

This edition - sponsored by a kind villager



Issue 187
February 2026

Osmotherley Area Messenger



Happy Valentines Everyone!



St Peter's Church

Candlemass on Sunday 1st February – There will be a special service to celebrate Candlemass at **10.45 am** in St Peter's church, followed by refreshments.

The feast of Candlemas marks the end of the Christmas Season in the Church calendar. Candles are lit and the crib is dismantled as we celebrate moving from darkness into light. All are very welcome!

Ash Wednesday on Wednesday 18th February at 10 am in St Peter's Church

A reflective service of Holy Communion will be held to mark Ash Wednesday. *Traditionally Palm crosses from the previous Palm Sunday are burnt and the ashes used to mark the symbol of the cross.*

All are very welcome to join us for this special service

[Date for your diary](#)

St Peter's **Mothering Sunday Service: Sunday 15th March** at 10.45am in St Peter's Church.



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Cinderella: OVT's Panto

Friday 27th/ Saturday 28th February 2026

The pantomime is coming to the Kingdom of Osmotherley! Will Cinderella be invited to the ball? Will the glass slipper fit? Will she meet her Prince Charming? *Oh yes, she will!*

Our brilliant band of OVT Players is bringing a hilarious version of this classic fairy tale to our Village Hall to chase the winter blues away. Full of japes and jibes, glitter and glamour, mayhem and mirth, you'll have a wonderful evening of slightly risque entertainment – especially after having been in the company of Fanni and Danny, the ugliest of ugly sisters (guess who!) and Vindicta, the wickedest of all step-mothers.

Performances:

Friday 27th February 7.30pm

Saturday 28th February 2.15pm *matinee*

Saturday 28th February 7.30pm

Tickets are available from Top Shop from Monday 26th January - £9 or £5 concession.

With a wave of a wand, they will soon be gone - so don't delay, get yours today!

In association with Tom Whalley Pantomimes.



Osmotherley Wassailers

A big thank you to all who took part on the 19th Dec. We raised a grand total of **£643** and we had a lot of fun doing it. Thank you again.



Jazz boat 2026 – Date for the Diary!

The boat is booked and the bus is booked for the 11th July. Tickets are on sale as per last year. Traditional Jazz band on board all in favour of Macmillan Cancer Support.



IYENGAR
YOGA
CLASSES

Osmotherley Village Hall

Tuesday 6-7pm

Thursday 2-3pm

Thursday 5.45-7pm

Thursday 7-8pm (men only)

Catholic Church N'allerton

Tuesday 10.30-11.30am

Butterflies Dance Studio

Thirsk

Tuesday 7.30-8.30pm

Methodist Hall N'allerton

Wednesday 6.15- 7.15pm

To book contact: Helen

Cameron 01609 883293,

Osmotherley Area Parish Council

The meetings were held on **18th December 2025** and the **15th January 2026** and the following issues were discussed:

The culvert at the war memorial once again was overwhelmed following heavy rainfall. Highways have agreed to jet the culvert to ensure its as clear as it can be. It was also noted that the Pinfold had water leaking from the area. After investigation this was not considered damaging to this ancient structure.

The Fylingdales fire was finally out and now the financial impact is being addressed by NYC and central government. This was one of the largest fires on the NYM ever!

The PC considered the amount of money to ask from residents to support the village via the council tax precept. A small increase of 4% was approved.

The mobile library service has restarted on the 8th January and would visit every 4 weeks.

There has been an increased reporting of dog fouling in the village and it is hoped that this is a one off occurrence.

At the meeting in January a resident had raised issues with parking habits in the disabled bay on South End and asked if the bay could be made time limited parking. After consulting highways it was determined that this could not be done in isolation as all village parking would have to be changed. However additional inspections by Parking Enforcement will take place .

A new water leak in the road at the top of Clack Bank was noted and the Clerk has reported to Yorkshire Water to investigate.

