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# The Hellifield Herald

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May 2025

Free to everyone in Hellifield



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# Contents

- Front Cover** Malham Cove in the Spring sunshine. Photo by Bob Moore
- 2** Contact details; Hellifield Herald in colour; Deadline for submission
- 3** Editorial
- 5** Meet the Councillor - Wendy Robinson
- 5** March's village walk – Grassington lead mines
- 9** The Welcome Mat
- 9** Partial eclipse
- 9** White Knights' coffee morning
- 11** Pets' corner
- 13** The cairn quest
- 15** Settle and District Men's Forum
- 17** Hellifield Institute news
- 18** WI news
- 18** North Craven Flower Club
- 21** Mothers' Union
- 23** Main Road – then and now
- 28** Gargrave Art Exhibition 2025
- 31** Livestock transport by rail
- 35** Community buyout of the Black Horse?
- 35** A big thank you from Yorkshire Air Ambulance
- 35** The Ribble Dance Band
- 37** View from the Vicarage
- 37** Make your lawns 'living lawns'
- 39** Have you had your full fibre today?
- 43** Bus and train times
- 46** Village contacts
- 47 – 49** Events in May
- 50** The Hellifield Herald team
- 51** Our advertisers

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The Hellifield Herald can be read in colour at:

[hellifieldherald.org.uk](http://hellifieldherald.org.uk)

The deadline for contributions to the June edition is the 8th of May

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# Editorial

I am writing this editorial at the beginning of April when we have just changed the clocks to BST. We are still experiencing the temporary morning darkness but are enjoying the extended daylight in the evenings. We are having a run of warm sunny weather at the moment and I have, on some days, ventured out without a coat. However, when going out for the whole day it is necessary to be prepared for a drop in temperature later on.

At this time, traditionally, we think about gradually emerging from our cocoon of winter clothes, putting away coats, jumpers, thermal layers, woolly socks and boots and bringing our summer clothes out of storage. However, experience tells us not to be too hasty and we often end up with some interesting sartorial mixes. Do we feel a bit reluctant to leave behind the cosiness of winter and step out into the freedom of wearing lighter clothes? If we do it doesn't usually last long.

I think that there is a feeling of excitement and adventure at the start of any new season, even winter, but the change from winter to Spring is particularly exciting. It is an opportunity to try something new. Perhaps a train or bus ride to somewhere we haven't been before or even a walk to somewhere nearby to admire the bluebells.

If you are looking for something new to try, Hellifield is the place to be. You only need to look at the events calendar at the back of the magazine to find a variety of activities. If you want some exercise you could go to table tennis, badminton, indoor bowls or line dancing at the Village Hall. If you like outdoor sports how about trying

rounders with Hellifield Hotshots? If you want to do something creative pop into HelliArts or HelliCrafts or try singing with the HelliSingers.

If you already take part in these activities perhaps you could bring someone new along, or become more involved in the organisation.

Remember, these activities would not take place without the dedicated volunteers who run them. One of the great features of Hellifield is that you can turn up alone to any activity and be sure of a welcome and an opportunity to make friends.

Audrey Edwards



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## Meet the Councillor - Wendy Robinson

My name is Wendy Robinson. My husband Mike (Treasurer of Hellifield Institute) and I moved here in 2020 all the way from Gargrave. We both enjoy walking and as everyone knows this is a great location for appreciating the countryside, which also usually results in the odd pub visit.

Some of you may have seen me at coffee mornings utilising my waitressing skills. I am a retired general / mental health nurse, latterly specialising in dementia and end of life care. I have previously volunteered for the bereavement charity Cruse.

Every Tuesday, you'll find me on duty as a courier on an Age UK shopping bus. As Nanna to 3 girls under 5, I'm on-call when needed. I have found this community to be a very welcoming one and enjoy attending choir, art, craft and book clubs. I do hope that people will feel free to approach me with any queries or issues that they feel the Parish Council can help with.

Wendy Robinson



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## March's village walk – Grassington lead mines

13 Helliwalkers explored the 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> century Grassington lead mines on the March village walk. After walking over the fields from Grassington to Hebden, which took us through the old TB hospital grounds, we took the old miners' track which follows Hebden Beck upstream to Grassington moor and to the hamlet of Yarnbury - where the prominent house was the Lead Mine Manager's residence.

The Lead Mines have an interesting history and were at their most prosperous between 1821 and 1861 when they were producing 1,000 tons

of lead a year and employed about 170 people. There's evidence of a network of water courses which operated 11 waterwheels and the chimney of the

## **Hellifield Methodist Chapel and Wesley Centre**

### **May 2025**

- Sun 10.30am, Family Lego Church - 4th
- Sun 2pm, Sunday Service - 4th, 11th & 18th
- Sun 4pm, Hour of Prayer - 4th
- Sun 2pm, Family Café Church - 25th
- Mon 2.30pm, Welcome Mat - 5th & 12th
- Tues 9.30am, Hellitots - 6th, 13th & 20th
- Wed 10.30-12, Wellbeing Café - 14th
- Sat 10-11.30am, Coffee Morning in aid of Chapel (Village Hall) - 31st

For any queries, please contact the Letting Manager (Pauline) on 07931 511652 or Jeff on 851389.

Everyone is extended a warm welcome to all our Church Services and Activities.

## **St Aidan's Church - May 2025**

Our regular Sunday worship continues every Sunday at 9.30am. Please do join us as we move through spring into summer, and through the events of Eastertide to the dramatic stories of the Ascension and Pentecost, and the birth of the worldwide church: continuing to pray for the needs of our world as the first Christians did for theirs.

We'll have our usual special service for Ascension Day on Thursday 29th May at 7pm - perhaps the most joyful day in the whole church year! Celebratory refreshments afterwards.

Any queries? Please contact Revd. James Rodley on 01729-851709, or [jwerodley@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:jwerodley@yahoo.co.uk)



Cupola smelting works is visible on the moor. The information boards have all recently been reworked and there's a 'Lead Mines trail' which walks those interested around the area giving an insight and feel of the way of living. Based on the walk we did, I'll definitely be returning to learn more!

The next village walks are 18 May and 15 June (the 3rd Sunday of the month). If you would like to join us, email [rebgooch@gmail.com](mailto:rebgooch@gmail.com) or text / call Rebecca on 07443 493169, then I will send out more information about each walk a week or so in advance.

Rebecca Gooch



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## The Welcome Mat

You might wonder how the Welcome Mat came into being. It was because some people were telling us of their loneliness and isolation, their increased anxiety and depression during the Pandemic, that the Welcome Mat was born as a solution. It is a place where we gather for a chat over a cuppa and cake, sometimes we have a speaker, or a theme, music, or games to keep our mind alert. We go out on trips and enjoy new places and make friendships.

In May we celebrate VE Day at our Welcome Mat on the 5th and on the 12th we meet again, but you will have to come to discover what we have planned. Do come and join us, taste and see. We would love to welcome you, 2.30 - 4 pm at the Wesley Centre,

Haw Grove.

