



Civic Society News

November 2025



Next Speakers Meeting
Thursday 20th November
In the Memorial Hall 7.00 pm

Non-Members welcome £3 admission

Join Ian Brand for our 3rd Joint Meeting with
Addingham Allotments and Gardens Association
Starting with Mulled Wine and Mince Pies at 7 p.m.

‘Weeds, Glorious Weeds’ - (their secret lives and success).



Please note the earlier start time of 7 p.m.

Weeds are disliked by gardeners and ignored by botanists, but weeds are both fascinating and extremely successful plants. Ian delves into the reasons for their success. There are of course plenty of interesting stories enroute, and a few possible solutions for the troubled gardener.

Dear Members,

Welcome to autumnal November with lots of events planned to keep you busy.

We are very much looking forward to our third joint Christmas Social and Speaker Meeting with Addingham Allotments and Gardens Association. Do note the early start. It's 7 pm for mulled wine and mince pies with the Speaker shortly after 7.30. Don't miss out on the goodies.



Very soon you should find a copy of the Autumn Village Newsletter, on your doorstep. Here is what it looks like, don't mistake it for junk mail..... It's full of articles from the village, dates for your diary and contacts for village groups and it's free to every household in the village. This is all made possible by and with thanks to, the Parish Council, village businesses for their advertising, the editorial team and the delivery team – brilliant job THANK YOU.

This month I'm looking forward to seeing the photographs that are going to be displayed on the Hub TV screen – it's our last City of Culture event and is organised by John Fontana. The photographs illustrate the arts, crafts and cultural interests of folk in the village.

The last Saturday in November will see the Christmas Market in the Swan Car Park and the switch on of the Christmas lights, all between 1 – 5 pm. Come and see us at our usual stalls. December will be here before we know it, so do look out in this newsletter for details about our Christmas Party and ordering your Civic Society Christmas cards.

Finally a plea.....if you are going to spend time sweeping leaves, strimming and tidying up the garden PLEASE before you begin, gently rummage in the borders and leaf piles – that is where the hedgehogs and small creatures will be during the day. Last week we were alerted to a young hog out and about during the day – a bad sign. She had been strimmed, no doubt accidentally but the Hedgehog Rescue wasn't able to save her and it was best to have her put to sleep by the vet. That was the second hedgehog strimming

incident dealt with at that Rescue in a week. It only takes a few minutes to check in advance and there might be nice surprise waiting. Our garden surprise last week was a newt hiding in the long grass at the edge of the garden – glad we checked.

Looking forward to seeing you at some of our events. In fact – **buy your tickets now for the Christmas Party**

Best wishes

Gill

Addingham Civic Society	Thursday 11th December
Christmas Party	7.30 pm
For Members and friends	The Memorial Hall

**Music and Dancing to**
CHILL PILL



Entry by pre-paid ticket:	Members £10	Non-members £12
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Bring your own refreshments, drinks, cutlery and crockery and we'll provide the rest

For tickets contact Lorraine:
lorrainecaroldunn@gmail.com or 07809 681373

To pay:
BACs: Addingham Civic Society, Acc. No. 34995727, Sort code: 050530 Ref: Your surname + Party
Cash & Cheque (to Addingham Civic Society), through the letterbox 2 Parry Barn, Main St.

2025 – 2026 Membership Year

Cut off for 2025 – 2026 membership renewal is 31st December 2025

Subs remain at £11 per person.

You can renew your membership in the usual ways, via the website, at a speaker meeting, BACs or standing order, cheque or cash to No 9 Main St.

There will be two more membership renewal drop-ins at The Hub: November Thursday 13th and Thursday 20th 10.00 – 11.30

Here are the details:

Account Name: Addingham Civic Society

Account Number: 34995727

Sort Code: 050530

Reference: The first 3 letters of your surname and the last 3 digits of your postcode.

ACS Christmas Cards 2025

Local photographs by Don Barrett

AEG Art Work by members



Beamsley walk in snow
Don Barrett



Small banks walk in snow
Don Barrett



Parish Church in snow
Don Barrett



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Christmas Cards 2025

Price: All cards £1.50 each or £7 for 5

Size: Local photographs: 21 x 14.8cm
AEG: 14 x 14cm

Order by: Monday 21st November for distribution in early December

Greeting: Season's Greetings

Order from: "Local Photographs"

