

# MENSTON NEWS

MENSTON COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

ISSUE NUMBER 140

[www.menston.org](http://www.menston.org)

Autumn 2024



WELCOME TO THIS EDITION OF MENSTON  
NEWS, THE NEWSLETTER OF  
MENSTON COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION



There are lots of fantastic events happening in the village over the upcoming autumn and winter seasons, including the annual Menston Village Show, Light Up Menston and fabulous new productions from the Menston Thespians. Find out more throughout this edition.

## WELCOME TO THIS EDITION OF THE MENSTON NEWS

Welcome to the autumn edition of the Menston News. I don't know if it's just me, but do our summers seem to be getting shorter? All too soon we start thinking about switching on the heating and getting out our woollies again. But before that, we can still hopefully enjoy some of those soft early autumn days of 'rich and mellow fruitfulness' plus the start or restart of a host of village activities, classes and events to fill our leisure time.

### **MCA Community & Family Event (Including AGM) Sunday 6th October 2024, 1.30pm to 4pm Kirklands Community Centre**

Come along and meet some of our local groups showcasing their activities. You will also have the opportunity to take part in competitions and games.

Free admission, with refreshments provided.

Menston Community Association Lottery is celebrating its 1st birthday. Thank you to all who are already supporting us. Throughout September and beyond we will be staging a variety of events to promote and celebrate what the lottery can do for you and your community, commencing with a special birthday celebration. Please see our separate article on page 14 for more information.

The Menston Community Association has been busy working on our plans to improve our communication and promotional abilities. We now have a new email address: **info@menston-ca.org**

If you wish to contact us, please use this email. We are also arranging for all messages from our previous email to be automatically forwarded.

Also, as well as our Facebook page, we have now established a new Instagram account. Find us on Instagram by searching for:

**@menston\_community\_association**

We are also starting work on a new MCA website which will allow us and our umbrella groups Menston in Bloom, Menston Village Show and Light Up Menston to post and share information more easily. We will keep you informed of our progress and launch date.

**Cheryl Thornton, Chair of the Menston Community Association**

## MENSTON PARISH COUNCIL

The Parish Council has been working with the local Park Group and Bradford Council to draw up some new proposals for Menston Park which will include a range of new play equipment, and a memorial dedicated to Peter Finlay – who gave so much of his time to local groups in Menston. We hope the works will commence shortly subject to planning permission for the play areas.

The Parish Council has also been involved in pursuing a wide range of local issues including the following:

- Much-needed highway improvements at the junction of Main Street and Bingley Road, and Cleasby Road making it safer for pedestrians, cyclists and motorists.
- Access for all at Menston Station as part of the improvement works.
- Leeds Bradford Airport airspace change programme.
- Planning matters including enforcement and encroachment issues.

**The Parish Council meets on the last Thursday of every month, in Kirklands Community Centre**, when there is always a time to raise issues important to you. Dates of the next meetings, and contact details for your parish councillors, are available on the [www.menston.org](http://www.menston.org) website.

**Philip Moore, Chair, Menston Parish Council**

Members of the Parish Council were pleased to be part of a low-key event to thank Heather Searle for all her years of service to the care club at Menston Primary School.

Heather set up the club after working at the pre-school playgroup at Kirklands and has nurtured many children in the hours before and after school. Marilyn Banister, vice chair of the Parish Council, thanked Heather for her great contribution to the school and to the village and presented a gift as a mark of the village's appreciation for her dedication. We wish Heather all the best for her retirement.



**Marilyn Banister**

### Remembrance Sunday Service

This year's Remembrance Sunday Service will take place at Kirklands, Main Street, on **Sunday 10th November at 10.45am**. This will be an outdoor event but there will be seating inside the hall for those wishing to be inside, plus refreshments. The service will be relayed into the hall.



## Menston Parks Group

As many of you will know, we are hoping that the playground refurbishment will happen in the near future but we are still awaiting actual dates. It should be a great improvement and thanks to everyone who has been involved with the ideas and planning.

The Parks Group has put forward a plan to Bradford Metropolitan District Council (BMDC) for a path round the inside of the park and Menston in Bloom are keen to remodel the existing memorial area. We are awaiting a decision from the Parks Department on these ideas.

BMDC are proposing measures to prevent traveller access and the Parks Group have been working with them to use mounds and a gate. As of late July, we are waiting to hear from BMDC.

After some delay, we have found out that the Lawn Tennis Association with funding from the Department of Media, Culture and Sport has a contract with BMDC for all their tennis courts. It seems that research suggests that being able to book a court encourages more people to use courts than otherwise. This is a big change for Menston and the installation of a key code was done with no notice, hence the discontent from users. Going forward we understand that BMDC will manage online bookings and there will be a cost to using the courts to pay for their maintenance etc. It also seems that BMDC will be looking for organisations to run tennis sessions on the park courts. We have asked the Lawn Tennis Association to keep us informed of developments, especially the communication of any changes.

We also asked whether the courts could be used as a multi use games area, but this seems not to be the case due to the funding to promote tennis.

**Marilyn Banister**

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## Neighbourhood planning

Thank you to everyone who has got involved in the consultation about our neighbourhood plan. So far we have held workshops on Green Spaces, Housing and Travel and Transport. We have gained lots of interesting ideas and insights. Please come along on **Thursday 5th September at 7.30pm in Kirklands** and give us your ideas on heritage, community facilities, business and employment, schools, nurseries and healthcare.

**Menston Parish Council**

## St John's - Eco Church

Last year the church received its Silver Eco church award and, along with other churches who have achieved this, has been invited to be part of a celebration display to be held at Ripon Cathedral from **2nd to 29th September** - so we are working on putting that together!

Each Sunday at St John's there is an informal service at 9.30am where all ages are welcome. Do come along and give it a try!

More information from the website [www.stjohnmenston.org.uk](http://www.stjohnmenston.org.uk) or Parish Office 872433.

**Marilyn Banister**

## ST JOHN'S PARISH CHURCH

Hello! My name is Rev Jo, and I am the new vicar of Menston. My family and I move into the village in September, and we are looking forward to getting to know you and this place.

Maybe you've never been to church before, or never visited St John's. Well, why don't you come along and we can be new together?

