GARGRAVE & CONISTON COLD

Parish Magazine July 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! A Sporting Life *Reverend Andrew*

When I was at school, my maths teacher was not a sports fan and proudly declared that "competition is the root of all evil" – something which I have often pondered. Although never much cop with neither a ball nor hand eye co-ordination, I did enjoy athletics and was rather good at running and jumping. Scroll forward to 2026 and I find myself living in a beautiful village in which sport plays a central part of life for so many. Whether it's tennis, bowling, cricket, table tennis or various other activities, it seems that sport is here to stay.

I've recently enjoyed visits to Gargrave Cricket club on Saturday afternoons (thanks to the invitation of a certain Mr Dibb) and it's a lovely way to spend an hour or so. Although it's great when our team wins, the actual experience of watching the match with other people is even more agreeable and, I think, much more important. Like church, sport creates moments of transcendence – experiences that feel larger and more profound than ordinary life. That sense of euphoria when our team wins can be deeply uplifting but even more powerful is that feeling of a shared purpose in life – whether the team wins or loses.

Of course, one of the difficulties with sport is dealing with the disappointment of loss – so often those emotions tip over into frustration, anger and even violence. We've all seen pictures of marauding fans fuelled by drink and fighting with police, other fans and one another – whether a team wins or loses! This emphasis on winning can steal away all pleasure from sport, consumed by the need to perform, to achieve and to be perfect.

When sport becomes more about winning than enjoyment it seems to lose something special – and these days because winning is so intrinsically tied up with money, this seems all too common; the fickleness of a football manager's tenure never ceases to amaze me – with sackings common after barely a season if their team don't have a good season!

The New Testament often uses sporting metaphors for the Christian life – Paul urges his readers to compete for the prize of faith, exercising self-control and working hard for the faith; he also urges others to run their spiritual race 'with perseverance'. With roots in the Olympic games much of their sport was based on individual competitions like boxing, wrestling and chariot races, but I wonder if team games like football or cricket had been invented then, what would Paul's advice to be to us?

To play with fairness, supporting the weaker players and not seeking to be the 'top striker' or goal scorer? To put individual rivalries and differences to one side for the sake of the team and to invite others to play, no matter what level of experience and ability they are. Perhaps most importantly – to enjoy the game, perfecting our technique, training together and knowing that it's never win/lose in God's game, but it is always 'come and join the fun'.

DIARY FOR JULY

Church Services – St Peter's, Coniston Cold

5 July – Sunday: Compline Evensong, 4pm

12 July – Sunday: BCP Holy Communion, 9.30am

19 July – Sunday. Pet Service. 4pm

26 July – Sunday: BCP Holy Communion, 9.30am

1 Aug – Yorkshire Day Coffee and Sale of Work, Village Hall 10.30 – 1pm

Church Services and Events – St Andrew's, Gargrave

5 July – Sunday: BCP Holy Communion, 8am, Breakfast 10.30am, Family Service 11am

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

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

26 July - 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: 3/17 July: 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.

July's Events

1 July - Wednesday: Parish Council meeting. 7.15pm. Village Hall Annexe.

3 July - Friday: Man Friday. Men's social morning.

6 July - Monday: Skipton Railway Society Modelling and Discussion. Village Hall Annexe 7.00pm

8 July - Wednesday: 22 group. . Village Hall Annexe. 7.p.m. for 7.30.p.m. You, your mattress and bed bugs. Non-members £5 to include refreshments

9 July Thursday - 12 July Sunday: Art Exhibition. Opening times will be provided via the Art group. Catering by Gargrave 22 Group

17 July - Friday: Man Friday. A men's social morning.

18 July - 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. Music from Accordion players Claire and Daniel.

20 July - Monday: Skipton Railway Society Talk – A Great Western Layout
Village Hall Annexe 7.00pm

24 July - Friday: Picnic supper dance with music by Cath and Richard. Village Hall. 7.30.p.m - 11.p.m. Admission £6.00 per person.

