



Wilberfoss News

March 2026

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Welcome to your March Village Newsletter

We are delighted to bring you the March edition, filled with community news, updates, and dates for your diary.

This month, we would also like to give a special mention to **Wilberfoss in Bloom**, who are on the look out for extra helpers as they prepare for another year of brightening up our village. If you have green fingers, or just a bit of spare enthusiasm, they would love to hear from you.

If you have any submissions for the April edition, please send them to michellewallis1711@gmail.com by March 19th.





News in Brief

The Community Payback team is still working hard in the village. They've replaced more of the fencing on the amenity land, replaced the gate post on the gate leading to the A1079 on Back Lane, cleared leaf mulch and drains on Beckside to prevent flooding, strimmed the footpath on Ings Road and washed the bridge on Main Street. We are extremely grateful to the team for their support of our community. There's more work to come and the team will also be carrying out the grass cutting of public verges this season.

In last month's Newsletter we reported that we were planning to install a bus shelter at the western entrance to the village. This project will have to be delayed until we know exactly where the eastbound bus stop will be re-located to, following approval of the development of 70 new homes off Main Street. You'll find the full planning application under the News section of the Parish Council website.

Are you knowledgeable in Wilberfoss village history? Do you have old photos and stories you'd like to share? A historian filmmaker has approached the Parish Council with a possible village heritage project. Drop the Parish Clerk a line if you'd like to get involved.

As the new financial year approaches, the Parish Council will focus on the following projects for 2026/2027. At this stage we cannot guarantee completion, but our intentions are to:-

- ◆ Install more bollards on Beckside to further protect the verges.
- ◆ Fund the replacement of a planter for Wilberfoss in Bloom.
- ◆ Install of a bus shelter.
- ◆ Install kerbing on Beckside to prevent verge slip, flooding and potholing.
- ◆ Clean the cenotaph and remove the laurel hedge in the War Memorial garden to offer more room on Remembrance Sunday.

Fly-tipping has been reported to us on Mill Hill and on land off Storking Lane/Hawthorne Drive. Fly-tipping of any kind encourages vermin, and we would respectfully ask everyone to dispose of waste responsibly. We would like to take this opportunity to thank volunteer litter pickers and ask everyone to use the litter bins provided throughout the village.





Parish Council Vacancy Notice

Ever complained about potholes, parking, play areas or planning?

What if you could actually *do something* about it?

Your parish council needs people who care about their community — and that could be **you**. No politics, no special qualifications, just a willingness to listen, speak up and help shape where you live.

Being a parish councillor means:

- Having a real say on local issues
- Representing your neighbours
- Making practical, visible changes
- Giving back to your community

If you've got ideas, opinions, or just a bit of local pride, we'd love to hear from you. Step up, get involved, and help make our parish an even better place to live.

For an informal, no obligation, chat email us in the first instance on clerk@wilberfoss-pc.gov.uk or come along to one of our public meetings on the third Thursday of each month from 7.30 pm at Wilberfoss Community Centre.





Information

Dedicated Children's Book Swap

A Children's Book Swap is located in the outside foyer at the Community Centre, giving young readers the chance to trade their well-loved stories for fresh adventures. Families can bring along books they've outgrown and exchange them for something new, helping stories find a second life in another child's hands.

It's a simple, friendly way to spark a love of reading, build community connections, and make sure great books keep circulating rather than gathering dust. Whether a child is discovering picture books or diving into chapter books, the swap offers something exciting for everyone.

We've used funds from the **Wilberfoss Quarry Fund** to build the cabinet and in due course it will be painted by the **Community Payback Team**.

The swap has already begun! There's a *Roald Dahl* collection, a couple of old classics - *Rumplestiltskin* and *Chicken Licken*, the family favourite *The Gruffalo* and some educational books amongst those already donated, so thank you to the children who have got this project off the ground. There's even a couple of children's DVDs!

Thank you also to the Community Centre Management Committee for offering us the space





LAFs

WILBERFOSS LADIES AND FRIENDS (LAFs)

We are just a group of Ladies (not necessarily from Wilberfoss) who meet on the third Monday of each month at the Community Centre from 2.30pm until 4.00pm. **There is no membership fee**, but for a mere £3 at the door you will be warmly welcomed by everyone, receive a raffle ticket for some lovely prizes, enjoy an amusing and/or informative speaker and, last but by no means least, refreshments of tea, coffee and biscuits! Where else could you enjoy all this for £3?



The Red Sky Ukulele Band played at our February meeting, and we sang (and some danced!) to a wonderful selection of rock, pop and nostalgic music. We hope to book them again for 2027 by popular request.