I always find September has a new-year feel to it. Where summer can feel more relaxed, the beginning of autumn often has a "back to it" feel, especially if you have anything to do with schools or teaching. So too for the church, as we look to Harvest – a time of thanksgiving to God for all the good things in our lives, Remembrance and All Souls – times of acknowledging and reflecting on grief, and praying for peace, Advent – reflecting on our need for God and his promises to us, and of course Christmas and the hope of a God who loves us enough to come and be with us.

Do look out for dates of events and services coming up.

I don't know about you but I always notice that I see my neighbours less in the winter. We just don't cross paths the same as we do when we are washing the car, cutting the grass, or generally coming and going. As winter approaches, I wonder, how do you take care of yourself during these often-harder months?

I would encourage all of us to make time to connect and chat, and say yes to opportunities to be with each other. Whether that's a cup of tea, a board game, a phone call, or a trip out. Please know that every Sunday your Menston churches are open and worshipping and you will find a warm place and friendly faces to join in with. Don't be a stranger.

Do look out for a woman in a dog collar over the coming months, especially if I look lost or confused... I probably am!

Looking forward to meeting you,

And until then may you be assured of our prayers,

And may God bless you.

**Rev. Jo Glenwright**

### **St John's - "Music in the Air" concert**

St John's will be hosting music-making by local people at its next "Music in the Air" concert on **Saturday 12th October from 7pm to 9pm**. Tickets will be £5 and refreshments will be served.

The event is an opportunity to hear from local musicians of all ages, in aid of church funds. Do join us.

Tickets from the Parish Office.

Email [office@stjohnmenston.org.uk](mailto:office@stjohnmenston.org.uk), text: 07440289248 or leave a message on 01943 872433.

**Marilyn Banister**



## MENSTON YARNBOMBERS

We've been busy again creating toppers for the two large postboxes, and our new box at the station. The D-Day topper attracted a lot of interest, and the summer-themed toppers held up well in the cold and wet weather. We trained very hard to deliver the Olympics toppers in time, and we hope Team GB managed more medals than we could make.



We're looking forward to seeing the knitted entries in the Menston Village Show, and will be displaying all the entries in the village for Hallowe'en. We'll be attending the show this year with a display of some of our creations, and there will be a takeaway community activity to support a new Remembrance display in November. Our thoughts are now turning to Christmas, and we hope to add festive displays around Menston, with something for everyone.

You may have noticed that making things fly, and stand up straight and tall is becoming a bit of a trademark of ours. The technical side of the displays is becoming more complex, and we are grateful to our technical and engineering supporters. We have also received some donations of yarn, and other resources, which we are putting to good use. We are grateful for an anonymous cash donation which will be used for buying larger props and materials, and thanks as always to Cygnet Yarns. We will soon be starting to plan for 2025. If you have a good idea for a topper, something related to Menston, or a big event coming up next year, please let us know. We can't promise to make everything, but we are looking for new and original ideas. If you would like to contact the group, please email [menstonyarnbombers@hotmail.com](mailto:menstonyarnbombers@hotmail.com) or you can find us on Facebook, and now Instagram.

**Anne Lomas**

## KIRKLANDS COMMUNITY CENTRE

A busy schedule at Kirklands between September and December with lots of activities for all to enjoy. Save the date and nearer the time look on our Facebook page @kirklandsmenston or our website [kirklandsmenston.org](http://kirklandsmenston.org) for more details. Events and activities in Kirklands are also shown on our new TV display in the foyer of the main building.

### September

Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> - Menston Scout and Guide Jumble Sale

Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> - Menston Village Show

Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> - Creative Crafts and Gift Fair

Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> - Zest Harvest Workshop and Service

### October

Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> - Bridge Afternoon

Friday 4<sup>th</sup> and Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> - Menston Thespians Double Bill of

"Last Panto in Little Grimley" and "Brenton versus Brenton".

Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> - Menston Scout and Guide Coffee Morning and Table Top Sale

Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> - Northern Potters Camp

Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> - Menston Scout and Guide Line Dancing Evening

### November

Friday 1<sup>st</sup> - Menston Scout and Guide Halloween Party

Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> - NSPCC Coffee Morning

Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> - Remembrance Day Service 11am

Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> - Creative Crafts and Gift Fair (afternoon)

Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> and Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> - Menston Arts Club Exhibition

Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> - Timewarp Charity Music Night

### December

Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> - Light Up Menston and FOMPS Christmas Fair

An opportunity has come up for a new trustee to join the team at Kirklands. The centre is at the heart of Menston with over 30 regular groups and over 100 events per year. Investment of over £400,000 has been made into the fabric of the building over the past six years thanks to the hard work of the trustees, staff and the support of the Parish Council and Menston residents. This is your opportunity to shape the future of Kirklands and be part of its continuing success. Meetings are monthly and you must live within the boundaries of Menston.

**Heather Norreys, Centre Manager**

### Crafts & Gift Fair

We are so delighted to announce that many of our region's most talented crafters will be joining us at our third Crafts & Gift Fair taking place on **Sunday 22nd September from 11.30am until 2.30pm**, at Kirklands Community Centre. With a wide selection of bespoke and creative craft stalls on show, this is the perfect place to find a unique and inexpensive gift, or maybe a good excuse to start your Christmas shopping early! Once again, we are very proud to be supporting **Yorkshire Cancer Research**. The cafe will be open throughout the event, serving hot and cold drinks and homemade cakes. We will also be hosting a charity tombola, with some **amazing prizes** up for grabs. All proceeds from the café and tombola will be donated to the charity.

**Bev Rowe**

## MENSTON CRICKET CLUB

At the time of writing, the cricket season is in full swing and we are at last enjoying some proper summer weather! The 1st XI are currently top of Aire-Wharfe Division 2 and aiming for promotion. The 4th XI failed narrowly to win the Craven League Clayton Cup final at Cononley with a team which included 5 juniors. The Under 18s have progressed to the Denison Cup final to be held at Menston on a date to be arranged in September and are also in the play-off for the league title. Not to be outdone, the Under 15s finished joint top of their league and the Women's team qualified for the Archer Cup finals day. As an example of the amount of activity at the club, over one 4-day period in July we fielded no less than 18 teams, including 8 senior sides over the weekend. Unfortunately, the club was the victim of criminal activity at the end of July when 3 expensive mowers were stolen from the groundsman's garage which was badly damaged in the process. We would like to thank all those members and friends who generously contributed to our crowdfunding appeal to make repairs and increase our security.