Everyone is extended a warm welcome to all our Church Services and Activities

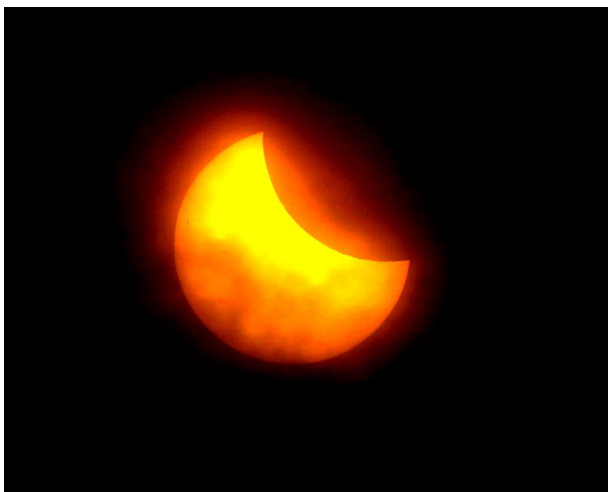
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## Partial eclipse

A partial solar eclipse was visible over Hellifield on March 29th, despite less-than-ideal viewing conditions. Anyone who missed it needn't worry - there will be another in August 2026!

*Photograph by Stan Kilburn*



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## White Knights' coffee morning

For those of you who read my WI article in the April Magazine, you will know that we held a very successful coffee morning in March on behalf of the White Knights Blood Bikers, so thanks again to everyone who attended.

Hellifield Community raised £465 for the organisation, so a big thank you from the WI and the White Knights to everyone who came along or made a

donation of money, cakes or raffle prizes.

Carol Weston-Moore

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## Pets' corner

It is a while since we did a feature on Pets' Corner, so I asked a friend to tell us about her rescue dog Alfie. If you would like to tell us about your pet, then why not contact the magazine? If you have an unusual pet, like a snake or a lizard, then tell us why you chose it. All pet stories are welcome. Carol – Article Coordinator.

### Alfie

When we lost our beautiful dachshund Lyra in 2021, we decided no more dogs as it was heartbreaking. Moving forward 10 months I signed up to foster with a dog rescue charity (based in Wakefield) as we wanted to have dogs in our life but limited to a temporary commitment, as we were not looking for full time ownership or responsibility. Within a week of registering, I got an urgent call about a young lurcher in council kennels who was very sick, in a bad way and was 2 days from being put to sleep. Could we take him in until they could find him a home? I said yes, bring him over and we can house him for a few days.

In walked "Fly", underweight, smelly, bits of fur missing and scabby from sores on his back. He immediately peed up my sheep planter and hid behind the bench outside!

It will be 3 years in July since Fly, now known as Alfie, placed his paws well and truly under the table and what a wonderful boy he has become. Yes, he still has

a lot of issues with anxiety of other dogs, but with hard work and consistent love and training he is getting there. He loves walking around the village and is always ready to say a shy hello, especially if you have a treat to share!

Zoe





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# The cairn quest

It was Christmas 2023 and Carol, knowing my passion for archaeology, bought me a copy of Adam Morgan Ibbotson's "Yorkshire's Prehistoric Monuments". A fascinating book and one to dip into from time to time. However, the book also provides me with the focus for walks and over the last 15 months I've sought a number of monuments here in the Dales and beyond including the famous Thornborough Henges.

This spring seemed a good time to explore sites in the Aire Valley with King's Cairn and Queen's Cairn my first targets. Parking in Ings Lane car park in Low Bradley, I headed up Mitchel Lane, past the Slater's Arms and on to Crag Lane. Carrying the book, an OS map and compass I planned to follow the book's directions to the cairns.

"Head due east off Crag Lane", says the book, "the cairns are an easy 10 minute walk away". The first path I found near Hamblethorpe Farm was not due east so I continued on the lane. Using my OS map, I found another path further along Crag Lane and the compass indicated it went due east so off I set. Easy 10 minute walk? Possibly for a young very fit climber but not a 77year old with a dodgy knee. A 30 minute scramble up a very steep incline eventually saw me at the summit of Black Hill and thoughtfully a bench to rest on. Behind the bench a low section of wall allowed me to cross into the field to find the cairns. I was uncertain about crossing the wall but there was a clear track either side.

Success, the cairns were in view. King's Cairn is an Early Neolithic (about 3,500bc) unchambered long cairn with burial cist (pronounced 'kissed') revealed during early twentieth century excavations. Queen's Cairn is Early Bronze and is ruinous, large and round. The cairns are situated west of

Tewit Mire Tarn. The cairns may seem at first glance a jumble of rocks and it takes experienced archaeologists to see their significance. For me the cairns give a reminder that individuals and organised societies lived in our area some 5,500 years ago. The cairns show their belief systems relating to burial and a society capable of organised collaborative endeavour. A time of reflection for me.

From the cairns I took the gentle route



*Cist in King's Cairn*



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*Small section of Queen's Cairn*

down heading towards Hamblethorpe Farm and I emerged at the gate to Crag Lane, the path I had passed earlier. It seems that this would have given a much gentler access to the site and talking to someone later in Low Bradley, this is the route I should have used. The gap in the wall I crossed

earlier is damaged and not a true access point.

So, take a map and compass, enjoy the walk and view of the Aire Valley and spend time at the cairns to remember our ancestors.

Bob Moore

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## Settle and District Men's Forum

This year Settle Men's Forum is celebrating its fiftieth anniversary: fifty years of local retired men getting together twice a month for talks and friendship.

Talks and discussions, at present, are held at the Friends' Meeting House in Settle. There are almost twenty men at each of our meetings. We meet at 2 o'clock for tea or coffee and a chat for half an hour and then one of our members gives a talk or provides a speaker to present on their behalf. Usually members present a talk personally. Our members come from a wide variety of backgrounds and the talks as a result give rise to stimulating and amusing discussions. Recent topics have included: online security,

electric vehicles, local history, art movements, a Kashmiri childhood, heat exchange pumps (worth it or not?) and aircraft and airports.

Our next few meetings will be held on:

- May 12th,
- June 2nd, 16th & 30th
- July 14th & 28th
- August 11th

Come along- you will be most welcome.

Phil Robinson

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## Hellifield Institute news

Happy Summer! This season, the Institute is very pleased to be hosting the Beer Festival (27th & 28th June) and Stanfest (23rd August). Both great events for community members to pop in for a chat and a drink, as well as an opportunity to welcome newcomers to the village.



We held our AGM last month, when the Trustees were pleased to report that 2024 had been a successful year for many reasons: financial stability, establishment of regular, new activities, good attendance at existing groups and uptake by some new business users. This means the Institute is achieving its mission, whilst raising enough income to cover its costs. The positive news for all users and hirers is that prices will remain the same for 2025! The Chair emphasised that success has only been possible because of two very well attended shows in 2024, continued support from villagers and reliable help from a dedicated group of volunteers.