Chris Ensor 07984 014785 or christineensor1@gmail.com

AEG cards

Gill Battarbee 07762 824800 or aeg@addingham.info

View on our website: Addingham Civic Society, Publications

Chris Acomb, AEG Bird Co-ordinator, writes about Barn Owl Boxes

There have been Barn Owls nesting in a hole in an old Ash tree, in Newlands Field, close to the centre of Addingham for over 10 years. We thought it would be a good idea to provide more nesting sites around the village for any offspring. Barn Owls are not territorial and often share Home Ranges with other Barn Owls. We decided it would be a good idea to put up two boxes perhaps 100metres apart to provide a separate roosting site for the male when there are young with the female in the nest box. We chose a site 300m south of the Addingham Bypass (A65) on a tree ~20m from a public footpath at a section called Cat Steps. (Grid Ref: SE 07936 48999) (<https://www.addinghamenvironmentgroup.org.uk/MoorsideConnectionsWalk.pdf>)



There are also Barn Owl boxes on Addingham Moorside and one north of the village settlement between Bark Lane and the River Wharfe. With support from Wharfedale Naturalists we bought 2 boxes from the RSPB. The nest boxes need to be at least 3m above ground so we needed experts with ladders. We enlisted friends, a retired tree surgeon and a retired fireman who did a great job of fastening the boxes securely in the trees. The boxes have easy access to open fields with one facing east and the other south east away from the prevailing wind. Over the years Barns Owls have been seen quartering fields not far away but these could be the original owls from the old Ash tree. Then about 3 years ago the remains of a dead Barn Owl were seen under one of the new boxes. No Barn Owls have been seen at these nest boxes since then and there doesn't appear to be any pellets under the boxes. The question is whether we should leave the boxes for a bit longer or move them to another location?



Autumn Fair

This is by way of a huge thank you to everyone who made our Autumn Fair such a success. As ever, we knew there were other events in the village at just the same time, but we had a great turn out and raised the largest amount ever, over £300 on the raffle alone.... In total on the morning, we took £1,240. Even when we have accounted for our expenses there will be a surplus more than £1000. THANK YOU.

Dream team in the kitchen, Pam, Bric-a-Brac Queen and the anticipation of the raffle



One of the events which coincided with our Autumn Fair was the Fund-Raising Stretcher Race to Beamsley Beacon in aid of Sarcoma Research. Many of you will have read about Rowan and Ryan, young Addingham men who live just doors apart but who both developed rare cancers. They organised the race to leave The Fleece at 11.00 am. We took advantage of the timing and trustee Steve Noblett popped across to present them with a cheque for £500. Then, if you were there, you will know that Hannah, Ryan's wife, came to give some detail about the boys and their battles with cancer. She then stayed to draw our raffle. Thanks Hannah.



Autumn Fair Raffle Winners		
Prize	Donated by	Winner
Hamper (+Swan voucher)	Gill & Rick Battarbee + The Swan	David Bartlett
Whisky Old Pulteney	Sue Penny	Shirley Dyson
Santa's Workshop Biscuit Tin	Grandma Wild	Jim Robinson
Pinot Noir + Champagne	The Craven Heifer	Sue Appleyard
£10 Voucher	The Ginger Plum	Collected at the draw, name unknown
Cabernet Sauvignon	The Lord Addingham	Lynne Boreham
Embossed Robin Biscuit Tin + Mulled Wine	Grandma Wild + Pat & Sheila Weatherill	Norman Jones
MOT Voucher	Townhead Garage	David Parks
Rose Garden China Mugs	H&J Adams	Ann Robinson
Barber Voucher	Addingham Barber	Pam Birdsall
Santa's Workshop Biscuit Tin	Grandma Wild	Christa Ackroyd
Raspberry Liqueur	Addingham Social Club	Collected at the draw, name unknown

Is this yours?

Someone left this bag on the bric-a-brac stall at our Autumn Fair set up evening between 7 - 9 pm on Friday 24th November. However, it has a personal item inside.

We have the bag and contents safe so if it is yours please get in touch:
chairman@addinghamcivicsociety.co.uk



The Clarkes of Low Mill

About 1870 Martin Clarke of County Leitrim married Bridget Clinton, both of County Leitrim in Ireland. With only two children, Michael and Anne, they moved to Low Mill, in (then) Long Addingham, Martin working variously as farm labourer and stone dresser. As a devout Catholic family, the children walked in all weathers to the Catholic School in Ilkley, though Michael began work in Low Mill at the age of 9. He took his weaving skills to Spain, married a Spaniard and in 1904 emigrated to America. Sadly, he lost his life in the San Francisco earthquake of 1906.

Anne also emigrated to America at 18, after she too had become an expert weaver.

Catherine, the next Clarke daughter, was born in 1876, dying in New York in 1966 aged 90. She suffered an eye injury from a thrown stone when young. She never married and was a retiring person, living with her sisters in America.

Ellen was the third daughter, born in 1880 and dying in New York in 1967 aged 87.

However, it was the fourth daughter, Sarah Margaret, born in 1883, who became Mrs Sarah Foley after marrying a New York attorney. Sarah had been a nurse, apparently nursing at Menston and Scalebor Park. The Foleys had no children.

