



Civic Society News

August 2024



Addingham Civic Society

Summer Party

Friday 16th August 7.30 p.m.

The Memorial Hall

Music and Dancing to



Entry by pre-paid ticket: **Members £10**

Non-members £12

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 or Cheque (to Addingham Civic Society), through the letterbox at 2 Parry Barn, Main St.

Dear Members,

A couple of reminders for you. **In August there is our Summer Party**, this is instead of a Speaker Meeting and is in the Memorial Hall on Friday 16th, hope you've got your dancing shoes and tickets.

And the second reminder is for those of you who pay your membership subscription via a standing order, we'd be grateful if you could increase the amount to £11 per person, so either £11 for a single or £22 for a couple – thank you.

We thought July was going to be a busy month and we were right. On Saturday the 13th I had to make the choice between the Gala and a quarterly meeting of the Yorkshire and Humberside Association of Civic Societies (YHACS). Normally speaking the Gala would win but as I'd missed the previous YHACS meeting I took the train to the YHACS meeting, hosted by Cleethorpes Civic Society. It turned out to be a very useful meeting with the keynote speaker, Ian Harvey, Executive Director of Civic Voice, giving some initial thoughts on the new government's rapid announcements about planning reform. There will be plenty here for our Planning Group to get their teeth into. Sadly, no sunny photo of the Cleethorpes prom, it rained all day.

And so to August, a bit quieter this month.

With best wishes

Gill

ACS Subscriptions for 2024 – 2025

Many thanks to all those who have paid their subs and here is the info for those who haven't got round to it yet.

Our 2024 – 2025 Society year will begin on the 1st September. As mentioned in the June edition the subscriptions are increasing slightly and will now be £11 per person.

There will be two drop-in sessions at The Hub at which you will be able to pay by cash, cheque, or card, these are as follows:

Tuesday August 13th 10 – 12.

and

Thursday August 22nd 10 – 12

Transaction details

ACS Account No: 34995727

ACS Sort Code: 05-05-30

Your reference: First 3 characters of surname and the last 3 characters of post code (eg. BATOPD)

How to pay

Via PayPal on our website. You don't need a PayPal account, just a credit or debit card.

<https://www.addinghamcivicsociety.org.uk/acs/index.php/membership/test-cart>

BACs

Standing Order

Telephone Banking

Card

Cheque

Cash

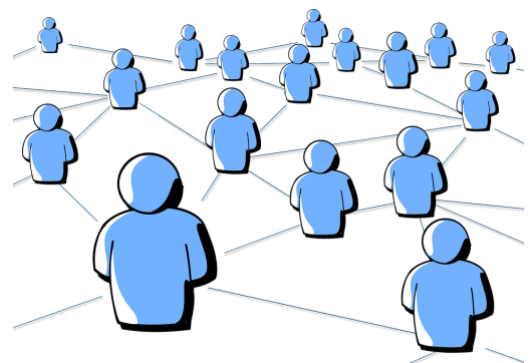
Where to pay

Drop-in at the Hub (see dates and times above)

From the comfort of your own home

At a Civic Society meeting

Through the letterbox at 9 Main Street



Addingham Gala

Well, the village didn't have the best of weather for the Gala but I understand that everyone enjoyed it. Many thanks to our trustees and volunteers for putting up the ACS, Books, Heritage Group and Environment Group displays. I don't think we were overrun with customers, but we do like to support village events and it's always an opportunity for us to let people know the sorts of things we do. In this photo it looks almost as damp as it was in Cleethorpes.



Something you might not be aware of...

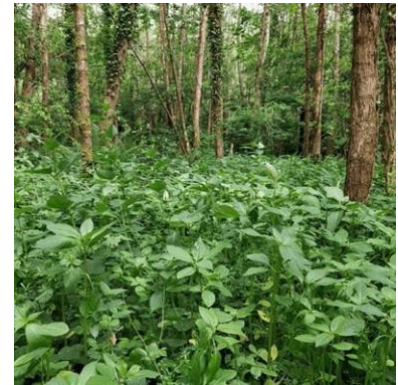


A team of our Environment Group volunteers has been out removing Himalayan Balsam from the edges of the becks and river Wharfe in Addingham three times a week throughout June and July no matter what the weather....