The High School Disco' attracted many 'school children', ABBA lookalikes and some dropouts from 'Grease', as well as dancers from as far away as Ribbleshead! Again, the funds raised have been allocated to the toilet

refurbishment project, which currently stands at £1,500+. (We hope there will be more news regarding this project in the next Herald.) The theme of July's Disco' Night is to be announced but save the date (26 July) to pop along to listen to another amazing selection of music from Mik's sound desk. Easter Saturday was celebrated at Coffee Morning with an Easter Bonnet competition and a raffle full of Easter goodies.

After seventeen years of leading the badminton group, Bob Moore has decided it is time to give his legs a rest and hand over the organisation to a younger member of the group. The Trustees wish to thank Bob for his incredible length of service and commitment to this sports group held at the Institute.

Ann Taylor

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## WI news

In April we welcomed Yvonne Pinder as our demonstrator. Yvonne decorates pots of different sizes with artwork and napkin application. Her designs are usually about nature and are very attractive. Yvonne is a frequent visitor to Hellifield WI sometimes doing art, sometimes singing with her partner and last year showing us slides of a Canadian trip. Many thanks go to Yvonne and to members and guests who attended the meeting.

In May we hope to welcome a lady from Carers Resource, so if you are a carer or would like more information about what Carers Resource do, why not come along and join us for the evening of the 15th at 7.15pm. Guests are charged £4 entry which includes refreshments.

We are still recruiting new members and have put together a varied programme of speakers for 2025/26. We try to vary the programme to include some talks, some demonstrations and some fun nights like our summer bash. If you would like more information please contact myself on 07855 191927 or our President Aileen on 01729 851318 or just come along and give us a try – we are a friendly bunch, and WI has moved away from the formal meetings of the past and we try to make our events interesting and fun for everyone, although like with Carers Resource, we do also cover some more serious topics which we hope people will find

useful. We hope to see you soon.

Finally, a coffee morning will be held on behalf of Hellifield WI on the 17<sup>th</sup> of May and we would welcome your support.

Carol – Joint Secretary Hellifield WI

Some of Yvonne Pinder's work below.



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## North Craven Flower Club

At our March meeting we welcomed Don Billington with a talk entitled "Bromeliads for the Home". As you can see, there weren't any flowers involved but some plants of Bromeliad family. With the increase in the cost of flowers, the talk and demonstration showed how Bromeliads could be used as a long-lasting arrangement in the home needing very little maintenance.



In the picture above you can see that the Bromeliads are suspended from a white painted frame that has chicken wire stretched across to which the plants were attached. These plants, also known as air plants, only need to be sprayed with rainwater.

In the arrangement on the right, various Bromeliads were attached to the branches in different places with several also added to the base and positioned in a tall flower bucket.

To look after your Bromeliads, keep out of direct sunlight. Good light is needed but full sunshine will mark the leaves. They like to be watered in the centre of the plant and preferably with rainwater. Pour the rainwater into the base of the flowering spike or in the centre of the leaves where there is no flower. The water will stay in the well formed by the leaves. Water again when the well is empty.

After flowering the plants may produce offsets known as pups. They will grow attached to the parent plant until full size. They can then be removed and planted to



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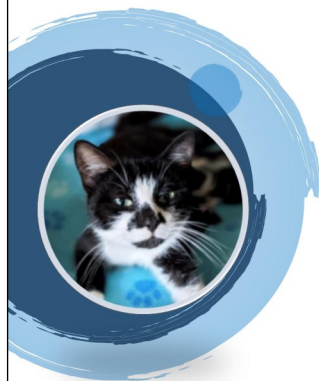
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grow on. The original plant will eventually die and is unlikely to produce another flower spike. Use an orchid bark or similar compost that is very free draining. If the plant develops brown edges to the tips, it has become too dry, mist frequently and keep away from radiators.



This indoor plant is completely safe for pets and has been shown to purify the air which has made the Bromeliad one of the most popular houseplants.

Once you have taken off the pups and planted it could take up to three years before it flowers so some patience is required!

The flowers are worth waiting for and range from yellow and orange through to deep pink and red. In the wild they attract hummingbirds, butterflies, bats and bees. They are the same family as pineapples but it is only the pineapple that bears an fruit edible to humans.

Don has been collecting these plants for some time and now has 2 poly tunnels full of plants! He is on the RHS committee and has judged at Chelsea last year and is doing so again this year. There is a National Collection of Bromeliads at Walton Hall Gardens, Warrington (see for more details of this exhibition at [www.every-picture.com](http://www.every-picture.com)) and Don has a display in the Orangery at Tatton Park.

Our next meeting will be on 8th May in Hellifield Village Hall starting at 2pm. Our Guest speaker will be Alex Gracy with a demonstration entitled 'Coco Chanel'. Followed by tea and cakes and a raffle. Visitors are always welcome.

Liz Palmer

---

## Mothers' Union

Sheila welcomed members and visitors to our April meeting and lit a candle to remember absent friends. Sheila had been to visit Annie who was staying with family following her operation, and she is making good progress.

Ellen led our prayers and Sheila thanked those who had helped with making the posies distributed on Mothering Sunday. We were delighted to receive them. Our speaker was Roy Porter, from Chatburn, who entertained us with musical hymns, choruses and songs from our younger days. We joined in and thoroughly enjoyed it all and we were very impressed that Roy played without

music on a keyboard, guitar and autoharp. He very generously brought along his famous pork pies to enjoy along with biscuits from Sheila, what a delightful feast! Please come and join us on the first Wednesday in the month, 2pm in the Yorke room at the Institute.

