

# Thornton Rust

## Bulletin

No. 282

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### TR on Stage

Two nautically minded panto thespians from Thornton Rust recently appeared on stage with the Hawes Operatic Society in Robinson Crusoe and the Pirates. Can you recognise them in the photo below?



### Welcome

Please welcome Richard Gledhill to the village. He recently moved into Havenhurst.

Val Dinsdale

### Institute AGM 17<sup>th</sup> March, 7pm

The Annual General Meeting is an opportunity to hear about the Institute's achievements of the past year. The annual accounts and trustees' annual report will be presented. Anyone can come along to ask questions about what the management committee does and how the Institute is being run. It would be helpful if you could send questions in advance to me by email at [su.trust@gmail.com](mailto:su.trust@gmail.com) or on 663504.

Sue Duffield

### Dates for your diary

Please save the dates for the following events at the Institute:

- Annual Parish Meeting, **Thursday 12 March, 7pm.**
- Lent Lunch, **Friday 13 March, 12 - 1.30pm**
- Institute AGM, **Tuesday 17 March, 7pm**
- Saturday Sizzler breakfast. **Saturday 21 March, 10am. £2**
- Easter Coffee Morning, **Monday 6 April. £3**
- Skittles, **Saturday 18 April**
- Yorkshire Day meal, **Saturday 1 August**

### Upper Wensleydale Newsletter

The Upper Wensleydale Newsletter Committee are looking for a volunteer to deliver the newsletter around Thornton Rust & Aysgarth each month.

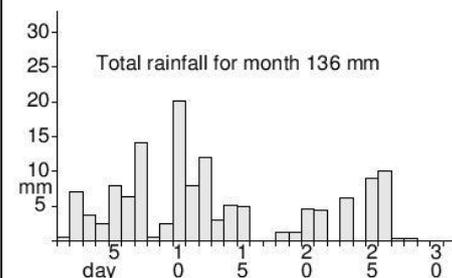
I have delivered the newsletter for the last 6 years but am unable to continue after the next month or two.

The work needed is to collect a box of newsletters from Worton each month and deliver them to 22 houses in Thornton Rust and 5 businesses in Aysgarth (Aysgarth Garage, Hamilton's café etc).

If you feel that you may be able to deliver the newsletter, or would like more information about what the work entails, please contact the committee chairman, Barry Cruickshanks on 667458 or [uwnlininput@gmail.com](mailto:uwnlininput@gmail.com), or contact me on 663626

Alan Cook

### Rainfall



Feb. 2025: 84 mm;  
Feb. 2024: 124 mm;  
Feb. 2023: 30 mm.

### Refuse collection dates

Garden & Recycling	Thursday 5 Mar.
Grey bin	Thursday 12 Mar.
Garden & Recycling	Thursday 19 Mar.
Grey bin	Thursday 26 Mar.

### Mission Room

An Evensong service will be held in the Mission Room on **Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> March** at 3pm. All welcome.

Jackie Cook

### Annual Parish Meeting 12<sup>th</sup> March, 7pm

The annual open parish meeting is in the Institute at 7pm on **Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> March**. It's an opportunity for anyone to raise issues relating to Thornton Rust. You can see the wide range of local issues discussed by reading the minutes of last year's meeting [here](#).

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See also *Thornton Rust* updates at <https://www.pipspatch.com/category/thornton-rust/>

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## Outgang

The Outgang belongs to the village and has always been a working area, primarily for sheep handling. When I came to live in Thornton Rust in the early 1980s the Outgang was literally a dump. There were piles of builders' rubble, abandoned agricultural implements and evidence of a recent fire. At some point an attempt was made to create a car park but it was soon overgrown and only hosted an old caravan. In 1990 the village were gifted some trees and did plant them along the wall side. Remarkably all survived in spite of being planted in rubble and later were further supplemented with some gifted species to complete the wall side planting.

It was not until 2017 that a serious effort was made to enhance the site. At a Parish Meeting, Martyn Donno and Mark Sheard raised the matter of the sad state of the Outgang and it was agreed that, with others, they draw up an improvement plan. The resulting plan had three main aims:

1. To make the place look "cared for" both as a deterrent to dumping and to bring out the inherent charm.
2. To restore the sheep handling pens.
3. To accommodate a proper car park with a welcoming picnic area.

