

# Husthwaite Newsletter

April 2011 Edition Number 52



Cameron Smith, Euan Crawshaw and Richard Wood in *The Hypochondriac*, presented on March 31, April 1 and 2 in the Village Hall. Buy your tickets now!



## One Year on ....Bespoke Soft Furnishings at The Hay

### House

In the year since we moved from the dining table at Little Worsall to Baxby, The Curtain Room has gone from strength to strength. I have been involved in so many exciting and interesting projects ranging from providing stage curtains and screening for a local pantomime to several pairs of sixteen foot length curtains made from the finest silk.

I would like to thank David, Elaine and Barney Smith of Baxby Manor for all their hard work, giving me the opportunity to keep The Curtain Room in the village. It would have been such a shame to have moved the business away from such a supportive community.

I hope to see many old and new faces visiting me in the new premises and you are all welcome to pop in during usual business hours.

I would however advise that you call me to check my availability to avoid disappointment as sometimes I will be out visiting clients.

We have developed the business and now have a gallery from which you can browse stock from all our suppliers of fabrics, wallpapers and trimmings;

Blendworth, Vanessa Arbutnott, Kate Forman, Cabbages & Roses, Moon (Yorkshire's finest woolweavers)

Linwood and Villa Nova, Voyage to name but a few.... Even if you are looking for a few metres of fabric for one of your own projects I am more than happy to help and advise.

We have started a new line of made to measure Roller/ Vertical & Velux blinds, with a wide choice of fabrics.

We look forward to seeing you soon.

Mel Casling



Hand made curtains & so much more

Tel: 01347 666079

The Hay House, Husthwaite

*Husthwaite Newsletter is jointly funded by the Parish Council, the Village Hall Committee and local sponsors*

*EDITOR: Jan Coulthard*

*Please send articles for the JUNE edition to me by May 20th (this is the final date!) via email: (jancoulthard@hotmail.co.uk) or by post to Aletheia House, High Street, Husthwaite YO61 4PX or tel. 01347 868130.*

*Comments and articles are always welcome. Local businesses can advertise in this Newsletter. Please contact the Editor.*

Dates for your diary

31 March and 1 & 2 April The Hypochondriac 7.30 VH. £8 (under 16s £5)

9 April Elphin Drift..live music in the Village Hall 7.30pm

**14 April Gardening Club “Cacti” in the Village Hall.**

Up to 14th May Place your oil orders for May delivery

## Husthwaite & District Gardening Club

Our March meeting was all about “Wildflowers and a bit of Folklore.” The speaker, Christine Abbot from Knaresborough has had a life-long interest in her subject, but stressed that she was not a botanist.

She delighted us with excellent photos of flowers from field, wood and hedgerow, mentioning many alternative names. Some of these names indicated the ailments which they might benefit. Three photos of note were bluebells in a South Yorkshire wood, the female flowers on a branch of larch and a burnet moth on a knapweed flower.

Chris has established her own successful wildflower meadow and was able to give first-hand advice on how to establish yellow rattle.

Our next meeting in Husthwaite Village Hall on Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> April will be on a very different and prickly subject: **cacti**. Love them or hate them, you can't help admire their geometric patterns and their strategy for living in some of the most inhospitable parts of the world.

**Mike Wells**



# The Husthwaite Poetry Competition 2011

We have a winner!

**The judge for this year's** adult poetry competition was Brian Clark, our Poet Laureate 2 years ago, who has since gone on to win many national and international poetry prizes. He chose 2 poems, one the winner, and the other commended. The winner is Martyn Nelson of Thirsk, and he becomes Husthwaite Poet Laureate for a year. Catherine Nubinger **of Nova Scotia (we've gone international!) is commended** for her poem. Well done to both of them. Huge thanks go to Brian for his efforts in choosing the winner, and his thoughtful comments. Thanks to everyone at home and abroad who entered. I know all the writers put a lot of effort into their poems. (Ed.)

Through the window

Dusk.

