Husthwaite Newsletter
April 2009  Issue 40

Spring arrives in Husthwaite?

Kerry Barker and Becky Skinner relaxing in the March sunshine
Letter from the Editor
As Spring makes up its mind whether to arrive or not, we can look forward to a variety of interesting events through April, May and June, and there are some pointers to happenings later in the year.
The Village Hall continues to be improved and used by more people, and the plans for the recreation area are ongoing (more on that in the next newsletter). The Orchard Project is under way too. Thank you to all letter writers and contributors to the newsletter. The next edition will be out in June, so articles and pictures for that edition should be sent by May 20th to: jancoulthard@hotmail.co.uk or to Aletheia House, High Street, Husthwaite YO61 4PX

Dates for your Diary
5 April 10am Painting of Village Hall
6 April St Nicholas Church Annual Parochial Meeting 7pm VHall
9 April “Plant Propagation” talk, 7.30 Village Hall
22-25 April “She stoops to conquer” 7.30 Galtres Centre £8
25 April Annual Plant Sale 10am Village Hall
2 May Jowett Cars; talk and display, Village Hall, from 2.00pm
3 May First Aid course Pt1 Village Hall 1.30-4.30
10 May First Aid course Pt2 Village Hall 1.30-4.30
7 June Made in Husthwaite exhibition
13 June Elphin Drift 7.30 £3 on the door Village Hall

THANKYOU
The Village Shop would like to thank everyone who helped whilst David was in hospital. You have all been brilliant and have really helped us to keep the shop going. Thank you to everyone who took us to the wholesalers, took us to the hospital and helped us with the paper round, and all of you who have sent kind regards to David while he was ill. You’ve all been so kind and helpful, and we really have appreciated it.

Anne, Chris, David and Alex Dowson
New Youth Group in Husthwaite (and a new kitchen).

At the village hall, the old billiard room is being given a make-over (to provide some extra storage space) and we’re completely refurbishing the kitchen, replacing the units and the appliances. It’s all being done with a grant from the Community Foundation and work should start on 14 April.

One of the main reasons for the work is to give us a new smaller meeting room, supported by better catering facilities, to enable us to revive opportunities for young people in the village (and from the area). The Village Hall Committee has made some good progress with this. We met with children and parents from the village on 15 March and, the following week, had an excellent meeting with Clare Yates. Clare works for North Yorkshire Youth, the organisation which supports the development of new youth groups in rural areas. She has proved to be a very useful contact, a good source of information about all the help available to us and some of the hurdles we have to clear to keep up with the law. She and her colleague were very enthusiastic about what we discussed and will help us make it happen.

So, to make a start, the VHC are happy to provide the hall on an agreed regular basis, sort out all the legal aspects and help with the financial issues. The most successful youth clubs are those driven by the young people, who take a lot of the responsibility for what happens. It is, however, essential to have parent support and an adult driving force within the community. What we need now is a voluntary youth leader from within the village or the parents (young people from other villages can join), plus a healthy rota of parents. This project is very close to fruition. All we need now is the right person at the helm. Please contact us if you are willing to help in any way, or to talk things through if you are unsure.

Vikki Nixon and Richard Wood

Dear reader

I would like to extend a plea to everyone in the village, young or not so young, to suggest subjects for articles which might be of interest to others, or better still, to write something yourself! I would like the Newsletter to reflect a wider range of ideas and interests, not necessarily just about this village. Please feel free also to drop in comments or corrections, to my email address.

The Editor
Sort Out Your Finances

The financial markets have been a mess.....
Shares down 30% in 12 months
Property down 14% in 12 months
Can’t get your money from your bank
Who knows what to do with their money?

What I can do for you
Give you independent financial advice to allow you to manage your income, expenditure and wealth to suit your needs.

Have an initial meeting to understand your needs and to carry out a financial review. I won’t charge for this meeting.

If following the initial meeting, we agree to transact business the cost of this will be very clear and will only proceed on an agreed basis.

I will carry out further reviews on an ongoing basis to ensure that your plans can be adapted to fit with any changes in your circumstances.

