

THE PARISH OF BARDSEY WITH EAST KESWICK

Village News



April – May 2026

A round up of church news and community activities from the villages of Bardsey, East Keswick and the surrounding area.



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Church News



As we move into April our churches are prepared to celebrate Easter. We have a full programme of services planned, from 2-5 April, so please do come and join us at one or all of these services which are shown on the next page.

We are still relying on the goodwill of visiting clergy to take services and so may need to change services to those advertised in this edition. Please do check the website for the latest information on services.

We are hoping that we can bring good news this year on the appointment of a new vicar. We are still able to have baptisms, weddings and funerals.

If you need a visit from a vicar, please contact the parish office or in an emergency contact the Churchwardens.

Best wishes from the Church Management Team (**Jacquie, Fiona & Catriona**)

From the **Register**

We welcome those who have been baptised

ORLA EVIE O'SHEA
Sunday 8 February
All Hallows

Parish Church Services

As we await the appointment of a new vicar we rely on visiting priests to lead our services, which means on occasion some services may need to be amended. Please see www.bardseyeparish.com/churchservices for the most up to date information.

| DATE | LOCATION | SERVICES |
|---------------|---|--|
| WED 1 APR | No Service | |
| THU 2 APR | St Mary Magdalene | 7.00pm Maundy Thursday Holy Communion |
| FRI 3 APR | St Mary Magdalene All Hallows | 11.00am Good Friday Reflection 2.00pm Good Friday Reflection |
| SUN 5 APR | Castle Hill, Bardsey All Hallows St Mary Magdalene All Hallows | EASTER SUNDAY 6.30am Sunrise Service 8.00am Holy Communion 9.15am Holy Communion 10.45am Holy Communion |
| SUN 12 APR | St Mary Magdalene | 10.30am Family Service & Baptism |
| SUN 19 APR | All Hallows | 10.30am Joint Holy Communion |
| SUN 26 APR | St Mary Magdalene | 10.30am Joint Holy Communion |
| SUN 3 MAY | All Hallows | 10.30am Joint Holy Communion |
| WED 6 MAY | St Mary Magdalene | 11.00am Holy Communion |
| SUN 10 MAY | All Hallows | 8.00am Holy Communion 10.45am Family Service |
| | St Mary Magdalene | 9.15am Family Service |
| THU 14 MAY | All Hallows | 11.00am Ascension Day Service |
| SUN 17 MAY | EK Methodist Church | 10.30am Anniversary Service |
| SUN 24 MAY | All Hallows | 8.00am Holy Communion 10.30am Joint Holy Communion |
| SUN 31 MAY | St Mary Magdalene | 10.30am Joint Holy Communion |



Soup Lunch @ Callister Café

Tuesday, 14 April
Tuesday, 12 May

12.45 - 2.00pm, Callister Hall, Bardsey

Join us for a soup and pudding lunch.
Open to anyone who lives locally. No
charge, but donations to St Aidan's
Foodshare are welcomed.

Contact the Parish Office for more details
on **01937 574273**.

The Crucifixion

A poem by Fran Peck

I laughed and mocked as He walked that
day, up a hill to redeem my soul.
I joined the crowd to spit and jeer,
and I watched His sorrow grow.

I drove every nail deep in His hands
with every sin in my heart. My rebellion
shoved the thorns in His head, and my strife
tore His robe apart.


I used my hatred to give Him a bitter drink,
and I glared down on Him with pride.

I thought of past disappointments,
and with my anger, I pierced His side.
I denied His power and ignored His worth
and stood waiting for His life to end.

I watched the last drop of His blood fall,
not knowing my grief would begin.
I looked around to find His accusers,
but no one was there but me.

I looked at my hands; they were stained
with blood, and then I began to see.

Conviction slowly entered my heart,
and I dropped all my weapons of choice:
the pride, the anger, the hatred, the lust,



and then I heard His voice.
"Forgive her Father, I died for her.
I paid the price for her soul,
I bore her sickness and all of her pain,
and now I have made her whole."

He looked down on me with loving eyes.
He saw my present, my future, my past.
He knew I needed a Saviour, and my soul
had found Him at last.

I looked around to find His accusers,
but no one was there but me.

Bardsey cum Rigton WI Update

Carol Cocker



As befits new beginnings in the New Year, we all sat up visibly straighter, as “the Spine Guy” explained how our spine works and how to avoid those familiar back issues.

At our March meeting a local Scholes WI member introduced us to Princess Sophia – an unlikely suffragette. We prefaced our meeting by singing “Jerusalem” in memory of past stalwart member Lucy Astle, who died recently. Lucy held most of the roles within our group, latterly as a past President. She was also well known within the gardening community for her passion for growing prizewinning dahlias.

