The Book Exchange is now open in the village hall on the first and third Tuesdays of each month. Come and join in! See article inside for details.
Husthwaite Newsletter is jointly funded by the Parish Council, the Village Hall Committee and local sponsors

EDITOR: Jan Coulthard

Please send articles for the April edition to me by March 20 (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.

Friends and family at home and abroad can receive this Newsletter if they have email and can download a pdf file. Let me know their email address and I will put them on the list! We now have many readers and contributors at home and abroad. Past and present Newsletters are available on the village website at husthwaitevillage.com

Dates for your Diary

1, 15, 29 Feb Quiz Nights at the Orchard Inn  £2
7 Feb 10.30-12.30 Book Exchange in the village hall
7 Feb 12.00 Evergreen Club in VH
9 Feb 7.30 AGM Gardening Club in VH
21 Feb 10.30-12.30 Book Exchange in VH
3 March 7.30 Elphin Drift in VH. Tickets £4 on door
6 March 10.30-12.30 Book Exchange in VH
9 March 7.30 Alan Green talk in Methodist Church. Tickets £5
15 March 7.30 History Society talk in VH: “From White Tower to White Horse”. Tickets £5 on door
17 March St Patricks Night at Orchard Inn
20 March 10.30-12.30 Book Exchange in VH
20 March Psychic Night at the Orchard Inn
11, 13 and 14 April 7.30 Play: “It Runs In the Family” in VH
Christmas Market

With 18 stalls from Hovingham Market and our own local businesses, the Christmas market in the village hall in December went very well, and many stallholders said they would certainly come again if we had an occasional market here. One stallholder, despite being sent a map, managed to end up in Redcar, but still made it back in time to have a good day's trading! From refreshments and stall fees we made a surplus of £200 for the village hall fund. Thanks to Mary Hill, Gill Allanson and Dot Berry for helping with the refreshments, and to everyone who helped with the planning and setting up of the market.

Jan Coulthard

Neighbourhood Watch News.

If you are targeted in any way, by antisocial behaviour or other criminal act, you should telephone 101 and register the complaint officially, I am reliably informed. Obtaining an incident number ensures that we build a sufficient case list to warrant an action plan to deal with nuisance attacks such as we had last year and the year before. Let's hope we are free of them this year!

If a crime is in progress, dial 999.

Jill Galloway
Match of the Day
January 1st 2012

On a windswept plateau a ragbag collection of players battled the elements to produce football of variable quality but undeniable enthusiasm.

It did not bode well when after three minutes, a red faced Trevor Hutchinson, enquired when half time was. He did manage, however to carve out a few opportunities.

There were two father and son combinations playing for High Street. Jason Sargent, wearing a shirt with Fowler, appropriately printed on the back, proved a snug fit in a dynamic midfield, which also included Jinky Will Mowatt and Alun Nixon. Alun’s energetic contribution was underlined by the fact he had the dirtiest knees at the end.

Will, who organised the game and with legs reminiscent of pre war vitamin shortages, combined brilliantly with his son Calum on the right. Calum proved that, in a match where heading the ball was generally a humorous sideshow, he could rise above the rest when he directed a stunning header in the top corner for, perhaps, the goal of the game. On the other wing, Tarran, (oops, Taz) Williams with Josh Sargent defied the myth that the bigger you are, the better you are, and consistently threatened Low Street’s defences.

In a game of great endeavour and surprising levels of skill, Gavin Watt was MOTM. He was outstanding and, in a game dominated by fair play, responded well to the referee’s suggestion that he play for Low Street to equalise the sides. Harry Wise, for different reasons made the reverse exchange. He had all the attributes of a footballer, looks, kit, abundant and obvious skills but seemed to lack the facility to absorb oxygen in what must have been rather small lungs. Probably a lifestyle issue...

High Street’s keeper, Mark Kingston dominated the area and was one of the key reasons for Low Street struggling to make any sort of breakthrough.
As to Low Street, well, they suffered from several disadvantages, the major one being that the referee was from High Street. They were well led by Jeremy Walker who surprisingly covered the turf well, but left behind the usual number of divots. His son Joe held the midfield together. Both had to leave the game for reasons explained later.

Jamie Taylor, a loan made during the January transfer window, prodded and prompted and generally kept the score down to manageable levels. Like the famous Alf Tupper, Cameron Smith, having just got into bed after drinking all the Hill’s booze, responded to the call and went between the posts for Low Street. He weathered an avalanche of high balls, plucking them from the air just like..., well, just like picking apples.

Another father and son, Rick and Alex Fenwick, played. Rick dominated the centre circle making some important interceptions despite nearly twice losing his cap with rather interesting headers. Alex worked tirelessly up front and was unlucky to not have more than a few goals to his credit.