A club the size of Menston CC relies on many volunteers giving their time to coach, provide backroom support, maintain the facilities and carry out administrative duties. We have a number of vacancies which need to be filled over the close season to help the club continue to run smoothly, notably in the areas of financial support and membership administration. If anyone feels able to assist in any way and be part of a friendly and thriving club, please contact the Secretary at [secretary@menstoncc.org](mailto:secretary@menstoncc.org). We also welcome any enquiries about team sponsorship or advertising around the ground.

Finally, a reminder of our website [menston.play-cricket.com](http://menston.play-cricket.com) where all results, stats and other information about the club can be found.

**Mike Pratt**

## MENSTON RETIRED MEN'S FORUM

Menston Retired Men's Forum meet every first and third Wednesday morning at 10am in The Wharfeside Room at Kirklands. We welcome speakers with a varied range of topics to entertain us and if you would like to come and join us, you will be made most welcome. We have around 40 members who all value the companionship and friendliness of our group.

Our programme commences on **September 18th with our AGM.**

**October 2nd: Geoff Budd - The Land of Sand and Oil**

**October 16th: Gerry Sayers - Yorkshire Air Ambulance**

**November 6th: Chris Helme - Postcards from the Baltic**

**November 20th: Martin Cocker - Learn to Fly, Fly to Learn**

**December 4th: Open meeting for friends and family with musical entertainment**

**December 18th: Members' Christmas Party**

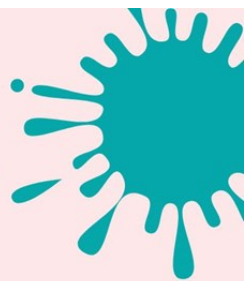
If you need any further details, please contact the Chairman, Mike Hughes, on 875999.

**Mike Hughes**



Interested in

# *Art?*



Then why not try  
**Menston Arts Club?**

Our next **exhibition** is on Sat  
& Sun 16 & 17 November 2024  
at Kirklands, Menston

Annual membership is £70 and  
we meet in Kirklands on Monday  
evenings for **demonstrations**,  
**workshops**  
and **talks**.

To view our syllabus, visit  
[menstonac.blogspot.com](http://menstonac.blogspot.com)  
or phone Pam on 01274 566576



Following the Silver Gilt awarded to Menston in Bloom last year, we received seed packets from the organisers of the 'In Bloom' competition. We were pleased to give these nectar-rich, scented and colourful seeds to the school Gardening Club. Following their germination and growing in the school polytunnel, Menston in Bloom and the Gardening Club came together to distribute plants in the beds and borders of the village for all to enjoy.

The new flower bed on Westbourne Drive is coming along nicely. After a year of preparation, the planting of two flowering cherry trees and creation of bug and minibeast habitats, we sowed a wildflower mix, funded by Menston Village Show. This mixed well with the native seed bank within the soil and the addition of plants from the Primary School Gardening Club. This neglected patch of land was colourful and increased the benefits to our bee and butterfly populations.

The volunteers of Menston in Bloom have been creating colour and wildlife opportunities since 2004 and in our 20th year we hope to create a new garden accessible to all, with scent, colour and wildlife. The area to develop, with the support of Bradford Council Parks Team, Menston Parish Council, Menston Community Association, Menston Park Group, and Menston residents is at the junction of Farnley Road and Main Street, on the edge of Menston Park. This area was developed in the 1960s as a war memorial garden. The memorials were subsequently moved to Kirklands Community Centre, where they are looked after by Menston in Bloom and others. With your support we will once again make this area a garden, complementing the other opportunities that the park offers. We are waiting for the approval of our plans from Bradford Council, and we hope to progress this project over the winter period.

In the coming months we will be out and about **most Wednesday mornings and monthly Saturdays for our gardening sessions**, when we will be keeping our planters and flower beds in the best condition. We will be adding spring bedding to the planters, and planting yet more bulbs around the village. We hope you will support the bulb planting by donating daffodil, crocus, camassia, native bluebell and snowdrop bulbs in the collection box in the library.

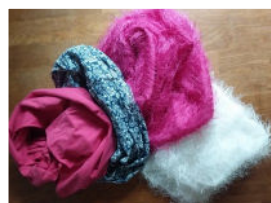
If you can join us, you are most welcome. There is no need to commit to a regular session, just come along when you can, we would love to see you.

Our garden sessions and other news is publicised either through our email list (email [menstoninbloom@gmail.com](mailto:menstoninbloom@gmail.com)), the village news calendar ([www.menston.org](http://www.menston.org)) or our Facebook page.

**Geoff Lomas**

The Craft Group would like to thank all those who have helped them to raise funds towards the rebuilding of the Scout and Guide Hut. They include those who have donated materials, the library volunteers who have collected the monies, those who have spread the word of our wares and those who have purchased our goods.

Our "Autumn Collection" will include comforting infinity scarves, warm fleece pull on hats for children and adults (children's having a name tag inside), cosy knee rugs, multicoloured bobble hats, multicoloured stair/step holdalls, cowls, felted bags and key holder pots, pocket tissue pack covers plus mini zipped purses with key ring.



In celebration of Halloween, we will have a few appropriately-themed small fabric bags for collecting all those goodies on the night!

We will be having a stall at the **Scout and Guide Coffee Morning on 5th October.**

Our Christmas mini sellers will include figures which contain a Ferrero Rocher chocolate as well as pottery and Yip Yips Christmas tree decorations.

We are continuing to knit prem and new born acrylic yarn hats for the maternity unit at Bradford Hospital. If you have any acrylic wool that you are able to donate would you kindly drop this off at the library (open Mon, Wed and Thurs 10am to 1pm and 2pm to 5pm and Sat 10am to 1pm as well as Welcoming Space on Tues 9am to midday and Fri 2pm to 4pm). Many thanks. Contact [menstoncraftgroup@gmail.com](mailto:menstoncraftgroup@gmail.com) for more information.

**Anne Gadd**

## MENSTON METHODIST CHURCH

We have welcomed our new Minister, Rev Cameron Stirk, and are delighted with the energy and vision that he has brought with him to Menston. Our services, groups and activities are open to all and we offer a warm welcome.

**Sunday Morning Worship** is at 10.30am. Our services are either held in church or more informally in the main hall. Children meet for their activities in Sun Club on the 1st, 3rd and 5th Sundays of the month during term time.

