls for me.
In old age this kind of rumination can make us feel sad about the future we are going to miss. As death approaches, there will be sorrow for what it will take from us. But if we let it, death will reveal the beauty of the world to us. Maybe we wish we had noticed it before, paid it more attention. Push that thought aside. Don't fret. Look at it now – so beautiful – and be filled with gratitude.
Acknowledgement: *Adapted from 'Waiting for the Last Bus – Reflections on Life and Death, 2018.*

Gargrave Parish Council *Clare Cadman Council Chair*
May has been a very busy month for our clerk organising meetings with contractors to get ideas as to how we can repair the river wall at the substation. We are waiting for them to respond with costed ideas that can be put to council and then we can start seeking tenders from contractors to undertake the work. It's going to be a long haul, but the end result will be worth the wait. The council has set up a dedicated River Air Project
working group to focus on the river issues. The working group includes all parish councillors and two members of the public who have a wealth of knowledge relating to rivers and project management.
We had our annual parish council meeting where the chair was elected, and a decision was made to not have a vice chair for the year 2026-2027. This meeting was followed by the annual parish meeting of electors which unfortunately was not well attended but a report of activities of the council over the past year was presented along with a short report from councillor Myers. We enjoyed refreshments and homemade cakes in
between the two meetings.

We have set the dates for all meetings for the forthcoming year, until May 2027, and these dates are available on the website gargravepc.org.uk, along with agendas for upcoming meetings and minutes of previous meetings.

News from the Village Hall *Caroline Thompson*

We look forward to a one-off event at the Village Hall on Thursday morning 11th June when we shall be holding a free advice and information morning on staying both safe and well. Where else could you get a free pair of non-slip slippers and find out how to become Cyber secure online! The morning will see a culmination of Gargrave Village Hall, Gargrave Library, North Yorkshire Council and various other groups working together to provide not just an information morning but a social one too. Cyber blue line is a mobile and digitally equipped vehicle which will be arriving in the carpark at the Hall around 11.a.m. Inside the van are three computer stations and there will be someone there to educate users on how to stop potential threats to personal online safety. There will also be the opportunity to take part in a cyber security quiz. The remaining attendees will be at the Hall from the earlier time of 10.a.m. The slipper social is funded by the National Lottery project grant fund and is aimed at reducing the risks of falls in the home for the over sixties. Apparently, a well-fitting pair of slippers reduces the risks of falls by sixty per cent – I`m intrigued by how the figure is calculated! Loose, worn or backless slippers are all factors which increase accidents and we all probably guilty of this. Local to our Village will be representatives from Gargrave Parish council who will be happy to answer any queries outside of the normal formal monthly meetings and as with any conversations on the day the side rooms will be open if privacy is preferred. Representatives from both Carers Resource and Dementia Forward will be in attendance. Carers Resource offers a wide range of services for both carers and their families. They will be there to provide a huge range of information including planning and coping, grants and allowances through to emotional support. Advice can also be given on Home from hospital and hospital related services. It may also be a chance for you to hear how to become a volunteer in supporting families. Becoming a volunteer can be a good way to make new friends and to make a real difference to a family. I can personally vouch for the latter, an amazing lady called Elizabeth spent some time with my elderly Mum and they became great friends. Dementia forward will be able to give information about the services and support there is in the area including the day services and drop-in centres. Laura will be there on behalf of North Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Prevention team, she will give prevention advice on reducing the likelihood of fire in the home and there will be the opportunity to book a free home fire safety visit, checking smoke alarms are working and to provide and fit a new free alarm if not. Also in attendance will be representatives from North Yorkshire Community police, Living Well, Culture North Yorkshire and Active North Yorkshire. Emma Doree the combined authority engagement Officer for North Yorkshire will be visiting, and Michelle Whitfield the Waste Recycling Prevention Officer will be there to educate householders on her work to tackle issues of contamination levels within the recycling bins in the area. At

the time of writing this piece we are still in the planning stages so it is likely there will be more groups represented on the day, it should be a really helpful and informative morning and it will be so nice to have some face to face advice rather than the faceless online and on hold scenarios we have all become sadly used to. Members of Gargrave Village Hall Management Committee and Gargrave Library Committee will be selling tasty bacon sandwiches, toasted teacakes and homemade cakes for the duration of the event which begins at 10.a.m until 1.p.m. Please tell friends and family about the event, everyone is assured of a warm welcome.

Gargrave Church of England (VC) Primary School
01756 749433

LOVE, PEACE, HOPE

admin@gargrave.n-yorks.sch.uk

50th Birthday of Gargrave Church of England Primary School

The school was opened in 1976. The official opening was on 21st June and we are going to celebrate our 50th birthday with the pupils.
Were you at the school at the time of the moving from the old school to this 'new' building?
Were you at the school at the opening?
We would love to hear from you. Please email any memories you have to admin@gargrave.n-yorks.sch.uk
We shall be planting a tree, having a coffee morning and a celebration cake.
At that celebration a prayer will be shared:

This is our school
Let peace dwell here,
Let the rooms be full of contentment.

Let love abide here;
Love of one another,
Love of mankind,
And the love of God.

Let us remember
That as many hands build a house,
So many hearts make a school.

Amen
The pupils regularly share this prayer in worship.