**Full beam Astra lights it's rural path**

Rabbit transfixed by double glow; it blinks.

Safety.

**Twice Tom says 'next left',**

Local town 2 miles south west.

Urban cat skitters intently past

Its kind, illuminated.

Near miss.

Road sign says children; checks it,

**Twice Tom says 'second exit'.**

Music blares, periphery masked by a hooded top,

Tires screech like banshees

And leave two liquorice strips.

Feeling of dread.

Teenage dreams paint the road red,

Ambition spills onto the bonnet from a fractured head.

6pm

ITN

Boy pronounced dead.

Martyn Nelson

## **Through the Window of Time**

*memories of my childhood in a North Yorkshire village.*

Our house had big windows which gave a good view  
Of everyone passing - all people we knew.

We would yell to our dad when a nonchalant dog  
Prepared to make use of our lawn as a bog,  
Dad threw open the window and hurled something out -  
The Guardian, a flint, anything lying about,

Through the window we saw Mr." Mayor" Lance,  
Thumbs in his braces to show his importance,  
Pompous, censorious, surveying his dominion,  
"Guilty till proved innocent" - his invariable opinion.

We children without phones or electronic device  
Knew how to tap into essential advice.  
We picked up the tomtom beat that told where to go  
To sledge with t'other kids when there was snow -  
Which field, which hill - we always knew  
Though who made the decisions, I don't have a clue.  
The news came through the window - it was part of the view.

**Catherine Rubinger**

### *HUSTHWAITE POETRY COMPETITION - JUDGE'S COMMENTS*

*This year's competition theme of "through the window" fired the imagination of many entrants. Contrary to popular belief, rhyme is alive and well in contemporary poetry and about half our entries did, though not always handled as well as their poems deserved: rhyme is a good servant, but a bad master. Sometimes it doesn't suit our anxious, ambivalent 21<sup>st</sup> century preoccupations and experiences. As a judge I read and re-read entries over a day or two before making a pile of possible winners, and then repeat the process over a few more days. I'm always looking for the poem that's original, imaginative, authentic or emotive. Poems should take the reader on some kind of journey, or to a world whose landscape we can inhabit for the duration of the poem. This year's winner by Martyn Nelson has a tense, atmospheric and distilled energy which quickly builds to a horrific conclusion. The reader is not spared. It's dispassionate to the point of being almost matter-of-fact. A highly effective treatment which for me neatly captures the bleak reality of such incidents. The repetitive rhyme in the final lines quickens the pace superbly and reflects what people say after such experiences: it happened so quickly.*

*In complete contrast, Through the Window of Time - memories of my childhood in a North Yorkshire village -wins a commendation. It romps around with a wry touch and I laughed out loud to read outrageous lines like: ..".when a nonchalant dog / prepared to make use of our lawn as a bog. "*

*Brian Clark*

## Children's Poetry Competition

2011

### The Judges' Choice by Brenda Board

My choice of best poem in the Children's Poetry Competition is Oliver Hesketh's "When I Grow Up", and the runner up is Sophie Brown.

Although writing quite a short poem, Oliver followed up his thoughts for the future with excitement, enthusiasm and knowledge of what life as a marine biologist might hold for him.

Sophie's searching for an answer to her questions came to the only answer possible, and in doing so she wrote a very enjoyable poem.

Congratulations to both children, and **"Well Done" to all the children who took part in the competition.** Thank you all for your poems.

A book token prize for £30 goes to Oliver, and a £10 runner up book token for Sophie.

*From Oliver Hesketh aged 8*

*When I grow up*

*When I grow up I want to be*

*A marine biologist*

*Under the sea.*

*To find new things,*

*A pearl that blings,*

*A dolphin that sings,*

*A shark that walks,*

*A turtle that talks.*

***You don't see that every day!***

When I grow up

By Sophie Brown aged 8

Will I be a vet,

Will I be a nurse,

Will I be a doctor,

Will I drive a hearse?