26 July - Sunday – Sheepdog Trials. Holme House Farm, Gargrave. Free to spectate. See page 6 for further details

26 July - Sunday Collectable and Craft Fair. Village Hall. 9.30.a.m. - 3.30.p.m. Food available all day. Admission 50p or by donation

31 July - Friday: Man Friday. A men's social morning.
room. Cards, dominoes. All welcome.

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 July we will be praying for those who live and work in South Street, River Place and Mill Lane

St Andrews Sustainability Group *Jane Dallas*

A small group of people, from many quarters of the village, meet regularly to find ways to encourage the eco diversity of our world and to support communities and organisations in need. Throughout the summer we are holding coffee mornings and lunches in church, on the last Friday of the month, to raise money for charities where there is an emphasis on ecological matters. The two recent events focussed on raising awareness and money for Water Aid and SolarAid. These two charities received more than £400 from these events. Our next coffee morning/lunch on 26th June will support Flora and Fauna International. We have events planned in the summer to support toilet twinning and GNAT. We would love to see you and for you to sample delicious cakes, lunches and drinks. If you would like to join the group, you will be most welcome. Please email jane.dallas@yahoo.co.uk.

GARGRAVE AGRICULTURAL & HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

SHEEP DOG TRIALS

Sponsors: CCM Auctions, Skipton and Cobbydog, Keighley

SUNDAY, 26th JULY 2026 - 9.00 a.m. Start

Judge: Miss Victoria Ibbotson, Oakworth

FREE ENTRY FOR SPECTATORS

RAFFLE - HOMEMADE REFRESHMENTS

At an idyllic canal side field near the Lock at

HOLME HOUSE FARM, GARGRAVE, SKIPTON BD23 3PR

By kind permission of the Beckwith Family

For further information, please contact John Beckwith – 07931-118571

Entry Fee: £5 **Tyke Trophy to the winner and prize money to 6th place**
The Late James Dewhirst plaque for Best Handler & dog run before 12 noon

Entries taken on the day - LIMITED TO 50 DOGS – so come early

Library Services

Dave Smith

This month, as there is no film to promote, I thought it was a good time to highlight the invaluable services offered by our Library in Gargrave. The library is part of the NYC Library Service who supply all our books and enable Library users to access the following services:

- Borrow books, reserve books and have them delivered to Gargrave from the vast resources of NYC. You can also reserve books online.
- If you have difficulty getting to the library join the free Home Delivery Service.
- Photocopying and printing, for example airline tickets.
- Internet and Computer access.
- Free Wi-Fi.
- Help with online form filling, such as an application for a Bus Pass.
- Borrow e- books or digital audio books.
- Read e-magazines, newspapers etc.
- Access online information resources such as Ancestry.com

  There are several additional services available online: Search for, reserve and renew books and other items, in the NYC library catalogue

Summer Reading Challenge

This year's Summer Reading Challenge for children aged from 4 to 11 is designed encourage 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.

The scheme will start on the 4th July with the Event being officially launched at the Coffee Morning in the Village Hall on the 18th July. Any child signing up for the challenge between the 4th July and the 18th will receive a token entitling them to a free bun at the Coffee Morning on the 18th. For further information about the Community Library please visit our website at www.gargravelibrary.co.uk and why not join the Library Facebook by scanning the QR code.

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

Art in the Dale 2026 **St Michael's Kirkby Malham BD23 4BS**

Thursday 9th July to Sunday 12th July, open 9am to 6pm each day, original works on display and for sale
Free admission, donations appreciated



Artists exhibiting: Fiona Armer, Annabelle Bradley, Bev Hicks, Peter Hicks, Katharine Holmes, Judy Metcalfe, Jane Midgley, Phoebe Scott, Stephen Waterhouse, and members of Malhamdale Art Group
Paintings, etching, wrought iron, photography, cards, stained glass, textiles, cyanotype, ceramics

Preview Night with drinks and 'meet the artist' on Thursday 9th July from 6pm to 8pm. Do come!