Here are a selection of photos of the pupils having a love of learning across the school. The oldest are on the huge field learning to play rounders. Willow Class are learning about Hinduism and the younger ones are learning to read and exploring small world to develop their speaking and listening skills.
Our Little Apples are the pupils who are three years old and they are busy learning in the classroom, benefitting from small class sizes having small group tuition and learning the routines of school.

Rivers4Life at the Dales Countryside Museum

Rivers4Life is the brand new exhibition opening at the Dales Countryside Museum (DCM), Hawes on Saturday 6 June, running to 27 September. This family-friendly exhibition, packed with information about the work of the Yorkshire Dales Rivers Trust, promises to engage and inspire everyone to support its mission to create wild, natural rivers, valued by all.

Highlights include art works and creative projects produced in the Rivers4Life workshops run with Yorkshire Dales schools and community groups, including a Richmond care home and two refugee groups in Catterick and Ripon. Additionally, the exhibition will also showcase the Yorkshire Dales Rivers Trust photography competition winners whose work show cases Yorkshire Dales rivers, catchments and their wildlife through the seasons.

There will also be an exciting bespoke community theatre performance – ***Tributaries*** - about the River Ure at the DCM on 27 and 28 June and at the Ripon Workhouse Museum during the Ripon Theatre Festival on 4 July.

The Rivers4Life exhibition and the theatrical production are part of the Yorkshire Dales Rivers Trust's National Lottery Heritage Funded Rivers4Life project, which is a three-year project combining the arts and science, to enable the Trust's work to reach a wider audience.



Full details of all dates, venues and how to book can be found at: https://www.ydrt.org.uk/rivers4life

Photo dragonfly embroidery.

Public Transport Serving Gargrave: *Peter Hardyman 11May 2026*
TRAINS Photocopies of the new timetables for Leeds-Gargrave-Settle- Carlisle and Leeds-Gargrave-Lancaster-Morecambe routes (from17 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.
One minor change for Gargrave departures: Sunday's last train to Skipton is 21:07 (was 21:08)
Notes: For live information on the next few trains, text GARGRAVE to 84950, or use www.realtimetrains.co.uk
I am sorry I have not been able to check for Engineering Works affecting Gargrave train services during June 2026. 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.

In addition: The sustainability /eco group at church have made fresh signs for the wheelie bins so that the correct material can be placed int the right bin. Please follow the notices . Remember brown bin plant material only. Thanks.



ORGANISATIONS

Caterpillar Club (0+) – St Andrew's Church - Wed 10am during term – Carmel Hicks - 07485 032011 - carmelmartina@hotmail.com
Gymnastics – Ambitions Gymnastics – Classes for children 18 month-12 years. Unit G, Asquith Business Park. 07923 480365- admin@ambitions.com - https://www.ambitionsgymnastics.com/
Rainbows (4-7) - **Brownies** (7-10) - **Guides** (10-14) - **Rangers** (14-18) – Tuesday evenings- Primary School. gargraveguides@gmail.com
Young Farmers Club – Coniston Cold - Tuesdays 7.30pm- Sarah Hargreaves - 01729 830123
Cricket – Gargrave Cricket Club – Will Smith- 07495 214697- https://gargrave.play-cricket.com
Bowls – indoor Oct to Mar - Tues & Thurs 2-4pm- Village Hall - Joan Griffin- 01756 749277
Bowls – outdoor Mar to Oct - Gargrave Bowling Club - Martyn Cox 07745 018459
Tennis and Croquet – Gargrave Lawn Tennis Club- Beth Whitley - 07751 074085 – www.craventennis.org.uk
Table Tennis – Village Hall Annexe – most weekends – Allison Whiffen – 07880 520071
Gentle Hatha Yoga – see https://gargravevillagehall.org.uk – Ian Cresswell
Tai Chi &Qigong – Village Hall – Wed 1.00pm - https://gargravevillagehall.org.uk – Ian Cresswell
Tai Chi Qigong – Green by War Memorial – Wed/Thurs 9am – Zoom Mon 9am – Zoom Fri 9am (with Pilates) – Bee Faulkner – 07778 980994 – www.beeactivebeerelaxed.com
Art – Gargrave Art Group – Village Hall – Mon 1.00 – 3.30pm – Hilary McCormac – 07801 818491
Bell Ringing – St Andrew's – Mon 7.30pm – Sun 10.15am – Ali Lucas - 07921 970961
Handbell Ringers – St Andrew's – Wed 2pm-4pm – (not all Wed – phone to check) Cynthia Hardyman – 01756 748839
Bingo – Neville Crescent Community Centre – Mon 1.30-4.00pm – Carol – 01756 748990
Gargrave Heritage Group – St Andrew's – Tues 10.00am – Martin Thompson – 01756 541317
Gargrave Community Library – admin@gargravelibrary.co.uk – Opening hours: Mon 3pm-5pm – Tues 10am-12 noon – Wed 2pm-4pm – Thurs closed – Fri 2pm-4pm – Sat 10am-12 noon – Sun closed
Craft and Chat – St Andrew's – Tues 2pm – Sylvia Humphreys – 01756 748779
Parish Council Meeting – Village Hall Annexe – 1st Wed of month – 7.15pm
Snooker Club – Village Hall Snooker Annex – every day – Andrew Richardson -
Gargrave 22 Group – Village Hall – 2nd Wed in month – 7 for 7.30pm – Maureen Crossley-07855 873155



Visitors enjoying Gargrave Art Exhibition July 2025

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

May editorial deadline: 10 April

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

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