

Thornton Rust

Bulletin

No. 277

1st Oct. 2025

Rishi's return

Rishi Sunak visited Low Gill Farm recently and posted about it on Facebook and then raised his visit in the House of Commons a few days later.

He wrote 'At the weekend I visited Low Gill Farm, home of the Dinsdale family and the dairy farmers who supply milk to the Wensleydale Creamery. It was a proper Yorkshire welcome - and a reminder of everything that goes into modern farming: balancing feed mixes, planning grazing, and timing harvests between showers. The tour finished at the Dinsdale's anaerobic digester, which turns slurry into clean energy for both the farm and the grid. Huge thanks to the team for the tour (and the tea).'

The pie is right

Please join us for Pie Night at the Institute on **Saturday 25th October** at 7pm. There'll be pie options (including meat or vegetarian), generous helpings of veg sides, followed by a choice of homemade puddings. All for £8.

We'd love some more help with pies, puds or on the night. Please get in touch with Rachel Newall, rs_newall@hotmail.com

Booking is essential to make sure that we have enough for everyone. Call Sue Duffield on 01969 663504 or email su.trust@gmail.com

Yorkshire Air Ambulance

At the afternoon tea for Carole, £24 was generously donated to the Yorkshire Air Ambulance. Thank you.
Karen Raven

Dates for your diary

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

- Pie night, **Saturday 25 October**, 7pm
- Skittles night, **Saturday 15 November**, 7pm
- Kennel Field Trust AGM, **Saturday 6 December**, 11am
- Winter Quiz night, **Saturday 6 December**, 7pm

Quiz Night

Please join us for the Winter Quiz at the Institute, **Saturday 6 December**, 7pm. There'll be light refreshments to nibble upon arrival. Get into teams of up to 6 either on the night or ahead of time. No need to book, just come ready for a fun evening. £3 entry.

Shine Night Walk

An update on our walk. I walked 10k on Saturday night with my sister-in-law, 2 nieces and a friend of theirs to raise funds and awareness for Cancer Research UK. As a team we raised nearly £6,000.

Much of that is down to the generous people in our village who have donated to me in particular.

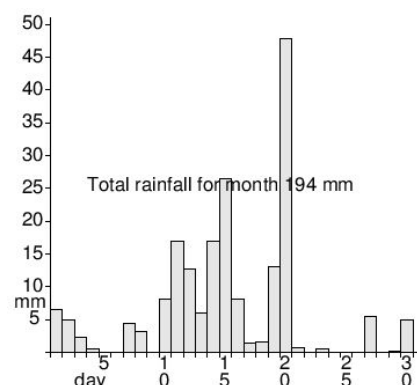
We had a brilliant night walking through London with thousands of people, all dressed up in some way and having fun. It's the first time I've eaten Mr Whippy ice cream (with a flake of course!) at 8 o'clock at night.

A huge thank you to all of you who donated to this important cause; it's time we found a cure! Helen Nation

Next Parish Meeting

The next parish council meeting is at the Aysgarth Institute on **Thursday 9th October** at 7.30pm.

Rainfall for September



Sep. 2024: 130 mm;
Sep. 2023: 110 mm;
Sep. 2022: 90 mm.

There was more rainfall (48mm) on 20th September than in the whole of August.

Refuse collection dates

Garden & Recycling	Thurs. 2 Oct.
Grey bin	Thurs. 9 Oct.
Garden & Recycling	Thurs. 16 Oct.
Grey bin	Thurs. 23 Oct.
Garden & Recycling	Thurs. 30 Oct.

Mission Room

An Evensong service will be held in the Mission Room on **Sunday 12th October** at 4pm. All welcome.

Harvest Festival

A huge thank you to everyone who helped decorate the Mission Room for this service and donated tinned/dried and fresh products. The sum of £87.10 was raised for the RABI charity which supports farmers. Thank you for your generosity.
Jackie Cook

Two pages this time...