Amidst all the thud and blunder there was clear evidence that football is not primarily a man’s game. Liv Gilliam, who scored for Low Street, deftly avoided High Street’s best and was a constant menace in her partnership with Alex. As to Martin Gallon? Well, it has to be back to the drawing board for him. All the skill and movement was there but his customary surgical finishing was absent.

The spine of the team was a Liverpudlian holidaymaker staying at Sleepy Hollow. He matched everyone from High St and was unlucky to finish on the losing side. Last but not least was Stephen Barker whose curious outfit, comprising a red woolly hat and hooped jersey, brought to mind a Clearasil advert. Joking aside, the Matalan Marauder was only kept out by stout defending. He never misplaced a pass and was always an available outlet.

There was not a foul during the whole match. This was not due to any Corinthian spirit but rather that the referee (the author of this piece) who, rather sadly, found the pace overwhelming.

The efforts of all were well supported by family, friends and the regular dog. Continued overleaf
All the good humour evaporated however, when we found the reason for Jeremy and Joe Walker's absence from the pitch. Jeremy's mother had fallen on the grassy bank and was lying in obvious discomfort. The ambulance took a disappointingly long time to arrive but Jeremy's mother was well attended by Dr Jane Maloney and Holly Beeson who is a trained paramedic. The latest news is that the patient is comfortable after breaking a collarbone and wrist.

The teams retired to the Orchard Inn and enjoyed bacon butties, courtesy of Alison.

Oh, If anyone really cares...the final score was High St 5, Low Street 2.

Lawrie Hill.

*See photo on outside back cover. Other photos of this event, by Brian Watt and Michelle Fenwick, appear on the village website.*

---

**Mowatt Financial Planning**

Help and advice in the following areas:

- Holistic financial planning
- Retirement planning
- Pensions and Investments
- Individual Savings Accounts
- Life Insurance
- Long Term Care funding

Contact Will Mowatt for an initial meeting to discuss your needs:

Office: 01347 868196
Mobile: 07777 663766
E-mail: will@mowattfp.co.uk
You are probably reading this magazine without difficulty but you may know someone who is unable to read newsprint or a book through visual impairment. This is where YORK TALKING NEWS comes in.

Registered as a charity in 1976, for the past 35 years YTN has produced a monthly cassette, free of charge, for eligible people. The cassette contains 45 minutes of news items, mainly about York and district and 45 minutes of items of general interest culled from a variety of sources.

Technology has caught up with us and now we use memory sticks, two words that alarm some people. But thanks to generous financial support we are able to donate a small machine to our recipients enabling them to listen to our monthly bulletin and any other material that comes in the same format. All this is provided free of charge - the only proviso is that the memory sticks are returned to us for re-use at the end of each month.

A telephone call to Ann Jackson (01904 760140) will get you more information. She can also arrange for eligible people to become a regular recipient of YORK TALKING NEWS.
They said it couldn't be done but Amanda Humpleby (above) proved them wrong when she produced a magnificent 3-course meal, prepared in the hall kitchen, to start off the evening. We dined on a tasty first course of ‘Stilton and Pear salad' followed by ‘Coq au Vin' or ‘Vegetable Tagine'. Amanda had put her cake making skills to good use by making a terrific variety of gateaux to finish.

After being fed we sat back, in good Yorkshire tradition, and expected to be entertained. Mark Ostyn and his orchestra did just that with a varied programme of Christmas music. The audience was treated to excerpts from Handel's Messiah and a selection of Christmas Carols. We enjoyed two impressive solo singing performances and were delighted by the invitation to join in and accompany the carol singing.

Despite advancing years, the hall, like some of us present, looked splendid thanks to subdued lighting and selective decoration. For this we must thank the efforts of the village hall committee and of course Stephen Barker and Mike and Breda Wells who had organised the whole event and should feel very proud of the end result.
Yoga & Massage

YOGA: Private lessons, Weekly classes, Workshops & Retreats
MEDITATION & RELAXATION: classes & CD’s
AROMATHERAPY & SHIATSU by appointment & Gift Vouchers

Call today to improve your health & well-being!
07906 652669  janecluley@tiscali.co.uk
www.yogandshiatsu.org.uk

NORTH YORKSHIRE HEATING

OIL, LPG, & SOLID FUEL APPLIANCES
Installation / Service / Repair
Boilers  Fires  Central Heating  Stoves

Call Steve Humphreys on
01845 597865
or 07730 303923
Our first meeting of 2012 will be the AGM on 9th February. All members are encouraged to come along to hear the reports of last year’s business and to elect the committee for the coming year. All nominations for the committee should reach the chairman, Breda Wells by the 2nd February.

After the business, which should not take too long, we will have the popular bulb competition. Please bring your hyacinth, whatever state it is in!