**Alpha:** We run evening Alpha courses in Cornerstone. If you are interested in exploring some of life's bigger questions, email: [jodixonmethodistchurch@gmail.com](mailto:jodixonmethodistchurch@gmail.com).

**Breathe:** The next Breathe is on Wednesday 18th September at 7.30pm in Cornerstone. This offers a relaxed space to think about deeper things, faith, God and to be refreshed. For those with or without faith.

**Tuesday Morning Prayer** group continues to meet at 9.30am in Room 1.

**Friday Friendship Group** resumes on Friday 13th September at 2pm and will meet fortnightly thereafter. Further information from 873573.

**Wednesday Group** for ladies resumes on 4th September, meeting on the first Wednesday of the month at 2pm. Further information from 874127.

**Friday Club** for young people aged 7 to 13 years meets on the last Friday of the month from 6pm to 7.30pm.

**Friday Live** for young people aged 13 to 17 years also meets on the last Friday of the month in Cornerstone from 8pm to 9.30pm.

**Vivace Youth Choir** rehearses during term time on Thursdays from 6.30pm to 7.15pm. The choir is open to young people aged 8 years and upwards. Emphasis is on enjoyment of singing. Further information from Eleanor Cree on 875637.

**Lunchtime Organ Music** recitals will resume in October. These will take place once a month on a Friday morning from 1pm to 1.30pm in church. Free entry.

**Walking Group** walks of 4 to 5 miles monthly on Thursdays, meeting at 9.30am behind Kirklands. Further information from 511571.

**Christmas Fayre will take place on Saturday 23rd November from 10am to 12 noon.**

**Tennis Club** members play on Monday mornings and table tennis is also available in the main hall. For further information, pop to the court behind the Church from 10am on a Monday morning.

Our thoughts and prayers are with those in our community and their families. If you need someone to talk to or pray with in strict confidence, please contact our Minister, Rev Cameron Stirk ([thestirks@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:thestirks@tiscali.co.uk)) or our Lay Pastor, Jo Dixon ([jodixonmethodistchurch@gmail.com](mailto:jodixonmethodistchurch@gmail.com)).

Details of all these and our other activities are publicised on the church notice board and website: [www.menstonmethodist.org.uk](http://www.menstonmethodist.org.uk) and you can follow us on Facebook.

**Jalna Jenkins**

## CORNERSTONE COMMUNITY CAFÉ

As I write this at the end of July, Cornerstone is closed for us to install our new kitchen! And I hope that by the time you read this, we are open again and enjoying the new facilities.

For those who haven't already found us, we are a community café, open **every day except Wednesday and Sunday, from 9.30am to 1.30pm**, on Main Street next to the Methodist Church. We serve breakfasts, light lunches, cake and hot and cold drinks. Check our website (<https://www.menstonmethodist.org.uk/cornerstone/>) or Facebook page for more information and information about any changes to our schedule.

We also host a Memory Café in association with Home Instead for those living with dementia and their carers on the **first Wednesday of the month from 10am to 12 noon** and village Cameo lunches on the second Wednesday for older people living alone to enjoy lunch and a chat with others.

We are very aware that the cost of living is causing real worry to many people. As a community café we want to offer something to eat and drink to everyone, regardless of ability to pay. If you, or someone you know, is struggling, please speak to Charlotte (07714 043650) or Jo (07870 700713) in confidence and we will try to help. Cornerstone is staffed by volunteers so if you have some spare time and would like to join us, we'd love to hear from you. **Charlotte Montague**

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### Menston Memorial Cottage Charity

For those who do not know us, we are a small charity operating within the parish of Menston, aiming to provide relief to the 'poor and needy within the parish'. Each year a limited income gives the charity the ability to support individuals and organisations in the village school and village community on a one-off basis where there is no other resource available at that specific time and the need is in line with the charity's objectives.

The charity also owns a small residential property in Menston which is let on a long-term basis. Menston Memorial Cottage Charity has the honour and responsibility of managing the care and use of Miss Porritt's Field. Recently the field is being managed in co-operation with Menston Area Nature Trust as a wildlife meadow. Village residents have already benefited from well-advertised Open Field events which children and adults have explored and enjoyed.

#### How can you apply for help?

We are keen to let more people know about the existence of the charity and welcome any information about community and individual hardship to which we might respond. Examples of recent grants are to Menston Primary School and to the Warm Space initiative at Cornerstone Café.

We can assist children and young people, older people, people with disabilities or other charities which work with those groups.

If you feel that you or someone you know might benefit from help from the charity, requests should be addressed in the first instance to the Chairperson and sent in confidence to Clare Smith at Burley Parish Council, Queens Hall, Main Street, Burley in Wharfedale, LS29 7BT.

Alternatively, email: [clerk@burleyinwharfedale-pc.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@burleyinwharfedale-pc.gov.uk).

**Clare Smith**





# HAPPY 1<sup>ST</sup> BIRTHDAY



## MENSTON COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION LOTTERY LET'S CELEBRATE!!

**FUNDS RAISED  
SO FAR  
£1300+**



**PRIZES WON  
SO FAR  
£650+**

(Invested in events, publicity materials,  
insurance, web/email development)

**THROUGHOUT SEPTEMBER OUR  
LOTTERY ROADSHOW WILL BE VISITING  
AN EVENT/VENUE NEAR YOU  
WITH MORE COMPETITIONS & PRIZES**

- Tickets just **£1 per week** or £4.34 by monthly Direct Debit
- 50% of all tickets sold from our page go to  
**MENSTON COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION**
- Win prizes up to £25,000



**PLAY NOW:**

Scan this QR code or go to:

[www.onelottery.co.uk](http://www.onelottery.co.uk)

and search for: **Menston Community**

or telephone **01865 678 679** to register



### **CHRISTMAS SPECIAL DRAW**

**ALL SUPPORTERS WILL BE PLACED IN A BONUS**

**\*\*\* £150 \*\*\***

**CHRISTMAS SPECIAL DRAW  
TO BE DRAWN AT  
THE MENSTON LIGHTS SWITCH ON EVENT**

Supporters must be 18 years of age or older. See  
website for terms and conditions

**onelottery**

# MENSTON VILLAGE SHOW



## MENSTON VILLAGE SHOW

**Saturday 14th September 2024 at Kirklands Community Centre**

**Exhibit entries open 10am - 11.30am**

£1 entry for adults, 50p for children or £5 for unlimited entries –  
includes free entry to the show at 2pm.