Voices of Craven summer concert during the exhibition on Saturday 11th July 7pm

Website: www.kirkbymalhamchurch.org
Facebook: KirkbyMalhamChurch
enquiries: sue.mcwhinney@leeds.anglican.org

Volunteer stewards will be needed: can you help?

Young Artists Take Centre Stage at Gargrave Art Exhibition

The young artists of Gargrave Primary School are once again preparing to play an important role in the Gargrave Art Exhibition, continuing a proud tradition that stretches back to the exhibition's beginnings in 1970.

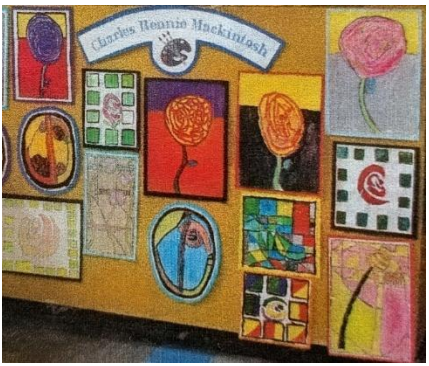
This year, pupils from every class will have artwork displayed in the exhibition, giving them the exciting opportunity to see their creations showcased alongside work by local amateur and professional artists. Each class will also receive a Certificate of Merit in recognition of their participation.

A particularly special feature of this year's exhibition will be an intergenerational art project created in partnership with residents of Milton House Care Home. Working together, children and residents will produce a collaborative artwork celebrating creativity, community and the connections that can be built through art.



The exhibition offers more than the chance to display artwork. During the event, pupils will visit Gargrave Village Hall together to view the exhibition and vote for their favourite artist, helping to choose the winner of the popular People's Favourite Award.

Gargrave Primary School places great value on art and creativity across the curriculum. As well as encouraging artistic skills, art helps children develop confidence, observation, problem-solving abilities and new ways of expressing themselves.



Mrs McLean, the school's art lead, said: "Art gives children a wonderful opportunity to explore ideas, build confidence and express themselves in ways that words sometimes can't. The children have worked incredibly hard on their pieces and are so excited to see their artwork displayed in the Village Hall. It's a real source of pride for them to be part of such a well-loved community exhibition."

The school has kept an album featuring pictures of past exhibitions going back 20 years. Gargrave Primary alumni may recognise their artwork in the pictures accompanying this article!

The Gargrave Art Exhibition takes place from Thursday 9th to Sunday 12th July at Gargrave Village Hall. Organised entirely by volunteers, the exhibition raises funds for the upkeep of the Village Hall and celebrates creativity throughout our community. Visitors can enjoy a wide variety of artwork, refreshments and homemade cakes, while supporting local artists and young talent alike.

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

Skipton Railway Society

Alex Dewar

The iron ore quarry modular layout has gained an extra board now amounting to five separate sections. This latest addition has been landscaped to show how iron ore was obtained using the open cast method. The whole layout has now been named as "Sixfield Quarry" and the land has been coloured to reflect the natural colour of the land and basing the whole layout in the Midlands.

Forthcoming meetings are:
July 6th Modelling and discussion
July 20th Talk – A Great Western Layout
August 3rd Modelling and discussion
August 17th Slide Show

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

Gargrave Pantomime Group has been a highlight of village life for over 60 years. It contributes to the village community in a variety of ways - stunning performances – the opportunity for 30-odd children each year to develop confidence and skills – a workshop in all-age teamwork.

We know our panto is valued – have you seen the queues on performance night? We are asking if you can show that value by offering to help us.

To keep the show on the road we are needing to renew our team. We need offers of a range of gifts and skills. Practical – set building, scenery painting, costume making. Admin – especially promotion and marketing. Support and supervision of children on rehearsal nights.

If you can offer even a small amount of time and effort, we would be most grateful. We would be happy to explain in more detail what is involved. Please contact us at gargravepanto@gmail.com or drop a note in at the village hall.

News from the Village Hall – July *Caroline Thompson*.

