



Issue 190
May 2026

Osmotherley Area Messenger

The village panto review!

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Cinderella 27-28 Feb 2026

For weeks before this momentous weekend, the pavements, hills, the shop, the pub, were abuzz with excitement, as the cast were seen learning their lines as they ran their 10ks, the stage crew were rushing to paint or saw wood in the village hall, posters appeared on every lamppost, and thespian enthusiasts were frogmarching their chums to 'buy now as tickets going like hot cakes'!

You'd think, after all the build up, it could only plop downwards; but. NO, as one who saw 2 of the 3 performances (my greatest regret is not being there for Sat night's finale), I, full of red wine and anticipation, can vouch for the wild excitement in the village hall as the curtains opened. The audience was on fire, laughing, shouting 'she's behind you', boo, hiss, roaring in appreciation as an ugly sister landed on an unplanned but willing male knee! Such was the excellent acting and stage production that the evening/ afternoon ended too soon! They say one should avoid acting with children or animals; well, Osmotherley Village Theatre proved 'them' so wrong, as the children, especially on Sat afternoon on stage and in the audience, were wonderful, and Ted, Rosemary's dog, led the sleigh (memo to self: Must train Mabel better!).

As a relative newcomer to the village, I never knew Gary and Sarah, to whom this Cinderella was dedicated. I am very aware of the love felt for them; so it was a very fitting tribute to them to donate the raffle proceeds to St. Teresa's Hospice. I also know that the reason I love this village is that it is full of warm, funny, interesting people, of all ages, who mix happily together. The Cinderella weekend was its epitome (translation for the under 5s: epitome means 'and embodiment of a quality'.

Mary Beresford-Peirce

Garden Club

Despite having a few sunny days, April is still cold and there were hailstones this morning! Being a gardener has never been easy!

Last week we had a very interesting talk on The Cottage Garden by Keeley Metcalfe, a professional gardener. Many of our gardens in Osmotherley would fit the description of a cottage garden so it was very apt.

On Saturday 16th May in the school playground between 11-1pm we will have our annual Plant and Produce Sale with refreshments provided by Preschool parents. (Village hall if raining). We would welcome any plant donations on Saturday morning before 11am.

On Tuesday 19th May Martin will do a Village Tree Walk starting at 2pm at Oak Garth Motors when the significant trees in the village will be noted.

Dates for the Diary

16 May Garden Club Plant and Produce sale 11-1pm School playground

19 May Garden Club Tree Walk around Osmotherley with refreshments starting 2pm Oak Garth Motors

16 June 2pm return visit to Melanie's garden in Snape Village



IYENGAR
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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

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Osmotherley Area Parish Council 16th April

The council heard updates on the numerous highways issues ongoing which included the following:

- The water leak on Burnthouse Bank has been investigated and a decision will be made once all the necessary data from pipework excavations has been analysed.
 - Replacement metal bollards have been installed on North End
 - The water leak on South End has been reported and awaiting response
 - Investigation work has been carried out on the water leak near the war memorial
- A request to extend the white lines opposite the mounting block on School Lane has been made but no decision made as yet.

The Police report included two items stolen, a quad bike and motorbike.

Concerns on 'full' gullies on North End have been reported as are the poor quality of the road at the foot of Clack Bank, including white lines.

The play area has had numerous items of equipment updated to maintain a good safety standard and further work is ongoing.

The NYC Representative has confirmed that pressure is being brought to bear by other vil-
lages and towns surrounding NYC relinquishing day to day control on village assets that they own.

The next meeting and Annual Meeting of the Council will be held on the 21st May 2026

Comments can be made to the Clerk at clerk.areapc@osmotherley.org.uk

Owls

There will be a talk on Tuesday , 12th May by Professor Joe Riley entitled
Myth , Misunderstandings and Mental Illness .2.30pm in St Peter's Church.
There will also be an opportunity to sign up for a trip to Mainsgill Farm
Shop and Rokeby Park, on June 9th by Minibus.



Osmotherley Pre-School updates

50:50 Club Renewals

Our treasurer, Anna, is contacting those in our 50:50 club to arrange renewals. If you'd like to join the fun please contact Anna at annaramshay@outlook.com.

The cost is £1/per ticket per month, i.e. annual subscription is £12 per ticket. Draws take place each month and money is shared between winners and Pre-School.

New Mud Kitchens

We'd like to extend a heartfelt thank you to the wonderful team at Men's Shed for their generosity and craftsmanship in creating our new mud kitchens for the pre-school.

The children have already embraced them with great enthusiasm—mixing, pouring, and exploring in ways that spark imagination, creativity, and hands-on learning. These mud kitchens are more than just play equipment; they are spaces where friendships grow, stories unfold, and curiosity thrives. Your time, skill, and kindness have made a lasting impact on our little learners, and we are truly grateful for your support of our pre-school community. It's partnerships like this that make our village such a special place.

With sincere thanks from all the children, staff, and families at Osmotherley Pre School.

Lease / Roof

We are proceeding with a new lease with the Council and are looking into grants to pay for the proposed roof works.

New Trustee

At our AGM we welcomed two new trustees onto our committee. We are delighted to welcome Megan Rowe and Phoebe Smith to the team.

Minutes of the AGM can be shared on request, please email bethany.bilby@gmail.com.

St Peter's Church News

Thursday 14th May – Ascension Day

Thy Kingdom Come – From Ascension Day to Pentecost there will be prayer opportunities in St Peter's Church to reflect the theme 'Thy Kingdom Come'. The church is open every day for visitors, come and find some peace, quiet, to pray or reflect in our beautiful church.