Unfortunately our speaker has had to cancel due to ill-health, but we are very fortunate to have booked Brian Hutchinson who will tell us how to prepare our greenhouse for spring; it is always good to look forward to that exciting season. Brian has been a popular speaker at the club over many years. The former head gardener at Castle Howard has a wealth of knowledge which he always shares enthusiastically.

If you are new to Husthwaite, do come along; everyone is welcome at the Village Hall, 7:30pm, Thursday 9th February.

Mike Wells 01347 868398

Parish Council News

Queen’s Diamond Jubilee Celebrations

The Parish Council wishes to host a meeting of all the village organisations/groups together with interested individuals to discuss and subsequently organise the Husthwaite Jubilee celebrations.

So far the response from individuals has been limited but it is hoped that there are many who wish to be involved. Please come along to the meeting on Feb.24th,in the Village Hall at 7.30 and voice your ideas/suggestions...
**Grit Bin**

Despite continued lobbying NYCC Highways will not continue to fund the grit bin at the junction of Low Street and Elphin View. Last winter it was funded by Broadacres Housing Association. This year, to avoid its removal, the Parish Council have agreed to fund it. It must be stressed however that, as with all grit bins, the contents are for use on the public footpaths and roads NOT for private premises. In law its use other than on the public areas is seen as theft.

**Highways**

The Parish Council is continually receiving complaints about the road from Husthwaite to the A19. The complaints are twofold; one is the basic structure of the road with numerous potholes and broken surfaces. This is regularly taken up with NYCC Highways and will continue to be so. The second is the amount of mud left on the road by, in particular, farm vehicles. It is understood that it is not easy to avoid getting mud onto the road but it would be greatly appreciated if those responsible cleaned up afterwards, thus avoiding the slippery and sometimes dangerous condition of the road.

**NORTH YORKSHIRE POLICE NEW NON EMERGENCY NUMBER ‘101’**

The new national non-emergency number 101 has arrived in North Yorkshire and replaces the 0845 60 60 24 7 number.

While 999 is a well-recognised number used to report emergencies, the 2010 British Crime Survey found that only 54% of the public knew how to contact their local police if they wanted to talk to them about policing, crime or anti-social behaviour.

The introduction of the 101 number will offer the public one easy way to contact their local police force.

The benefits of this new number include:

- Calls from landlines and mobile networks cost 15 pence per call, no matter what time of day you call or how long you are on the phone.
- 101 is available 24 hours a day
- When you call 101, you will be able to speak to the force control room via the automated switchboard.
- When you call 101, the police will act on the information given.

Calling 101 will not result in your call receiving a lower priority than if you had called 999 about a non-emergency issue.

For those callers who are deaf, hard of hearing or speech impaired, the service can be accessed via textphone on 18001 101.

Barrie Ward
Rehearsals are underway for our next production which we will be performing in the village hall just after Easter. (April 11th, 13th, 14th).

The play is a farce - full of fun, laughter and chaos (most of it intentional), and is sure to entertain both young and old. We have assembled a fantastic production team who are already working hard behind the scenes and the cast includes lots of familiar faces.

Although Anne Dowson is unable to take a part in the play this time, you will be glad to hear that she will be making a surprise guest appearance.

Don’t miss it. Mary Hill

Ticketing details will be available later-look out for posters and fliers.

Newsletter delivery help needed....

We need help in delivering this Newsletter to people’s home, 6 times a year. We already have volunteers for Prospect Cottages and the Nookin area. Please could you volunteer to deliver in the houses near yours? We need a person for each of the following: East View and Beacon Bank, for High Street, and for either side or both sides of Low Street. We will deliver Newsletters to you.

Please contact Jan on 868130 if you can help.
Husthwaite History Society.
Thurs 15th March 7.30 pm Village Hall.

From White Tower to White Horse
(The life journey of an arms antiquary)

Talk by Guy Wilson
Please come and support our next local speaker – Guy, from Yeoman’s Course near Oulston, is well known to many people so a lively evening can be guaranteed! His talk will include “How and why, life and work in the Tower of London, the new Royal Armouries in Leeds, the varied life of a consultant and the joys of cataloguing” interspersed with “a bit of humour, a bit of optimism, a bit of cynicism and including a surprise or two”!

Tickets at the door, £5, will include a glass of wine. Everyone welcome.
The children have arrived back in school refreshed from what seems like an extended Christmas holiday. Although Christmas seems like a long time ago now, the school enjoyed its most successful Christmas Fair to date raising a fantastic £834.00; a huge thank you to everyone who supported our main annual fund-raising event.

Year 6 pupils with their Christmas Fair stall.