With funding from the Yorkshire Dales National Park and a tremendous effort on the part of Mark and Martyn, the plan was completed. Many villagers also helped and my role was to devise a scheme which fulfilled the first point. We decided it had to be low maintenance, look attractive throughout the year without gardening and merge into the open countryside. For these reasons only native species would be planted and no effort would be made to eliminate the invasive ground elder which thrived more or less throughout the site.

Almost 10 years on the Outgang is looking great and fulfilling its various functions. The native shrubs are thriving, and the small, donated oaks are rising above the competing ground elder. There is a succession of wild flowers throughout the year starting with donated snowdrops and hazel catkins, which have just finished flowering. Primroses and bluebells are establishing under the trees, the cherries are a picture when in flower and

again in the autumn. In winter the young holly is always well berried. Beside the stream the donated yellow Iris are flourishing and in August the willowherb is a blaze of pink. Chaffinches now regularly nest here as well as the occasional dunnock. Last summer someone even saw a deer drinking at the stream. There is always something to see and this developing wildlife haven is a joy.

Maintenance is minimal. Our regular green mower keeps the verge edge and picnic area tidy and the rest looks after itself, perhaps a little too well in some parts. The willows have successfully out competed the rampant ground elder and now need coppicing every few years. Paul Raven and I did this year's cut last month and the trailer load of trimmings went off to feed goats at Cubeck. But there are a few other tasks, storm damage sometimes needs dealing with, the seat and picnic table require upkeep, the suckering cherry threatens the car parking area and decisions on how far back to trim it need taking.

Mark has now left the village, Martyn and I are both in our eighties. It is time for a new remit from the **Parish Meeting (March 12<sup>th</sup>)** and a new team to take over caring for this delightful asset that we, as a village, have created and about which we should feel very proud of ourselves.

If anyone would like to know more about the species we planted and those arriving naturally I would be more than happy to oblige.

Deborah Millward



Thank you to Pip & Martyn for the photos.

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### **New Parish Council website and contact details**

Aysgarth & District Parish Council has recently launched a new GOV.UK-compliant website, providing residents with clearer, easier access to council information. The site includes agendas and minutes, links to self-report issues, policies, financial documents and news updates, all published in line with current transparency and accessibility requirements. We encourage residents to visit the new website to stay informed about local matters. The new website is:

<https://aysgarthanddistrict-pc.gov.uk>

Also, the new GOV.UK contact details for your two Thornton Rust parish councillors - John Dinsdale and myself - are included below, and we welcome any questions, feedback or matters you wish to raise.

**John:** [cllr.john.dinsdale@aysgarthanddistrict-pc.gov.uk](mailto:cllr.john.dinsdale@aysgarthanddistrict-pc.gov.uk)

**Rob:** [cllr.rob.cromeyhawke@aysgarthanddistrict-pc.gov.uk](mailto:cllr.rob.cromeyhawke@aysgarthanddistrict-pc.gov.uk)

Rob Cromey-Hawke

### **Little White Car**

The [Little White Car](#) is for hospital and social care appointments, may that be a dental appointment at Leyburn to cataracts at Thornaby in Tees. We mainly go to The Friarage, Darlington Memorial, Woodlands at Darlington and James Cook. However, if you have an appointment to another medical centre please do get in touch.

Prices range from £15 to £35. If you would like to book or discuss your journey please get in touch with Alice at [alice@udcp.co.uk](mailto:alice@udcp.co.uk) or 07908975452

Sheryl Willis

### **Village WhatsApp group**

Many people in the village have joined the Thornton Rust Residents group on WhatsApp. Lynda Denny set up the group during Covid. It's a good way of sharing more immediate info (road closures, floods, local recommendations, events, community ideas etc.) Please let us know if you'd like to be added to it - [rob\\_and\\_rach@outlook.com](mailto:rob_and_rach@outlook.com)

Rob Newall