We have commenced with our agenda of Spring/Summertime cleaning, which includes the general refreshing and refurbishing at the Village Hall. The first job we had planned was to improve the visual appearance of the exterior of the Hall. The stonework at the front of the building, the stone pillars, coping stones and paving slabs were all power washed back in May. The job took almost two days and the local firm who undertook the work were very good. The gold lettering above the front door will be re-painted this month and Robert will seal the stonework. We are waiting for a quote for repainting the wall which runs alongside the mural, unfortunately this seems to need attention every couple of years, and we may also decide to have the main wall of the Village Hall which looks onto the carpark repainted at the same time.

The area of shrubs at the side of the carpark was weeded and the plants pruned on the hottest weekend in May thanks to our garden hero Colin and his friend. Colin returned a few days later to hang the flowering baskets and re-plant the paved area with colourful summer plants.

We were so impressed with the firm who undertook the power washing, that they returned to give the kitchen a deep clean, pulling out all the appliances and generally reaching every nook and cranny. New blinds have been chosen and hopefully will be fitted by the time the magazine is printed. There was a slight hold up as the fabric we initially chose was found to be out of stock. Anyone who has worked in the kitchen will know that it can be a real sun trap which is not ideal when food is being prepared and served so the blinds should be a real asset. Whilst the agent from the firm was with us we took the opportunity to get him to measure up the Annexe for black out blinds. The room is often used for presentations which require a screen so again these blinds should be a real asset. Prior to this we have used blackout window film which attaches to the frame of the window using Velcro fastening, adequate but not ideal.

Our major refresher on the horizon is the total re-decoration of the main Hall (apart from the ceiling) and the Foyer. This work is due to commence on the 20th July and will take around two weeks to complete. It has been quite a difficult task to arrange the schedule of works around some of the hires and pre planned events, and we thank both hirers and organisers for their understanding. We are also very grateful to our decorator for his flexible approach to the work so there should not be too much disruption during that two-week time slot.

The Annual Art Exhibition will soon be with us and commences on the 9th July to the 12th July. We do hope everyone enjoys this popular event. The catering will be undertaken by the ladies from the 22 group (formerly known as Gargrave WI). A donation will be given to the Village Hall from the proceeds and support will be given to other local charities too.

The 22 group have previously used some of the monies from their fund-raising events to aid both Sue Ryder Manorlands and Martin House Hospice. They have also funded the restoration of two benches in the Village, both situated at Higherlands bridge. The most recent was the bench remembering Miss Rickards. I expect years ago her title would have been spinster of the parish! I think her parents were mill owners and the family lived at Marton Road. I remember her cycling in her tweed suit. Prior to that she had a white horse and always rode side saddle (horse not bike).

Open Gardens success *Duncan and Bee Faulkner*

Gargrave was blooming on 13-14 June as visitors flocked in to experience the best of our community spirit and hospitality. 29 gardeners in Gargrave and Bell Busk generously opened their gates, welcoming 600 visitors over the weekend. Thank you to all who helped both in advance and during the weekend. With gardening, baking, catering (in both the Village Hall and the church), quirky container filling, music making, artwork creating, publicity sharing, bunting hanging, flag flying and WhatsApp co-ordinating we probably had getting on for 100 volunteers involved in some way.

We don't have a final total at the time of writing, but the event usually raises £6000-£8000 for St Andrew's Church, Manorlands Hospice and Sue Ryder Children's Hospice.



Folk music by the pond: photo by Rosemary Gibbs LRPS

Gargrave Art Exhibition is coming soon!



Excitement is building as preparations for the annual Gargrave Art Exhibition enter their final stages for one of the village's most anticipated annual events.

We are delighted by the response from artists this year, with entries arriving from a wide range of talented local creators. As always, the exhibition will feature both amateur and professional artists, and it has been particularly encouraging to welcome a number of new exhibitors alongside many familiar names.

You may have spotted members of the committee and a team of willing volunteers busy outside the Village Hall recently, giving the exhibition boards a fresh coat of paint, and making sure everything is ready for opening day. Thankfully, the weather was kind to them, and the hard work is already paying off.