Performance Tables
Last month the government released School Performance League Tables and we are pleased to report that Husthwaite School has not only performed well amongst its fellow schools but has also performed very well in North Yorkshire as a whole; gaining a position in the top 25% of schools in the local authority for children achieving their expected levels in both English and Maths. This is a great achievement for the school in our drive for delivering our vision for enabling all children to reach their full potential. Details can be viewed online at: http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/special/education/school_tables/primary/11/html/eng_maths_815.stm?print=true

Class activities
The school’s topic this half term focuses on Asia and will include the countries and cultures that make up this continent. Mrs Bainbridge has incorporated Bhangra dance in KS2’s PE lessons and Mrs Houlston has cooked the children a Chinese meal to celebrate Chinese New Year, which this year celebrates the Year of the Dragon. The next half term topic will focus on festivals and the children will be researching the different festivals from around the World. The children will participate in a festival workshop exploring the different aspects of some festivals which will include dress, dance and food.

There are once again wealth of extra-curricular clubs on offer to children that range from sporting activities to ICT to chess. Each term the choice varies ensuring each child within the school from Year 1 upwards has the opportunity to take part in such activities.

Once again the school will be involved in various sporting activities with other schools in the cluster this term.

Pupil voice groups continue to meet and for the past year the focus for all groups has been to enhance our school grounds. Children have already helped to plant over 1000 spring bulbs (we hope to start seeing the appearance of early shoots soon!), we have installed some fabulous wooden sculptures, seating for an outdoor classroom, raised vegetable beds (which produced a bumper crop of carrots, onions and lettuce leaves), a willow-den and an area has also been set aside for a wildlife garden. Children have made bird boxes, bird feeders and a bird table as well as bug dens. Some groups are
producing designs for more playground markings and bird hides., The Eco Warriors will be making outdoor musical instruments from junk and the Pupil Enterprise Group have applied for trees from the Wildlife Trust to plant a copse. We are holding an outdoor celebration day on Tuesday 27th March to mark all the hard work the children have put into helping improve our fantastic grounds and we shall be inviting members of the community to come and share our success; further details will be posted on the school and village website.

Husthwaite School supports many and various charities throughout the year; so far this year we have raised money for Children in Need, MacMillan Cancer Support and Jeans for Genes. The Pupil Enterprise and Healthy Schools Groups will be organising a fund-raising event for Sport Relief at the end of March.

**Valentine’s Lunch**

Mrs Houlston will be cooking a special Valentine’s lunch on Thursday 9th February. The pupils will be able to invite a family member or other loved one to join them for lunch. This has proved popular in the past and the children enjoy having the opportunity to invite someone of their choice to have lunch with them.

**Toddler Group**

Our weekly Toddlers @ Husthwaite continues to meet each Thursday morning. 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 every Thursday morning. 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.

**Community Service**

Our next community service to be held at school will be on Tuesday 27 March which will be in conjunction with our Pupil Voice outdoors celebration. It is hoped members of the community will join us.

**Diary Dates**

- **Tuesday 7th February:** Toddler sing-song and story (monthly session in class 1)
- **Thursday 9th February:** Valentine’s lunch
- **Friday 10th February:** School closes for half term
- **Monday 20th February:** School opens
- **Thursday 9th March:** Toddler day (monthly session in Class 1 with Miss Goodchild)
- **Thursday 15th March:** High 5 and Football cluster tournament
- **Thursday 22nd March:** High 5 and Football cluster tournament
- **Friday 23rd March:** Sport Relief
- **Tuesday 27th March:** Pupil Voice Celebration   Community Service.
- **Friday 30th March:** School closes 2.45 pm for school holidays

Visits to the school are always welcome, or if you would like more information please feel free to contact us (01347 868371). Visit our website: [www.hustwaiteschool.co.uk](http://www.hustwaiteschool.co.uk)
Village Hall News

Thanks!

There were three excellent events just before Christmas in the village hall, the Classical music evening and Dinner, the new Christmas Market and the first meeting of the Husthwaite Book Exchange. You can read about what went on at all of them, elsewhere in this Newsletter. They were all, in different ways, completely new events for the village and all went really well. Thanks to all the people who put such a lot of energy and time into making them work so well.

What’s On In 2012?

We’re putting together the programme for 2012 at the moment, later than usual because of the Lottery bid (of which more later). So, if you have any ideas about what you would like to see happen at the village hall in 2012, let us know. The new Evergreen Club (possibly to be renamed soon!) starts on the 7th February. Elphin Drift, the live music evenings, will be continuing this year, as will the visits by travelling theatre companies like North Country Theatre, and the Husthwaite Drama Group will be presenting “It Runs In The Family” in April. We can do talks, exhibitions, music, drama, in fact anything that’s possible in the space we have. What do you think?