Will I be a builder,

Will I play football,

Will I be an archaeologist,

Will I work at the mall?

Will I be a gardener,

Will I be a teacher,

Will I be a scientist,

Will I be a preacher?

When I grow up I wonder what I will be.

**I don't know, you'll have to wait and see!**

*Thank you Brenda for reading all the poems and making your choices. To all the children who wrote poems-thank you, and keep on writing!*



*Oliver  
Hesketh*

## A MEETING PLACE

In a small village like ours, it is sometimes difficult to find a place to meet with friends for a chat and a catch-up on the news.

The Methodist Chapel offers such a place.

Every 3<sup>rd</sup> **Saturday (except July & August) there is 'Coffee and Chat'**. You can come along any time between 10.30 and 12 noon. The coffee is freshly-brewed, the biscuits are delicious, there is no limit on consumption and it's **FREE**.

**If you fancy something more substantial, there is Soup 'n Pud. This** light lunch, all homemade, is on offer on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesdays of January, March, May, September and November. The cost is minimal - the meal represents excellent value for money and again it gives folk an opportunity to meet together.

If you have never been to either of these events before, why not give them a try?

Watch out for posters in the Chapel garden and on the Chapel gatepost.

We look forward to seeing you.

Linda Davison

Ursula Duncan

Many people in the village will have been saddened to hear of the passing of Ursula Duncan, who died in February after a long, brave struggle with illness. She came to the village about 10 years ago and soon became an enthusiastic member of the History Society. She served as a Parish Councillor and was a member of the committee which set up the Parish Plan. She was editor of the Link for three years and thoroughly enjoyed appearing as the queen in the pantomime Cinderella in 2004.

Angela Ovenston

# Mowatt Financial Planning

Financial advice for individuals and businesses covering the following areas;

## Individuals

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- Income protection
- Pensions advice
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## Businesses

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# ANOTHER STEP FORWARD

The phased development of the Recreation Area took another step forward recently when the Committee met to consider tenders submitted by contractors for the Adventure Area and Fitness Trail.

Costings, accompanied by impressive visual layouts of the proposed equipment, prepared by four local companies, made the selection a very challenging task. To assist in this process, each committee member worked through a grading scheme which focussed on the following requirements:

- value for money
- fitness for purpose
- guarantees & after-sales service
- layout - safe & accessible
- overall visual appeal - **'wow factor'**
- sustainability & ease of maintenance
- scope for risk & challenge
- coverage of complete age range
- company insurance & recommendations

After careful consideration and discussion, it was agreed unanimously to award the contract to Image Playgrounds which is based in Sheriff Hutton. Although they had the edge on both price and quality, it was a close call as, clearly, each company had given considerable thought to their respective proposals. One of the photographs accompanying this article (See back cover) gives some ideas of what we can look forward to and the other shows the committee at work.

Another feature of this phase is to be the upgrading of the Access Track. This will be undertaken by Mark Fairweather who is based at Helperby.

All this work, which is costing around £35,000, (provided largely in a grant **through the 'Changing Spaces' scheme**) is scheduled for completion by 1<sup>st</sup> May 2011.

An official opening will follow at a later stage.

Peter Davison

## ANTHONY MARSINGALL (1815-1888)



With regard to an inquiry in the Newsletter from January 2008, the man in the photograph is Anthony Marsingall (pictured left). The **photograph was contributed by Anthony's great-great granddaughter**, who lives in Harrogate. How Anthony came to be buried in Husthwaite is a mystery.

Anthony Marsingall was born about 1815 in Norton Fitzwarren, near Taunton in Somerset. Where the family originated, however, is unknown, as is the etymology of this unusual surname. There are numerous records of Marsingalls (albeit with several spelling variations) in Whitby and other parts of Yorkshire dating back to the 1500s, so it **may be that the family came from that region. If so, then Anthony's** long journey to Husthwaite was a kind of homecoming, a return to his roots.

