

More news from Dawnay Estates

Wykeham Market: a dozen years of trading

The Wykeham Farmers' Market will celebrate its 12th birthday this year. Over the years the benefits of buying local have become more widely appreciated and nowadays it's the fashionable way to shop.



Not that it's all been plain sailing: supermarket wars impact on all sorts of retail outlets. Farmers' markets are no exception, and we have had to evolve to keep pace.

With high quality produce that naturally sits beside the "best" ranges, the prices are extremely competitive with other quality products, and always of known provenance, giving peace of mind and a clear conscience: there are no 'air-miles' on vegetables grown in Yorkshire! This is the niche our Farmers' Market occupies – added to which it's on our doorstep, every Friday morning, all year round.

Many of the original stall holders still support the market: June and Robert from Thorley's bakers; Brad and Joan of Barker and Son butchers; and (David) Johnson's fruit and veg are just a few of our loyal stall holders.

However there are many new stalls, and with new products and more variety a new name was thought appropriate, and so emerged "Wykeham Village Market".

No longer just farm produce, you can now also find locally made goods, from jams to wooden crafts, from chocolates to aromatherapy oils.

Another innovation is the loyalty card, a reward for locals and regular shoppers for their continuing support of the market. The scheme, which offers shoppers a £10 voucher when their total spend adds up to £100 or more, was piloted in January and proved very popular. Cards are available for collection at the Estate Office.

And to bring us right up to speed the market now has its own facebook page – Wykeham VillageMarket – and can be followed on twitter @wykehammarket.

So the market may have a new name, new stalls, and new high-tech habits, but it's still local, still essentially traditional, and still offers reliable quality and good value every week. So for anyone interested in healthy eating, variety and good value, it's well worth a visit! For more details contact Katrina at the address below or e-mail k.shamel@dawnay.co.uk.

Our unassuming hero!

Congratulations go to David Edwards, manager of Co-operative Farms Ltd, for his award for work with the mountain rescue team.

At an awards ceremony held at the Raven Hall Hotel and hosted by Welcome to Yorkshire, David was one of the local heroes recognised for their contribution to community safety.

The Scarborough and Ryedale Mountain Rescue Team is based in Snainton. Established in 1965, the team covers the eastern half of the North York Moors, Yorkshire Wolds, Scarborough, Ryedale and York.

Individual awards were handed out to members from various teams, including David who is a team party leader and driver. He lives close to the team base and is generally one of the first to respond to call-outs at all hours.

But not only does David go out on rescue missions, with all the danger that that entails, he also takes an active role in fundraising activities and presenting to local interest groups. Which may not sound quite so exciting, but it's an essential part of the role, and a part that enables the system to operate effectively – resulting in rescues accomplished, and lives saved.

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Further information on Dawnay Estates – www.Dawnay.co.uk



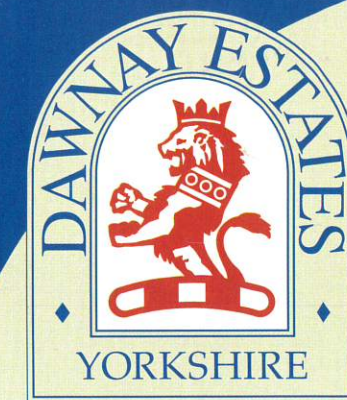
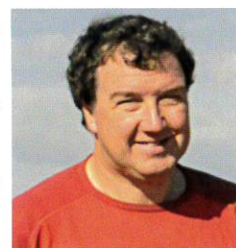
A flying visit to Danby Castle

Danby Castle has received many accolades for the service that it provides to its brides and grooms. After all, there are not many romantically semi-ruined castles available for hire for that 'special day'!

But what better way of making the occasion even more special than to have an owl as ring-bearer? Specially-trained birds, courtesy of Talon Falconry, seem like a match made in heaven – and got the marriage between Michael and Samantha Jackson, above, off to an auspicious start.

Dawnay at the heart of the community

As always the Estates remain committed to supporting the local communities, and nowhere more so than in Wykeham itself. This summer will see the Rotary Dragonboats return to Wykeham Lakes, and opera return to St Helen's Church, Wykeham. Read more about these events in the local press and future newsletters.



NEWSLETTER

www.dawnay.co.uk

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Spring 2012

Welcome to the Spring newsletter

The Estate has recently been rather overshadowed by a fish, an ugly one at that. The Wykeham Whacker (or Lucy as she is known by her friends) equalled the record for the largest pike set in 1822. At 46lb she is some size, I am unsure if she is the equivalent of an American teenager who has taken a liking to fast food or a back row forward in the All Blacks Ladies' rugby team. One way or another I won't be paddling in the lakes in the near future.

The Viscount Downe

Glorious grouse!

Danby Grouse Moor has had its best year since 1972.