Sunday 24th May - Pentecost: There will be a Service for Pentecost at 10.45 am at St Peter's followed by refreshments: come and celebrate the 'Birthday of the Church' - All Welcome!

St Peter's Daffodil Weekend

Thank you to everyone who contributed in any way to make the whole weekend a most enjoyable community experience. We are delighted to report that the Daffodil Tea raised £651.73 for Marie Curie Your support is greatly appreciated. THANK YOU

Old Hall update

In December 2024 the Diocese of Middlesbrough proposed the sale of The Old Hall [18 North End Osmotherley](#) - interested individuals formed a working party to look at the viability of a building that would remain a place of prayer, offering retreats, pilgrim/visitor accommodation and complementing activities at The Lady Chapel in Ruebury Lane. The Diocesan Trustees and The Bishop asked for an outline business plan for The Old Hall which The Working Party supplied.

The Working Party worked extremely hard and established several offers of partnership for the project. These included St Bede's Pastoral Centre, The Bar Convent York and North Yorkshire National Park who would contribute to sustainable use of the building. The project received backing and encouragement from the Anglican, Methodist and Quaker representatives in Osmotherley. They also received several financial pledges in advance of the project.

However, when the proposal was discussed by Bishop Marcus Stock and the Diocesan Trustees in March 2026, the decision was that they felt that the business plan did not demonstrate financial viability. Therefore, the intention is the property will be placed on the open market. The Working Party were not invited to attend the meeting and have asked for a detailed reason why the business plan did not appear viable.

We are all extremely saddened by the decision and that 3 centuries of Christian worship at The Old Hall may come to an end.

Nature Notes— *End of April 2026*

"Oh to be in England now that April's here....." Clear blue skies although still very cold at night, but it hasn't stopped the plants from flowering. There are so many to look out for such as: Ground Ivy (no relation to ordinary ivy but a ground cover plant with purple flowers), Greater Stitchwort, both red and white Dead Nettle, Dandelions and Daisies, Jack-by-the-Hedge (or Garlic Mustard. The young leaves make a good addition to salad) and who can ignore Wild Garlic spreading all over the woods, the white starry flowers now appearing. Then there are Forget-me-Nots, Cowslips and Ribwort Plantain and so many more.

It seems to be the year of the ladybird. Having seen so few last year, we now have them everywhere; of great benefit to gardeners as they consume quantities of aphids. I have seen two hornets – looking like very large wasps but less aggressive and equally useful. Please don't squash them!

Advice from the RSPB suggests that we should stop putting out food for birds during the Summer months and instead grow plants that give birds a natural food source. Goldfinches love lavender, teasel and thistle, greenfinches will flock to sunflowers and ivy provides berries for thrushes, redwings and blackbirds, while the flowers are a source of pollen for bumble bees. Even tiny violet seeds are a feast for bullfinches. Please think about leaving areas of grass uncut to give sanctuary to insects, and a few less tidy, shady areas for toads and frogs to live in.



Thursday - Monday

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Editorial Team:

Contact us on -

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**Articles for May edition by
Wednesday 22nd April 2026**



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Dates for your Diary

May

Fri 1st, Memorial Service for Gill McKee, 4.30pm, St Peter's and afterwards Golden Lion.
12th, Misunderstandings and Mental Illness, Owls talk, 2.30pm St Peter's Church.

14th St Peter's Church Ascension Day, all day.

Sat 16th, Garden Club Plant and Produce Sale, 11.30-1pm, school playground.

Sat 16th, Swainby Repair Café, 10am-12 noon, Village Hall.

Tues 19th May, May Coffee Morning, 10 – 11.30 am in St Peter's Church.

Tues 19th, 2pm, Garden Club tree walk around Osmotherley with refreshments,

21st May, Annual Meeting of the Council

Sun 24th May - Service for Pentecost, 10.45 am, St Peter's Church

Thurs 28th, Mobile library, Oswaldene 10am-12pm.

June

9th, Owls trip Mainsgill Farm Shop and Rokeby Park

16 June 2pm return visit to Melanie's garden in Snape Village

25th, Mobile library, Oswaldene 10am-12pm.

Osmotherley Community Group

Our **May Coffee Morning** will be on **Tuesday 19th May from 10 – 11.30 am** in St Peter's Church Please do come and join us for coffee, cake, and conversation. All Welcome!

Calling all bakers! Do you enjoy baking? We would love to invite members of our community to join the list of those willing to bake for coffee mornings. We always try to provide a good selection of cakes and bakes and are very grateful to all those who currently provide delicious offerings each month...but we are getting a little short of people to ask. The more we have on the list, the less regularly we need to ask for cakes each month. Email clarescot@gmail.com if you would like to join our bakers.

Jazz Boat 2026

We are asking for Auction of promises items and raffle prizes for Mcmillan for the 11th July. **Please drop off at 18 Southend. Thank you**

Giant Easter Egg Raffle

A big thank you to Phill Hale who again this year put the Easter egg in the Golden Lion for a raffle and raised **£400** for Mcmillan.

Swainby Repair Café

Saturday 16th May 10—12 noon at Swainby Village Hall.

Bring your broken things and our volunteers will repair them. From electronics and toys to toasters and ornaments.

Mobile library

Mobile library visits: **28th May, 25th June, 23rd July, 20th Aug 2026** 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