As a teenager, Anthony lived for a time with his family in Avranches, Normandy, a charming coastal town that had become a popular destination for English expatriates after the Napoleonic wars. By the time he was 23, however, Anthony was back in England. **In 1839, he was appointed to the London police force. Anthony's career as a "Peeler" was short-lived.** On 3 December 1840 he resigned from the London police force, less than two years after joining. He subsequently relocated to Essex, where, according to the 1841 census, he was living on Barrack Lane in Romford and working as a superintendent of police.

Anthony did not stay long in Romford. By October 1841, he was back in London, living at 104 Ratcliff Highway in the East End (not the most respectable address) and working as a tailor. On 15 October he married Louisa Easter Neal, who was 15 years old at the time. Anthony was 25. Louisa was the daughter of Robert Neal, the innkeeper of the Kings Arms on Market Place in **Romford. One can only imagine the circumstances of the marriage and the reasons for Anthony's** sudden relocation and change of career.

It is unclear how long Anthony was married to Louisa, or what became of his young wife. A baby girl was born to the couple in East London in June 1843 and died six days later. At some point after that, Anthony remarried, this time to a woman named Caroline Aslett, from Hampshire, who was to be his companion for the rest of his life. Four more children were born, and **Anthony's itinerant career during the 1840s can be traced through the places and dates of their birth: a daughter, Sarah, born in Warminster, 1845; another daughter, Ellen Louisa, called "Louisa," born of 1846 in Cambridge; a son, Anthony ("Thomas"), born in Suffolk in 1847; and another son, Frederick Samuel (known as "Samuel"), born in Lavenham, in 1849.**

In September 1846, Anthony joined the Isle of Ely Constabulary, which had been set up in 1841, in Cambridgeshire. His tenure there, however, was, like his other stints as a policeman, brief. He was dismissed just six months later, on 15 March 1847. No reason for his dismissal is **recorded. It was possibly the last time that he wore a policeman's uniform.**

By March 1851, Anthony, Caroline and the four surviving children were lodgers in the home of a family in Stokesley, Yorkshire, and Anthony was working as an artist. What brought him there is unknown - perhaps there was a distant family connection - but he was to remain in Yorkshire until his death almost four decades later. Even so, he never settled down. According to the 1861 census, in April of that year Anthony and Caroline were living with another family in Low Ackworth, without the children: their two sons, then just 12 and 13, were lodgers with a widow and her children in Low Ackworth, and their two daughters, 15 and 16, were both in service else-



where. In 1871, Anthony and Caroline resided in Austerfield, near Doncaster; and by 1881, they had moved to Great Ouseburn,

During this latter part of his life, Anthony worked not only as a painter but also as a photographer, starting in the days when photography was still a relatively new technology but growing in popularity. Two of his paintings are pictured . One of them, (see left) **“Sniggling for Eels,”** is in the permanent collection of the Tate Museum in London. In addition, he may have taken some photographs of properties including that of the Chapel of Ease at Carlton Husthwaite. Artistic talent must have run in the

**Marsingall genes: Anthony’s father and grandfather were both accomplished artists, and other descendants later became professional painters and illustrators.**

Anthony Marsingall died in Husthwaite on 1 September 1888, and is buried there. At the time of his death, he was an annuitant and no longer had to work, thanks possibly to the legacy of a wealthy relative or former governess. His two sons, Thomas and Samuel, had moved to Nottinghamshire in the 1860s, where they had both married and found work as shoemakers. After a few years in service, Louisa had married a stonemason at the age of 23 and settled in Bilton near Harrogate with her husband and eight children. Sarah, however, remained a spinster, **continuing to work as a cook and housekeeper. She was present at her father’s death in Husthwaite, and three years later she was living with her mother in a cottage in Bilton. Caroline Marsingall, Anthony’s widow, survived her husband by seven years; she died on 5 August 1895 in Bilton, where she was buried in the churchyard of St. John the Evangelist.**



This is an edited version of a piece by Chris Bernard and Shirley Dunwell which can be seen in full soon on the History Society website.