Future dates for your diary:

16 th March	A talk about the Hull Schools Evacuation 1939-40.
20 th April	AGM. Not a formal meeting and there will be a bring and buy stall.
18 th May	Women in WW2
15 th June	Stamford Bridge Tapestry
20 th July	Retirement – Part 2 (part 1 was very entertaining!)
17 th August	Afternoon Tea
21 st September	A Phoenix from the Ashes (1984 York Minster Fire)
19 th October	Murder Mystery Afternoon – Who Done It?
16 th November	What Lies Beneath?
December	Christmas Lunch – date TBA





Wilberfoss In Bloom

Wilberfoss in Bloom— Calling new members!

Would you like to join a friendly team of volunteers to help keep the village looking lovely? You don't have to be an expert gardener or have lots of plant knowledge, and you don't have to attend all sessions, we all just do what we can. We have notes from meetings and an active WhatsApp group to keep everyone updated and involved! Here's an idea of what we do through the year.

12 Glorious Months of Gardening

January	Planning and preparation for the seasons ahead
February	First meeting of the new year and general maintenance, discuss projects for the year ahead
March	First Saturday gardening and spring clean shed
April	Seasonal planting (autumn/winter to spring/summer) and first Tuesday evening gardening
May	Fundraising plant sale and cake stall at the Duck Race
June	Nurture summer bedding, lots of watering and decide on autumn/winter plant order
July	More watering for summer heat
August	Still watering! and deadheading
September	Seasonal planting (spring/summer to autumn/winter), last meeting and gardening sessions of the year. Decide on spring/summer plant order.
October	Bingo night - great night and fundraiser, prizes and Chilli Supper
November	Re-group and recharge
December	Decorate the Village Christmas tree for the festive season

Meetings - planning and preparation

4x per year, 2nd Thursday of the month February, April, June and September.
Meet from 6:45pm to 8pm (ish)!

Gardening sessions – planting, tidying beds, cutting back, etc

Saturday gardening – 7x per year, 1st Saturday of the month March to September.
Meet at 10am for an hour or two

Tuesday evening gardening – 6x per year, 3rd Tuesday of the month, April to September. Meet at 6:30pm for an hour (ish)

Interested in joining us?

Contact Viv, 07885 855402 or email vmg1067@hotmail.com



Tennis

Welcome to the first Wilberfoss tennis club update of 2026

At Wilberfoss, you can play as **casually or competitively** as you like:

- ♦ Friendly **social tennis** sessions for all abilities
- ♦ **League tennis** in the York & District Tennis Leagues for those who enjoy competition
- ♦ Plenty of chances to improve, meet new people, and get involved at your own pace
- ♦ Social events throughout the year that make the club feel more like a community than just a place to play

From **April onwards**, there's always something going on:

- ♦ **Monday nights** – relaxed, informal social tennis
- ♦ **Wednesday nights** – official club night

Once a month on a Friday – a special social tennis night, followed by a few drinks at the pavilion.

We are proud to be known as one of the **friendliest clubs in the area**, and we're always happy to welcome new faces.

If you're curious, have questions, or would like to come along and give it a try, just [get in touch](#) – We'd love to meet you. The website address with contact details and a link to the membership form is: www.wilberfosstennisclub.com

See you all on the courts soon!

Adrian Shakeshaft (Secretary) - 07415199414

WILBERFOSS COMMUNITY CENTRE DIARY - March 2026 - Use

	Session Time	Activity
Monday	6.00 am – 7.00 am 9.00am – 5.00pm 10.15 am – 1.15pm 10.30am -11.30am 2.30 pm – 4.30 pm 6.00 pm – 8.00 pm 8.30 pm – 9.30 pm	Early morning fitness class NESTT Sing & Sign – Classes from babies to toddlers Table tennis coaching Wilberfoss Ladies & Friends (third Monday monthly) Yoga with Simply Bee Wellness Keep Fit
Tuesday	6.00am – 7am 9.00am -5.00pm 10.00 am – 11.00 am 1.15 pm – 3.15 pm 7.00 pm – 9.00 pm	Early morning Fitness with Tarn NESTT Move It or Lose It – Exercise for the over 60's Wilberfoss Art Class Wilberfoss Table Tennis Club (Club & Match Night)
Wednesday	6am – 7am 9.30 am – 10.30 am 2.00 pm – 4.00 pm 4.00pm -6.00pm 6.00pm-7.00pm 7.30 pm – 9.30 pm	Early Morning Fitness Beginners Yoga class U3A Quiz (<i>alternate weeks</i>) (U3A Members only) KCMA Martial Arts Academy (children & adult classes) Maggie Grace Pilates Wilberfoss Line Dancers
Thursday	10.00 am – 11.00 am 6.45pm -9.30pm 6.00pm – 8.00 pm 7.30 pm – 9.30 pm 7.30 pm – 9.00 pm	Pocklington Pilates Wilberfoss Karate Club (15 years +) Ad hoc Beginners Tai Chi WOW WI (2 nd Thursday monthly) Wilberfoss Parish Council (3 rd Thursday monthly)
Friday	6.00 am – 7.00 am 12.30 pm – 2.30 pm 4.00pm – 5.00pm 7.00 pm – 9.00 pm 7.00 pm – 8.00 pm	Simply Bee Early morning fitness class Boltonians (Men's discussion group & light lunch) NESTT Wilberfoss Short Mat Bowling Club Kettlersize Fitness
Saturday	10.30 am – 12.00 pm	Wilberfoss Karate Club (15 years +) (<i>alternate weeks</i>)
Sunday	4.00 pm – 6.00 pm	Wilberfoss Amateur Theatre Society (WATS) - Community theatre group