Made In Husthwaite

We said last year that we would put on another “Made In Husthwaite” this year. It’s a good opportunity for us to show each other the great mixture of interests and skills that people in the village have. Last time, we had photography, painting, graphic design, woodworking, quilt making, embroidery, restored tractors and model railways and lots more as well. The comments from the visitors were excellent and they wanted us to do it again. I would really like to do it again and to have an even wider range of interests and enthusiasms on display. It’s a good showcase for village talent and very good fun. Let me know what you think, on 868130.
Lottery Bid......Latest News!!!

We’ve just heard today, Wednesday 25 January, that the Lottery has asked us to put in a Stage Three bid for funding to build a new village hall. Thanks to everyone who helped us get so far.

Stage Three is the final stage and we have six months to get all the work done and put in a good application. There will be more details on an extra page, to go with this newsletter.

It’s fantastic news and if we’re successful at this final stage it will make a difference to life in the village for generations to come!

Andrew Coulthard

News from The Orchard Inn....

Quiz Nights...1st Feb, 15th Feb, 29th Feb....these are now being presented by willing volunteers from the quiz nights, usually esteemed members of the village, well, anyone who is prepared to do them! The next one is Malcolm Foster of the "little house" near the pub. £2 inc supper and 1st Prize a gallon of beer. Starts at 8.30pm.

Country & Western nights (monthly starting this Sat 28th Jan) Line dancing, live music and supper all included in the entry price of £5 starts at 8pm.

St Patricks Night, 17th March, live folk music, but monthly ones are planned for Thurs nights (to be confirmed, watch out for posters in the village).

Psychic Night 20th March, evening of mediumship, and tarot cards etc for those interested in the spiritual side of life.

Holistic Therapy day, dates to be confirmed for February, to take place on a Saturday, a day of relaxation with alternative therapies inc Reiki, Reflexology, Hopi Ear Candles and Indian head massage, light lunches being provided. A day to relax in The Orchard Inn and let the strains of life be washed away.

There will also be charity events for The Yorkshire Air Ambulance and Marie Curie as they are our nominated charities, so watch out for tea parties etc.

Fish & Chips , Sunday Lunch, Private Parties etc , all continued to be catered for.

Alison Turner
SAFETY FIRST!

On Monday, 23rd January, six of us concerned with the Recreation Area (Carol Fenwick, Vikki Nixon, Liz Walton, Mark Gambles, Gavin Kennedy and myself) spent most of the morning and part of the afternoon in the Orchard Inn. The occasion? - not what most readers would imagine! This was a one-day course concerned with Safety Training & Risk Assessment presented by the Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents (RoSPA).

The course was led by Stuart Griffiths, an experienced RoSPA Trainer/Inspector, who was well informed and able and interspersed the day with good advice and fascinating anecdotes.

There were two aspects to this training:

- a lecture/discussion session dealing with current regulations governing equipment, layout and play area safety, and
- a site visit to evaluate the quality of provision & key features of individual items which need to be formally checked on a regular basis in order to detect early signs of possible wear or damage.

As part of the on-site aspect, Stuart carried out an inspection of our provision and made some very encouraging comments concerning the layout and overall quality. Some relatively minor aspects requiring attention were picked up and these will now be addressed. He indicated that Husthwaite is very fortunate in having such extensive facilities freely available.

The Orchard Inn proved to be an excellent base for this course as we were well sustained by refreshments prepared by Alison and we were also very close to the Recreation Area for the on-site practical assessments (see photo). The sun was shining, the whole day was well focussed, relaxed and surprisingly enjoyable. Incidentally, all costs were covered by a grant linked to the recent completion of the adventure area and fitness trail.

Villagers, young and old, can be assured that the whole area is safe and fit to use and the Recreation Area Committee will ensure that it continues. Enjoy it!  

Peter Davison
Cariss Joinery

All types of joinery and property repairs undertaken, fitting kitchens, flooring and doors, wardrobes and skirting.

20 years’ experience
Call to arrange a free quote

01347 868087 or 07717177295
Burns Night Supper In Husthwaite

Saturday the 21st of January saw the annual Burns Supper take place in the Village Hall. It was our first time. Unsure of what to expect we were greeted by piper Mike Almond to a hall resplendent in blue and white with fairy lights a plenty. Tables decorated with beautiful flower arrangements, and dance cards waiting. The evening started off with the traditional presentation of the Haggis, followed by the address and the Selkirk Grace all performed with great aplomb by Brian Watts - then of course the eating of the little critter!

Food was followed by a hilarious Yorkshire take on the address to the Haggis by John Aspinall, and Brian Watts followed by an equally funny joint address to the lasses and reply by Will and Sheila Mowatt - (I’m not sure we will ever live down the coriander on Christmas Eve event!)