See also *Thornton Rust News* at <https://aysgarthanddistrict.co.uk/thornton-rust-news>

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Seata Quarry

[I asked Deborah to introduce Seata Quarry to those who might not know much about this nature reserve on our doorstep – Rob]

Seata Quarry lies on the north side of the Thornton Rust to Aysgarth road, down a dog leg of a green lane. It belongs to Aysgarth Parish and, like Thornton Rust quarry, certain houses have rights to take limestone. Fortunately, nobody exercises that right, it is too much hard work.

Seata is leased to the Yorkshire Wildlife Trust who manage it as a Nature Reserve and give it an annual trim about this time of year to prevent excessive tree invasion and development of rank grasses. The soil is very thin and being calcareous it supports a wide variety of flowers including cowslips, early purple orchids, small scabious and bird's-foot trefoil. The latter is the host plant of the common blue butterfly which is a joy to watch on a warm summer's day, along with the day-flying, six spot burnet moth, whose six bright red spots on a black background add to a colourful scene.

Quarrying ceased a long time ago and at some point, probably about seventy five years ago, someone felt the need to beautify the quarry and introduced several non-native plants from Europe. One in particular, fairy foxglove, has well and truly made itself at home and has colonised every nook and cranny. In May the quarry faces are awash with pink flowers.

Fairy foxglove comes from the Pyrenees, as does an attractive hypericum also found in the quarry and one can understand why they might have been planted. But a third plant from the Pyrenees, spiky fescue, a small grass, does not have any wow appeal. No-one would purposely have planted it, so it must just have hitched a lift. Spiky fescue does have some notoriety; it is Britain's rarest grass. Deborah Millward

Pete Coates' Charity Swim, Lake Windermere

In August this year, in aid of charity, my husband Pete undertook what is widely recognised as one of the toughest open water swimming events on the UK

calendar: The Windermere One Way.

Starting out at 6:45am, at the southern end of the iconic lake at Fell Foot Park, Pete swam a gruelling 18km all the way to the northern tip of the lake near Ambleside. Stopping only for very brief breaks to refuel, whilst still in the water.

Months of very early starts and demanding training paid off as Pete smashed his personal target, completing the epic swim in under 7 hours. And in doing so he raised over £1,400 for NABS: an independent charity providing mental wellness in the advertising and media industry in which he works.

Pete will almost certainly be embarrassed that we've chosen to include his achievements in the bulletin (the first he will know about it is when he reads this!). Nevertheless, his family, friends and colleagues are incredibly proud of him and we would like to take this opportunity to congratulate him once again on completing what was a monumental challenge and for raising money for such a worthwhile cause.

We would also like to thank everyone in the village who wished Pete well and donated towards his chosen charity. We are so very touched and overwhelmed by your kindness, generosity and words of encouragement. Not to mention the wonderful Prof. Loukota's (resident expert on all things open water!) timely advice to Pete to drink a can of Coca-Cola post swim. Those who know, know! Clemmy Coates

Computer update

Nearing the end of the line for Windows 10 I decided to switch to Windows 11. The process was free of charge and smooth, leaving all my familiar items in place. I would be happy to share my experiences with you on cj@colinday.co.uk Colin Day

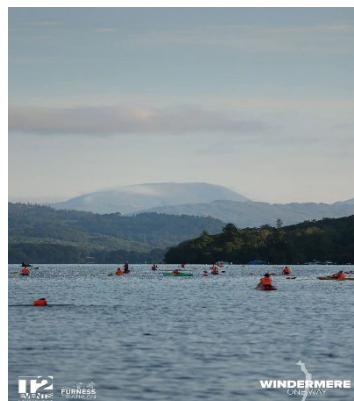
Wild West End

Thank you to those who trimmed, raked and removed the trimmings from the West End Bank. This will encourage more wild flowers in future years.

Helen's Shine Walk



Pete's Windermere Swim



West End Bank