In addition to the events listed above, the Community Centre welcomes one-off and private bookings

Single rooms at the Centre can be hired for as little as £11.00 per hour for non-profit making activities, £20 to form larger spaces. The Centre also has two therapy rooms which can be hired on an hourly basis. For more information please email wilberfosscommunitycentre@outlook.com or via Facebook Messenger through the Community Centre's page or contact [Wilberfoss Parish Council | Community Centre](#) or on [HallsHire.com](https://www.halls-hire.com).

Users that welcome new members have provided contact details

	Activity Contact	Permissions have been given to use contact details below
	Emily Stockhill Anna Tuttle Anna Gibbeson Alison Young Eileen Brammell Emily Stockhill Linda Hartas	emilylouisestockhill@gmail.com 07715 693656 07802896501 annagibbeson@singandsign.co.uk 07811 651720 92aryoung@gmail.com 01759 380325 01759 388135 emilylouisestockhill@gmail.com 07715 693656 Linarmac@aol.com 07801 888824
	Tarn Driffield Anna Tuttle Karen Hill Chris Bailey Alison Young	tarndriff@hotmail.com 07802896501 karen.wallacehill@moveitorloseit.co.uk 07305030706 wilberfossartgroup@outlook.com 92aryoung@gmail.com 01759 380325
	Tarn Driffield Lindsey Samson Kris Crump Maggie Barbara	tarndriff@hotmail.com samsonlindsey@gmail.com 07817 830178 secretarypockdu3a@gmail.com (general enquiries) kcma.online@gmail.com 07896 882909 07922862290 01759 388218
	Sophie Redfern Mike Cundall Ian Parker Louisa Sarah Wills	sandsredfern@aol.com 07931 964114 taichi.derwent@gmail.com www.eastyorkshirewi.org.uk clerk@wilberfoss-pc.gov.uk 07762 549292
	Emily Stockhill Allan Ashworth Anna Tuttle Sue Kev Copeland	emilylouisestockhill@gmail.com 07715 693656 Allan.ashworth1@ntlworld.com 07803 393694 annatuttleconsultancy@gmail.com suedouthwaite1@gmail.com / 07783786037 gymkevcope@googlemail.com 07834 617192
	Mike Lewis	07904 653337
for all ages	Sally Langton	watswilberfoss@gmail.com

Bookings. These events are often not open to the public.

£3.00 an hour for semi-commercial users and £20.00 an hour for a commercial hirer. Rooms can be joined on a daily basis or on a half day (£30) or full day (£60) basis. Please contact the Centre Manager on the Facebook page. Internal photographs of the Community Centre can be viewed through the village website



Services & Events

St John the Baptist Church, Wilberfoss

Rev Simon Pritchard will be away from Church for some months, and we are praying for Simon to make a full recovery. He has been working in the background and has arranged for other clergy to lead the services of Holy Communion in his absence.

Services in March 2026

Sunday 1 st March	11.00 am	Come and Worship
Sunday 8 th March	11.00 am	Holy Communion
Sunday 15 th March	11.00 am	Come and Worship
Sunday 22 nd March	11.00 am	Holy Communion
Sunday 29 th March	11.00 am	Come and Worship Palm Sunday

Lent Course

All five sessions are self-contained, so you don't need to attend every session. They all start at 7.00 pm and everyone is welcome.

Wednesday 25th February

Wednesday 4th March

Wednesday 11th March

Wednesday 18th March

Wednesday 25th March

Martin House Children's Hospice

The Hospice has written a letter of thanks for the donation of £250 collected at the Crib Service on Christmas Eve.