You have nothing to lose by having a chat
Call me on:
Home: 01347868196
Mobile: 07777663766
E-mail: willmowatt@resultsfinancial.co.uk
Comment on my blog at www.sortoutyourfinances.blogspot.com

Will Mowatt is an independent financial advisor based in the Easingwold area. He has a wide experience of financial products having originally qualified as an actuary with Scottish Widows and most recently having been the Director of Marketing for Retirement and Protection products at Norwich Union.

Will Mowatt is an independent financial advisor working for Results Financial Ltd who are authorised and regulated by the FSA no. 230884
I was reading a 1927 “Autocar” magazine article (don’t ask) and the fuzzy photograph at the top showed an old Jowett 7hp car going up what turned out to be Sutton Bank. One thing led to another and I discovered that this was Jowett’s regular test run, whenever they had a new car or modification to try out. Winter or summer, day and night, cars set out from Idle near Bradford and went up and down as many vertical hills as they could cram into the eight hour run. Sutton Bank was the halfway point. And the same car did it three times a day!

The Jowett brothers made cars from 1905 to 1954. The cars and vans were strong, very reliable, different from everybody else’s and very Yorkshire. People now still remember the Javelin, much ahead of its time, and the very long-running Bradford van, with its distinctive two-cylinder sound.

Phill Green worked for Jowetts in its later days, as an engineer in the experimental department, developing the Javelin and Jupiter. He did many of the marathon test drives, stopping in Easingwold to unfreeze himself. He’s coming to talk to us at the village hall on Saturday 2 May about his experiences with this unique car maker. He will bring his Jupiter (one of the last cars they made) and we hope that other owners of classic Jowetts will be coming too. With luck, before the afternoon talk, there will be a chance to look at a few of these wonderful old cars, talk to their owners and have tea and cakes in the hall.

About the 1927 article; the writer was pleased that the car with its four passengers (and a very small engine) made it to the top. For the time, this was a serious achievement and, for years to come, helped the car to sell especially well in hilly Yorkshire.

Andrew Coulthard
The course, which leads to a certificate in Basic and Emergency First Aid, runs for 6 hours, spread over two Sundays, 3 and 10 May. 1.30 to 4.30 in the village hall. We are limited to 12 places and some have already been booked. If you expressed interest earlier, please contact me (on 868130 or email aletheia@hotmail.co.uk) urgently to confirm your place(s). Places are being confirmed on a first-come basis. We are seeking funding to allow us to admit up to 4 under 18’s free, so those places can be provisionally booked now. The total course cost is £40.00 + VAT per person.

Andrew Coulthard
Free Adult Education In the Village Hall from September

Starting in September this year, two daytime adult education courses are being planned to take place in the Village Hall. The idea is that parents of children at Husthwaite and other local schools could attend while their children are at nursery or school. Anyone else who is interested who would like to come along is also very welcome, to join in meeting other people and making the sessions social and interesting occasions, as well as educational.

The courses follow two different strands:
One is for people who want to help in primary schools, perhaps with a view to, in the longer term, obtaining jobs as teaching assistants or teachers, or for those who just wish to know more about how to offer to help in their local school. This can lead on to a second accredited course for school helpers.

The other course is for those who have been away from the workplace for some time, possibly caring for children or relatives, or have been made redundant, but who now would like to return to work in the future and would like to gain the confidence and know-how to apply for training, education or jobs.

We have two experienced tutors already lined up, and the courses are free. The courses are planned and funded by the WEA, the Workers Educational Association, who have a long and successful history of working in adult education in communities. We have the enthusiastic support of our local Husthwaite School head, Rebecca Bainbridge, to help us publicise the courses, for which we are very grateful.

If anyone is interested in finding out more, please contact me as I am working as the volunteer local co-ordinator on behalf of the WEA, and am helping to deliver these courses. You can telephone me on 01347 868130, or email me on jancoulthard@hotmail.co.uk More information will also be available in a newsletter nearer September.