The speaker for our meeting on **8 April** is Stephanie Maynard who represents the Yorkshire Air Ambulance. Her visit in the previous year was cancelled due to the winter weather and we are pleased she can come this month to tell of the important role that the air ambulance service provides. Our competition is predictably “flying”.

The following meeting on **13 May** features a speaker on “arthritis”, but we are inviting members to bring along “Famous Arthurs” for our competition.

The West Yorkshire Federation of WIs holds its Annual Meeting Saturday **25 April** and this year it will again be at the Queen’s Hotel in Leeds, which proved an excellent change of venue last year. A group will attend from Bardsey WI and we look forward to hearing the guest speakers, Yorkshire author Frances Brody and historian, curator and actress, Lesley Smith of Tetbury Castle.

Spring flowers are upon us and by the time you read this our Golden Plover group will have taken their spring walk from the White House in Roundhay on 17 March. Their next event is a Fashion Show at East Keswick Village Hall on **Tuesday 28 April at 7.30pm**. Tickets are now available and non-members are welcome.

Do join us on **9 May** at our customary coffee morning in the Callister Hall, alongside the Bardsey Gardeners’ Plant Sale, in Bardsey Village Hall. We will have the usual bacon sandwiches and a cake stall and will be raising funds for St Gemma’s.

We have an interesting programme of speakers and activities ahead and have also introduced a periodic informal dining “club”, book club and theatre/film visits.

We meet in Bardsey Village Hall on the second Wednesday of the month at 7.30pm. We always make time for refreshments and an informal chat.

Visitors are warmly welcomed, so why not come and see for yourself at our April meeting.



Making a New Poppy



Following on from the article in the last edition, concerning the lost poppy, the Bardsey Stitching Group would like to let you know that they are on with their mission of making thousands of poppies for their new display, and are looking for help from villagers, young and old alike.

If you would like to get involved and help Bardsey support Remembrance Day commemorations this year please use this pattern.

4mm/No.8 needles
R60 DK wool/yarn or alternative
Black button or wool

Cast on 60 stitches
Rows 1-8: K2 P2
Row 9: K2 Tog. To end. 30 stitches left.
Row 10: Slip 2 K1 pass 2 over
Then slip 10 stitches on thread.
Draw together 10 stitches
Sew seam
Either add button to centre or use black wool to stitch centre.

East Keswick WI Update

Elizabeth Ward

Our February speaker gave a fascinating account of his families' careers in military service. He himself had served in the Falklands, Hong Kong, Northern Island, Kosovo and Canada, to name but a few.

In March Malcolm Johnson entertained us with "Children's Favourites" from the 1950's. We knew all the words and sang along to "How much is that doggie in the window", etc.!!

FUTURE EVENTS

Tuesday 14 April

A talk by David Hartley entitled "Diamonds"
Competition: A piece of jewellery

Tuesday 28 April

Golden Plover group Fashion Show at East Keswick Village Hall, 7.00 for 7.30pm.
Tickets £5/£6 for non-members.

Tuesday 12 May

Claire Rhodes will speak about "Textiles"
Competition: An item of patchwork.

Meetings are held in East Keswick Village Hall on the second Tuesday of each month at 2pm. Visitors are always welcome to join us for a cup of tea and a chat.

theWI
INSPIRING WOMEN



East Keswick Methodist Church

SERVICES

All services are at 10.30am unless otherwise stated. We welcome all and everyone to our services and to join us for tea or coffee after the service.

5 APRIL

Easter Service, Angela Foster

12 APRIL

Café Communion service, Revd Ann Fox

19 APRIL

Local arrangement led by the Stewards, using the WDP service

26 APRIL (10.00am)

United Service at Wetherby

3 MAY

Heather Shipman

10 MAY

Café Church, Keith Hartrick

17 MAY

United Anniversary Service, followed by buffet, Revd Steve Jakeman

24 MAY

Pentecost Communion Service, Revd Ann Fox

31 MAY

United Service at Wetherby (10.00am) or Clifford (10.30am)

East Keswick Methodist Church
Main Street, East Keswick, LS17 9EJ
T: 01937 573434

Free Wi-Fi available

Church Steward: Penny Harrison

Minister: Revd Ann Fox

T: 01937 582854

E: ann.fox@methodist.org.uk

SOUPER THURSDAY

We will be serving nutritious soups and homemade puddings on **30 April** and **28 May**. Why not come and join us from 12 noon – 1.00pm at EKMC.