A huge thank you to all who attended the service and gave so generously.

Jigsaw Group

This social group continues to meet every Thursday in the Priory Room 1.00 pm - 3.00 pm and is a great opportunity to catch up with friends and meet new people. Don't worry about coming on your own, you are guaranteed a warm welcome and helping to complete the communal jigsaw is not compulsory, just chat, drink tea or coffee and eat cake!

Facebook

The Church has its own Facebook page, and posts are also made on the Wilberfoss Community page and the Wilberfoss, Fangfoss and Surrounding page. Photos, articles and upcoming events are posted on all three sites, so check regularly so you don't miss out! Don't forget to pass on the information on to your friends who are not online.



Services & Events

Community Coffee Mornings

On the first Saturday of each month there will be a coffee morning in the Church Priory Room starting at 10.00am. Tea, coffee, cakes, raffle and lots of conversations, not forgetting delicious bacon butties! See you on **7th March**. Donations of cakes from all you wonderful bakers are gratefully received on the day. **Please note there will not be a Coffee Morning on 4th April as it is Easter weekend.**

Wilberfoss Church Stay and Play Group

The group is going from strength to strength and meets each Thursday morning 9.30 until 11.00 during school term time. Pre-schoolers enjoy crafts, musical instruments, toys, games, storytelling and of course refreshments (grown-ups get refreshments too!). This is an amazingly friendly group, and you and your pre-schoolers are assured of a warm welcome.

Wilberfoss Church 100 Club

The lucky winners in the February draw were: 1st John Wilson (54), 2nd Diane Dawson (12), 3rd Lodzia Cragg (6). The February draw was the last before Lent. The first draw of the new 100 Club year will be in May so please contact Moira Percival on 07805 344842 to join in the fun. The cost of each number is £12.00 for the year. The draw takes place on the first Sunday of each month and to make up for not having a draw during Lent, there will be a double draw in June and December

Don't forget Wilberfoss Church has its own web site at <https://stjohnthebaptistchurchwilberfoss.co.uk/> , where you can learn of its history, take a 3D tour of the interior, or an aerial drone view of the exterior. There is also detail of the Safeguarding Policy and the action the Church takes to promote a safer culture within the Church and detail about the restoration work done funded by the Lottery Heritage Fund.

Mission to Seafarers

Steve Percival, Licensed Lay Minister, visits ships in the Humber ports to provide pastoral care to the crews, enable shopping trips and distribute woolly hats (prized possessions and very sought after!). Over the Christmas period over 900 gift parcels were given to the seafarers and all the parcels contained a woolly hat and lots of treats. Please could all you knitters consider using the pattern on the link below to replenish the depleted stock of these precious items <https://www.missiontoseafarers.org/knitting/hat-patterns>

Please do not put pom poms on the hats as the seafarers have to wear their hard hats on top!



Services & Events

Church Flower Beds

Throughout the year, the flower beds have been a colourful welcome to everyone approaching church and have been greatly admired and commented on. The flower beds all around the village are a wonderful testimony to the public spirit of a small group of volunteers who need your support, either monetary contributions or volunteering your time to maintain the planting. If you can help, please contact Viv Gyll, telephone 07785 484394 or email vmg1067@icloud.com

Food Bank

The York foodbank website is regularly updated with details of items that are urgently needed. For further details please go to: <https://york.foodbank.org.uk/give-help/donate-food/> If you have any queries, please contact Steve Percival, steve-percival@hotmail.co.uk. Following the Christmas period, the warehouse is very depleted and heartfelt thanks go to all who give so generously to help families in crisis.

Help with Mobility

The Church has 3 wheelchairs which can be borrowed at no charge for short term or long term use. Please contact Rose Riley 01759 380795, or Moira Percival 07805 344842, if you need to borrow one.

Do you shop online?

If you do, then here is an easy way to increase the income of your Village Church, or the charity of your choice at no cost to you!! If you access this link <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk>, choose St John the Baptist Church Wilberfoss or your preferred charity, then purchase from the **extensive** list of stores, a percentage of the cost of your purchases will be given to Wilberfoss Church or your charity. This donation comes purely from the store and not from you!

Church Contacts

Simon Pritchard

Priest in Charge

www.achurchnearyou.com

Peter Green

Licensed Lay Minister

01759 301386

Steve Percival

Licensed Lay Minister

07883521677

Rose Riley

Church Warden

01759 380795

Moira Percival

Church Warden

07805344842

Church web site

<https://stjohnthebaptistchurchwilberfoss.co.uk/>



Information

Wilberfoss Community Centre Garden

Spring Equinox

Saturday 21st March 11-2pm

Join us as we come together to create our Spring garden and get ready for summer.