A further sister, Agnes, was born in Addingham in 1886, and died in New York in 1968 a year after Ellen. She married a very wealthy man, Fred Edsall. But they also had no children, and Agnes was a widow from the 1930s.

The last child of Martin and Bridget Clarke was James Clarke, known as Jimmy, born in 1888. He emigrated in 1915 on the Carpathia, full of refugees and careful to dodge German submarines. (The Lusitania had been sunk by a German torpedo on 7 May that year off Cork in Southern Ireland.) His father had already emigrated with Catherine, as Bridget had died in 1913 of pneumonia, having moved to Ilkley to be closer to the Catholic Church. James died on October 30th 1973 in his New York apartment aged 85.

Sarah Foley and James Clarke are the well-known benefactors of both Ilkley and Addingham, as it would appear that of the 8 siblings, only one, Anne, had children.

James was the sibling who started the Clarke's business in New York, renovating and then renting first one apartment block and then another, until eventually the family owned 6 multi-family dwellings on East 98th Street. James did the plumbing and repair work required, while his sisters did cleaning, painting and Ellen (Nellie) in particular was the one who rented out the apartments and kept the books.

Later the City Council condemned the whole area but paid enough compensation to allow the Clarkes to invest in the stock market and retire.

Finally, as much as £1,250,000 was left to Ilkley and Addingham in what is now referred to as the Clarke Foley bequest: in Ilkley for the building which carries their names, and to Addingham for the annual bequest for those aged over 65 who have lived in the village for over 2 years. These decisions were guided by Bishop Wheeler of Leeds who remembers James Clarke as this "huge, broad-shouldered man with white hair wearing a ten-gallon hat", but still a devout Catholic.

Sarah, known as Sally, had predeceased James by a year, dying in 1972.

(With thanks to Phyllis Carroll and Joe Short, manager of the Clarke Foley Centre.

CHRIS COBLEY MA MBA

CLARKE FOLEY VOUCHERS

This autumn there will be the annual distribution of vouchers, to spend in the village, to the senior citizens of Addingham for men aged 65 and over and women aged 60 and over.

Collect your vouchers in Addingham Memorial Hall

on Tuesday November 18th

between 10.00am and 12.00 noon & 1.00pm to 3.00pm.

You will need to bring evidence to prove current residence in Addingham. Notices will be going up on village notice boards & social media early November.

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

Please send entries for the December Newsletter to:

secretary@addinghamcivicsociety.co.uk

before Tuesday 25th November

MORE DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

We are very much looking forward to our Auction in aid of Martin House Children's Hospice.

Local businesses, groups and individuals have been incredibly generous in the donations we have received. I do hope you will be able to come along on the night and/or bid in advance. You can also see the full catalogue with photographs via the QR code or click [here](#) or go to the Addingham Civic Society website, What's On, Events page and click the link.

There might be something to treat yourself to or a gift for someone else.

It should be great fun and what's more the village "Dame" will be in attendance as our auctioneer.....

Martin House - Auction of Promises



Martin House
Children's Hospice
Registered Charity No. 517518

Here when families need us most





Auction of Promises

Thursday, 6th November at 7pm
Addingham Memorial Hall
Main Street, Addingham, Ilkley. LS29 0LZ
Entrance by donation Wine & Hot Drinks available

Advance Bids: Steve Noblett : sgn6956@gmail.com 07436 457702
Event conducted by Addingham Civic Society as a fundraiser for Martin House Children's Hospice
Event enquiries and Promises 07828 804633 jaynehood@gmail.com