Jan Coulthard

Alexander Technique
Lucy Glaister is running a weekly course on Saturdays at 10-11 in the Village Hall. She hopes to start an additional course on Wednesdays at 9.30-10.30, beginning in May. Please contact her on 01347 868644 or at lucy.glaister@btconnect.com for details.
Easingwold Players Present
“She Stoops to Conquer”
An 18th Century comedy
At the Galtres Entertainment Centre
Directed by Richard Wood
Starring Jessica Bailey
And featuring Stephen Barker
7.30 Wed 22 to Sat 25 April
Tickets £8 from the Galtres Centre
Book early for a choice seat!

The Balmoral
Low Street
Husthwaite
01347 868007
family run traditional pub
specialising in

Ladies that Lunch
Children that Lunch
Early Bird for families
Traditional Sunday lunch
All families welcome
Poetry Competition Runners up
We printed the winning poems from our Poetry Competition in the last newsletter. The two poems which came second in each of the categories we feel deserve a wider audience: for the Junior Section, the poem by Kerry Barker, and in the Senior section, Ursula Duncan.

A Bird’s Eye View
Hovering up above with his nest somewhere nearby
there’s a swallow, just resting, his feathers rustling in the breeze.
Far down below is his home, my home, our home, Husthwaite.
Around it cars dash like tiny abacus beads
but he’s in no rush.
As small as ants children play running around,
but he’s in no rush.
As proud as can be stands his old friend, the church, in all its glory,
the afternoon sun beating down upon it.
Suddenly his mind snaps back into reality and he is in a rush.
If only I was a swallow and I could glide also drifting through the clouds
weightless in his world, so I can see my home, his home, our home,
Husthwaite.

Kerry Barker

Husthwaite
Here on a hillside nestling
Under Beacon Bank
Soft and silvery in the early morning
This warm and welcoming sight
Husthwaite. Ancient village
Whose church has weathered centuries of snow
And seen intense summer suns multiplying and
Invigorating its orchards, whose abundance once spread
Throughout dales and moorlands, blessing his place
Exquisite, incomparable, Yorkshire.

Ursula Duncan

Painting Appeal
I would like to appeal to as many people as possible to bring a paintbrush to the Village Hall on Sunday 5th April from 10 am. There are a few internal and external areas which need rubbing down and a touch of paint. We will provide paint, sandpaper and refreshments. If a good gang comes along it will only take an hour or so. Thank you in anticipation of your support.

Stephen Barker
Top Class Performers Make St Valentine’s Day Special for Elphin Drift

On St Valentine’s Day we had the broadest range of musical styles that Elphin Drift has showcased so far.

Top of the bill was David Paynes (see facing page). An 11-year-old Harrogate schoolboy, he was the youngest finalist in BBC Radio Two’s Young Chorister of the Year 2008, and sang at St Paul’s’ Cathedral. In the packed village hall you could hear a pin drop as people held their breath in appreciation of the wonderful quality of his young voice.

Rachel Dawick, the New Zealand folk singer/songwriter, was with us again. We were part of her UK and European itinerary. Rachel sang some numbers from her latest CD, ‘Journeys’. Her music has a haunting style, drawing on traditional ballads and contemporary Scottish/Irish melodies to give a lovely blend of her Celtic origins with the mountains and seascapes of her homeland. Google Rachel Dawick and you will be amazed that an artist with her CV should come to Husthwaite … and enjoy herself!

Elphin Drift gave a warm welcome to the established acts who have supported us from the outset. Phil Grainger entranced the with-it generation and baffled the oldies with his multi-instrumental talents: guitar, keyboard, vocals, and percussion.

Callum Watt performed contemporary acoustic numbers (including his own compositions). Long Walk to the Shore descended with their atmospheric interpretation of folk, rock and blues standards. Their leader is Alex Green from Beacon Banks.

“Stony Plain”, who are forging quite a presence in the county, hit us with their traditional, uncompromising 1930s Mississippi Delta Blues. It was great to hear again young Lucy Collins from our own Low Street play her clarinet. Lucy has developed a lovely mellow tone.

We welcomed a newcomer, Marty “The Picking Plumber”, who introduced us to his collection of country songs played on mandolin and banjo.