From paintings and photography to textiles, ceramics and more, visitors can look forward to a wonderful display of creativity and talent. Many of the works will be available to purchase, offering the chance to take home something unique while supporting local artists.

Alongside the artwork, there will be homemade cakes, refreshments (from the Gargrave 2022 Group) and live music, helping to create the warm and welcoming atmosphere for which the exhibition is known.



The exhibition runs from **Thursday 9th July (10am to 7pm) to Sunday 12th July (10am to 4.30pm)**, so now is the perfect time to put the dates in your diary.

Entry is free although donations are appreciated and go towards ensuring that the Village Hall continues to be a wonderful community asset.

We look forward to welcoming you.

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

Gargrave Church of England Primary School
01756 749433

OFSTED 23RD AND 24TH MARCH 2026

Inspectors visited school and spent two days talking to pupils, parents staff and governors about the life of the school. It is a new evaluation schedule and the standards expected have risen in all areas.
Please see QR Code for the full report.
Safeguarding standards are met. This means that we fulfil all the criteria for safeguarding pupils and staff across the whole day.
There are then seven standards and we are at expected in all seven areas.
Achievement Pupils achieve well in the school. Pupils progress well through the curriculum including pupils with SEND.
Attendance and Behaviour Pupils generally attend school well. Habits are developed to endure pupils attend school more regularly. Leaders have established a warm, nurturing and respectful environment, where pupils can learn. Behaviour across the school is positive. Pupils look after each other. Pupils maintain their positive ethos and show interest in their learning.
Curriculum and teaching Leaders have made significant progress since the last inspection, embedding a suitably ambitious and well-sequenced curriculum. They know where this is working well and what needs further improvement. Pupils regularly re-visit knowledge while learning in mixed- age classes. Learning to read is a priority.
Early years children in Nursery year settle well into school life and play alongside peers in Reception. Leaders have ensured the curriculum identifies the knowledge that both the Nursery and Reception pupils will learn. Children move through the curriculum well and are ready for life in Year 1. Staff in the early years build nurturing relationships with children.
Inclusion leaders are proactive in ensuring that pupils' needs are met. Staff provide precise support they need at their current level of learning.
Leadership and governance leaders have a clear vision to ensure that pupils who attend get the very best education. They act in the pupils' interests. Staff are overwhelmingly proud to work at the school This is a happy place to work. Leaders engage well with parents and carers.

Personal development and wellbeing pupils are equipped with the knowledge to engage effectively in modern Britain. Pupils understand the importance of fundamental British values. The wider personal development programme enables pupils to take part in a wide range of visits.

What it's like to be a pupil at this school

Pupils and staff live out the school's values of love, peace and hope. Pupils are friendly and polite to each other. They play well together across the year groups. Older pupils are mindful of the youngest children, who benefit from socialising with pupils of different ages.

Pupils have confidence to speak to their trusted adults if they have any worries. As a result, pupils feel safe at this school. Bullying is rare, but if it does happen, staff deal with it quickly and effectively. Pupils behave well in lessons. They show respect to each other and listen carefully to the teacher's instructions. Pupils generally attend well.

Pupils enjoy their learning. They take pride in their work and challenge themselves to be even better. Typically, pupils achieve well. They learn the knowledge required to understand what is being taught. This enables them to present what they have learned clearly.

Pupils with special educational needs and/or disabilities and those who are disadvantaged are well supported. Staff know these pupils well. They understand the challenges that pupils face in their learning. Leaders diligently ensure that vulnerable pupils access the same opportunities as their peers. Staff remove any barriers that exist by adapting learning activities. Pupils make positive progress through the curriculum because of this.

Pupils value the additional opportunities the school provides them. They regularly make use of the facilities in the local community. For example, the school's Christmas performance is held at the local village hall, and younger pupils visit the Cenotaph to explore their understanding of World War 1. Pupils also visit places beyond Gargrave to develop their understanding of life outside of the local area. This enables them to be well prepared for life in modern Britain.