East Keswick Parish Council Report

Ollie Cruse

Cricket at the Sports Field

Leeds Super Kings CC will soon be back playing at the Sports Field on Moor Lane. The first match is on **Saturday 18 April** and the season will run until **Saturday 22 September**. There will be two senior men's teams and two senior women's teams this year, plus All-Stars, Dynamos and Roses programmes, open to local children. More details of fixtures, training sessions and events will be shared to the village Facebook page and posted to the website when they become available. Everyone is welcome to get involved, either as a player or supporter, so please keep your eye out for updates.

Village Litter Pick

We are intending to hold the village litter pick on a weekend in late April/May. It would be great to get as many people as possible involved in giving our village and the surrounding area a spruce up. Please keep an eye on the website for further details.

Parking & Speeding

Two of the perennial topics of complaints we receive are to do with obstructive parking and people driving too fast through the

village. These two issues have something of a mutual solution. As you will be aware you should not park on the pavement if it will obstruct pedestrians or wheelchair users, instead it is recommended you park on the road, as long as there is adequate clearance and good visibility (e.g. not on a junction, bend or ahead of a blind corner). Plus, parking on the road acts as a passive traffic calming measure.

Village Assembly

This year's meeting will take place in the Verity Room at East Keswick Village Hall on **Tuesday 19 May at 7.30pm**. The May Parish Council meeting will happen before it at the earlier time of 6.30pm.

If you would like to raise any matters with the Parish Council, please contact our Clerk on clerk@eastkeswickparishcouncil.gov.uk

The next meetings will be held on **Tuesday 21 April at 7.30pm** and **Tuesday 19 May at 6.30pm** in the Verity Room at East Keswick Village Hall. The first fifteen minutes are set aside for questions or comments from residents.

Full minutes and local news are published on our village website and further updates can be found on the village Facebook page 'East Keswick Village Group by its Parish Council'

www.eastkeswickparishcouncil.gov.uk





EAST KESWICK
VILLAGE HALL

Vision of

CLIMATE CHANGE GARDEN

Climate Change Garden Update

Mina Soi-Westby

Since acquiring the Illingworth Field, our community has transformed the land into a thriving sanctuary for wildlife. 2.3 million seeds from 50 native wildflower species were sown across 6,000 square meters, to create a wildlife habitat.

At the heart of this transformation is a shimmering wildlife pond. It is embraced by wildflowers and wetland, forming a haven where dragonflies hover, frogs chorus, and biodiversity blossoms. Each year, we collect 566,420 litres of rainwater

from the village hall roof and hard surfaces, redirecting it from combined soil drainage into the wildlife pond. This process reduces downstream flooding, prevents pollution, and protects environmental quality.

To foster pollinators and absorb CO₂, we planted 432 hedgerow plants and young trees, representing a mix of species that support bees and butterflies. This shows what's possible when a community comes together with purpose. Every volunteer and every hour given proved that ordinary people create extraordinary change. With guidance and continued support from East Keswick Wildlife Trust, we transformed a field and sparked a movement.

For more information contact:
mina@eastkeswickvillagehall.org





**Summer 2025
Village Hall's Climate Change Garden**



Cherry Blossom 2025



Wildlife pond



Butterflies count activity

East Keswick Flower Club

Valerie Readman

Our meeting on 19 February was opened by our new Chairman Sarah Spencer, who welcomed members, guests and our demonstrator Ann Simpson.

Ann is the area secretary for the NAFAS North East Area, and a very experienced and knowledgeable demonstrator. The title of her demonstration was 'Floral Journeys', which tricked us into expecting a journey around the world in flowers. No such thing, this was an illustration in flowers of Ann's personal journey in flower arranging, which started when her children were small, in 1980, when she was invited to a demonstration in the village where she lived. She enjoyed this so much that she joined the club and subsequently went on to be secretary and chairman.

Following this she did a City and Guilds flower arranging teaching certificate, which led her into demonstrating. She wasn't surprised at her interest in flower arranging as she remembered her grandfather who was a gardener doing the flowers in the local church.

Ann did seven beautiful arrangements, each one being inspired by a time in her journey. The flowers she used were pink roses (pink

being her favourite colour), carnations, white lilies, daffodils, tulips, gerbera, Iris and chrysanthemums.

Ann's stories, accompanied by her calm and accomplished flower arranging skills, held us all spell bound for the afternoon.

Christine Burton gave the vote of thanks on behalf of the club.

Barbara Local reminded everyone that the arrangements for our summer trip to Raby Castle, on **25 June**, are progressing well and that those wanting to go should let her know. Her details are on the back of the 2026 program.

The raffle was then drawn. Always popular as the prizes are the arrangements, so seven happy people took one home. The meeting ended with a cup of tea and biscuits.