After clearing the hall, dance cards were checked and partners prised from the bar ready for the Welcome Reel. The dancing was accompanied by Fiddler of Helperby, while Brian calling our steps kept those of us who had missed all the practices just about in time and in the right place. Although it’s true to say I shall need an awful lot more practice before I master dancing Strip The Willow (my apologies to the rest of our group), I don’t think we’ve danced or laughed so much in a long time. A huge thanks goes to the team that organised this event, it was superbly staged and faultlessly run. We shall look forward to next year, with a mental note to wear flat shoes and perhaps practise a little more first.

Annabel Kennedy
Elphin Drift

Elphin Drift time once again, folks, Saturday March 3rd in Husthwaite Village

The confirmed acts are:

Rebekah Findlay - Possibly better known to regulars as one quarter of Yorkshire’s own Folk Supergroup - FiddLyn Man Doris. Rebekah is a talented singer/songwriter. Already with one album - “Northern Skies” - to her name, Rebekah will also be playing songs from her latest CD - “Improvising around the Sun”.

We have a number of first-timers to Elphin Drift, and Honeysuckle Rose is one such. Rose is a young singer/songwriter from Leeds - discovered purely by chance - and she is really enthusiastic about coming to play her songs for us.

Our other confirmed act, so far is Over the Yardarm, who will be bringing us their own brand of “Fierce Folk”, played on a number of instruments. Hailing from the Thirsk area their self-proclaimed brief is to provide “Acoustic instrumental music, that we want you to dance to or at least fidget along.

Rebekah, Rose and Over the Yardarm can all be found on YouTube if you fancy a preview, but we all know there’s nothing like the real thing.

We have one further act yet to be confirmed; Eeeehh - don’t you just love surprises?

Sound desk and lights will be skilfully operated as ever by Mike Wells of Byland Media, The Maniac House Band will open the musical ceremonies at half past seven, and play the night out until Mike pulls the plug. We have the usual Ale and Cider bar including Lager, Wine and soft drinks.

Doors open at 7pm and entry is £4 - free for under 16s. I hope to see you all there.

Alun Nixon 01347 868740
Madeline Brenda Drinkhill was the second daughter of Gaythorne and Edith, one of five girls Freda, Maureen, Phyllis and Pat. Born in Husthwaite, she lived in the village all her life and had many tales to tell - skating on Acaster pond, Newbrough pond and the pond behind the church, and fruit picking with her father just to mention a few. She attended the village primary school and then went on the Easingwold Grammar School walking or cycling every day with her elder sister Freda, rain or shine, summer or winter.

Brenda first worked as a clerk in the Ministry of Food in Easingwold. In 1946 she married Harry Duffield (died 1972) and had two boys Mervyn & Terry. In 1958, after rearing her children she became caretaker at Husthwaite Primary School and was also appointed as cook there in 1963, her salary being £4.16 shillings and 7 pence for a 25 hour week! She continued in this post until 1969 when, after attending college and night schools and gaining City and Guilds qualifications, became Cook Supervisor at Easingwold Grammar Modern School. In 1974 she moved on to become Peripatetic Supervisor travelling around the area to other schools where she loved visiting the villages such as Reeth in Swaledale and Askrigg in Wensleydale, travelling even in the depth of winter in her little red mini, stopping off to take photographs and admiring the scenery. In 1986 she became Assistant Manager to the Catering Services in the Northallerton area. Part of this job involved the “Herbie” project (derived from Healthy Eating Really Better in Every way, long before Jamie Oliver ever thought about it!). Her love of cooking was there till the end.

After reluctantly retiring in 1990, she went on to fulfil her ambition to write a book about Husthwaite and decided to cover the houses rather than its people. This project involved taking photographs of every house (with an old film camera which involved having to get the pictures developed at Boots) and then spending many hours putting it all together with the expert help of Richard Wood. It was published in 2000 and its record of occupants with many photographs, both old and new, has proved very popular ever since. After printing, she received many letters of congratulations - these meant a great deal to her. She was also involved with the History Society in making the book “Coxwoldshire”, published in 1992 and made many contributions, both written and photographic, to the four booklets “Reminiscences of Husthwaite”, covering the whole of the 20th century, “Tales of the Old School” and “Fruits and Orchards of Husthwaite”.

Her great interest in the village and its people was shown in her fifty years of compiling scrapbooks. Everything she found in the local press concerning
Husthwaite or its people went into them. She still made a point of keeping them up-to-date days before she died. Brenda was also an avid collector of old village postcards and visited many postcard fairs looking for new ones. Many of these she allowed to be included in the history website so that they could be seen by a wider range of people interested in the village.