Sheila Swinbank and Joy Orwell

# Ahernes

*Of Hellifield*

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## Main Road - then and now

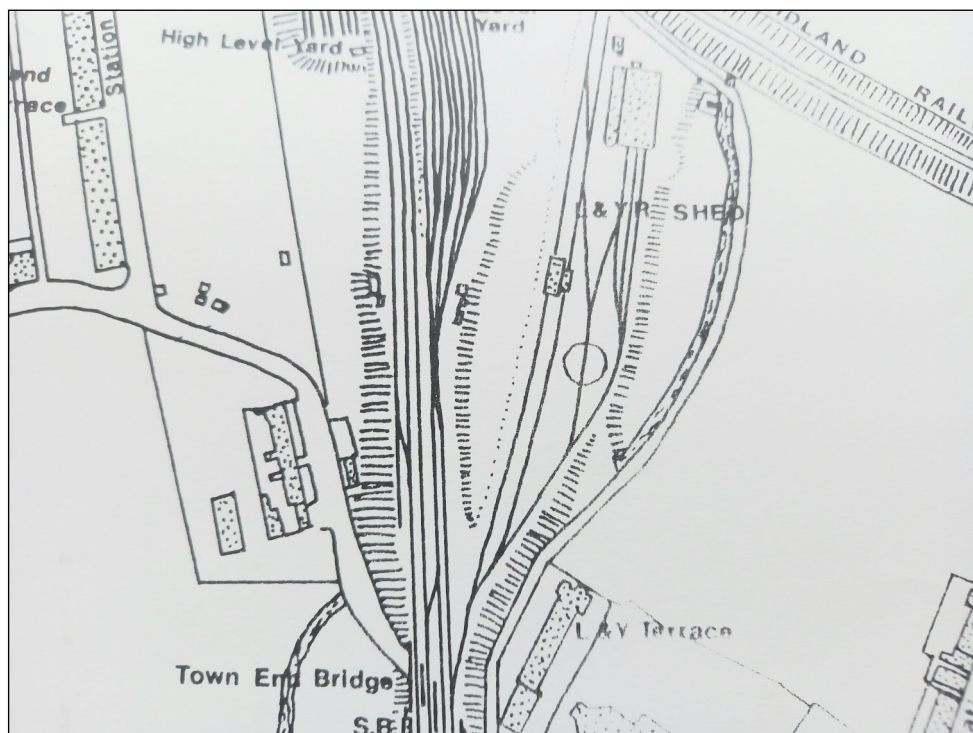
Before the Lancashire and Yorkshire railway company extended its line from Chatburn to Hellifield in the late 19th century, this view from the bridge over Hellifield Beck would obviously have been a little different. In fact, without the railway and the bridge over the road, this view into the village would have revealed only a few houses clustered around the proximity of the village Institute - or to be correct- the church and school.



When the 'new' station was opened by the Midland Railway Comp in 1880 the L&Y ran its services into Hellifield over the newly constructed 'Lanky Line'. After an intense construction period whereby the village would have been dotted with accommodation huts for the army of Navvies, the two railway companies started to build streets of houses for its employees. Midland Terrace and L&Y terrace, being the

dominant rows of houses, were followed over the succeeding years by other streets. Thorndale Street, Brook Street, and Haw Grove are examples of the streets that appeared. Though not necessarily built by the railway companies, they provided accommodation for numerous railway families in what was now a thriving railway junction community.

The opening of the Hellifield Auction



*The layout of the railway from the bridge over the main road, showing the position of the signal box and layout of the L&Y railway sidings, shed, turntable etc. Circa 1907.*

Mart Company in 1887 also added to the railways importance, in the days when the carriage of livestock by rail was dominant.

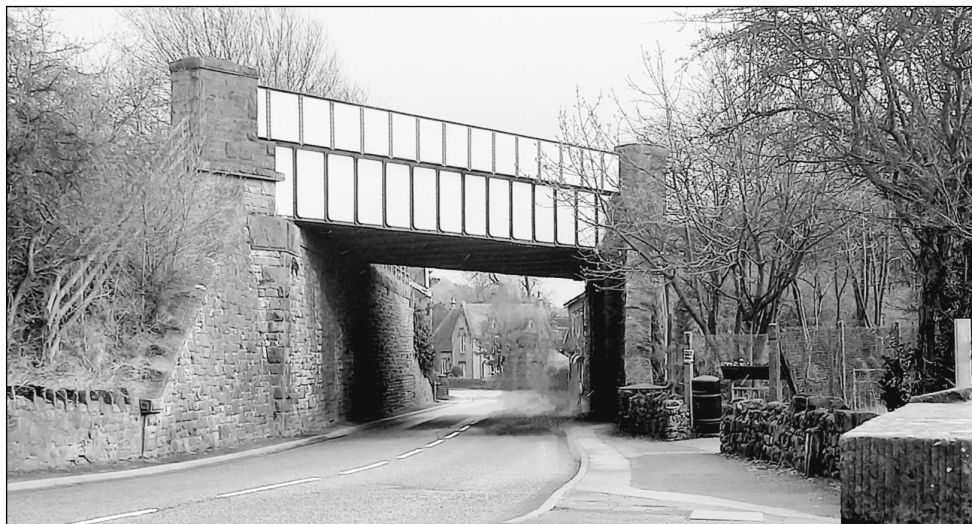
The land bordering the railway was used for sidings for both freight and passenger services. Both railway companies built engine sheds and turntables and Hellifield was now truly on the map as an important freight and passenger terminus.

The photo taken in the early years of the 20th century is quite a well known view. What is interesting is the signal box which stands on the banking near the bridge. This signal box controlled the section of line in and out of the railway station, and also controlled movement in and out of the L&Y goods

and passenger sidings (now occupied by housing). The L&Y also had its own engine shed, turntable, and cattle docks on this land. The signal box was one of four boxes at Hellifield. The existing south junction box plus the north junction box at the other end of the station, and a smaller box at Haw Lane at the site of the original station - then closed, but used as a goods yard. Also interesting in this photo are the people. All interested in the photographer and making the effort to remain still for the lengthy exposure time.

The current view of this location (top right), minus the busy modern traffic! There is much more overgrowth on the bankings and we now have an





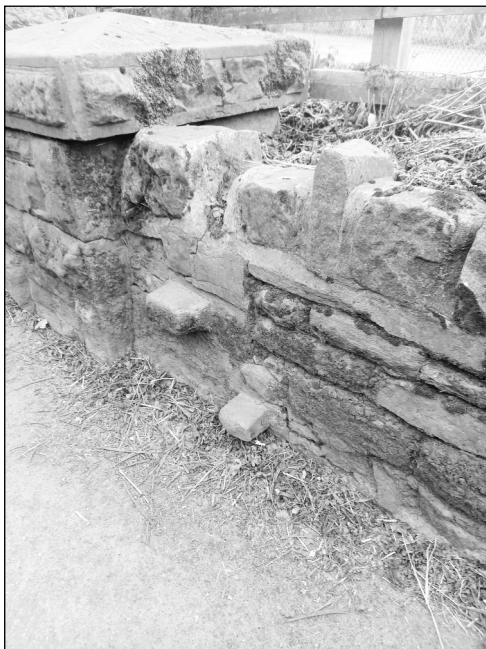
underpass. The signal box has long gone, though I vaguely remember it when we moved to Hellifield in 1960. Of interest when you look closely at the foot of the banking are the original steps built into the wall (below right) to allow easier access for the signalman to get to and from the box. They are still there after the passage of over 100 years. The bridge itself would have originally carried four sets of tracks instead of the two tracks we have now.

When we moved to Hellifield in 1960, the railway at Hellifield was entering its last throes as an important and busy railway junction.

Dr Beeching's railway cuts were just around the corner. The engine shed at the station had just three years left before closure, and regular daily passenger services down the 'Lanky' were still running. The service was cut in 1962. The land once occupied by the L&Y for its engine shed and turntable had undergone changes. The engine shed and turntable had been closed and removed in the 1930s, but the old cattedock and numerous sidings were still being used.

As a child the old L&Y land was a great playground. The remnants of the cattedocks and subsequent remains were overgrown, and the whole area was quite a wildlife haven. A great place for building dens and letting your imagination run wild!