FUTURE MEETINGS

The theme for our workshop on **16 April** is 'A Spring Basket'. The maximum to be spent on flowers is fifteen pounds. Sarah has plenty of baskets if anyone needs one.

The meeting on **21 May** with demonstrator Vanessa Wellock is entitled 'La Vivienne'! If you are not a member, you are very welcome to come along and enjoy the demonstration, a chat and a cup of tea.

All our meetings and events are held in East Keswick Village Hall on the third Thursday of the month at 1.30pm. Guests and new members are always welcome.

East Keswick Local History Group

Peter Harding

Our next talk is an illustrated 'virtual guided walk' through Leeds, by circus expert Steve Ward.

The Victorian Circuses of Leeds
Thursday 14 May, 7.30pm
East Keswick Village Hall



The Victorian era was the golden age of the circus. By the time that Victoria came to the throne, the circus as we might recognise it today was barely seventy years old.

Founded in London by Philip Astley in 1768 with displays of horsemanship, military, and trick riding the circus had expanded rapidly in the following years. Performances were either given in the



open air or in hastily constructed wooden 'amphitheatres'; wood was plentiful and labour was cheap. In modern parlance one might describe them as 'pop-up' circus venues.

In Leeds alone there were at least ten venues within the centre used for visiting circuses during this period, it is believed more than any other town or city within the UK, except for perhaps London. There were also several others just outside of the centre. In Leeds the circus is an important part of its rich cultural heritage

Steve Ward has a background in theatre and clowning. With a deep rooted interest in the circus, he now writes about its fascinating cultural history. To date he has written six books and many articles on the subject and he lectures on aspects of circus history and has appeared on TV and in many radio interviews.

All our talks are free for members, £5 for non-members or £10 for annual membership.

East Keswick Wildlife Trust

Elaine Woolley



HOMES FOR SWIFTS

In May swifts will be returning to our villages from Africa, however their numbers are ever decreasing. We would like to try and reverse this and invite our local community to get involved.

Last summer some of our members were inspired by watching Hamza's Hidden Wild Isles when he visited 'Leeds Swifts' at the Gledhow swift colony. 'Leeds Swifts' is a group of volunteers working to bring this red listed species back from the brink. At the Gledhow colony last summer there were a record 38 breeding pairs, resulting in 78 chicks fledging. This is from three pairs nesting in roof spaces in 2012, probably similar to the number of nests in East Keswick last year.



EKWT members meeting with Leeds Swifts

We invited Leeds Swifts to meet with us and advise on how we can try to increase the number of swifts in our villages. The nest sites are being inadvertently removed as buildings are renovated, sealing the gaps that swifts have previously used. Swifts do adapt to artificial nests and so we can help by installing nest boxes. EKWT are delighted to have been awarded a grant from the Barry Green Memorial Fund to use for nest boxes. Some of the grant has been used to buy 20 swift boxes with swift callers. Swifts like to live in colonies and so you are more likely to attract swifts to

the swift box if they are already breeding close by. Mature swifts are attracted to the sound of an established colony when they are looking for a nest site. Hopefully passing swifts will hear the calls and explore the swift box with a view to breeding the following year.

HOW TO GET INVOLVED

Swift Survey - let us know if there are swifts breeding near you so that we can record the nest sites and protect them.

Swift boxes – is your property near a swift breeding site? Would you like a nest box?

Install boxes - do you have long ladders or means to reach taller houses and could volunteer to install boxes?

Make your garden insect friendly - plant flowers that attract the insects swifts depend on for food. Make a pond. Don't use pesticides.

Contact us by email - info@ekwt.org.uk

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Sunday 26 April

Calling all nature detectives! Elliker Fields, The Paddock, LS17 9EN. 10.30am – 12noon. Come along to our new monthly Sunday morning work parties. Everyone is welcome to help with a variety of conservation tasks. Please wear appropriate clothing and bring a drink and snack.

Wednesday 29 April

Bluebell Walk. Come and enjoy the annual bluebell spectacular in Ox Close Wood. Meet at Crabtree Lane car park at 7.00pm.

Tuesday 12 May

AGM at East Keswick Village Hall, 7.00pm
Leeds Swifts (as seen on Hamza's Hidden Wild Isles, Episode 2, Summer, BBC1) will give a talk on 'A Year in the Life of a Swift'. Refreshments will be available.

Sunday 17 May

10.30am – 12noon. Weekend work party, venue to be confirmed.

For more information about East Keswick Wildlife Trust or if you would like to become a member, please visit our website

www.ekwt.org.uk.