**Show opens 2pm - 4.30pm**

Entry £1 adults, accompanied children and show entrants free

**Raffle drawn at 3.30pm, auction from 4pm**

Are you ready to enter the Menston Village Show? We have dozens of both adult and junior classes to choose from, from handicrafts to home produce and of course our special community group challenge to design a tile to adorn the new Menston Scout and Guide hut wall (max size A4). Visit our new website, [www.menstonvillageshow.co.uk](http://www.menstonvillageshow.co.uk) for more information.

You are, of course, very welcome to just come along and enjoy the show on the day. The sheer amount of talent on display is always a sight to behold, and you can also indulge in refreshments, have a go on our tombola or take part in our raffle and auction.

All the money raised at the Menston Village Show goes back into the community. This year, we hope to raise even more money to support local charities and organisations but to do that we need our fabulous community to come along to Kirklands on **Saturday 14th September!**

Huge thanks to all of this year's kind sponsors, whose generous support couldn't be more appreciated. We'd also like to take this opportunity to offer particular thanks to our Gold sponsors: Shankland Barraclough Estate Agents, Manor Coating Systems, Shipley Glen Tramway, FMJ Plastering, Chris Steele, Menston Parish Council and Chevin Tree Surgeons.

**Victoria Taylor**



Okay, confession time. Who here has a secret Rightmove addiction? I am as guilty as the next person of wanting to have a nosey at what comes up on the local market. It's fun to look at potential fixer-uppers, see what eclectic decor choices neighbours have made, and generally get a feel for the prices in our area.

And while we may have no real intention of moving, many of us would love a bit of extra space. With property prices sky-high, moving to a larger house is often out of the question. Historically, adding an extension or loft conversion has been a way to get more space without the expense of moving. However, even this route is more difficult now that releasing equity is impacted by today's higher mortgage costs. You don't need to add loads of space to make a large improvement to your home. Ingenious solutions can be found and



small interventions can drastically improve the function of your home. As well as space, many of us would like to improve the sustainability of our homes. In a cost of living crisis, who doesn't want to reduce their energy bills and do their bit for the planet? I have recently built a new home for my family in the village. Starting from scratch meant we could get the space we want but also provided the

opportunity to introduce technologies such as Air Source Heat, Solar Panels with battery storage and Mechanical Ventilation with Heat Recovery (MVHR). Many of these options can be retrofitted into older properties, but to function effectively they need to be carefully designed and fitted, keeping a keen eye on insulation and airtightness.

Flinn Architecture is a Menston-based architecture practice, established in 2021. If you would like to discuss a potential project, no matter how hypothetical, please feel free to get in contact by calling 07815 125 515 or email [john@flinnarchitecture.com](mailto:john@flinnarchitecture.com)

**John Flinn, Partner, Flinn Architecture LLP**

## MENSTON THESPIANS

Menston Thespians are thrilled to announce two brand new shows!



But first, we couldn't resist this wonderful throwback to our 2017 production "England Expects", featuring several young people from Menston who have recently completed their A Levels and are heading off to various parts of the UK this month. Congratulations and good luck to Alice, Dulcie, Eva, Lois, Maisie & Mia. Also to Charlie, Elliot & Lola from other productions. We hope you will keep Menston Thespians in your hearts forever -

as we will certainly keep you in ours!

This Autumn, we are thrilled to present a comedy double bill at Kirklands. Don't miss this chance to enjoy two delightful comedies in one night! (14+ advisory).

"Last Panto in Little Grimley" is a hilarious tale of a local amateur group struggling to put together the village pantomime. If only they had a cast, crew, or time to rehearse! But fear not, they won't let these minor setbacks stand in the way of delivering a groundbreaking pantomime like you've never seen before.

Next up is "Brenton Versus Brenton." Step into the world of Chicago's largest ad agency as they navigate a whirlwind of client shortages, spectacular family feuds, and 80s-style shoulder pads. Packed with non-stop gags, this comedy promises an evening of side-splitting entertainment you won't want to miss!

Join us on **4th or 5th October at 7.15pm at Kirklands Community Centre.**

Buy tickets online at [www.menstonthespians.co.uk/tickets](http://www.menstonthespians.co.uk/tickets).

Plans for our legendary village pantomime are also well underway! Save the dates: **19th to 22nd February 2025** and follow us on Facebook or Instagram to be the first to hear when tickets are launched!

Finally, if you would like to be involved in our inclusive and welcoming group, whether on stage or behind the scenes, email

[menstonthespians@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:menstonthespians@hotmail.co.uk). **Auditions for our 2025 panto are on 11th September 2024** at Kirklands - visit [menstonthespians.co.uk](http://menstonthespians.co.uk) for more info.

**Emma Nabarro-Steel**

## KIRKLANDS BRIDGE CLUB

**On the 8th of October 2024 the Club will be celebrating its 50th anniversary!** Members old & new will be playing bridge at 1.30pm followed by bubbly and birthday cake at Kirklands on this special occasion.

Do you like to play Bridge? Kirklands Bridge Club is a friendly club and have players of all abilities above beginner level. We play Rubber Bridge which is generally considered less competitive than Duplicate Bridge. We play **alternate Tuesdays at Kirklands from 1.30pm until 4pm** with a tea and biscuit break.

The Club welcomes new members and should you be interested in joining, please contact Nigel Moulden 01943 831523 or email [nigel.moulden@gmail.com](mailto:nigel.moulden@gmail.com) or Jennifer Brewis 07899804933 or email [jenniferbrewis@hotmail.com](mailto:jenniferbrewis@hotmail.com).