Ken Leak.





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## Gargrave Art Exhibition 2025

Every year visitors are asked to choose their favourite piece of artwork in the show. No mean task as last year 110 artists submitted 371 artworks to choose from! The 2024 People's Favourite choice was Hellifield based artist, Katie Honey with her magnificent portrait of a kingfisher: Light and Water. Katie originally trained in prosthetics and special effects but now in addition to her art career, she is training as an Art Therapist, teaching art, and juggling family life and the restoration of her "dream house in a dream location" in Hellifield- involving a great deal more painting of a different nature!





In the midst of the ongoing project, Katie has created a studio - a haven of imagination and serenity. In her artwork Katie uses a wide variety of media including felting and resin, digital techniques and photography, in addition to many varieties of painting and drawing materials. Katie often deploys several techniques and layers up to three different materials on one stunning piece, which are often bold in size as well as composition. Almost all of the displayed work in her studio is not finished. Katie says that she likes to put a piece up and study it and then when she sees "the next steps" she works on it again, almost obliterating the original subject then bringing it back to the fore as with Light and Water.

Katie trained at the London College of Fashion in prosthetics and special effects and worked at the BBC but she felt keenly the lack of engagement in her own creativity and retrained as a secondary teacher becoming an art specialist involving outreach in deprived London areas, a role she really enjoyed. A move to the Yorkshire Dales and the breakdown of her marriage, followed by the loss of her adored mum to cancer, inspired Katie to do an MA in Art Therapy in particular working with patients receiving hospice care. This together with a teaching commitment, three children, a sizeable collection of pets and regularly producing her own work means that juggling is the order of the day!

Katie is also currently volunteering at the Grassington National Park Centre creating a mural and a hide and seek trail celebrating native Dales' wildlife and this passion for the natural world can be seen in her studio as there are dramatic landscapes and seascapes together with naturalistic portraits of beloved family pets. Katie will be

delighted to receive commissions on any subject and can be contacted on: WhatsApp/mobile: 07365533956 or email: [katiemariehoney@icloud.com](mailto:katiemariehoney@icloud.com) At the Gargrave Art Exhibition, an extended wide-ranging portfolio of Katie's work will be on display.

If you would like to enter artwork to the exhibition, please go to our website [www.gargraveart.uk](http://www.gargraveart.uk) or email [exhibition@gargraveart.uk](mailto:exhibition@gargraveart.uk).

Last year the show welcomed nearly 1500 visitors over its 4 days and with both amateur and professional artists of all ages working in a wide variety of styles and media there is something for everyone to enjoy. The Committee is, as always, delighted and humbled that so many talented individuals give their time and energy to support the event. At this time of the year we are waiting with anticipation and excitement to see what we will receive. We hope very much that you will join us in July.

Gargrave Village Hall West Street.  
BD23 3PT. Free entry. Homemade light refreshments.

### **Gargrave Art Exhibition: Gargrave Village Hall**

Thursday 10 July until Sunday 13 July

10am - 7pm Thursday, Friday and Saturday

10am - 4.30pm Sunday

[www.gargraveart.uk](http://www.gargraveart.uk)  
[gargravearts@gmail.com](mailto:gargravearts@gmail.com)

Gargrave Art Exhibition Committee

The Gargrave Village Coulthurst Trust  
Charity Commission No: 222607



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DALESVIEW OF HELLIFIELD

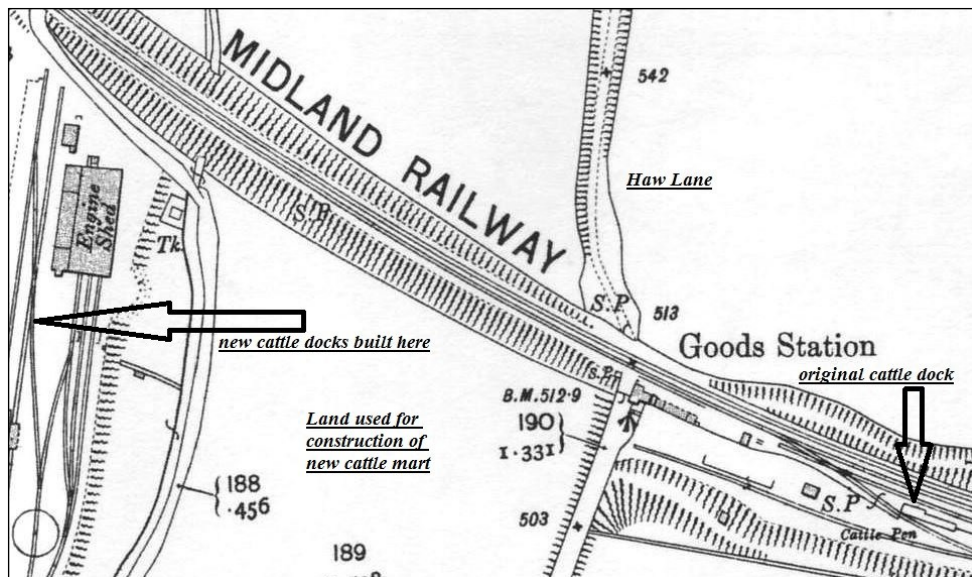


**Tel: 01729 851110**

HELLIFIELD GARAGE • MAIN ROAD • HELLIFIELD  
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# Livestock transport by rail

With the opening of the railway junction and the later auction mart, Hellifield became well known throughout the area for these two industries. Both relied on each other, in part, for their continued success. The first cattle dock at Hellifield was located at the old station by the level crossing on Haw Lane (see map below).

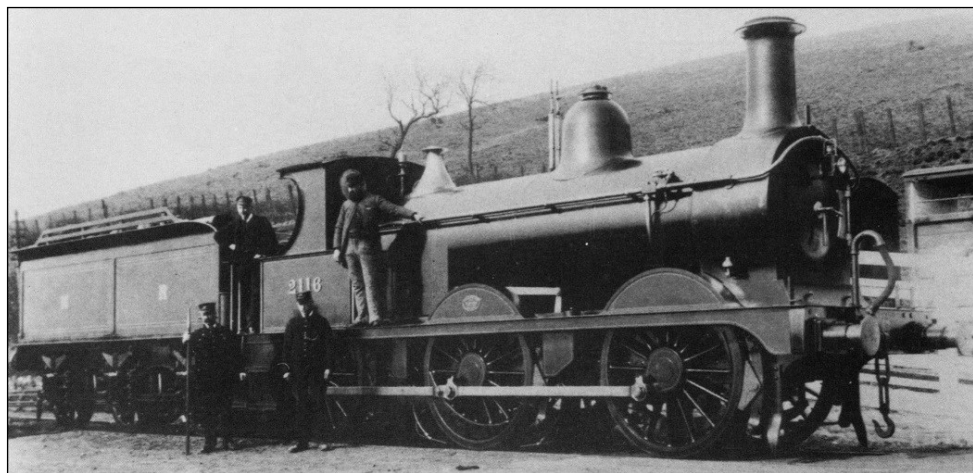


This small facility served the village until the opening of the auction mart caused an upsurge in livestock traffic. This meant on busy sale days at Hellifield some livestock trains had to be unloaded at Newsholme on the Ex-LYR line and the cattle or sheep then herded the remaining miles along the road. This situation would remain until 1927 when the London Midland and Scottish Railway company (LMS) closed the former Lancashire and Yorkshire Railway (LYR) engine sheds and started to use the site for the construction of large cattle docks, this proved to be an ideal location with easy access to the rear of the auction mart.