## Village Hall Big Lottery Fund Bid Stage 1 Application..done!

The Village Hall Committee has completed an application for the first of three stages in applying for a grant of £400,000 to build a new hall. Our chance of success at Stage 1 is rated as 5%, so **don't hold your breath**. We shall know the outcome shortly after this Newsletter is published.

The Committee believes the application process itself has been worthwhile. We have learned about our own work and about what the village thinks. If we are turned down we have ideas for shaping a Plan B.

Before you study the ideas and the information in this article, please support me in giving special thanks to Andrew Coulthard. In his career in Further Education Andrew gained experience at the receiving end of grant applications. He has used this to find us a way through the wearying process of **application. Until you've tried this work** you will never understand how complicated and seemingly endless it all is.

*Stage 1 of the application process concentrates on our need for a new **hall. It doesn't ask about the building, its damp walls, its remarkable roof, its dodgy toilets. That's Stage 2 business.***

*Stage 1 asks us to show that the village really needs a hall and what use it will make of a new one.*



**We couldn't possibly speak** for everybody so we set about consulting the village. Here, in outline, is what we found out.

The questions we asked

\*Should we bid for funding for a new village hall?

\*How much would you like to be involved in the project?

Who did we ask?

\*every household, including the parish farms

What did people say?

\*70% of questionnaires were returned

\*No to the bid - 2

\*Undecided about the bid - 4

\*Yes to the bid - all the rest

\*50% of the Yes voters said they would like to be involved in the project

Our Follow-up

We asked about the problems of village life and how the village hall might help resolve them

Who did we ask and how?

\*a sample of neighbours by email

\* individuals and groups in small meetings

\*user organisations - village clubs and societies, Parish Council, Orchard Project etc.

<p>People told us they were concerned that</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>*the village is getting bigger and perhaps poorer</li> <li><b>*it's an expensive place to live</b></li> <li>*there are isolated people, especially those with mobility problems</li> <li>*older people are not getting enough help</li> <li>*there is a need for somewhere in the village for people to meet and get know each other</li> <li>*we have no church hall, post office, nursery, public toilets, indoor sports facilities, public IT point with fast broadband</li> </ul>	<p><i>Additional Points</i></p> <p><i>Although our Stage 1 application concentrates, as it must, on use of the hall we did show that</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>*the audit carried out by Rural Action Yorkshire in 2011 proves that the hall wastes energy.</i></li> <li><i>*there is no structural insulation (nor the possibility of economically fitting it) and outdated electric heating.</i></li> <li><i>*York Energy Saving Trust took thermal images of the hall and measured current flow to the heating system. These show substantial heat loss and heavy electricity consumption.</i></li> </ul>
<p>People said the village hall could help by</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>*becoming the venue for activities under all the above headings</li> <li>*keeping doing what we are already good at - drama, talks, exhibitions, music, Youth Club, social events</li> <li>*developing daytime programmes for older people and young parents</li> <li>*creating a learning programme for life, leisure and work</li> <li>*becoming a regular local base for Citizens Advice Bureau, a practice nurse, a post office</li> <li>*reaching out to individuals and groups who do not at present use the village hall or take part in community activities.</li> </ul>	<p><b>What Next?</b></p> <p>*The Big Lottery office emailed Andrew on 15<sup>th</sup> March. They said:</p> <p><b><i>“We will assess your outline proposal in line with our programme guidance and tell you within 20 working days if we are inviting you to complete a full application.”</i></b></p> <p>*If approved, we will be given 4 months to complete the full application.</p> <p>*The Village Hall Committee will ask those people who said they would like to be involved in the project to meet and form a sub-committee. That group will work on the Stage 2 application. Many thanks to all of you who took part in this consultation. It demonstrates that Husthwaite is lively and alert, with a wide range of opinion, experience and expertise. Stand by to bring it into action!</p> <p>Richard Wood Chair, Husthwaite Village Hall</p>

## The Husthwaite Hypochondriac

An evening of comedy awaits the audience for The Hypochondriac, performed by Husthwaite Drama Group on Thurs. 31<sup>st</sup> March, Friday 1<sup>st</sup> and Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> April at the Village Hall at 7.30.