Mike Wells, Husthwaite’s professional sound engineer, broadcast the music. Everyone appreciates Mike’s work, not least the visiting performers who invariably express their surprise at the quality of his sound production. Alun Nixon compered the evening. His fans were once again disappointed that in the interests of finishing at a reasonable hour Alun cut his own contribution. We are encouraging him to open the proceedings at the next Elphin Drift on 13th June. £3 on the door, first note played at 7.30pm.

Richard Wood
David Panes, (above) the youngest finalist in BBC 2’s Young Cho- rister of the Year, singing beautifully at our last Elphin Drift.
Wass Village Hall was full on Thursday, 19th January. The occasion was the visit of four sisters from Stanbrook Abbey, at the invitation of Wass WI. soon to be our neighbours in their new monastery at Crief. After a short WI business meeting, each sister spoke in turn about a different aspect of their life and work: the history of the Benedictine Order,(which dates back to before the Dissolution of the Monasteries, in the sixteenth century); the daily routine following the Rule of St Benedict; and how they came to be moving from Stanbrook Abbey in Worcestershire to this part of North Yorkshire. Their new home will be very different from Stanbrook, designed by Edward Pugin in the early nineteenth century. The new monastery will be modern, using some of the latest technology e.g. reed bed sewage treatment, rainwater harvesting, and a living sedum roof, triple skin walls and triple glazing.

Their community consists of 25 sisters aged between 30 and 91 years. They are an enclosed order which means they don’t normally leave their monastery. Permission from the Abbess, Dame Andrea Savage, was granted for them to come and meet their neighbours in Wass at the kind invitation of the WI.

The sisters follow the Rule of St Benedict which means rising at 5am for reading and private prayer followed by first sung Office in the Chapel. The day ends with Compline at 8.15 pm. The community have the oldest private printing press in the country and have printed the works of distinguished literary figures. But their purpose in their lives is to give themselves to God, and come closer to God by prayer.

There were numerous questions from the large audience e.g. What is the difference between a convent and a monastery? How do you support yourselves? The sisters ended their presentation by issuing a general invitation that we visit them when they move into their as yet unfinished home in May.

To end this very interesting event, a magnificent WI feast of good food was set out, and enjoyed by all. The sisters did not eat but were at the centre of small groups of interested people, until it was time to end the evening. Thank you, Wass WI. 

Ursula Duncan
Shiatsu Demo and Talk
Recently in the Village Hall, Jane Cluley ran a demonstration of Shiatsu. Several people asked for more details, so there’s an opportunity to find out more about this traditional Japanese hands-on healing: this deeply nourishing therapy is similar to acupuncture in its aims and effectiveness, but without the use of needles. It uses hand pressure and gentle mobilisation to stimulate the body’s vital energy. Come and find out more at 7.30pm on 9th April at Easingwold Catholic Church Hall Or tel. Jane Cluley on 07906 652669.

Richard Wood

The County Maps of J.L.Carr
I thank God and ever shalle
It was the mappes that payed for alle
All of J.L. Carr’s maps of the counties of England will be on display in the gallery at Shandy Hall, Coxwold. The exhibition will open on 16 May at 1pm with music in the garden. At 7.30 that evening, Bob Carr will talk about his father’s life and work in Coxwold village Hall. Tickets £3. On Sunday 17th May at 10.30 am, Ronald Blythe (author of Akenfield) will give the sermon in Coxwold Parish Church.

Patrick Wildgust

Husthwaite Gardening Club
The Husthwaite and District Gardening Club held a well-attended AGM on 12th March, postponed from February because of the snow. This was followed by a very successful meeting in which Brian Hutchinson talked to members about summer bulbs. The next meeting will be on Thursday 9th April at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall when John Foxton, from Castle Howard, will talk on ‘Plant propagation’.

The Annual Plant Sale will be held as usual in the Village Hall on Saturday 25th April at 10 am. Entry costs 50p, which includes a cup of coffee. Prospective purchasers are advised to be there promptly to avoid disappointment as plants sell out very quickly.