These new facilities proved a great success but even at this stage road hauliers were making inroads into the

livestock industry and in a few short years would replace the railways as the prime mover. The access to the cattle docks from the auction mart used a small lane shown on OS maps as "occupation lane" which ran towards the cattle docks from the top of Lancashire and Yorkshire terrace before passing under the Midland main line into the field beyond.

A few miles away, the village of Long Preston had its own auction mart and a cattle dock at the village station. Together these generated substantial rail traffic, mostly sheep, as Long Preston had become well known for its sheep sales and hiring fairs for many years before the coming of the railways. These early sales would take place on the village greens before the



*This rare photograph (above) shows Midland Railway 0-6-0 No. 2116 shunting the old station yard. A livestock truck is just visible above the locomotive's front buffer beam. c.1895.*

opening of the village's own auction mart.

Compared to Hellifield the amount of livestock wagons handled at Long Preston in a year was huge. Looking

through the records shows us that in the year 1874 (two years before the opening of the Settle - Carlisle line) its total was 2172 wagons with Hellifield only handling 41, in 1883, 3 years after Hellifield's new junction opened, Long



*The attached photograph shows sheep being loaded at Long Preston station with the Knowles Hospital (Alms Houses) visible in the background.*



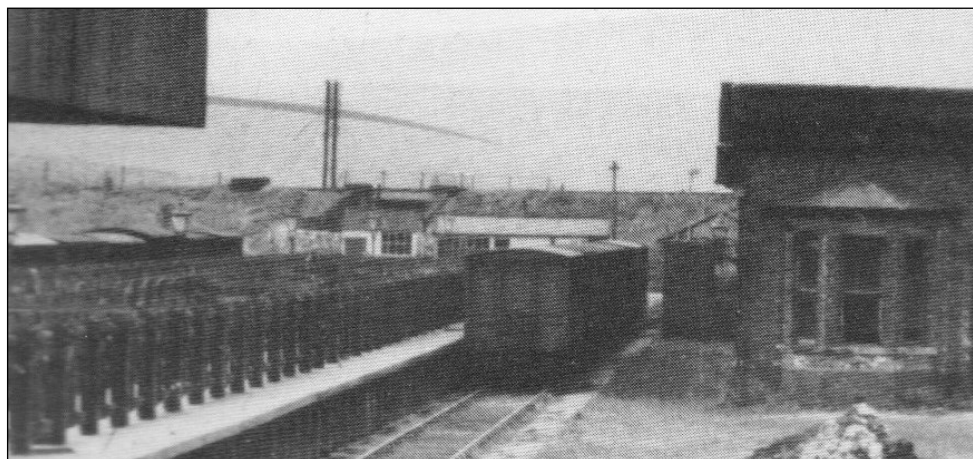


*The photo above shows longwool sheep being judged before a sale at the rear of Hellifield auction mart in 1947, it also shows the Midland main line in the background*

Preston's total had risen to 2479 wagons while Hellifield's total had risen to 417. It would have been interesting to have seen some records after 1887 when Hellifield's auction mart was

opened for comparison, but sadly I have been unable to locate any records for those years.

John Percy



*This photo shows the new cattle docks with the now closed LYR shed awaiting demolition.*



# HELLIFIELD WI

**Recently celebrated 75 years since the first Hellifield meeting was held.**

**Since then, where possible, we have continued to run a monthly meeting.**

Our present meetings are every third Thursday evening at 7.15pm in the Village Hall. Non-members are always welcome for a small fee of £4 and we aim to have interesting speakers or activities each month.

We have tried to develop a more modern approach to our meetings and focus on getting together as a social group each month (not much Jerusalem and Jam). You will see from the picture attached we like to party.

**If you are interested in either joining us or coming as a guest, for more information please contact:**

**Aileen (President) on 01729 851318 or**

**Carol (Joint Secretary) on 07855 191927**

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me at [piploucarr@gmail.com](mailto:piploucarr@gmail.com)  
or 07722072939**

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## Community buyout of the Black Horse?

A group has formed in Hellifield to discuss and investigate the possibility of undertaking a community buyout of the pub.

A questionnaire has been circulated and community meetings are in progress, and the response so far has been very positive.

If you would like any further

information, or if you have time or skills to contribute, please contact

[hellifieldcommunitypub@gmail.com](mailto:hellifieldcommunitypub@gmail.com)

Hannah Crabtree

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## A big thank you from Yorkshire Air Ambulance

Yorkshire Air Ambulance would like to thank all those who came along to our coffee morning on Saturday 29th March where your generous donations raised £529.00 for this good cause. It was a very busy event with a cake stall and tombola as well as the usual raffle. A big thanks to everyone who provided cakes and raffle prizes, also a very big thanks especially to all the local volunteers, including Jen and her kitchen team ladies Heather and Hazel who provided many of the cakes. They were very busy and coped admirably with a kitchen unfamiliar to them.

### A date for your diary

We are back at the Institute coffee morning on Saturday 20th September so we are looking forward to seeing you there.

Yorkshire air ambulance saves lives and you have all helped them to continue doing this.

Anne Brennand (YAA registered volunteer)

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## The Ribble Dance Band

At a Coffee Morning on a Saturday in April I was asked to pass on a reminiscence and a thank you. Anne Hodkinson writes:

'I enjoyed reading Marjorie Robinson's article in the Dec/Jan issue about the Ribble Dance Band.

There are some of us living in Hellifield who remember dancing to the band. My friend from Wigglesworth and I used to bike to Tosside to go to the dance. Luckily, my cousin lived near Crowtree's Park, so we got changed there and walked up to the Village Hall. We remember the stove and

carrying it out when it got too warm! Dances in those days didn't finish till 2 am. Happy Days.'

Anne would also like to thank everyone for their cards and prayers and the good wishes received during her stay in Airedale Hospital. Two hip replacements. One last September and one in March this year. Many thanks to all.

Ken Leak for Anne Hodkinson.



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## View from the Vicarage

And, after last month's extended offering, a rather briefer "View" this month! Some of our readers will no doubt have received or sent Easter cards. And, no doubt, whilst some may have featured church buildings or even an empty cross (and if you want to see an empty cross in a very dramatic location, go up to the Edge on Long Preston Moor before the end of May), most Easter cards feature bright flowers, small chicks or other cheerful scenes of spring. And we don't think twice, do we, about associating Eastertide (that's not just Easter weekend, but the whole 40 days to Ascension Day on 29h May) with spring, because the calendar demands it.