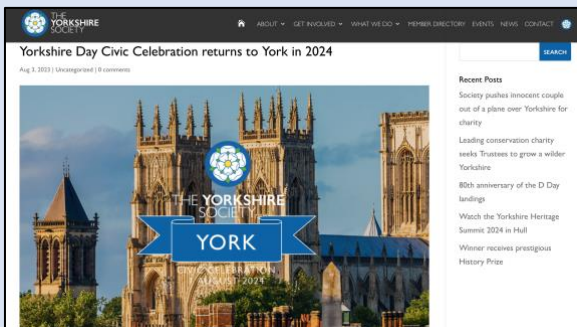
It does seem a shame as it's such a pretty flower, the bees love it and it grows so easily but if it sounds too good to be true it probably is and that's the case for this particular flower. It was introduced as a garden flower by the Victorians and there it stayed until the climate began to change but now, we think the warmer wetter conditions suit it so well it has escaped into the countryside and become a menace. Our native wildflowers cannot grow underneath it and few insects live under its canopy. It is the subject of extensive research but in the meantime **huge thanks to our volunteers** for working to keep it under control in the village.



The pictures below are from this website:



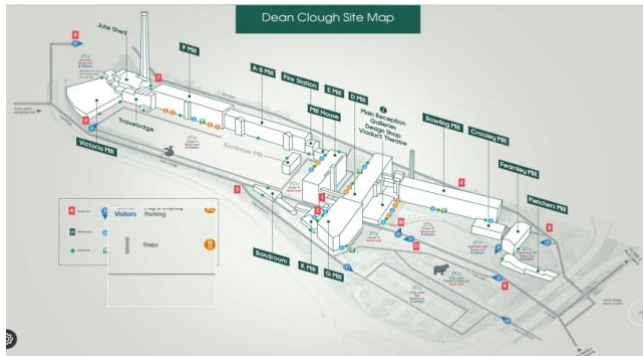
Yorkshire Day 1st August



Summer Trip to Dean Clough and Shibden Hall

Many thanks to Trustee Jayne Hood for organising our day out and evening social in July, well done Jayne, you even managed good weather for us.

Our first stop was at Dean Clough. This huge complex of mill buildings covering half a mile in length was erected by Crossley Carpets between 1840 – 1860 and in its heyday was the largest carpet factory in the world, now the home to many businesses, restaurants and small enterprises, including a 300-seat theatre. We spent a couple of hours exploring the heritage trail and some of the many exhibitions. I was particularly taken with the Lego model of the mill built by two volunteers and comprising 1 million Lego bricks and in “old money” is 35’ long by 8’ wide.



From Dean Clough we travelled on to Shibden Hall, the home of Anne Lister where an excellent short film gave us a great background to her life. The hall dates back to 1420 and is well worth a visit.



In the evening we had a Social Meal at the Fleece.

Lots of folk came along and enjoyed some food together and a chat.



Who Remembers the Mile Post phantom during Covid??

He's here again – made a super job of this one.

Thanks Jim

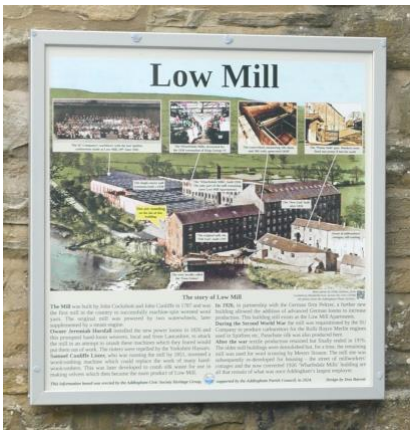


Thank you to all our speakers, volunteers, subscribers & contributors to the Newsletter

Last date for entries to the September Newsletter is Sunday 25th August.

Please send to Jane Welby
secretary@addinghamcivicsociety.co.uk

Unveiling of the Low Mill Heritage Information Board



About seventy people attended the unveiling of a new information board about the history of Low Mill in Addingham. The board has been created by the Heritage Group of the Addingham Civic Society and funded by the Parish Council. Located at a prominent location by the weir, the board can now be enjoyed by everybody walking through Low Mill village.

At the ceremony, Ian Cameron, chair of the Heritage Group described key moments from Low Mill's history since it was built in 1787. These included being the world's first mill to successfully spin worsted yarn and so contributing to the story of the Industrial Revolution. There were also darker moments, when 150 rioters attacked the mill in 1826 with the aim of destroying the new power looms that threatened the jobs of hand weavers. Much later, the mill contributed to the war effort in the Second

World War by building carburettors for engines in Spitfires, Hurricanes and Lancaster bombers.

However, Ian Cameron also said: "As you walk through Low Mill up till now, where do you find out about these wonderful stories? By having this new display, we want to share the remarkable history of Low Mill with residents and visitors".