We are also aware of an annual occurrence of a water leak on Burnt Bank which during icy weather can cause issues to traffic. This has once again been reported to Highways but it is likely that the landowner will need to do work to prevent excess water leaking onto the road. The NYC representative reported that NYC are experiencing budget issues following a reduced grant from central government to shire counties. An increase in council tax of 4.99% is likely being sought from council tax payers.

The deterioration in the fabric of Thompsons Shop was noted and the owners are aware and propose improvements soon. Concerns were raised over the lack of information from the Pre School regarding the financial concerns they are experiencing. The Chairman will invite a representative to attend the PC at its next meeting to give a verbal update.

The next meeting is on **Thursday 19th February 2026** and any comments should be made to the Clerk at clerk.areapc@osmotherley.org.uk (note new email).

The council website is at www.osmotherley.org.uk

John Robinson

Clerk to the Parish Council

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Osmotherley Community Choir

Calling all singers, the community choir will start rehearsing soon for a fun informal Easter concert on the afternoon of Saturday 4th April with a 'yellow/Spring' theme and retiring collection for a cancer charity.

Rehearsals will be held every Monday at 6pm in St Peter's church starting from Monday 23rd February. All ages welcome, no experience necessary nor ability to read music.

If anyone is interested in volunteering to help manage choir admin i.e. communications, copies of music, publicity, funding etc please get in touch, your help would be appreciated.

And if there are any local pianists and/or musicians willing and available to support rehearsals please do drop me a message. Thank you!

Eleanor

07780 602797

Christmas Quiz for St Theresa's Hospice, 21.12.25

We raised £520 for St Theresa's Hospice at our Christmas Quiz, in memory of friends who have left us. Many thanks to all those who took part in the festive quizzing and helped to raise the amount, and of course to our Quiz Master extraordinaire, Barrie as well as everyone who made the Quiz such a great event - Hilary, Leanne, Brian and Tristan. Thanks also to those who generously gave raffle prizes - Osmotherley Cafe, Top Shop, The Golden Lion and The Robinsons. Watch out for details of the next Christmas Quiz later in the year!

Osmotherley Community Group

Our February Coffee Morning will be on **Tuesday 17th February from 10 – 12.00 am.**

A team from Hambleton Community Action will be visiting this morning to share with those who are present what services and support they are able to offer:

'Cuppa Connect is a project aimed at bringing non statutory organisations to people who may struggle to access their services. The organisations involved are MIND, Carer's Plus, Dementia Forward, Citizen Advise and us, Hambleton Community Action. A representative from each of these organisations will attend and be available to offer help and guidance that relate to their services.'

Please do come and join us for coffee, cake, and conversation, and to find out more. All Welcome!

Nature notes mid Jan

"Earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone."

So far, the weather this Winter has alternated between unseasonably mild to well below zero temperatures, causing confusion for plants and birds. The winter aconites began to show their yellow buds at Christmas and snowdrop leaves were poking through, only to be stopped in their tracks by snow and ice. On a walk in the first week of the new year, there was bright yellow lichen on hawthorn twigs, and near the Cod Beck, where alder trees grow, their purplish brown catkins were showing. There are many alder trees along the waterways in Osmotherley – alder being a good wood for making the clogs that were worn at the local mills, as the wood does not rot under water, (and incidentally, alder charcoal was used in the making of gunpowder, although not in Osmotherley!). There are few wild plants in flower at this time of year which made a large patch of white dead nettle flowers all the more noticeable, but it won't be long before the leaves of dogs' mercury begin to show in the woods and verges.

Moles have been very active these past weeks, throwing up fine soil for sowing early plants for the vegetable garden.

The tremendous crop of berries and apples in late Summer has provided birds with much needed food when the weather turned icy, and it is more important than ever to make sure that there is always a source of unfrozen water for the birds to drink and bathe in. Long-tailed tits and nuthatches have been enjoying the fat balls and sunflower hearts, alongside coal tits, great tits, blue tits and others but very few goldfinches. Buzzards have been cruising the skies with their distinctive mewing call and one very frosty night when the full moon lit up the garden, a robin was heard singing long after its usual bedtime.