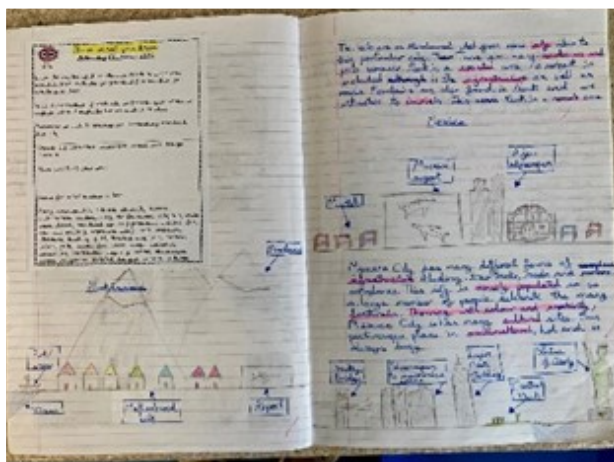
**Nigel Moulden**



This year has been an exciting year for geography at Menston Primary School as we have been applying to renew our Primary Geography Quality mark with the Geographical Association. The Geography Quality Marks are prestigious awards that recognise and promote quality and progress in geography leadership, curriculum development and learning and teaching in schools. In 2019, the school achieved the bronze quality mark so this year we hope to attain silver, or even gold, in recognition of the developments that we have made to our curriculum and the progress that children are making with their geographical attainment.

The application has been submitted and a website has been launched with our evidence contained within it to showcase how Menston Primary is meeting the assessment criteria for the award. It can be viewed at the following address: <https://shorturl.at/DKeUZ>.

Our curriculum is designed so that meaningful geographical knowledge and concepts are carefully sequenced for progression and depth both horizontally, over year groups, and vertically, across year groups, allowing children to build on prior learning and prior skills. We use 'show what you know' assessment tasks to recap and apply the knowledge learnt over several lessons. This helps to transfer knowledge from short-term to long-term memory and aids the retention of key information by reactivation in a new and meaningful context.



For example, in Year Six, after several lessons learning about North America, pupils were challenged with drawing a skyline of three of the major cities that they had studied, annotating them to demonstrate their understanding of the human and physical geography to build up a sense of 'place' within each location.

The quality of geographical vocabulary and the genuine understanding of the diversity of capital cities in North American countries was particularly strong.



Furthermore, as our geography curriculum is shaped by our school vision - which enables all children, regardless of background, ability or additional needs to flourish, becoming the best that they can be – the assessment tasks allow for a low entry point and high ceiling so that tasks are accessible for all levels of attainment.

Through our curriculum, we equip children to be Global Citizens: to develop an awareness of the wider world and their place within it, encourage them to take an active role in the community and work with others to make our planet fairer, more peaceful and sustainable.

We hope that our children will become passionate about the planet and become actively involved in protecting the environment. Examples are clear in our litter picking club, assemblies on World Environment Day, World Turtle Day, Shark Awareness Day, Eco School and Screen Free Week. Our gardening club have been out in the community planting native flowers and vegetables at a local retirement home, gaining the attention of our local newspaper the Ilkley Gazette.

Through the breadth and depth that our geography curriculum offers, our children are provided with a broad knowledge of the world they live in and understand, as responsible citizens, how they need to care and preserve the planet for future generations. This way, we truly can make the world a better place.

**Chris Davison**

## CLIMATE ACTION MENSTON

It is great that local people are taking action to address the climate emergency. If you have a story to share, do get in touch. We next meet on **Wednesday 18th September at 7.30pm in Kirklands.**

At the **Menston Village Show on 14th September, we plan to relaunch the Menston Businesses Backing Climate Action scheme** that was set up pre-Covid. It is hoped that local businesses will commit to taking climate action that works for their business rather than a top down approach. There will be an online questionnaire and the chance for businesses to promote what they are doing on their own publicity. So watch out for this.

For further information about CAM as well as how to join and support what we do, please go to [www.climateactionmenston.org.uk/enquiries](http://www.climateactionmenston.org.uk/enquiries) or ring 01943 874220.

**Marilyn Banister**

## CLIMATE ACTION MENSTON - WORKING ON ACTIVE TRAVEL

As we know, Menston is a friendly community with great access to local facilities. You can easily walk to the Post Office, schools, shops, cafes, health providers, sports facilities and many more. Climate Action Menston has prepared a walking map of the village called Let's Get Walking. You can still pick up a copy in the library and now you can see the map on the Climate Action Menston website (<https://climateactionmenston.org.uk/travel-and-transport/>). Some businesses and organisations in the village have already put a link from their own websites to the map to help their visitors and customers. Please check that your organisation or business is doing the same. It's a really easy way to help local residents, especially new families moving into the village. There are plenty of other ways to enjoy active travel in Menston too. The village is on the national Slow Ways network (<https://beta.slowways.org>) who are creating a network of walking routes that connect all of Britain's towns, cities and national parks.

As we have a railway station in the village, it is worth checking out [www.railwalks.co.uk](http://www.railwalks.co.uk) who are creating a national network of walks from and between railway stations and have a festival coming up in September.

Are you wondering about investing in a e-bike? Happily, Menston residents have the opportunity to "try before you buy" by using either of the e-bike loan schemes running in neighbouring Ilkley or Otley. Ilkley Active Travel hub is offering a four-week e-bike loan, so you can see if they are suitable for you without having to commit to buying one first. Go to their website [www.activeilkley.org.uk/ride-ilkley/try-out-an-e-bike/](http://www.activeilkley.org.uk/ride-ilkley/try-out-an-e-bike/) for more information. Otley Town Council have e-Bikes available to trial for a two-week period too. Contact [bikes@otleytowncouncil.gov.uk](mailto:bikes@otleytowncouncil.gov.uk) for more information.

**The next meeting of the Travel and Transport group will be on Wednesday 28th August at 7.30pm in Kirklands.** Tommy Knowland

## MENSTON CROWN GREEN BOWLING CLUB

I think our bowls season thus far can be summed up as frustrating. The constant rain throughout this spring and summer has been a major headache for the team captains. Fixtures needed to be rearranged only to find that opponents can't make that day and on the alternate day some of our team members are on holiday. Also planned knee and hip operations needed to be added to the mix. Despite these setbacks our club has not cancelled a match due to lack of players, fielding full "A" and "B" teams for three league fixtures each week.

Away from the league, the five internal club knockout competitions have been well supported by club members. Also, the annual away day at Grassington bowling club took place on a rare sunny dry day and was much enjoyed by those attending.



Unfortunately this year we have lost some long time members of the club. Even though they had given up bowling some years ago they still attended club matches to help with scoring, teas and the inevitable washing up.

All remembered and sadly missed.