Gill Battarbee, chair of Addingham Civic Society said that this initiative was part of the local contribution to Bradford City of Culture 2025 which has as its aim to have a network of walks across the district. The unveiling of the board was undertaken by Simon Tennant, chair of Addingham Parish Council who said: "This is another excellent example of close working between the Parish Council and the Civic Society for the good of Addingham"



Climate Action Addingham - Water Week

Well, that did prove to be a bit of a busy watery week. I hope all those who came along to any of the CAA Water Week sessions found them interesting. Our thanks to the representatives from all the professional and voluntary organisations who joined us to lead sessions. In due course a full report of the week will be added to the CAA website.

I have to say that the sum of the Saturday presentations about the Woes and Wonders of The Wharfe was extraordinary. The word privilege is, in my view, overused but in this case I do think it was a privilege for us to have such a range of scientists sharing their work with us, and in some case, this was not just interesting but cutting edge.

There were two demonstrations, a walk and eight presentations covering a wide range of topics such as the study of DNA from the river water, the presence of pharmaceuticals in becks and rivers, the effects of pollutants etc on wildlife, the possibility of a fish pass at Low Mill weir, and much more.

Thank you to all the volunteers and specially to the army of cake bakers and my goodness you kept us all very well fed.

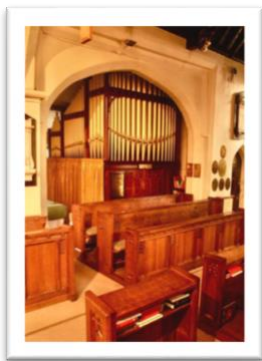
These photographs just illustrate a few of the focus areas during the Saturday afternoon.



Of Addingham's Mice and Men by Rob Smith

Addingham is fortunate in having in its midst some fine examples of the work of the joiner and craftsman Robert "Mouseman" Thompson. These include both his own earlier pieces and, following his death aged 79 in 1955, those emanating from the company he created, now known as "Robert Thompson's Craftsmen Ltd – The Mouseman of Kilburn."

The distinctive honeycomb patterns on the oak surface, skillfully created by use of an adze, a medieval tool, together with the carved mouse signature readily identifies an item as being Mouseman. Folklore maintains that the idea of the mouse arose whilst Thompson was installing an oak screen in a church. One of his workers remarked that they were 'all as poor as church mice', giving Thompson the idea of adding the motif, later patented in the early 1930's, to the screen and to all subsequent works. Church furniture proved a lucrative source of commissions and can be found not only in St Peter's here in Addingham, but also in many other local churches – St Mary's in Burley, All Saints and St Margaret's in Ilkley, St Mary and St Cuthbert's at Bolton Priory. The altar, commissioned in 1938, was the first Thompson example in St Peter's. Following the end of WW2 however, a major commission was begun in 1949 with the instillation of the choir stalls, funded mainly by a donation from the artist Francis Wall of Menston and dedicated to the memory of his parents. The panels on these stalls are carved with stylised foliage and roses. By the end of 1950 the commission was completed with the addition of the altar rails and clergy stalls. There are a number of other items in the church including memorial plaques, a hymn board, all adorned with mice upon them. And, in 1989, the large cross that hangs above the chancel arch was added.



The Choir Stalls at St Peters



Typical Mouse Motif

The Best Kept Village Sign



But the church is not the only location of Mouseman in the village. The sign which Addingham won in 1997 for being the Best Kept Village, (and as this award has not been awarded since has never been surpassed), proudly bears a Thompson mouse. And maybe, if one knew where to look, there could well be other such little beasties lurking in the village...

Addingham Patient Participation Group (PPG)

Our Addingham PPG has produced a really comprehensive directory of village health and fitness activities. It is on our Addingham.info website in Community Services where you can click on it in the last bullet point, alternatively you can see it by clicking [here](#).



Community Based Mental Health and Wellbeing Support
Your wellbeing, one day at a time

Join our new mental health support sessions
Thursdays 10.00 - 12.00pm
Christchurch, The Grove, Ilkley LS29 9LW
No need to book, just drop in

- A safe space for wellbeing support
- Learn relaxation and mindfulness skills, plus ways to manage stress
- Informal sessions, co-facilitated by individuals and their needs

For more information, contact us:
ment@healthconnect.org.uk
mentalhealthconnect@khl.org.uk
01535 677977

Wharfedale Wellness Together

Working in partnership with:
KHL Healthy Living

In addition to this, Andrew Rozee, Assistant Ward Officer has asked if we could publicise some of the support being offered by Bradford Council.

If you would like further information Andrew's contact details are here:

Andrew Rozee
Neighbourhoods and Community Services
Assistant Ward Officer
Ilkley & Craven, City of Bradford Metropolitan District Council
Keighley Area Co-ordinator's Office, The Lodge, Cliffe Castle Depot, Spring Gardens Lane, Keighley, BD20 6LH
Tel: 01535 618008 Mobile : 07773 123 976