The play, by the famous Liverpool poet Roger McGough, is a rollicking version of the original by Moliere, sparing neither money grabbing doctors, nor the worried well who take increasingly expensive and frankly daft cures for all manner of imagined ailments.

The cast, all locals, throw themselves into their roles. Our hero, the hypochondriac, ( Euan Crawshaw) is taught a lesson by his clever maid Toinette (Mary Hill). A lawyer, two young lovers, many doctors, an infernal machine, a very large knife and a red hot poker also star

**(don't ask!)**

The interval will be enlivened by a beautiful bevy of local pulchritude **(look it up), 4 ladies who form the group" Return of the Neighbours.**

Make sure of your ticket by booking with Richard Wood on 01347 868247 or by calling at the village shop

Mary Hill and Euan Crawshaw





Mary Smith and Kerry Barker  
rehearse for  
The Hypochondriac



Liz and Euan  
Crawshaw  
in rehearsal

## PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

### FAREWELL

At the recent meeting of Husthwaite Parish Council, Councillor Percy **Featherstone confirmed that, after 20 years' service to the White Horse Ward of Hambleton District Council**, he will not be standing as a candidate at the forthcoming local elections.

During his time in office, Percy has seldom missed a meeting of the **Parish Council and has used his influence on many occasions to 'get things done for Husthwaite'**. This was particularly evident in raising **widespread support when the village was in The People's Millions ITV** competition for funding to build the New Games Area.

Not only has he supported the work of the Parish Council in such ways but he has also been a source of very helpful information and guidance on many occasions.

Without doubt, he will be greatly missed and he will be a hard act to follow. On behalf of the Community, the Parish Council paid tribute to Percy and extended good wishes for his well-deserved retirement.

### WELCOME

It was also noted at this recent meeting that over the winter months, a number of families have moved into the village. In an effort to extend a welcome, the Parish Council has arrangements in place to distribute **the 'Welcome to Husthwaite' information pack and copies of the Parish Plan**. No doubt, some households have been missed and therefore, if this is the position, an invitation is extended to contact Carol Fenwick (Information Pack) and Peter Davison (Parish Plan) on 868379 and 868449 respectively and these documents will be delivered.

To all newcomers, the Parish Council extends a warm welcome.

## Oil Deliveries

Husthwaite Oil Buying Co-op now has 47 households that have registered interest, the number growing with each order. March 14 saw the third order on behalf of the village with drops totalling 23,000 litres.

The order was placed as part of the Lower Swale Syndicate, now comprising seven co-operatives in Brafferton, Alne Bagby, Husthwaite, Raskelf, Sutton and Thirkleby, which submitted a total order of approx. 200,000 ltrs of kerosene. The successful bidder on this occasion was BATA at 54.98p a ltr. Prices were up to 59.90 + VAT (national average was 59.77) and individual order quotes were often in excess of this.

# Home Energy Audits

Husthwaite is one of five villages in North Yorkshire that are piloting energy reduction ideas. We began last year with the Energy Day in the Village Hall, and lots of information about insulation and other ways to cut energy use in our homes. There were experts on hand to talk about renewable energy sources like solar panels and the oil cooperative began on that day.

The next step was the Home Energy Audits. We offered a free package; you could sign up to have an energy audit done on your **house (that's a kind of checklist to establish what energy saving measures are already there and what could be done next)**. With the audit came free thermal images of your house and the loan of a monitor to check how much electricity your house is using.

Rosie Hughes, the Sustainable Communities Officer at Yorkshire Energy Partnership (YEP) says ...