Gargrave Church of England Primary School joins Yorkshire Causeway Schools Trust

Yorkshire Causeway Schools Trust is pleased to announce that Gargrave Church of England Primary School formally joined the Trust on 1 June 2026, following approval from the Diocese of Leeds and the Department for Education. This conversion marks a significant milestone for the school and for the Trust's continued commitment to support schools in Craven, strengthening the local offer alongside Skipton Parish and Embsay Church of England primary schools and further enabling deeper collaboration, shared expertise and sustainable school improvement.

The Governing Body of Gargrave Church of England Primary School has made the decision to join the Trust to further secure the best possible outcomes for pupils, staff, and the wider community, building on the school's strong foundation and values-led approach.

Sarah Peel, Headteacher of Gargrave Church of England Primary School said:
"Joining Yorkshire Causeway Schools Trust represents an important step forward for our school community. This partnership allows us to build on our existing strengths while benefiting from the shared expertise, resources, and support of a strong and collaborative trust.

Most importantly, it ensures we can continue to deliver high-quality education for our children while maintaining our distinctive character as a Church of England school at the heart of the community."

The Chief Executive of Yorkshire Causeway Schools Trust, Jane Goodwin, said:
"We are delighted to welcome Gargrave Church of England Primary School into the Trust. The school's strong community ethos and commitment to high-quality education align with our values and will importantly continue to be the basis of ongoing strength and development.

As the third school in Craven to become part of the Trust, it further enhances the collective capacity of our schools to deliver ambition, learning and enrichment for all children."

The Trust's locality-based model will enable Gargrave to benefit from:
-access to specialist support across school improvement, SEND, safeguarding, and leadership
-shared central services including finance, HR, estates, and compliance
-improved workforce resilience through collaboration and flexible deployment opportunities for staff development and career progression across the Trust

The Trust is proudly comprised of both church and community schools and as a Church of England school, Gargrave will continue to celebrate its Christian distinctiveness, supported by the strong ethos of the Trust as a Diocesan partner.

Justin Water, Chief Operating Officer of Yorkshire Causeway Schools Trust, added:
"The development of a strong Craven hub is a key strategic priority for the Trust. Gargrave joining enables us to further embed a locality-based operating model, improving access to shared resources, strengthening delivery capacity, and ensuring long-term sustainability.

This approach supports both educational outcomes and operational efficiency, allowing schools to focus on what matters most, ensuring that all children receive an education that is ambitious."

Importantly, Gargrave Church of England Primary School will retain its name, identity, and place within the local community, while benefiting from being part of a wider family of schools committed to continuous improvement and shared success.

A Meditation for July **Richard Rohr**

Many may regard the second half of life as about the beginning of the end - retirement, getting old and the inevitable decline and loss. In contrast the Franciscan spiritual teacher Richard Rohr sees it as the beginning of a further journey into a much deeper and wider connection to the mystery of life, and to what some call God. In his best-selling book, 'Falling Upward' he uses the metaphor of a container and its contents to introduce the major tasks of the two halves of life

The Journey into the Second Half of Life

In the first half of life the focus is primarily external. It's about creating security and significance. It's about roles and goals and making our way in the world in relation to family, work and society. This creates an identity (the container) based primarily on what we can do, what we have, how we look and what we want others to think of us. In the West it is often taken for granted as being the only purpose in life. Our consumer and celebrity culture illustrate this only too well!

The second half of life is about discovering the contents the container is meant to hold. It involves looking inward. The task is more encountered than sought. The supposed achievements of the first half of life have to fall apart in some way and show themselves to be wanting, otherwise we would never move on. Why would we? It is good news for most of us that we don't get there by doing things right but by getting things wrong! It seems to be almost a universal law that spiritual growth and transformation come primarily through adversity; by what happens to us rather than by what we do!