Church was a big part of her life - she lived through the ministries of many vicars including Rev Jones, Rev Tyler, Rev Thom, Rev Johnson and recently Rev Kitchen. Brenda was a very determined lady, very independent and fought her illness for many years, not wanting to trouble anybody and was reluctant to accept help. She was close to her sisters and Mervyn and Terry give special thanks to sister Pat for all her help and also to many good neighbours (especially John and Elsie Retchless) for helping her over the years. Terry and Mervyn would like to thank everyone who attended the church service and for all the letters, cards and kind words they received. She will be sadly missed by all her family and friends. It is fitting that she should now, after 86 years in the village, rest in peace in the cemetery amongst relatives and close to her parents.
The festive season at Husthwaite School got off with a bang, or should I say wriggle, with our Christmas production of The Wriggly Nativity.

Tuesday 13th and the school hall, also known as the road to Bethlehem, was packed with an audience eagerly awaiting a musical extravaganza and the children from Nursery, Reception, Years 1 and 2 did not let them down.

6 narrators introduced animals, angels, shepherds, innkeepers, wise men and of course Mary Joseph and Donkey, brilliantly portraying the Christmas story in mime and song. The cast gave their best performances with a lovely solo from Mary.

It was enjoyed by parents and children alike and well deserved applause was given to Miss Goodchild and her party of elves, for coaxing star performances from such a young cast.

Debbie Lewis-Green
NOT ENOUGH TIME FOR THE GARDEN?

LET US PROVIDE YOU WITH A FREE ESTIMATE FOR:

- GRASS CUTTING
- WEEDING
- HEDGE CUTTING & PRUNING
- TREE SURGERY
- PLANTING
- DESIGN & LANDSCAPING

RING JAMES AT CIRCLE GARDEN SERVICES

01439 748513

or

07974 740791
The Husthwaite Book Exchange

The Book Exchange in the village hall got off to a flying start on December 6th, when about 40 people came over the 2 hour session to bring and borrow books, have a chat and a cup of tea or coffee, and a mince pie.

This sociable occasion was followed by 3 other similarly enjoyable sessions through December and January. We now have huge new bookcases and literally hundreds of different books for everyone, but space for more if you can offer paperback sized books in good condition, fiction or non-fiction. There are children’s books too if mums want to bring their youngsters along.

The sessions run the first and third Tuesday of every month in the Village Hall, from 10.30-12.30. As well as going in a small way to replace the withdrawn mobile library, the Exchange offers a chance to meet others and have some refreshments if you want. Everyone is welcome. You don’t even need to borrow books if you just want a chat and a cuppa!

You just turn up, browse our many hundreds of books, and sign out the ones you want. There are no fines for late returns, but you can appreciate that others might want to read the same popular titles, so please bring books back as soon as you can.

The next session is on Tuesday February 7th. Further dates are shown on page 2 of the Newsletter. If you have been before, please return books you have read for others to enjoy!

At the moment the Exchange is run by Jacki Barlow, Margaret Hewitson and Jan Coulthard. If you would like to help, please let us know and we could plan a rota. Enquiries to Jan on 868130.
Allan Green Presents…

We are delighted to announce the return visit of Allan Green from Easingwold to delight us with an evening of his inimitable photographic/audio sequences.

This event will take place on Friday, 9th March at 7.30 p.m. in the Methodist Church.

Allan’s work has won him several prestigious awards both in this country and abroad and we are fortunate that he is able and willing to fit a visit to Husthwaite in his busy schedule. This will be an entertaining and inspiring evening - not to be missed.

Seating in the Chapel is limited so be sure to buy your tickets early. These will be priced at £5, to include light refreshments during the interval and can be obtained from Jackie Earley (868504), Margaret Duffield (868192), Linda Davison (868449) or the Village Shop.

Proceeds from the evening will be divided between the Choma Orphans Fund and the Chapel.

Lent Course

During Lent, Rev. Ruth Duck has offered to lead 4 study/discussion sessions, based around characters involved in the Easter story.

These will take place on Wednesdays: Feb. 29th, March 14th, 21st and 28th. The first of these will be held at the home of Peter and Linda Davison, Meadow Rise, Highthome Lane, at 7.30 p.m. and will centre around the Apostle Peter. Venues for the March sessions will be arranged at this first meeting.

Everyone from the village and surrounding villages is warmly invited to take part.

Linda Davison

If you shop online….

You can raise money for the village hall at no cost to yourself by going to husthwaitevillage.com and following links to your retailer (eg Amazon) who puts 3-5% of the purchase value into our funds. Don’t forget!
At the Christmas Market, Jane Maloney provided a huge cake for the refreshment stall. It was so tasty that several people wanted the recipe, so I’m passing it on to everyone! Thanks, Jane.