***“For the last two weeks, we’ve been visiting residents’ homes in Husthwaite and running through some questionnaires. Insulation, heating and recycling have been covered and homeowners have also talked about renewable energy, the feed-in-tariffs and the renewable heat incentive. We have also been discussing what sort of projects residents would like to see in their village. Some ideas have already been put forward about solar photovoltaic panels and recycling/ composting.***

*The new YEP thermal imaging camera has also been used to take **pictures of the heat loss from peoples’ houses. Luckily, no areas of concern showed up!** These will make up the front cover of the Home Audits - which will be available soon.*

*There are still a few homes to go - but once these are completed, householders taking part will be able to borrow an electricity monitor for three weeks. This is a lot like the library scheme, but **especially set up for Husthwaite.**”*

**It’s worth saying that Husthwaite is the only village tackling the** energy project in this way. The free package is unique and well worth taking advantage of for your house. So would you like your house to have the audit?.....If you would, contact Andrew Coulthard on 01347 868130 to book a place. Do it soon; the next ten places are filling up quickly.

Andrew Coulthard

# NEWS FROM HUSTHWAITE SCHOOL

Mrs Bainbridge has been asked by the local authority to help support another small primary school in North Yorkshire whilst their Head teacher is on maternity leave. This will mean that from 28<sup>th</sup> March until 27<sup>th</sup> June (baby dates being reliable!) Mrs Bainbridge will be based at Husthwaite School, in a non-teaching capacity, on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesday morning and will then travel to West Heslerton Primary School to work on Wednesday afternoons, Thursday and Fridays. In Mrs Bainbridge's absence the school's leadership team will manage the school and Mrs Fowler who job shares with Mrs Bainbridge will teach full time. This is an exciting opportunity to work collaboratively with another primary school particularly in the current financial climate of cuts and savings.



## Toddlers at Husthwaite



'Toddlers at Husthwaite' continues to run at the school on Thursday mornings. All children up to school age are welcome to come along and pop in any time with their parent/carer between 9.15 and 11.15 am. It is also proving a great way for adults to meet new people and familiarise themselves with the school. This weekly toddler group is in addition to the monthly sessions held in the foundation stage class and hosted by Miss Goodchild.

## School Visit

The whole school will visit Ryedale Folk Museum on 29<sup>th</sup> March as part of their topic work based on 'inventions'. This will be the second year that the children have enjoyed a whole school trip and are looking forward to exploring inventions from the past.

## Red Nose

Mrs Dunn and her pupil voice group organised a non-uniform day and cake stall in aid of Red Nose and early indications are that they have raised approximately £200.00.

## Netball and Football

Children will be competing in the final round of this season's Cluster School's netball and football competitions. The netball team are currently in 4<sup>th</sup> position and looking forward to their final matches in their attempt to move up the league table.

## Mother's Day lunch

Fifty five mothers, grandmas and aunts will be attending a special Mother's Day lunch cooked by Mrs Houlston on Thursday 31 March. Children were given the opportunity of inviting a special person to join them for lunch in celebration of mother's day and we look forward to welcoming them into our school for the occasion.

## Easter Community Service

Our annual Easter Community Service will be held in the school on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> April at 2.15 pm and everyone is invited to attend.

### School Diary Dates:

7<sup>th</sup> April Easter Service. 2.15 pm

8<sup>th</sup> April School closes for Easter holidays 2.45 pm

26<sup>th</sup> April Summer term starts

27<sup>th</sup> April Toddler Day

29<sup>th</sup> April School closed for Royal Wedding

2<sup>nd</sup> May School closed bank holiday

18<sup>th</sup> May Toddler sing song and story session 2.45-3.15 pm

27<sup>th</sup> May School closes for half term 3.15 pm

### Traffic problems and Amplecarr

A great many of my constituents have raised with me the current situation on the roads in Hushwaite and the need to undertake urgent road repairs. By using Highthorne Lane to access Hushwaite, it is alleged to be creating a dangerous situation for road users, as Highthorne Lane is claimed to be unsuitable for any increased volume of traffic, due to the poor condition of the road surface and the lack of passing places. An added danger is apparent as the temporary traffic lights which have been set up are, according to local residents, unreliable. Within the last week, I have been told of numerous accidents that have occurred on this road. Thank goodness none of them was serious, but nevertheless, something does need to be done about this stretch of road.