Tony Cowan
Letters to the Editor

Easingwold
Dear Jan
I was so glad to read the Newsletter. How amazing, all the talent in the village! I was fortunate to have lived there 17 years. I saw Richard Wood at the Elphin Drift musical production which was absolutely stunning. I was glad to be there!
I hope to come to some of the History Society talks. Please keep me informed.
Marta Hatfield

Thornton Cleveleys.
Dear Madam
I feel that I should pass on my thoughts about your village. Having reached my 81st birthday and had a major operation last year, I was prompted to trace my family tree. I found the grave of my grandparents and great grandparents in Wakefield Cemetery, and recently via the 1851 census your village came to light. I then decided to visit Husthwaite hoping to gain some further information.
As I parked my car near St. Nicholas’ church I was immediately asked by a lady if she could help me. She took me further down the street and introduced me to another resident who had details of parish records. Upon going to the church I found the grave of my great-great grandfather, Robert Moncaster, near the church entrance, showing he was schoolmaster for 38 years. I later received great help at the shop (Dowson’s). I have since been in contact with Percy Moncaster at Easingwold and find we have the same Gt.-Gt. Grandfather and so are directly related.
I will end by saying it was very moving to receive such spontaneous help from your inhabitants.
Yours sincerely
Donald Robert Moncaster (Retired Police Sergeant)
Village Hall Committee Seeks New Volunteers

Your village hall needs you. It’s one of those moments when you could make a real difference to the community.

Exciting developments are taking place. In other parts of this Newsletter you will read that we have landed a grant that will allow us to refurbish the kitchen and to turn the community room into an attractive second centre for village occasions. We have successfully negotiated with North Yorkshire Youth to run a Youth Club. The WEA have agreed to fund two tutors for adult education sessions. We are sounding out the possibilities of sessions for the community’s senior citizens, many of whom find the village hall’s current programme has little to offer them. We have been continuing to develop the range of talks and events we support and we continue to fund-raise. You can see what’s coming up by visiting our website www.husthwaitevillagehall.co.uk

Whilst the new developments have been happening, there has been a lot of work to help us improve fire safety and to keep the building in better shape. It’s proving a lot for a small team of five volunteers to keep up with and we think it’s time to have an extra hand (or two) at the pump. Please think about whether you could give us some time. There’s much work to be done, but it’s all about keeping our village a lively place to live.

The sunlit side of the coin is that we do have a lot of fun. We are a well-organised set of enthusiastic individuals from varied backgrounds, and we support each other happily between monthly meetings. If you would like to talk things over about helping us in some way, large or small, please contact me on 868247 or call in for a chat at Falcon Cottage in the Nookin.

Richard Wood
**MADE IN HUSTHWAITE**

*If you make things, in wood, metal or anything, if you repair or restore things or grow them, if you paint or draw or collect things, we’re really interested to hear from you. In fact, if you do anything in the village, either in your own time or as a job and you would like other people to find out a bit about it, then this exhibition is for you.*

*The idea is that people will have some space to make a display of whatever they do and will be willing to be there on the day, so that people coming to the exhibition can chat with them. There’s such an astonishing variety of things that people in the village and around are enthusiastic and knowledgeable about that, if it works, it will be a fascinating chance to share what we do.*

That was the article in December’s Newsletter and, so far, there have been six people in the village who have said they would like to take part. The range of displays is now; an archive of local photos and newspaper cuttings, a collection made by a builder of motor bikes, paintings by a local artist, photographs by someone new to photography, the work of a portrait artist and some woodworking.

That’s a good start, but we need lots more. It’s about making an interesting hour or so for someone from the village or outside, who will come, have some tea and cake, wander round, maybe pluck up courage to talk to some of the people doing the displays, be amazed at the skills involved and maybe feel enthused to take up an interest themselves. It’s a good advert for the village too, for its unique energy and friendliness.

If you want to take part, you would have a space (inside or out) in which to make your own display. If you’ve never done it before, we could help get you started. If you can be doing practical stuff during the display - brilliant! Anything goes (more or less), but it would be good to have some live music, maybe something about the renewable energy installations appearing in the village and something from young people. It would be very good to hear from businesses based in the village too.

