

Civic Society News



February 2026

Speaker Meeting

Thursday 26th February

7.30 pm in the Memorial Hall

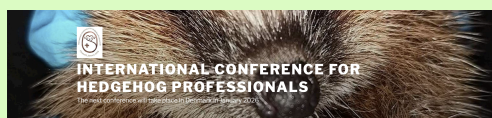
Free entry for members, guests £3



Join us to kickstart our
Environment Group's 10th Year !



Special Guests
Prickly Pigs Hedgehog Rescue



Looking to the future.... What are our environmental priorities?

Dear Members,

Before launching into February, a quick look back at our January Speaker Meeting.



What a fascinating talk by David Hardcastle outlining the history of the police horse. We had a full house and alongside David's knowledgeable presentation we all got to handle a range of police horse paraphernalia, try on a variety of nifty helmets and handle some pretty lethal batons. Fortunately we all overcame the temptation to deploy the handcuffs. Thank you David.



Please note that our February Speaker Meeting is later in the month than usual – 26th February.

10th Anniversary of our Environment Group Yes, it's 10 years since we launched our AEG. Our February Speaker Meeting will lead off the celebrations. AEG will take a look back at what they have been up to over the last 10 years, special guests Prickly Pigs Hedgehog Rescue will be joining us and we'll be asking you to share with us your priorities for the future. In March there will be a celebratory concert with Skipton Brass Band (more details on the next page), and more will follow later in the year.... Watch this space.

AEG chose their special guests, Prickly Pigs, because the very first AEG project was a study of the Addingham hedgehogs led by AEG and the Addingham 1st Brownies, thanks to support from Brown Owl, Gill Moon. The results of that study are still relevant and we have a pretty good idea of our village hedgehog hotspots.

Our guests Prickly Pigs Hedgehog Rescue is based in Otley. As well as providing care for rescued hogs they are involved in some innovative research. For example,



Project HEDGE (Hedgehog Electronic Data Gathering & Evaluation) is an innovative, passive monitoring project designed to track hedgehog movements, specifically for rehabilitated and released animals, using advanced, low-cost, 3D-printed, and laser-cut technology. Developed by **Prickly Pigs Hedgehog Rescue** in collaboration with the **University of Leeds** and supported by the **British Hedgehog**



Preservation Society (BHPS), this initiative aims to create a sustainable, nationwide network of monitoring stations that can be easily maintained by local groups."

We'll look forward to seeing you on the 26th.

You might be interested to read through the **YHACS (Yorkshire and Humberside Association of Civic Societies) current newsletter**, just click [here](#). There are articles from societies across the county covering a wide range of news.

We are members of YHACS and I attend their quarterly meetings whenever possible, it's a good way to keep up to date.

Can you spare a little time?



If you've a little time on your hands and would like to help out we are looking for a Secretary for the Society, as well as someone with website skills. If there's anyone interested in the use of AI we'd also be delighted to meet up and have a chat. For a bit more information do get in touch – chairman@addinghamcivicsociety.co.uk.



With best wishes and look forward to seeing you in February.

Gill



© Playground Television/Photographer: Helen Williams

Skipton Brass Concert

conducted by Adrian Austin

Celebrating our Village Environment Group's 10th Anniversary



Memorial Hall, Addingham
Saturday 21st March

Doors open 7 pm for 7.30 pm

Tickets £10.00

Tickets available from: aeg@addingham.info

Refreshments courtesy of Addingham Beer Festival

**Proceeds will go towards installing a bench and interpretation
board on the Old Station Way wildflower meadow**



ACS Planning Group Update

Our ACS Planning Group is working hard to keep up to date with legislation and publications. There is a lot happening at the moment, locally, regionally and nationally and we will endeavour to keep you informed.

- We are engaging with the Parish Council in reviewing the **Neighbourhood Plan**.
- Bradford is hoping to publish the **Local Plan (Regulation 19)** in the summer, this will include detail about the grey/green belt.
- A **new regional plan** is to be produced by the West Yorkshire Mayor and West Yorkshire Combined Authority (WYCA).
- Also an important new devolution bill is in its second reading in the House of Lords, **English Devolution and Community Empowerment Bill**. The updated guidance for this is published by the ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government and once finalised will show increased neighbourhood powers.
- In addition to the above Bradford Council has been working with the other four Local Planning Authorities in West Yorkshire and the West Yorkshire Combined Authority (WYCA) to prepare a draft **West Yorkshire Mass Transit Spatial Development Framework Joint Development Plan**. This document will provide a West Yorkshire-wide strategic spatial framework to support the delivery of all phases of West Yorkshire Mass Transit, and to ensure a coordinated approach to land use, growth, regeneration and transport decisions across Local Planning Authority boundaries. Comments are now invited on this as part of the Regulation 18 consultation. Click [here](#) for the detail and consultation. There's a lot to keep up with! Huge thanks to our Planning Group.