Click on the QR code to see photographs of all the lots



PRIZES DONATED

- Cow Hide Rug donated by J Woods Leathers Valued at £180
5 Tickets for Keighley & Worth Valley Railway. Valued at 103.50
Course of 4 Pilates lessons for Men/Women Donated by Liz Walker valued at £42 each
Swatch Watch Donated by Phillips Jewellers. Valued at £55
Family Combi Ticket for Kilnsey Park Fishing. Valued at £36
Luxury Hamper from Great Yorkshire Hampers. Valued at £80
Round of Golf for Four at Bracken Ghyll Golf Club Valued at £145
60-minute Sports Massage by Rhiannon Oliver of William Human Performance.
Valued at £55
Cinema Tickets from Ilkley Cinema valued at £30
Course of 6 Art Classes (in group). Donated by Sue Ross Valued at £48
Choice of framed Village Photos donated by Addingham Heritage Group. Valued £20
2-night Holiday Cottage Stay donated by Addingham Cottages. Valued at £210
Nail Bar Voucher donated by Naked Nails of Ilkley. Value £40
Sunday Lunch for 2 with drink at Skipton Golf Club donated by Jonathon White Value £50
Dog Bed and Feed Bowls donated by The Dog House. Valued at £35
Prosecco Afternoon Tea for 2 at The Craiglands Hotel, Ilkley. Valued at £42
Collector's item David Brown Collection.
1936 -1980 Poster donated By Richard Scargill. Value £100
Beauty Voucher: hair/nails/products. Donated by Claire Wareham. Value £30
Aesthetic Skin Boosting Injections Donated by Soliderma of Cleckheaton. Value £250
Gift hamper of toiletries. Donated by Moss and Moor. Valued at £100
Personalised Birthday balloon donated by Balloon World. Value £25
Beauty Voucher for hair/nails/products donated by Fuzzys. Value £35
Meal voucher for The Fleece. Donated by DGL Doors and Windows. Value £50
Ladies Cut & Blow Dry by Faith of Silsden. Value £39
Round of Golf for Four at Ilkley Golf Club. Value £232
LED light Skin Therapy session Donated by Soliderma of Cleckheaton. Value £40
£50 Meal Voucher donated by Bistro Pierre of Ilkley. Value £50
Christmas Cake donated by Jane Welby and Margaret Young. Value £30
Family Ticket for Embsay & Bolton Abbey Steam Railway. Valued at £39
Christmas Ribbon Wreath Making Class (3/4 people) Value £80
Yorkshire Lavender Gift Set. Value £20
Course of 4 Pilates lessons for Women. Donated by Liz Walker. Value £42
Sparkle Package Spa for 2. prosecco lunch & Treatment at
The Devonshire Arms, Bolton Abbey. Value £170
2 x VIP Bonfire tickets at Ilkley Tennis Club. Value £40
Classical Facial donated by Soliderma of Cleckheaton. Valued at £65
Wedding Dress Experience at Cinderella's of Skipton. Value £110
Meal Voucher for J Reserve, Ilkley. Donated by Plan-It Earth Tile Shop. Value £30
Children's Soft Play Party for 10 children (under 4). Donated by Little Blossoms of
Addingham. Value £170
Blue Plaque Village Group Walk (8 max) donated by Addingham Heritage Group. Value £80
Handcrafted Patchwork Quilt Value £40
Family tickets to Addingham Cricket Club Bonfire Night Display
FULL CATALOGUE Featuring PAINTINGS, BEAUTY, CINEMA TICKETS,
MEAL VOUCHERS & XMAS ITEMS
Advance bids Welcome Steve Noblett : sgn6956@gmail.com 07436 457702

Remembrance Sunday

9th November 2025

Please note the timing of the service has changed this year.

10.00am – Service at St Peter’s Church
10.30am – Parade to the War Memorial
10.45am – All Attendees in Place
10.50am – Invitation to Ex-Service Personnel

Addingham Parish Council invites any ex-service men and women to come forward and stand beside the Memorial.

10.55am – Welcome, Reverend Mark Cannon
10.58am – “They Shall Not Grow Old”
11.00am – The Last Post
Followed by a **Two-Minute Silence**.
11.02am – Reveille
11.03am – Kohima Epitaph – “They Gave for Our Tomorrow”
11.05am – Act of Remembrance
11.15am – Wreath Laying Ceremony
11.25am – Closing Reading and Prayer
11.28am – National Anthem

11.30am – Refreshments Coffees and biscuits to be served in the Memorial Hall.

All are warmly invited to attend



Annual Village Meeting 15th November

It’s time to review what progress we are making towards the reduction of our carbon footprint and steps to protect and enhance biodiversity. This event has become a feature of the village calendar. Do come along.

More details are available via the QR code or on the Climate Action Addingham website.

The November Hub Display

Do make an opportunity to visit The Hub during November. The display will feature some **myth busting facts**.

Here are the MYTHS

- Climate change is not caused by human activity
- Heat pumps are uneconomical, noisy and don’t work in winter
- Renewable energy costs are more
- Climate change is a threat to our way of life
- There’s nothing we can do about it or it’s too expensive

Come and read how the myths are busted....they are indeed myths.



Saturday 15th November 2 - 5.30 pm
Addingham Memorial Hall

HOW GREEN IS OUR VILLAGE 2025

2pm Displays and refreshments
3pm Short talks, village projects
4.30pm Keynote talks, Kath Clark and Alex Evans

For more details see:



www.climateactionaddingham.info/events/event-dates



The Salvation Army Christmas Appeal at St Peter's
Christmas Cheer
Looking ahead to December, Tuesday 16th at 7pm



There will be a free concert of seasonal music led by the Fairfax Singers at St Peter's on the 16th December. All donations will be in aid of the Salvation Army Christmas Appeal. Do put the date in your diary, there will be, free interval refreshments and opportunities for you to sing along. Bring your family and friends.