1st Bardsey Scout Group

Firstly, the sad news that one of our past members, John Bradford, has passed away, or as we say in Scouts "Gone Home". John started up a second Cub pack, with Alex Hook, then moved on to running Scouts and taking on a district role as Assistant District Commissioner for Scouts in 1988; all of which was an invaluable contribution to ensuring the continuity of scouting in the village and our district. Our sincere condolences go to his family.

Thanks to all our volunteers, scouting does continue to thrive with the three sections, Beavers, Cubs and Scouts getting out and about in the area.

Beavers did their night-hike, which was very muddy, dark and great fun. They also entered the district 10-pin bowling competition, coming joint winners with 1st Scholes, then followed that up with third place, with a team in the district orienteering (Beaver section) competition. Well done Beavers.

Cubs have been to visit the police helicopter down in Wakefield – a very exciting trip for everyone. The older Cubs are going on a trip on the Wakefield narrowboat at the end of the month.

Scouts had a joint camp with 1st Scholes at Thornthwaite where they built a bridge over the stream, hiked to Brimham Rocks, did airsoft shooting, traversing wall and had a professional artist lesson! Scouts also got first place in the district orienteering (Scout section) competition. Well done Scouts.

We have some exciting events coming up: Junior Warrior at Bramham Park, with 48 young people participating across all three sections. A very muddy event! Scouts will be attending our district "Andrew Oliver" challenge hike, also at Bramham Park. The whole group will be attending the county "Challenge26" camp again at Bramham Park in July.

Please contact Mick on mickbee1@hotmail.com, if you think you can contribute and help our thriving group.

*West Yorkshire police
helicopter in action*



Artists Around Wetherby Open Studios 2026

June 6-7 & 13-14

10am - 5pm

Artists, designers and makers in Wetherby and nearby villages throw open their studios to the public



Supporting Alzheimer's Research UK

ALZHEIMER'S RESEARCH UK FOR A CURE

Download a map from the website, follow the route and see art in the making.

www.artistsaroundwetherby.com



Scan here!



Bardsey Gardeners

Hannah Tebbett



I hope you are all enjoying the green shoots of spring popping up all around our villages. As gardeners we are treated to daily excitement when we step outside now. I can see the blossom swelling on my cherry tree, I have daffodils opening daily and my roses are starting to grow. Of course, the weeds are also making strides but we won't make too much of that!

I am starting seeds off regularly now; chillies and aubergines are already up. Celeriac have yet to germinate but I'm having better luck with my kale. Lots of these plants will be available to buy at the Bardsey Gardeners Plant Sale, which will be in Bardsey Village Hall on **Saturday 9 May**. Plant donations from 8.30am, teas open at 9.30am and the plant sale itself from 10am. There is usually a queue so get there early – and be aware that were normally pretty much sold out by 11am.

Something new for BG is our Spring Show, which will be at Bardsey Village Hall, on **Thursday 16 April, 7pm**. Join us for an evening of fun competition. Classes will be judged by attendees, traybakes will be consumed and wine and cheese provided.

The five classes are as follows:

- A spring floral arrangement
- Three stems of flowering spring shrub or tree
- Three stems of any spring flower (one variety)
- An Easter traybake
- A photograph - 'Spring'

There is something for everyone. No entry forms, no fees, open to members and non-members alike. Just turn up with your exhibits. **Plus** there is a £10 gardening voucher prize for the winning entry in each class.

I'm also excited to announce that we are running a trip to a truly special garden. We're exercising our right as an RHS affiliated society to visit an RHS garden for free – and it's going to be RHS Bridgewater in Salford, Manchester, on **Monday 13 July**. Tickets are just £25 which includes travel and a guided tour at the garden. Please email bardsey.gardeners@gmail.com to book a space. You must be a member to come along but membership is just £5 per annum and gives you discounted entry to our show and access to our summer socials. There's really no reason not to join!

Now is a great time to get out in your garden and make plans for the rest of the season. Maybe you'd like to expand a border and put in some new plants. Maybe you want to introduce more habitats that benefit wildlife or find plants that are drought resistant. I am thinking about extending my pond this year in the hope of finally getting some frogspawn. I'm also going to be planting even more flowers for cutting.

Whatever you're up to in the garden, enjoy yourself and bask in the glory of spring.



BARDSEY GALA

at Bardsey Sports Club, Keswick Lane

SUNDAY 3RD MAY | 1-5PM

£1 ENTRY PER ADULT • CHILDREN FREE

DOGS WELCOME ON A LEAD AT ALL TIMES • FREE CAR PARK

ICE CREAM

RAFFLE

STALLS
& GAMES

DJ

KIDS'
ACTIVITIES

FOOD &
DRINK

RAFFLE
& PRIZES

BRING THE WHOLE FAMILY! FUN FOR ALL AGES!