But if you've ever lived in Australia, southern Africa or indeed anywhere in the southern hemisphere, Easter falls not in spring, but at the beginning of autumn. I wonder whether Australian Easter cards have pictures of leaves falling off trees?- perhaps, if you know the answer, you could tell me!

So it's a happy coincidence for Christians that, in Western Europe and North America at least, we can make and indeed see and feel a direct connection between the "new life" that nature's cycles bring us inevitably in the springtime, and the profound "new life" that the news of Jesus' resurrection brought 2,000 years ago and, we would say, still brings today's world, if we want to hear it. Just as the world-changing news of what happened at the first Christmas has

profound implications for every day since that event, so the even more extraordinary events of Easter don't lose their relevance once the spring flowers have faded and we, too, pass through whatever summer has in store for us here in north-west England, and into autumn and winter again. And, just as what Christians would claim is the very good news of Easter has sustained throughout two millennia of upheavals in the world- some good, many not so good- so we believe the Easter message will endure even in the troubles that surround us in 2025. May your forty days of Easter be filled with the joys of spring!

Any questions? Please contact Revd James Rodley on 01729-851709 or [jwerodley@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:jwerodley@yahoo.co.uk)

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## Make your lawns 'living lawns'

#NoMowMay. The principles of nature positive grass management are simple:

- Cut the grass no later than April and clear cuttings away
- Do not cut the grass between May and August (inclusive) to allow plants to flower and set seed
- If cutting can't be avoided, consider mowing paths or narrow edge strips but leave some areas uncut as a wildlife refuge.
- Cut less. Cut later.

More from Friends of the Dales - [victoria.benn@friendsofthedales.org.uk](mailto:victoria.benn@friendsofthedales.org.uk)

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# Have *you* had your full fibre today?

We've just changed our broadband provider,  
To save us a "bob or two".  
It involves an upgrade to "Full-Fibre"  
Which is supposedly easy to do.

Well, maybe if your house is a new build,  
Where the cable's outside your front door.  
We found this isn't the case  
When your house is from 1904.

When you live in an old mid-terrace,  
With bits added on over years,  
This so called "fantastic" new broadband  
Will probably bring us to tears.

They said there would be no problems.  
It would be easy to install.  
We just need to drill a hole for the cable,  
When we locate an available wall.

So followed the discussion of scaffold,  
And where to drill the hole.  
When up popped the next little problem,  
To determine which telegraph pole.

This turned out to be in a state of decay  
And not safe to climb up at all.  
So now we're awaiting a new one,  
Which needs 'permissions' from one and all!

They've promised we'll get our new broadband,  
As long as we patiently wait  
It will all eventually be sorted out.  
I expect at a much later date.

So if you're thinking of getting an 'upgrade',  
You might have some problems to fix.  
If you feel you need some "full fibre"  
I'd just stick to WEETABIX!!

Kate Clegg



## Summer Concert

**Mendelssohn**  
Overture, 'Calm Sea  
and Prosperous Voyage'

**Weber**  
Horn Concertino  
Soloist - Ewan Hudson

**Schubert**  
Symphony No.3

Conductor - **Harry Lai**  
Leader - **Anne Heaton**

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Settle Parish Church

**Sat 28th June, 3.30pm**  
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Tickets available from Forage & Feast, Settle, Orchestra members  
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subject to availability.



[jessiesfund.org.uk](http://jessiesfund.org.uk)

Settle Orchestra reg. charity 1025554

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## Bus and train times

### No. 580 bus

Bus times may change during May. Best to double check before travelling - see [klch.co.uk/bus-services](http://klch.co.uk/bus-services), or phone 01524 733 831.

Monday to Friday - to Skipton:

**0810; 0900; 0945; 1045; 1145; 1245; 1345; 1445; 1545; 1800**

**Note:** there isn't a bus to Skipton at 1645 - Ed.

Saturday - to Skipton:

**0810; 0900; 0945; 1145; 1245; 1345; 1545; 1745**

Monday to Friday - to Settle:

**0915; 1010; 1110; 1210; 1310; 1410; 1510; 1610; 1710; 1910**

**Note:** there isn't a bus to Settle at 1810 Monday to Friday - Ed.

Saturday - to Settle:

**0915; 1110; 1210; 1310; 1510; 1710; 1810; 1910**

### Train times in Hellifield

Train times may change during May. Best to double check before travelling - see [www.northernrail.co.uk](http://www.northernrail.co.uk), or phone 0344 811 5111.

To Skipton, Monday to Saturday: **0736; 0745; 1010; 1039; 1142; 1244; 1342; 1513; 1543; 1639; 1807; 1842; 2011; 2126; 2208; 2228**

To Skipton, Sunday: **1113; 1200; 1412; 1440; 1648; 1709; 1742; 1848; 1912; 2100; 2115**

To Settle, Monday to Saturday: **0615; 0840; 1012; 1141; 1411; 1612; 1741; 1910; 2042**

To Settle, Sunday: **1011; 1204; 1323; 1517; 1713; 1945**

To Lancaster, Monday to Saturday: **0537; 0740; 0910; 1111; 1312; 1513; 1824; 2014**

To Lancaster, Sunday: **0931; 1124; 1420; 1623; 1822**

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# Village contacts

## **Police – Emergency 999**

Police – Non emergency 101

## **Badminton Club**

Rebecca Gooch 07443 493169

## **Beavers**

settlebeavers@gmail.com

## **Brownies**

District Commissioner: Carly Halls  
carlyhalls22@gmail.com

## **Community Speed Watch Team**

Paul Emsley  
01729 851659 or 07799 710891

## **Cubs**

settlecubs@gmail.com

## **Doctors Surgery**

The Old Co-op Hall, Main St, Hellifield  
& Townhead Surgery, Settle 822611

## **First Responders**

Sean Flanagan 07966 265331

## **Guides and Rangers**

Helen Cressey  
helen Cressey@aol.com

## **HelliArts / Arts Group**

Audrey Edwards 850351

## **HelliCrafts / Crafts Group**

Val Bedford 01729 850260

## **Hellifield Hotshots (rounders)**

Cathy Damon or Cathy Dakin  
cathydakin@btinternet.com

## **HelliGames**

Karen Dunwoodie 07756 862086

## **HelliLineDancers**

Jane Gray 07971 656461

## **HelliReaders / Reading Group**

Audrey Edwards 850351  
Yvonne Crabtree 851806

## **HelliScribes / Writing Group**

Yvonne Crabtree 851806

## **HelliSingers**

Sue Alderson 01729 554149

## **HelliWalkers**

Rebecca Gooch 07443 493169  
rebgooch@gmail.com

## **Indoor Bowls**

Maralyne Cadman 01729 851272

## **Methodist Chapel & Wesley Centre**

Pauline Wright 07931 511652

## **Mothers' Union**

Sue Alderson 554149  
Sheila Swinbank 850458.