A major public consultation about the future of housing across the Bradford District



This consultation launched on Tuesday 7th January 2026, giving residents the chance to shape how their communities grow, change and thrive in the years ahead.

[Bradford Council](#) are inviting people who live, work or have a stake in the District to share what matters most to them about housing.

The consultation will run online till Wednesday 18th February 2026 and you can have your say by visiting:

www.homesforbradford.co.uk

Bradford Waste Services

A few people have been asking about changes to the Bradford waste collection service. This is from Bradford's website.

"In September 2026, [Bradford Council](#) will launch a new weekly food waste collection service, providing households with a 5-litre kitchen caddy and a 23-litre external bin to reduce general waste. This initiative, supported by £4.8m in government funding, aligns with national "Simpler Recycling" legislation requiring weekly food waste collections by March 2026.

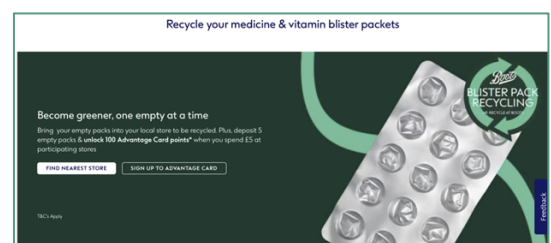
Key details regarding 2026 changes:

- **New Food Waste Service:** Starts September 2026, covering items like uneaten food, peelings, tea bags, and coffee grounds.
- **Equipment:** Households will receive two bins (5L and 23L) for the new weekly service.
- **Garden Waste:** Subscriptions for garden waste run until 31 May 2026, with 12 collections every four weeks.
- **Recycling Rules:** Consistent collection of dry recyclables (paper, card, glass, metals, plastics) will be implemented as part of the national shift.

The new service aims to reduce contamination and costs. Participation in the food waste scheme is voluntary."

Recycling Blister Packs????

Yes, we can recycle blister packs. Boots in Ilkley is partaking in this scheme. If you have a Boots Advantage card you can earn points, but if you are not a member just drop your empty blister packs into the container in the store.



Our Heritage Groups takes another look at the Georgian confectioners of Addingham

Ian Cameron from the Heritage Group writes: **Part Three – sugar sweets**

Our two Addingham confectioners, Michael Booker and Zaccheus Steel, probably made five categories of sweets: pulled, candied, drops, comfits and lozenges.

Pulled sweets were popular and included barley sugar (but with no barley by the 1820's) and bull's eyes that were commonly red and white, or black and white.

The art of pulling sugar has been around for 500 years. To see this traditional technique of pulling and stretching heated sugar around a hook on the wall repeatedly (75 times!) then do look at a wonderful YouTube video from the USA on Wired – How Hard Candy is Made.

Candied sweets involved boiling dissolved sugar to the same level for pulled sweets, but letting the sugar cool and re-crystallize. Popular flavours such as peppermint, lemon or ginger were then added.

Our skilled confectioners would also have been able to produce clear sugar sweets through the addition of “doctors”, now known as interfering agents. These stopped sweets being “grainy”. Lemon juice would work, but cream of tartar was a powder and more convenient. Both peppermint and lemon drops were popular. At this time there was no branding as we know it now, but there was a trend to celebrate national heroes or events. So, our confectioners could well have produced for us, the popular Nelson Buttons – these were peppermint drops with rose or Dutch pink on top.



Comfits have a long history and were traditionally a spice or nut covered in a layer of hard sugar. Think of sugared almonds today. In the Georgian era, another name was Sugar-plum, and coriander or caraway seeds were popular and with the addition of bright colouring at the end, there would be a mixture of red, yellow, green and uncoloured comfits. Making comfits though, was described as one of the most difficult and tedious methods in confectionary. In more modern times, probably the most famous comfit is the gobstopper that can take up to 1000 coats.

The final type of sweet is the lozenge. These involve sugar paste, and apothecaries had found this was a good vehicle for delivering measured quantities of drugs – this could be anything from opium, rhubarb (laxative), or ginger (stomach). This was another product that was not easy to make and perhaps because this was mainly the world of the chemist and druggists, the confectionary recipe books of the time focus just on peppermint lozenges. These were the days before gelatine, and the production of lozenges involved isinglass – which was made from the swim-bladder of fishes! As the village had a chemist and druggist in Spencer Williams, perhaps peppermint throat lozenges were all that our confectioners produced.

Next time we will look at Georgian cakes.