The people best equipped to solve this problem are the NYCC.. They are responsible for local services including highways and roads, education, social services, public rights of way and libraries. Parliament has devolved these responsibilities to the County Council so that action could be more effectively taken on a more local level, which fits in with our localism agenda. I respect the role of councillors, as decisions linked to the roads have to be taken by the appropriate planning authority .Local roads, such as Highthorne Lane, fall to the responsibility of the County Council as the local highways authority.

An MP's role in this situation is to make representations on behalf of their constituents to the County Council to which Parliament has devolved these responsibilities. MPs and Ministers should not interfere. Obviously, if it were a trunk road, that would fall to The Highways Agency who have national responsibility for such roads. I do however take this matter very seriously, and have taken up my constituents' concerns with the County Council. I will always try to assist my constituents with a wide range of problems, but there is a limit as to how far I can take these issues as the real power for change lies, in this case, with the County Council.

**Anne McIntosh MP**

*For local comments and NYCC's response to villagers concerns see the village website. NYCC have recently said repairs will begin this summer (Ed.)*

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# Bus Services

We are advised by NYCC that there will be some changes to bus services from April 17th.

The changes are as follows (please check detail with the operator):

Service No.	Description	Operator	Summary of change
29A	York - Easingwold	Hodgson & Son	withdrawal of Sunday and evening services
31X	York - Easingwold	Hodgson & Son	withdrawal of contracted evening services
29	Easingwold - York	Stephensons	minor timing changes
30/30X	York - Thirsk	Reliance	minor timing changes
31/31X	York - Easingwold, York - Easingwold - Helmsley	Stephensons	Withdrawal of 1500 York – Easingwold Monday/Friday, 1630 York – Easingwold Monday – Friday, 1740 York – Easingwold Monday – Saturday, 1730 Helmsley – Easingwold Monday – Saturday. Alternative journeys available. Minor timing changes.
40	York – Easingwold	Reliance	Minor timing changes
41/41X	York – Easingwold	Stephensons	Withdrawal of 1050 & 1355 Easingwold – York and 1155 & 1455 York - Easingwold

The Parish Council

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## Book review by Jan Coulthard

If you are interested in detective fiction, and have waded through the usual suspects, like P.D. James, Agatha Christie, Dorothy L. Sayers, Ian Rankin or even the Yorkshire writer Peter Robinson, you might like a change.

Donna Leon is an American writer living in Venice. She has written a series of stories about an Italian police commissioner, Brunetti, and the seemingly never-ending flow of crime in Venice and its surroundings. Her elegant and extremely readable style make Brunetti, his family and his colleagues believable. Venice itself, such a strange and beautiful place, is almost a character in the books. Brunetti loves his food, and there are mouthwatering descriptions of his meals in restaurants and those made at home by his talented wife. Italian family life is accurately pictured too.

The stories bowl along, yet contain a depth of understanding of a sinister backdrop, of a fractured Italy which now presents a stylish modern European face to the world, yet which in reality is run by a media tycoon and interlocking elites, many of whom have criminal connections. The difficulties facing a morally sound policeman in such a society, in many ways so different to our own yet forcing some comparisons, are interesting, and add depth to the exciting stories. The reader is left at the end of each book with something to think seriously about, not only affecting Italy but ourselves.

**The first 2 books in the series are “Death at La Fenice” and “Death in a Strange Country”**, though one can read the series in any order as each book stands on its own merits. They are published by several publishers, including Arrow books, and paperbacks retail at around £7.99 each, cheaper on Amazon, or you can borrow my copies if you like. They are a must for anyone going to Venice, or who loves Italy, or just enjoys a good read.





Above: The Parish Council consider the tenders for the Adventure Area And Fitness Trail  
Below: an illustration of the chosen plan submitted by Image Playgrounds See page 9