Now that temperatures have risen, the aconites and snowdrops are beginning to open up. Look out for hazel catkins and pussy willow, providing pollen for early bees. Birds are singing in the morning despite the overcast skies – robins, of course, have been establishing their territory all winter.

Environment Group

The group had an enjoyable meeting in January & discussed the upcoming biodiversity survey at Cod Beck Reservoir in partnership with Stokesley Nature Group as well as the ongoing concerns around lack of EV charging within the village & integration of green energy within a conservation area. The next meeting is Wednesday **11th February** at 7.30pm in the Golden Lion, everybody welcome.



Thursday - Monday

9am - 4.30pm (see front page for holiday closures)

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Contact Clare Walker on 07595873221 for more details

Editorial Team:

Contact us on -

os.messenger@googlemail.com

Articles for March issue by
Friday 21st February 2026 pls.



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Dates for your Diary

February 2026

Sun 1st Candlemass St Peters 10.45 am

Thurs 5th Mobile library, Oswaldene 10am -12pm

Sat 7th Call My Bluff Wine and Cheese Evening, Osmotherley Village Hall 7pm

Tues 10th Owls meeting, St Peter's Church 2.30 pm

Wed 11th Environment meeting, Golden Lion 7 30pm

Tues 17th Garden Club AGM , Osmotherley Village Hall 7pm

Tues 17th Community coffee morning, St Peter's Church 10am - 12pm

Wed 18th Ash Wednesday service, St Peter's Church 10.00 am

Thur 19th Parish Council meeting, Village Hall

Mon 23rd Choir meeting St Peter's 6pm

Friday 27th February Village Panto, Osmotherley Village Hall 7.30pm

Saturday 28th February Village Panto, Osmotherley Village Hall 2.15pm and 7.30pm

March 2026

Thurs 5th Mobile library, Oswaldene 10am-12pm

Sun 15th Mothering Sunday Service: St Peter's 10.45am

Tues 17th Garden Club Annual Dinner, Golden Lion 7pm

April 2026

Thurs 2th Mobile library, Oswaldene 10am-12pm

Osmotherley school

If you have been walking along School Lane recently, you may have spotted a shiny new sign on the front of the school. Osmotherley Primary School joined the Yorkshire Collaborative Academy Trust (YCAT) last year, so it is no longer maintained by the Local Authority. This meant that we had to take down the North Yorkshire County Council sign.

It was sad to see the lovely old sign come down, but we are very happy to be part of the YCAT family of schools and grateful for all the support and training we receive.

Osmotherley Preschool

50:50 December Club Draw Winner.....Diane Bland

If you would like to enter the draw, please contact Anna on

07816419101 or anaramshay@outlook.com. Forms are available from Pre-school if you would like one. The cost is £1/ticket/month and you can either pay by cash or BACS transfer. Speak to Anna for more details.

Coffee shop holiday closures

We will be closed on Monday 16th February.

We will be closed Tuesday 17 th March till Thursday 26 th March .

We will be closed Tuesday 14th April till Thursday 30 th April .



Owls: There is will be a meeting in St Peter's on **Tuesday 10th at 2.30pm**. A local artist Wendi May New is coming to talk to us and bringing some of her work . Please bring £25 in a named envelope if you have not already paid your subscription . See you then!

Mobile library

Mobile library visits: 5th Febuary, 5th March, 2nd April, 30th April and 28th May. Always between 10am and 12 midday at the entrance to Oswaldene.

Osmotherley Quaker Meeting House for Hire

Large hall ideal for children's parties and other gatherings, big kitchen, two toilets, outside space, coal fire and good heating. Cost is £12 per morning, afternoon or evening session. Contact Annie Peart on 07799 374379.

Village Hall Bookings: Please contact Clare Scott via

bookings@osmotherleyvh.org.uk