Last thing; the date has been put back. **It’s now Sunday 7 June.**

If you would like to know more, have any ideas or wish to take part, please ring me on 868130 or e-mail me at aletheia@hotmail.co.uk

Andrew Coulthard
Husthwaite Local History Society
Progress is being made with a new booklet on Tales of the Old School. However we are short of photos of school groups from the 1920s and also from the last years of the old school in the early 1970s and its closure in 1974 - if anyone has any clear photos (and can, better still, name some or most of the pupils and teachers in them) we would be very pleased to include them - please contact Angela Ovenston (868 347).

The Husthwaite local history society are hoping to arrange for several photographs to be taken in front of the old school of anyone of whatever age who attended the old school prior to its closure in 1974. The shoot will take place on Sunday 28th June (time to be arranged) On this same afternoon Husthwaite village hall committee will be staging their annual Treasure Hunt and Barbecue. This provides the opportunity of a great social get together. Even if you don’t want to join in the treasure hunt you will be welcome at the barbecue later in the afternoon (please inform Stephen Barker or someone on the village hall committee in advance so we know the numbers we are catering for)

Look out for further details nearer the date confirming the times.

Angela Ovenston

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The Curtain Room

Beautiful hand crafted interiors

The Curtain Room is an exciting new business in Husthwaite, we specialise in traditional fine furnishings, re-upholstery, interiors and window dressings.

We produce beautiful hand made goblet, half goblet and triple pinch pleat headed curtains, pelmets and roman blinds.

Complete your room with our unique, gorgeous hand made iron poles and finials.

Please call **01347 868874** or email: Mel.Casling@thecurtainroom.com
The Orchard Project

The Orchard Project is off to a flying start. The 70 questionnaires and dozens of 1 to 1 interviews have resulted in a book “The Fruits and Orchards of Husthwaite” being completed and on sale at the village shop for £6 in book form or £3 as a DVD.

In terms of the tree planting, an orchard of 20 trees has been planted at the school and one of 12 trees in the paddock behind the pub. (See photo right of owner James Stephen-son with one of his new trees). The funds are in place to purchase up to 250 additional trees in October for anyone who wishes to establish or renew a small orchard in their garden. The new play area will be completed by then and an estimated 30 trees will be planted in there.

A professor of pomology (yes this title really exists) will be visiting the village in May and September and he will be helping to identify old trees whose variety is at present uncertain or unknown.

An event during National Apple Week w/c 18/10/09 is at an early stage of planning with activities and events such as:

*Cider tasting by Croptons cider company
*Juicing demonstration and equipment available for anyone to juice their fruit
*Apple bobbing and toffee apple stall
*Contests for jams, chutneys and fruit or vegetables grown this season
*A possible hog roast
*A display by Helmsley Walled Garden of their collection of rare fruit varieties
*Father Rainer to showcase his work at Ampleforth
*Added to this 2-3 nurseries and Garden centres would have stalls and
a subject to demonstrate eg winter planting or effective pruning
*A guided fruit tree walk around the village to show the rarest varieties
*A grafting demonstration to explain the opportunities of regenerating
the village orchards from within.

If the above mentioned is to happen a society or some form of organisa-
tion will have to be established and this is at present under considera-
tion. Cameron Smith

A note from the village hall committee…..
We were pleased to accept Cameron’s offer of four espalier fruit trees too. It
will help with making the hall look better and we want to support the Or-
chard Project. We’re going to plant them against the hall. It’s a really chal-
 lenging environment for anything to grow in, but we’ve thought long and hard
and taken advice from professionals in fruit tree growing. They tell us it can
be done. The trees will be in as soon as it can be arranged.

Taylor Made
Husthwaite’s quality caterers
specialists in cold buffets
menus to suit all budgets
Weddings Christenings
Funerals
Anniversaries Birthdays
Business Functions

Debbie Taylor 01347 868576
Anne Marie 01347 868282
February brought plenty of snow to our village this year. High Street was for careful drivers only!