Our recruiting campaign is starting to bear fruit. The new starters have quickly integrated into the club, playing social bowling on Friday afternoons, friendly matches on Tuesdays and even diving into the deep end and playing league matches when requested. Our club is not, as some folk think, just for "old men" (please excuse the anniversary photo on the website) but is dynamic, up-to-date and representative of our local community. If you are interested in joining, please feel free to come to the bowling green and watch a match in action and talk to our members. Get more details from our website ([menstonbc.wordpress.com](http://menstonbc.wordpress.com)) and then look to possibly join us. Club contacts are Peter Hammond (Secretary) 01943-863417 or Mike Ripley 07472-800126.

**Mike Ripley**

## MENSTON TOWNSWOMEN'S GUILD

Another good season of meetings and a nearly full membership. Our programme for the next few months is:

**21st August: Fruit Shop.** Husband and wife, Simon and Becky, tell us how they grew their business from a market stall to the highly regarded and successful shop in Otley.

**18th September: Ian Howe.** A local and highly regarded resident with a love of words will give us the background to many common sayings which we all use.

**16th October: Diabetes UK.** Former nurse Susan Haley will advise us on combatting and coping with this life-altering disease.

**20th November: Geoff Druett.** Geoff will talk about the vital service which is The Samaritans.

**18th December: Christmas party.** A great afternoon of chat and fun.

**15th January: A Walker's Odyssey.** Tracey Blackwell describes her hobby which enhances our beautiful countryside.

**19th February: Famous for 10 minutes.** Could this be a prelude to Hollywood? We meet in Kirklands on the 3rd Wednesday of each month at 2.30pm.

If you need any more information, please call Laura Moorhouse 01943 875041.

**Laura Moorhouse**

### My hungry work by Sussi Louise Smith

Beyond these teeth - no words  
And here  
Behind these teeth - my unquiet  
Ravenous quiet  
It is not the sound that troubles me  
It is what they hear  
It is what they do not hear  
It is the voice he hungers for

Beyond these lips - no voice  
No voice for him, for them  
No softness  
No sonance  
Not a breath  
Behind these lips - the oystered world  
Pearled silence  
Unquiet in its stillness  
This is my hungry work

*Sussi Louise Smith is a Danish artist, creative coach and poet living in West Yorkshire. She used to be an academic, specialising in creative pedagogy and How to Make Better Mistakes. It was fun, but being a full-time artist is FUNNER.*

## MENSTON GARDENERS

During our summer break we visited a member's garden, a trip to one of our speakers' gardens and held our summer dinner. We start our new season on **Thursday 19th September with a talk from Jack Ogg the Head Gardener at Yorkgate**, the lovely garden featured on Gardeners' World located locally in Adel.

Our meetings are held on the **third Thursday of each month** in Kirklands (Wharfe room on the ground floor) and run until May 2025. This year we have a number of new speakers who have not been to talk to us previously. Meetings start at 7.30pm and usually finish by 9pm. The annual subscription is £20 and guests can attend individual meetings for £3. Posters are put up each month in Kirklands and the outside notice board showing the speaker at the next meeting.

**Chris Roberts**

## WHARFEDALE WI

Having completed our move to Menston, we're settling into our new meeting place at Kirklands and are delighted to have already welcomed some new members.

Formerly Askwith with Weston WI and meeting at Askwith Village Hall, we decided to make the move partly because our members predominantly come from this side of the Wharfe Valley, and the road to Askwith isn't so great on winter nights.

So who are we? We're a very friendly group of women and our membership stretches from Addingham to Otley to Guiseley/Rawdon and everywhere in between. Most months we have a varied and interesting selection of speakers and two of our Autumn highlights are **Nigel Eaton from Moss and Moor** who'll be showing us how to plant autumn containers and **Ann Jones from Wharfedale Beekeepers**, and in August we're having our summer lunch at the Penny Bun in Askwith.

We also organise outings. So far this year we've been to Brodsworth Hall in South Yorkshire and on a private visit to the wonderful garden at The Grange near Skipton, and we're already planning our Christmas trip.

We're part of the North Yorkshire West Federation and our headquarters are in Ripon. The team there organise many events including crafting days, trips, taster days and talks. If you think it might be for you why not come along to our next meeting and find out more?

We always welcome visitors and new members and meet on the **second Thursday of the month at 7.30pm at Kirklands Community Centre** and, as we're lunching in August, we'll meet there next on **Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> September**. If you'd like any more information you can phone Andrea on 07899 798573 or Sue on 01943 839292.

**Sue Appleyard**

## MENSTON 2025 HERITAGE GROUP

The Heritage Group had a busy morning in July sorting various archive material ready for installing in the room at the back of the library. That should happen soon following a grant made by the Parish Council to the Kirklands Menston Trust for the redecoration. Once the room has been set up, we will be working on cataloguing what has been donated.

The Heritage Trail is in progress and thanks to everyone who has researched buildings and people etc who have a link to Menston.

The next meeting is on **Monday 30th September at 7.30pm in Kirklands**. Do come along if you are interested in getting involved in our local history. Further information from Marilyn on 874220.

**Marilyn Banister**



## MENSTON SCOUTS AND GUIDES

On the first weekend of the year, Menston Scouts & Guides held a public consultation about building a new HQ - it was held at the new Burley HQ as an example of what we could achieve. It was well attended by members of the group, families, neighbours, Parish Councillors, members of the public and other interested parties. We were delighted with all the enthusiastic contributions and we are now eagerly working towards a concept design and costed project plan with a view to inviting interested professionals to tender for the project.



Menston Scouts & Guides has over 200 young members and more than 60 volunteers running its programme (both those leaders who wear uniform and those behind the scenes) and we have long waiting lists. With two Beaver colonies, two cub packs, two scout troops, a rainbows, a brownie pack and a guide unit, we are bursting at the seams!

Our fundraising volunteers have visited all the units and to the younger children issued the Smarties challenge - with 2nd Beavers managing to raise £91.27. Their individual efforts combined will all help

towards our goal of £1 million. We are so grateful to local businesses and organisations like the Menston Village Show, FMJ Plastering and Kirklands Community Centre for their kind contributions. And to enterprising local resident, and chair of the MCA, Cheryl Thornton for her yard sale proceeds. And to other generous individuals who know who they are. It is this kind of generosity and community spirit that we will need as we pull together to make the new HQ a reality, and a resource that will benefit the whole community.

The Scouts are really willing to do their bit: they raked leaves and pulled weeds around Kirklands to earn their donations. They ran a successful Car Wash in the spring, helped by the Brownies and Guides, and kindly hosted by the Malt Shovel and The Pantry.