Spicy toffee apple cake

4 large eggs
7 oz (200 g) dates
7 fl oz (200 ml) milk
9 oz (250 g) butter
10 oz (280 g) self-raising flour
7 oz (200 g) soft brown sugar
Half a teaspoon baking powder
1 tbsp mixed spice
2 tsp vanilla extract
3 small sweet apples
Squeeze of lemon juice
A handful of toffees
Icing sugar for dusting

1. Heat oven to 180/160C (lower no. for fan oven)
2. Grease and line a 20 x 30 cm baking tray. Put dates and milk in a small pan and bring to simmer. Leave to cool.

Whizz this mixture to a puree in a food processor then put it in a large mixing bowl with the butter, flour, brown sugar, baking powder, eggs, spice and vanilla.

3. Peel and core the apples. If you want them incorporated in the mix, then chop them. If you want them on top of the cake instead, finely slice them and toss them in lemon juice.

4. Beat the ingredients in the bowl until smooth (then add the chopped apple if you prefer it in the cake) and put the mixture into the baking tin.
5. If you have save the sliced apples for the top instead, then arrange them in neat rows on top. Then bake for 45-50 mins and cool the cake in the tin.
6. Melt the toffees in a small pan with a good splash of milk and stir until runny then pour it on the cake. Dust with a little icing sugar. Cut into squares or slices to serve.
**Village Christmas Service**

Once again, the traditional Village Christmas Service was held the Sunday before Christmas - this year, the 18th December - in the Methodist Church. The Rev. Ruth Duck, in her last Christmas with us before moving to Pickering in the summer of 2012, opened the service, welcoming everyone and presiding over the opening carol and prayer.

Willing volunteers from village organisations presented a variety of poems and readings, centred around the theme of Love, Peace and Joy. The Phoenix Choir added their distinctive touch in the form of two carols and the congregation joined in enthusiastically in the Round which gave further emphasis to the theme. Rev. Ruth Duck, in her final remarks, emphasised how love, peace and joy are an essential part of Christmas, thus bringing the service to a fitting conclusion.

Members of the congregation enjoyed chatting over mince pies and coffee afterwards.

The retiring collection of £180 has been sent to Martin House Children’s Hospice. Grateful thanks are extended to all who took part in any way.

**Carol Singing**

Despite weather that steadily deteriorated as the evening progressed, over 40 hardy souls (some from as far afield as Leeds!) met to sing carols around the village on Tuesday, 20th December. Fortified by hot mince pies, sausage rolls, refreshments at the Orchard Inn and further sustenance at the home of Kath and Geoff Jones, the singers completed their route. The singing was enjoyed by both the singers and the listeners, some of whom encouraged us with spontaneous applause.

Thanks to the generosity of the people of Husthwaite, a total of £212 was collected and has been divided between Action for Children and the Children’s Society.

After organising the carol singing for 35 years, Peter and Linda announced their intention to retire from being in charge and to hand over to other volunteers, whilst still being willing to help with the singing and, if required, in Linda’s case, to continue playing the harmonium.

Anyone who is willing to take over the organising of this traditional village event, please contact Peter and Linda on 868449.
There’s Life in the Old Folk Yet!

Thirty of our most senior citizens attended the New Year Party in Husthwaite Village Hall on Tuesday 10\textsuperscript{th} January 2012. Twenty years after the Old Evergreen Club closed, it came to life again on this fine winter’s day. The tables were set out in a lucky horseshoe arrangement, adorned with colourful cloths and napkins, and decorated with beautiful little flowers. The meal was provided by Husthwaite’s most experienced caterers; willing hands made light of the work.

Some of the older people had not seen one another in years. Their delight was clear to see in their twinkling eyes and smiling faces. They certainly know how to enjoy a party!

The Phoenix Choir was on song and everyone joined in with some old favourites. There were sad songs, funny songs and some really beautiful ones too. All were met with warm applause.

So, what shall we do next?

There was a whisper on the wind, saying “we wish for a new name”, but can anyone think of a better one?

Since the Orchards of Husthwaite Project has kindly sponsored this
opening event, the catering team were proudly wearing aprons of the Orchards’ apple tree design, especially fashioned for the occasion. The suggestion was put to the assembled guests: how about re-naming this “The Orchard Village Club?” A spontaneous round of applause greeted this idea. We will put it to the vote at our next meeting, on Tuesday 7\textsuperscript{th} February, following on from the Book Exchange at 12 noon. If you have other suggestions, please let us know. Bring all your bright ideas to inspire us. Whatever we wish to do in the coming years, willing people will make it happen! Thanks to you, everyone! There is new life in the Old Club yet!

Robin Walton

Photos by John Ovenston
The warring teams in the New Year’s Day Husthwaite Football Match pose together before the game. The game was more or less won by the High Street team, depending on whether you agreed with the referee. Details of this stunning game inside on pages 4, 5 and 6.