DOGS WELCOME ON A LEAD AT ALL TIMES • FREE CAR PARK

East Keswick Village Hall Vacancy

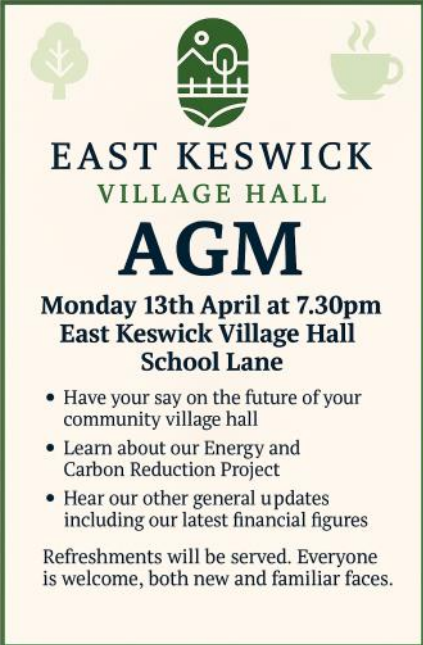
We currently have a vacancy for a responsible person to manage the administration of the Village Hall draw.

The draw is an important part of our fundraising. There are currently 175 members who pay an annual subscription of £30 to be included, and become eligible for the bi-monthly draw and Annual Major Prize Draw.

The task is to manage the receipt of subscriptions and supervise the selection of winning numbers bi-monthly, and notify winners of their prize money. This requires maintaining a members database of contact information, including email, telephone, and postal address. In addition the role takes care of marketing and local advertising of the benefits of being a member of the Village Hall draw, to attract new members, and potential supporters of a vibrant community asset.

This is an important voluntary position, which would suit a person with modest computer skills, reporting to the treasurer, and supporting the volunteer team that manage the operation of the Village Hall.

All inquiries to David Wort at;
david@eastkeswickvillagehall.org
or 07904 394024



The poster features three icons at the top: a tree, a house with a sun, and a coffee cup. The text is centered and reads: EAST KESWICK VILLAGE HALL AGM. Below this, it states the date and time: Monday 13th April at 7.30pm, and the location: East Keswick Village Hall, School Lane. A bulleted list follows, and a note at the bottom mentions refreshments.

**EAST KESWICK
VILLAGE HALL
AGM**

Monday 13th April at 7.30pm
East Keswick Village Hall
School Lane

- Have your say on the future of your community village hall
- Learn about our Energy and Carbon Reduction Project
- Hear our other general updates including our latest financial figures

Refreshments will be served. Everyone is welcome, both new and familiar faces.

World Day of Prayer



On 6 March Churches Together in East Keswick and Bardsey held the annual World Day of Prayer service at East Keswick Methodist Church. There was a really good turnout and the service transported us to Nigeria!

We enjoyed a fabulous display of artefacts provided by Judith, and Nigerian biscuits made by Liz and Trish. The donations in aid of the World Day of Prayer movement amounted to £172.55.

Thanks to everyone who supported it.



Bardsey-cum-Rigton Parish Council Report

Cllr. Linda Flockton



Our Precept remains unchanged this year.

In these uncertain times of prices rising almost daily, Bardsey Parish Council has decided not to increase their Precept for 2026 - 2027

Proposed Zebra Crossing on A58 close to Cornmill Ginnel.

After more than seven years of negotiations/lobbying Leeds City Council has agreed to provide a zebra crossing on the A58 (near Mill Lane). The Parish Council would like to thank our Harewood Ward Councillors, Matthew Robinson, Ryan Stephenson and Sam Firth, Leeds City Council Highways and more recently villagers who have helped achieve this objective. The total cost is approximately £80,000 with the Parish Council contributing £20,000 towards the scheme.

Milestone on the A58 opposite Second Avenue

We have been in contact with the Milestone Society who have suggested that the milestone needs rubbing down and re-painting with metal paint. One of their members will do the work involved on our behalf in the springtime.

Increased Incidents of Dog Fouling

There has been a significant increase in dog fouling on pavements and verges in the village, especially on Keswick Lane, and the footpath from Keswick Lane across to East Keswick (Blacksmith's Field), also on Church Lane and even outside the school on Woodacre Lane. Dog fouling is not only

unpleasant and unsightly, but it also presents a serious health risk particularly to young Children. Whilst the vast majority of dog owners in Bardsey act responsibly and clean up after their pets, a small but persistent minority continue to ignore the law and their responsibilities.