The Guides are holding a **Jumble Sale at Kirklands at 2pm on Saturday 7th September**, with tea, coffee and cakes on sale. Donations welcome!

There will be a **coffee morning on 5th October**, with local businesses and craft stalls, also at Kirklands. And the one we are all looking forward to: **19th October - This Ain't Texas - Country Music comes to Menston**, a line dance social for adults, with a bar! And for the young people: a **Halloween Disco on 1st November!** The much loved **Big Sing** will return in December, as will a special visitor in a red suit riding a sleigh...

If you want to find out more, you can join a mailing list by contacting the email address below, or we will have a website very soon - look out for more information displayed around the village and in the library and on social media. If you want to donate, there will be collection tubs in local businesses, there is a SumUp link on the Hut Development Facebook page and you will be able to donate via the website, or with Give as You Live. Please get in touch for more info.

**We are close to raising our first £100k – can you help us get over the mark?**

Contact [hutdevelopmentmenston@gmail.com](mailto:hutdevelopmentmenston@gmail.com) with your ideas or offer to volunteer! We are looking for a Secretary to the Trustees - someone who will take notes in meetings and issue agendas. We are also looking for new volunteers who can bring fresh ideas to our leadership teams.

We said a sad goodbye to Scout Leaders Ashley and Adam France, and Cub Scout Leader John Flinn this summer after more than 25 years of service collectively. They will all be missed, but we wish them well in their next endeavours.

**Naomi McMorn**

## NSPCC

The NSPCC works tirelessly to protect children and The Wharfedale Branch of NSPCC are grateful to all our supporters of our fundraising in the village. Recent figures tell us that in every school class at least two children needed the support of NSPCC.

Childline is open 24 hours a day 365 days of the year for any young person with any concerns, and to help and protect our children. To enable this to happen your support is still needed.

We have had a busy fundraising year and still have more events in store

**Thursday 19th September: Fashion Show by Little Black Dress at 7.30pm Burley Social Club.** Tickets £12 to include glass of wine.

**Saturday 9th November: Christmas Coffee Morning at Kirklands 10am to 12 noon.** £5 to include coffee and mince pies - pay on the door.

Looking forward to seeing you all. If you need any further details, please contact Jane Hughes 875999.

**Jane Hughes**

## MENSTON AREA NATURE TRUST

**Bird Walks:** Join Andrew Kelly for an autumn bird walk – date to be decided. Please check the website at <https://mant.org.uk>.

**Working Parties:** Wildflower Seed collection **Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> August at 2pm** – Meet at tree in meadow to the left of Guiseley Drive, as you enter High Royds. Wildflower Seed sowing **Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> October at 2pm** – Meet at Willow Dene, Bradford Road LS29 6ED.

**Christmas Social – Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> December at 2pm.** Willow Dene, Bradford Road, LS29 6ED. All welcome!

**Miss Porritt's Field:** We have been planting wildflowers in the field, to augment the variety of plants which will increase the number and types of insects, and lead to increased biodiversity. Every year we collect local wildflower seed and grow them until they are large enough to plant out, at various places around the village. For more information about how you can help, see the Working Parties above, or visit our website.

Our lovely cows, Annie, Kai and Joni, will be back again this autumn, munching the grass down to allow more wildflowers to thrive, and so enhance other wildlife. Please come and say hello!

**Weston Woods:** We have secured a grant to write a Woodland Management Plan, which, once signed off by the Forestry Commission, will give us a clear way forward to manage the woods for nature, and allow us to apply for government grants for work needed.

Meanwhile, a lovely lady in Otley has been crocheting blankets, selling them and donating the proceeds to the Weston Woods fund. She is running out of wool, so if you have any you can donate to the cause, please see our website for where to deliver it to, or email [info@mant.org.uk](mailto:info@mant.org.uk).

If you would like to carry out a fundraising exercise for MANT or Weston Woods, please contact us, or use our Fundraising page at <https://wonderful.org/charities/1195510>. Alternatively, please consider signing up to Give As You Live, an organisation which works with online shopping, and will get the shop to donate money to us, at no cost to yourself!

Watch out for the Friends of Weston Woods "Auction of Promises & Things" this November. Feel free to contribute something to auction, and to bid for anything on offer! And the perfect Christmas gift for family or friends - give the sponsorship of a 3x3m square! <https://mant.org.uk/sponsored-squares/>.

**Menston Biodiversity Plan:** MANT has been charged with surveying the wildlife hotspots and natural habitats across the village, to feed into the Menston Neighbourhood Plan being drawn up by Menston Parish Council. We are being supported by the Yorkshire Wildlife WY Ecology Service. Please send us records of any wildlife you see, with time and place.

**Trustees:** MANT is still looking for more Trustees, or other volunteers who could help us run the charity. If you are enthusiastic about nature and have the energy to match, please get in touch at [info@mant.org.uk](mailto:info@mant.org.uk).

**Francesca Bridgewater**

## **Misson Statement of Menston Community Association**

To unite the village through community-driven engagement, communications, events and experiences in order to enhance the wellbeing, inclusivity and amenities of the community for its residents.

The Menston News is the newsletter of the Menston Community Association. Should you wish to get in touch with the MCA, please email [info@menston-ca.org](mailto:info@menston-ca.org)

Menston Community Association would like to thank all the volunteer contributors and distributors who give of their time so generously, Menston Parish Council for paying the printing costs of our Newsletter and Tom and Justin of Small Print who work so hard to print and collate the newsletter.

You'll find dates, details and contact information for key events happening in Menston in this printed edition of Menston News. An online version and an up-to-date live calendar of local events can be accessed through the village website – [menston.org](http://menston.org).

**Should you wish to contact the Menston News either to submit an article or to volunteer to become a distributor please email [menstonnews@gmail.com](mailto:menstonnews@gmail.com). We welcome articles from the local community and would love to hear about any updates or events happening in the village.**

The deadline for the Spring 2025 edition of the Menston News is **Friday 31st January 2025.**

The deadline for the Summer 2025 edition of the Menston News is **Wednesday 30th April.**

The deadline for the Autumn 2025 edition of the Menston News is **Thursday 31st July 2025.**

The content of all articles within this newsletter is the sole responsibility of the contributor. Thank you very much for reading.

**Sophie Joelle Venner, Editor**

**Placeholder for Christmas lights flyer**