The roots of spiritual growth and transformation lie in the dark, painful, messy and confusing parts of life we cannot control or can no longer fix: like a major illness, a failed marriage, a death, a flood, a redundancy, a betrayal, or sometimes just a retirement. It seems to be that in some way 'we have to lose our life in order to gain it' as St Paul has been telling us for nearly two thousand years. The outcome is often a more authentic, more spacious identity as we become increasingly grounded in life, and in God. Our security and significance then become more centred in that relationship as we are gradually liberated (or saved!) from the conditioning of family and culture including its religious institutions! Unfortunately too much of western religion can keep us stuck in the first half of life. Too often it wants to keep us too reliant on the external authority of bible or pope. Religion can too easily become a security system of the familiar and routine rather than being a source of any real transformation and what I call 'inner knowing'.

It is failure and suffering that are the great equalisers and levellers among humans whereas success is just the opposite. Just compare the real commitment to one another, to the world, and to truth in "happy-clappy religion" with the deep solidarity that forms within communities and families at the time of tragic deaths or among

hospice workers and their clients. There is a strange and even wonderful communion in real human pain, actually much more than in joy, which is too often manufactured and passing. In one sense, pain's effects are not passing, and pain is less commonly manufactured. Thus, it is a more honest doorway into lasting communion than even happiness.

The genius of the Gospel was that it included the problem inside the solution. The falling became the standing. The stumbling became the finding. The dying became the rising. The small self of the first half of life cannot see this very easily because it doubts itself too much, is still too fragile, and is caught up in the tragedy of it all. It has not lived long enough to see the big picture. Perhaps that is why our young people can easily become vulnerable to mental anguish.

Just remember this: no one can keep you from the second half of your own life except yourself. Your second journey is all yours to walk or to avoid. My conviction is that some part of the first journey has to fall apart for this to happen. So do not waste a moment of time lamenting poor parenting, a lost job, failed relationships, physical handicap, gender identity, economic poverty, or even the tragedy of any abuse. Pain is part of the deal. If you do not walk into the second half of your own life, it is you who does not want it. God will always give you what you truly want and desire. So make sure you desire, desire deeply, desire yourself, desire God. Desire everything good, true and beautiful.

Acknowledgement: Adapted from 'Falling Upwards - a spirituality for the two halves of life', 2012



FARMING ON SCALEBER HILL *John Hall*

Having cleared the meadows of sheep & lambs the mini heatwave followed by rain has certainly boosted grass growth. Whilst some farmers in the area will take up to 4 cuts of silo in a season (mainly dairy farmers), here on Scaleber Hill we rely on just one good crop. This is usually taken late June which proves to be a bonus for the ground nesting birds, e.g. Curlews, whose eggs have had time to hatch and the chicks have become mobile.

The older cattle were all turned out to grass for the Summer at the end of May. It is always a pleasure to see them set off up the field galloping and kicking their heels in glee. Due to the cool, wet and windy weather at the moment, the younger newly weaned calves are currently in the back paddock with access to the shed to take cover and sleep in at night.

Once the sheds are empty the cleaning and maintenance begins in earnest as, despite the autumn seeming a long way away it always comes round very quickly.

The first dung samples from the lambs have been taken and passed on to the vets for analysis. The results show traces of nematodirus worms and so treatment will be required imminently. Treatment for these worms is only required in the first grazing season for lambs as they develop immunity as they get older. Once treated, a further dung sample will be taken in a couple of weeks to check the treatment has been effective and there is no resistance developing to the wormer product.

The woodland creation project on the away land is now complete. Going forward regular checks will be made with weeding and maintenance being carried out when and where needed. Also, any failed trees will be replaced. Back at Scaleber, the hedge which Brian laid in later winter has burst back into life with new shoots growing rapidly. The apple, plum and pear trees in the mini orchard were unaffected by the late frosts and their fruits are developing well.

The little owls are now not the only residents in our barn wall. A colony of large bumble bees have also decided to make it their home and can be regularly seen flying to and from the garden.

We are hoping for a break in the weather soon so we can begin shearing the sheep. The hoggs (last year's lambs for breeding replacements) are first in line with their heavy fleeces. The previous hot spell should have encouraged a growth spurt of wool, known as "rise". This is needed as the new, softer wool makes shearing smoother and faster. Prior to shearing the hoggs it is always our policy to check round twice daily as damp, heavy fleeces can result in them becoming rigged (stuck on their backs). Should this happen, time is of the essence as it can quickly prove fatal.