Please Remember:

It is a criminal offence to allow your dog to foul in a public place and not clean it up.

Failing to carry dog waste bags is not an acceptable excuse. All dog waste bags can be placed in any LCC bin. Please double wrap if possible. Offenders can receive a Fixed Penalty Notice and may face prosecution.

If you witness dog fouling or wish to report an area affected, please contact Leeds City Council. All dog fouling reports that are witnessed can be reported to; **cleanerneighbourhoods@leeds.gov.uk** where an officer can investigate with the help of the witness.

Facebook Page

Bardsey Parish Council has launched a new official Facebook page to share council updates, meeting information and local community news. If you would like to stay informed, please follow this link;

www.bardseyparishcouncil.gov.uk/2026/03/bardsey-parish-council-facebook-page/

The Annual Parish Meeting is on **Wednesday 15 April**, with details opposite, and the following meeting will be held on **Wednesday 20 May at 7.00pm** in Bardsey Village Hall Committee Room.

The first fifteen minutes will be set aside to deal with any issues raised by residents. Full minutes and other information is published each month on our website.

E: clerk@bardseyparishcouncil.gov.uk

W: www.bardseyparishcouncil.gov.uk



BARDSEY CUM RIGTON PARISH COUNCIL

WELCOMES YOU TO THE

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

The meeting will include a presentation on the Parish Council's activities over the past 12 months

This is your opportunity to:

- ✓ Meet your Parish Councillors
- ✓ Ask questions
- ✓ Put forward ideas
- ✓ Raise matters of local interest and importance

The formal agenda will be available on the Parish Council website from 7th April 2026

Reports from the Parish Council will be included in the Annual Report, published on the Parish Council's website after the event.

Do come along and enjoy a glass of wine or a soft drink with us.

If you are unable to attend but have questions please email:
clerk@bardseyparishcouncil.gov.uk



Date

15 April 2026, 7.30pm



Location

Bardsey Village Hall

Please note: The Village Hall Management Committee AGM will commence at 7pm and there will also be an ordinary Parish Council meeting at 8pm.



Looking After Our Dark Skies

Mike Chitty and Claire Shaw in consultation with
the clerk of East Keswick Parish Council and EKWT

Bardsey and East Keswick are fortunate to be villages that actively encourage the “Dark Sky” concept, protecting the natural darkness of night so that people, wildlife, and the wider landscape can thrive. In a world that is increasingly over-lit, this is no small or sentimental matter. It is part of what makes our villages feel like villages.

A key part of that character is something we can take for granted: the lack of street lighting. It helps preserve a sense of rural calm, a quieter atmosphere, and a relationship with the seasons that many of us value deeply. The Dark Sky approach is intended to support and strengthen this distinctive feel, not to take anything away from modern life, but to protect dark skies that are increasingly rare.

In recent years many residents have noticed a steady rise in bright outdoor lighting on houses, driveways, outbuildings and in gardens. Some of this lighting is installed for security, some for convenience, and some because it looks attractive. Yet even small changes, repeated across the villages, quickly add up to significant light pollution. The result is not simply a brighter night-time view: the villages become a different kind of place.

So this is a kind but firm reminder, to please keep outdoor lighting to the minimum necessary, and reduce brightness wherever you can. Where lights are needed for security, the use of motion

sensors are strongly encouraged, rather than leaving lights on continuously through the night. Lighting that is always on can be surprisingly ineffective for security, while also creating glare, disturbing neighbours, and gradually eroding the darkness that makes these villages special. If lights must be used, consider warm-toned bulbs, shaded fittings that direct light downwards, with timers and sensors so they do not remain on late into the night.

The benefits of a Dark Sky approach are many and very practical. For people, reduced night-time lighting can support better sleep and wellbeing, as bright and blue-toned light can interfere with natural rhythms and rest. Darker nights also contribute to a calmer living environment, a quieter psychological backdrop, especially for children and those who are more sensitive to disruption. Just as importantly, darker skies support local wildlife, including bats, owls, moths, hedgehogs and other nocturnal species. Artificial light can disorient animals, disrupt feeding patterns, and affect pollinating insects that play a vital role in the wider ecosystem. Finally, minimising unnecessary lighting helps reduce energy use, costs, and carbon emissions and keeps open one of the understated joys of living here: stepping outside and seeing the stars.

Darkness is a shared village choice, and a gift we can continue to offer one another.

Thank you for doing your part to keep Bardsey and East Keswick calm, distinctive, and beautifully star-filled.

The Dark Skies initiative is a global movement aimed at reducing light pollution, protecting the night-time environment, and preserving dark skies for astronomy, wildlife, and human health.