Addingham Becks Water Quality Survey 17th February 2025

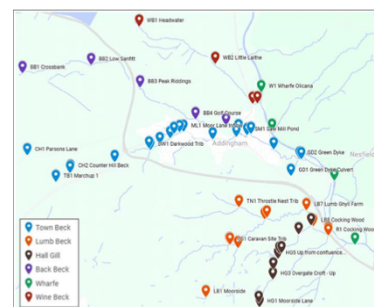
The 4Becks project began in 2017 as a village community initiative designed to draw attention to our principal becks (Town Beck, Back Beck, Lumb Beck and Wine Beck) with respect to flood risk, water quality and biodiversity.

In February 2025 our Environment group, supported by The Yorkshire Dales Rivers Trust and the University of Liverpool repeated a survey originally carried out in 2019. They sampled 52 sites along our main village becks and their tributaries and four sites on the River Wharfe, upstream and downstream of the entry points of Wine Beck, Town Beck and Lumb Beck.

The summary findings illustrate the poor ecological quality of our village becks, indicated in summer by the extent of filamentous green algae growing on stones, is due to nutrient pollution by phosphorus.

There are multiple sources of phosphorus, many are diffuse in nature and are consequently difficult to control but our survey of 56 sites from the headwaters to their confluence with the River Wharfe highlights the need to manage septic tanks correctly and the need to minimise the runoff of surface water into drains.

We strongly recommend the use of a best practice approach using a sustainable urban drainage system (SuDS) throughout the village whereby water is held, used and enabled to soak away within the boundary of individual households rather than allowed to run into drains. Our data indicate that the most beneficial effect on the water quality of Town Beck would be the introduction of SuDS in properties on the Big Meadow Drive, Moor Park and Moor Lane estates. Read the full report [here](#) on the AEG website.



What's On in February

Aladdin & his Marvellous Lamp!



Memorial Hall - 13th to 21st February

Tickets for Aladdin & His Marvellous Lamp are now on sale!

We've got a Marvellous cast, a Wonderful crew and a totally original script, with laughs, loves and some technical wizardry, Aladdin will be a truly marvellous way to spend an evening!

Tickets are £12* adults and £8* child/seniors and are available online now! We will also have a temporary 'box office' at the Mem hall on Sundays from 1-1.30!

*plus booking fee when bought online

www.ticketsource.co.uk/addingham-pantomime-group



TICKETSOURCE.CO.UK

Addingham Pantomime Group event tickets from TicketSource

ADDINGHAM ALLOTMENTS AND GARDENS ASSOCIATION
INVITES YOU TO A

SNOWDROP TEA SATURDAY 7th FEBRUARY

JOIN US FOR TEA, COFFEE
AND HOMEMADE CAKES

MOUNT HERMON
10 am to 12 noon
FREE ENTRY

Competition Time!

Bring your favourite snowdrop
in a plant pot no larger than 5 inches

Class 1 - Single Snowdrop

Class 2 - Double Snowdrop

Prizes for the loveliest in both classes!



A CELEBRATION OF SNOWDROPS

Addingham Film Club February 2026



February's film is back to the usual Friday night.

On 27th Feb

We will be showing the thriller **Dead of Winter** starring Emma Thompson.

Travelling alone through snowbound Minnesota, recently widowed Barb witnesses the kidnapping of a young girl. Far from the nearest town and with no phone service, she realises she is the girl's only hope of escape

Doors open 7pm, film starts at 7.30

Entry is £4 BYO refreshments. Everyone is welcome

To submit an article or advert of village interest

If you wish to publish an article of village interest or an event in the next newsletter please ensure you send it to Jane Farnell before Wednesday February 25th at:

addinghamadvert@gmail.com and include ACS in the subject title of the email.

Thank you to all our Speakers, Members, Volunteers and Subscribers to the Newsletter



Not for profit



Refill Pop-up Stall

At the Mount Hermon Church Coffee Pot,

142 Main Street, Addingham LS29 0LY

2nd Thursday of the month

Open 10 to 11.30 am on:

*8 Jan *12 Feb *12 March *9 April

*14 May *11 June *9 July *13 Aug

*10 Sept *8 Oct *12 Nov *10 Dec 2026

Selling locally sourced, eco-friendly:

*WASHING UP LIQUID *LAUNDRY LIQUID*

FABRIC CONDITIONER

*SHAMPOO *SHOWER GEL *LIQUID SOAP*

ANTI-BAC SURFACE CLEANER

SOAP & SHAMPOO BARS

Drop by for a coffee,

& bring your empty bottles to refill

A big thank you to our friends at Plastic Free Silsden Refill Pop-up for their advice & encouragement & to Mount Hermon for providing the venue.