Parish Council *Claire Cadman – Chair*

Dear parishioners,

June was another jam-packed month for the clerk and council.

We saw the travellers arrive on the bank holiday weekend on their way to Appleby fair. There was some disruption on the Friday evening and on Saturday afternoon there was lots of congestions on Mill Lane due to the amount of bow tops, vehicles and visitors to the village. The TGR plan was followed, and the working group did their utmost to keep everyone happy. The minutes of the public meeting on 17th June are available on the council website.

The River Aire Project working group are meeting regularly to discuss options to repair the damaged river wall. A temporary fix would be suitable for the short term, however a more permanent fix is likely to cost an extortionate amount. The working group will be looking at various options and sources of funding.

The proposed development site working group met, and there has been another call for sites and that closes after six weeks and will be the final call for sites. This is the land that has been presented for consideration but will be assessed by NYC which will remove sites that are flood risks, have access issues or other things that have caused sites to be turned down in the past. Then there will be a public consultation at some time in the future.

Following a collaboration with the primary school there are new signs in the playground to encourage people using the area to put their litter in the bin provided. Over 30 children designed posters and the winning three were chosen at a public meeting. All the children who took part should be very proud of their efforts.
The council is taking a break for the summer so our next public meeting will be on September 2nd at 7.15pm in the village hall annex.

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Gargrave 22 *Joy Kirk*

This month, Mark Steeples came to talk to us about The Lighter Side of the Law. Mark has over 31 years' experience in criminal law, working with the Criminal Prosecution Service (CPS). He's been a case worker, a middle manager and an associate prosecutor in the criminal court. A lot of his work required building a strong case with the barristers. The CPS is well known for only prosecuting cases when they have a very good chance of succeeding.

Unless you've been on jury service or worked in the legal profession, most of us have scant understanding of the way a court works. It's not at all like it appears on

TV! Mark gave us an outline of how a court operates and what is involved in working on a legal case.

He was involved in a wide variety of legal cases and many daft and absurd things can occur, both in the courtroom and behind the scenes. Apparently, fraud cases are especially fascinating and absorbing. One pretty local case that people may remember was the Bogus Bradford Doctor who practiced from 1961 for 33 years without ever qualifying as a doctor- he was a complete quack and a fraud! Astonishing that he managed to evade detection for so long.

A very interesting and amusing look into the workings of the legal world.

Filling stations closest to Gargrave

Distances [miles] from Gargrave [Summer Seat] to Filling Stations

SE; SKIPTON; **5 mi**; Tesco [24 hr pay-at-pump], Craven St (Keighley Rd) BD23 2AG; 0345-677-9615

SE; SKIPTON; **5 mi**; Morrisons, Broughton Rd, BD23 1RT; 01756-796-070

South; KELBROOK; **8 mi**; Total Energies/ SPAR, Colne Rd, BB18 6TG; 01282-842-254

SW; BARNOLDSWICK; **8 mi**; Texaco, Skipton Rd, BB18 5EG; 01282-850-144

NE; THRESHFIELD; **8 mi**; SPAR, Kettlewell Rd, BD23 5PL; 01756-753-578

SW: GISBURN; **10 mi**; Texaco, Gisburn Rd, BB7 4ES; 01200-415-953

NW; SETTLE; **11 mi**; ASDA, Church St, BD24 9JD; 01729-810-451

Revised 10 April 2026 P Hardyman

Public Transport Serving Gargrave *Peter Hardyman*

TRAINS

Photocopies of the new timetables for Leeds-Gargrave-Settle-Carlisle and Leeds-Gargrave-Lancaster-Morecambe routes (from 17 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

As of 13 June, no Engineering Works affecting Gargrave train services during July 2026 have been identified. That may change.

See 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. Dalesbus (information) www.dalesbus.org

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 Wiffen – 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 – Glenys Riley – 07715 878709



Gargrave Art Exhibition

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.

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

August/September editorial deadline: 10 July

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

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