As the sharing of food is a big part of the solstice -bring a sweet treat or savoury dish to share!

All ages are encouraged!!

- **Bedding out seasonal flowers Front and Back**

Our younger gardeners will be invited to:

- **Sow their own sunflower seed with provided kit to start growing at home**
- **Return early summer to plant in the community Sunflower garden.**

Watch them grow from tiny seeds to giant blooms



PFA Updates

PFA UPDATES

Want to make a real difference?

Join the Wilberfoss, Kexby and Newton playing fields association (PFA) and help us empower our community !

We are dedicated to making a positive impact by providing an essential location for:

- * **Community Group Users:** Dedicated environments for local initiatives to thrive.
- * **Play Park:** To upkeep and grow spaces for our future generations.
- * **Community Use:** access for events that bring people together including bonfire night.

The PFA believes in the Value of Giving Back and supporting a vast network of local clubs and growing community values and resources within Wilberfoss and the surrounding areas.

Ready to get involved?

Sign up today

Enquiries: Contact us via email: JALSPENCER@AOL.COM

John Spencer
Chairman

Big things are coming to our community!

We're thrilled to share that progress on the new outdoor gym is moving full steam ahead! We have even more grants on the way to help cross the finish line and get these facilities ready for everyone to use.

Staying active is about to get a whole lot easier (and more scenic!). Keep your eyes peeled for more updates as we secure the final funding to make this happen.





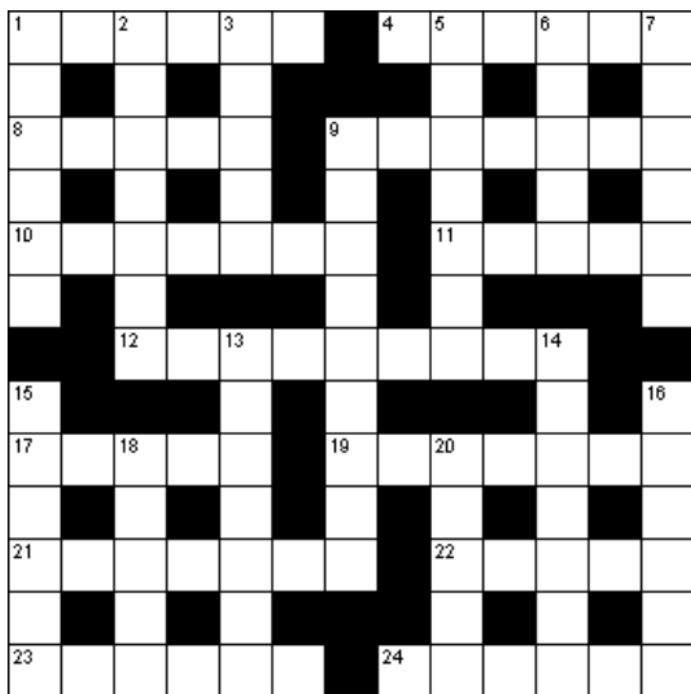
Feb Crossword Answers

Crossword Answers





March Crossword



Across

- 1 Stick with a Scottish island (6)
- 4 Voice of wisdom making nothing clear, perhaps? (6)
- 8 Amateurish pro in Yorkshire city (5)
- 9 Jewish teacher on back street finding animals (7)
- 10 Nuns' rig designed for looking after the sick (7)
- 11 Permission to quit? (5)
- 12 Dark horse disturbing one's sleep? (9)
- 17 Short fibre, possibly (5)
- 19 Orchestra leader to write tune out of doors (4-3)
- 21 Speech that may be written on an envelope (7)
- 22 Exercise is a bore (5)
- 23 Asleep, but prepared to slip away (6)
- 24 Die in the attempt, like dedicated followers of fashion? (6)

Down

- 1 Recoil from a psychiatrist (6)
- 2 Drug distributed in Paris (7)
- 3 Mushrooms giving amusement to American soldier (6)
- 5 Rugby Union girl gets German measles (7)
- 6 Cockney's mate in a distant country (5)
- 7 Endless oriental holiday in spring (6)
- 9 Rough site being redeveloped? That's good (9)
- 13 Foremen making blunders? That's about right (7)
- 14 Great joy when kinsman loses his head? (7)
- 15 Rub away a bread roll (6)
- 16 Attempt to carry one pound in hat (6)
- 18 Land at the end of a passage? (5)
- 20 It doesn't matter if it's dis or dat duck? (5)