Find out more about Yorkshire's response to this initiative.

www.yorkshiredales.org.uk/park-authority/living-and-working/dark-sky-reserve-guidance-for-residents/

Bardsey Village Hall **Your Ideas Needed**



Following a recent 'spring clean' of the Village Hall we have established that there is a large (c50sqm) flexible space that could be put over to a range of possible uses. This includes possibility of a cafe, offices, storage, community facility, gym, etc.

The Village Hall Committee are keen to hear from residents of the village of any ideas for the use of this space. To convert the space, the use will need to be self-financing, and we are therefore keen to hear of uses that would be financially sustainable.

We'd be pleased to hear from you if you have any ideas or know of anybody who is looking for flexible space. If you wish to discuss or have any thoughts, please do let the Village Hall Committee know by contacting Tim Waring at;
tim@twwcld.com

The Children's Society Thank You



Box emptying is now complete, and many thanks are due to all contributors for their prompt assistance in the return of boxes, and for their generosity towards this well established and effective charity.

Last year The Children's Society supported more than 72,000 children and young people, with supporters like you making that possible. You allowed the society to offer vital therapy sessions, enabled young people to develop new skills, gave young carers a break from their responsibilities, supported families facing hardship and much more.

Therefore, it is with a happy heart that we have forwarded a total of £1,636 from All Hallows, Bardsey, St Mary Magdalene, East Keswick and a number of kind benefactors

from each village; not forgetting those people who bought Susan's delicious marmalade, which raised £334! This money will make a huge difference to the lives of many children.

Anyone can become a box holder and it is something which takes no time or effort. Simply keep a small charity box in your home and pop any change/notes you have in it throughout the year; it's amazing how quickly it adds up! We would be delighted to supply and welcome new box holders, so please don't hesitate to contact us.

Helen Render (Bardsey collection)
07969 059982

Susan Priestley (East Keswick collection)
01937 572227

60th Wedding Anniversary

Long term Bardsey residents Olive Cullingworth and her husband Arthur are celebrating their Diamond Wedding Anniversary on **30 May** this year. Many will remember Olive from her time working at Bardsey School and the Bingley Arms.

We send them our congratulations and wish them every happiness.



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07747 145422



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Pauline Hills on 07535 692366

In East Keswick Call:

Susan Priestley on 01937 572227 or
Gaynor Anning on 0113 5316139

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For more information contact Beth
kilnerbeth@gmail.com / 07756 335633

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


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Diary Dates

| APRIL | | MAY | |
|-------|---------------------------------------|-----|-------------------------------|
| 8 | Bardsey-cum-Rigton WI, 7.30pm | 3 | Bardsey Gala, 1-5pm |
| 13 | EKVH AGM, 7.30pm | 9 | Bardsey Gardeners Plant Sale |
| 14 | Callister Café, 12.45pm | 9 | Bardsey WI Coffee Morning, |
| 14 | EK WI, 2pm | 12 | Callister Café, 12.45pm |
| 15 | Bardsey Annual Parish Meeting, 7.30pm | 12 | EK WI, 2pm |
| 15 | Bardsey Parish Council, 8pm | 12 | EKWT AGM, 7pm |
| 16 | EK Flower Club, 1.30pm | 13 | Bardsey-cum-Rigton WI, 7.30pm |
| 16 | Bible Study Group, 2.30pm | 14 | EK History Group Talk, 7.30pm |
| 16 | Bardsey Gardeners Spring Show, 7pm | 19 | EK Parish Council, 6.30pm |
| 21 | EK Parish Council, 7.30pm | 20 | Bardsey Parish Council, 7pm |
| 25 | WY WI Federation Annual Meeting | 21 | EK Flower Club, 1.30pm |
| 26 | EKWT Working Party, 10.30am | 21 | Bible Study Group, 2.30pm |
| 28 | Golden Plover Fashion Show, 7.30pm | 17 | EKWT Working Party, 10.30am |
| 29 | EKWT Bluebell Walk, 7pm | 19 | EK Village Assembly, 7.30pm |
| 30 | EKMC Souper Thursday, 12 noon | 28 | EKMC Souper Thursday, 12 noon |

The Village News magazine is published bimonthly by the PCC of the Parish of Bardsey with East Keswick. We welcome contributions from our village communities, relating to news, events and topics of interest, for possible inclusion in the magazine, without charge, which would be published at the discretion of the editorial team. Please send entries for inclusion to bardseypcc@gmail.com

The copy deadline for the June - July '26 edition is Sunday 17 May. If you missed previous editions you can still find them on the parish website www.bardseyekparish.com/village-news

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Church Lane, Bardsey, LS17 9DH
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01937 572836

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