## **North Craven Flower Club**

Liz Palmer 840331

## **North Yorkshire Councillor**

Simon Myers email:  
Cllr.Simon.Myers@northyorks.gov.uk

## **Parish Council**

Chair: Julian Sleath 07736 079135  
Clerk: Julie Sleath  
hellifieldpc@gmail.com

## **Primary School**

Headteacher: Mrs Catherine Maddocks  
01729 850215

## **Rainbows**

lottie.longprestonrainbows  
@hotmail.com

## **St Aidan's Parish Church**

Rev James Rodley 01729 851709  
jwerodley@yahoo.co.uk

## **Scouts**

settlescoutgroup@gmail.com

## **Table Tennis Club**

Andy Crabtree 851806

## **Thursday Drop in Centre**

Joy Phillips 850340

## **Village Hall (Institute)**

Heather Leak 07790 042206  
Ken Leak 07837 727268

## **Wesley Centre**

Lettings Manager 850802

## **Women's Institute**

Aileen Alexander 01729 851318

# Events in May

## Village Hall

Day	Time	Event	Contact details	Dates
Mon	7.15-9pm	Table Tennis	Andy Crabtree 01729 851806	12th, 19th
Mon	2-6pm	Little Beauty Salon	Kathryn 07896 146444	12th
Tue	2-4pm	Helliarts	Audrey Edwards 01729 850351	6th
Tue	6-7&7-9pm	Badminton	Bob Moore 07976 215646	6th, 13th, 20th, 27th
Wed	9-12.30am	Messy Monkeys	Amanda Belt 07398 284126	7th, 14th, 21st
Wed	2-4pm	Mothers' Union	Sheila Swinbank 01729 850458	7th
Wed	2-4pm	Helligames	Karen Dunwoodie 07756 862086	7th, 14th, 21st, 28th
Wed	7-9pm	Parish Council	HPC Clerk hellifieldpc@gmail.com	14th
Wed	2-4pm	Helliscribes Writers' Group	Yvonne Crabtree 01729 851806	21st
Wed	7pm	Helliplayers	Audrey Edwards 01729 850351	7th, 14th, 21st, 28th
Thu	10-12 noon	Bowling	Maralyne 01729 851272	1st, 8th, 15th, 22nd, 29th
Thu	1-4pm	Hellicrafts	Val Bedford 01729 850260	1st
Thu	2-4pm	Flower Club	Liz Palmer 01729 840331	8th
Thu	7.30pm	Hellireaders	Audrey Edwards 01729 850351	8th
Thu	10-12noon	Police Surgery	Ken Leak 07837 727268	22nd
Thu	7.15-9pm	WI	Carol Weston-Moore 07855 191927	15th
Fri	9.45-11.15am	Hellisingers	Sue Alderson 01729 554149	2nd, 9th, 16th, 23rd, 30th
Fri	1-3pm	Helli-Line dancing	Jane Gray 07971 656461	2nd, 9th, 16th, 23rd, 30th
Sat	10-11.30am	Coffee Mornings	See Hall notice board for details	3rd, 10th, 17th, 24th, 31st

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# Events in May

## Methodist Chapel / Wesley Centre

Day	Time	Event	Contact details	Dates
Sun	2pm	Sunday Service	Letting Manager 07931 511652	4th, 11th, 18th
Sun	4pm	Hour of Prayer	Letting Manager 07931 511652	4th
Sun	10.30am	Family Lego Church	Letting Manager 07931 511652	4th
Sun	2pm	Family Café Church	Letting Manager 07931 511652	25th
Mon	2.30pm	Welcome Mat	Letting Manager 07931 511652	5th, 12th
Tue	9.30am	Hellitots	Letting Manager 07931 511652	6th, 13th, 20th
Wed	10.30-12noon	Wellbeing Café	Letting Manager 07931 511652	14th
Wed	6-7&7-8pm	Kettlebells	Josephine Elsmore 07813 792191	7th, 14th, 21st, 28th
Thu	12 noon	Drop-in Lunch	Joy Phillips 01729 850340	1st, 8th, 15th, 22nd, 29th

## Hellifield House Social Club

Day	Time	Event	Contact details	Dates
Sun	6.30pm	Bingo	Cheryl Mitton 01729	11th, 25th
Tue	2-4pm	Tea/Coffee/Chat	Margaret Foster	27th
Wed	8.15pm	Quizgo	Cheryl Mitton 01729 850866	7th, 14th, 21st, 28th



## Events in May

### St Aidan's Church

Day Time	Event	Contact details	Dates
Sun 9.30am	Church Service	Rev. James Rodley	4th, 11th, 18th,
Sun 10.45-	Messy Church	James Atkinson	25th
Thu 7pm	Ascension Day	Rev. James Rodley	29th

### Events not listed above

Day Time	Event	Contact details	Dates
Sun 10am	Helliwalkers	Rebecca Gooch 07443 493169 Village Car Park	18th

## Messy Church goes outdoors



Join us as we take our Messy Church outdoors into the wonderful grounds of St Aidan's Church, Hellifield, on

## May 25th

Meet at 10:45 for 11:00 start.

Activities centered around

exploring nature, fun & games, a story, a prayer and a simple shared meal/snack.

Further info contact [james.atkinson72@outlook.com](mailto:james.atkinson72@outlook.com) 07849673214



## **Hellifield Institute**

HELLIFIELD'S VILLAGE HALL

**Ideal for parties; events; sports and exercise**

**Try the newly refurbished Yorke Room for small meetings or groups**

**Competitive prices-**

**see website: <https://www.hellifieldvillagehall.org.uk>**

**Coffee mornings are held most Saturdays**

**Book one for your organisation/charity?**

**For Bookings contact: Ken or Heather Leak**

**Tel: 0783 7727 268/0779 0042 206 or**

**Email: [stanier@aol.com](mailto:stanier@aol.com)**

## **The Hellifield Herald team**

The management committee comprises:

- *Audrey Edwards*: Assistant Editor
- *Bob Moore*: Advertising Officer
- *Carol Weston-Moore*: Secretary & Article Co-ordinator
- *Chris Darling*: Finance Officer
- *David Jamookeeah*: Distribution Officer
- *John Cuthbert*: Editor
- *Karen Dunwoodie*: Chair
- *Yvonne Crabtree*: Proof-reader

Other members of the village are involved in the production and

distribution of the magazine.

Whilst every effort is taken to avoid errors, the Hellifield Herald management committee accepts no responsibility for the accuracy of any statement, extract or information contained within these pages.

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John Cuthbert - Editor

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A woman with long brown hair is standing on the deck of a boat. She is wearing a red, short-sleeved, button-down dress with a white leaf pattern. The background shows a blurred view of other boats and water.

# Abernes

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