A great deal of work, skill and effort has reaped dividends on Danby Moors, resulting in 2011 being the best grouse season since 1972 – which was in turn the best since 1938. The actual bag was 1,722 brace – well on the way to our target of 2,000.



How has this been achieved? First of all by the hard work and dedication of the keepers, graziers and all those involved with the husbandry of the moor. Continuing vermin control by the four keepers ensures that grouse – and many other ground-nesting birds – have the chance to survive and produce a good clutch of young during the nesting season. The cold 2010-2011 winter was also beneficial and, combined with the use of medicated grit, has kept worm counts down. The result has been good, healthy birds.

The Danby ESS has also been a contributory factor in improving the health of the moorland sheep and controlling tick. One of the biggest areas of improvement was Glaisdale Moor, where the Estate has introduced its new flock of sheep. The increase in grouse numbers is therefore the result of a complex, interwoven mix of increased funding, industrious keepers, good sheep management, burning and vermin control – and quite a bit of help from the weather!

The 2012 season looks very promising and we look forward to welcoming the diverse teams of guns from all over the globe. The fact that so many of the teams are now regulars is probably the best endorsement of all, confirming that Danby Moors offer world-class grouse shooting.

Welcoming the next generation

Congratulations to the entire Dawnay family on the arrival of their latest addition, grandson to Lady Downe and nephew to Lord Downe.

Guy Leonard John Provis was born on 18th August, to the delight of everyone – not least proud big sister Sarita and mother Sarah Provis. He will continue in the family tradition by being christened at Wykeham.



Welcomes, farewells and celebrations ...

There have been several changes of staff recently so in this edition of the newsletter we sadly bid goodbye to some members of staff, whilst welcoming others.



Sandra Robinson has left the Estate Office accounts department, and **Hayley Jackson** has joined us in her place.



Gilly Collinson left the Estate Office to return to full time journalism. We welcome **Molly Stirling** in her place.



Now in charge of the Garage Yard are **Craig and Karen Dix**. They take over the duties relating to the Estate's vehicles.



And finally, we are joined by under-keeper **Mark Taylor**, who is working with Peter Snaith on the grouse moors.

We are delighted to welcome all of our new colleagues 'on board', and look forward to working with them in the future, whatever their role on the Estates.

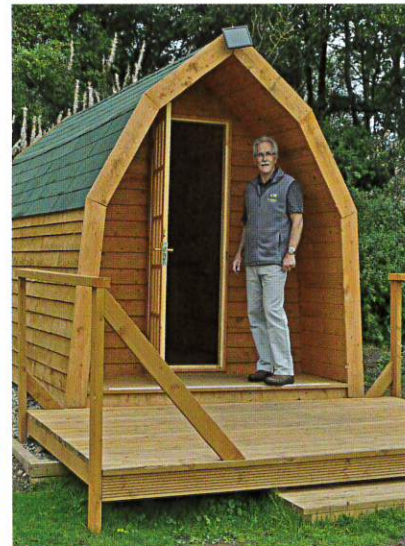
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AA-Accolade for St Helen's in the Park

St Helen's staff are delighted and proud that the park has been selected as the AA's top site in the north of England for 2012.



Lord Downe with St Helen's staff.



Chris Tedman in one of the new camping pods.

The news follows on from an upgraded 'pennant' rating just last year, and is a great endorsement of the high quality of the facilities provided to caravanners and campers at the Wykeham site.

St Helen's Manager Chris Tedman said: "It is very encouraging to see the financial investment, and the work put in by the warden staff, coming together in such recognition.

"The upgrade from 4 pennants to 5 and the award of AA Campsite of the North East of England have now come in successive years, so next year will be a difficult one to keep up the recognition."

Not only are caravans making their way back to the site on a regular basis: options for campers are also increasing, with the introduction of timber camping 'pods'. These ensure a dry night with good insulation - and solar lights - whatever the time of year, extending out the season.

Meanwhile the Dawnay Estates' other choice for visitor accommodation, the five-bedroomed Forrester's Lodge in Little Fryup, Danby, also grows in popularity year on year: bookings are already being taken for 2013. With its picturesque setting it makes a great base for touring, walking - or just relaxing and enjoying the scenery. Details, rates and availability can be found on ownersdirect.co.uk.

The Causeways: on course for 2013 opening



Natural Retreats, the prestigious holiday letting company with resorts in Cornwall, Wales, Yorkshire, Scotland, and Ireland - as well as North America - are soon to begin the construction of 40 contemporary holiday residences at the Causeway Lake, Wykeham.

This was the earliest lake to be 'restored' in 1981 after the first phase of gravel extraction had ceased, demonstrating that mineral extraction not only need not spoil, but can at times enhance, the landscape and increase biodiversity.

The seven and a half acre lake is surrounded by natural woodland, much of it birch, which provides a fabulous setting for the luxury wood-and-glass letting units at any time of year.

It is anticipated that the building will be completed and the complex open for business early next year: read more about its progress in future newsletters.

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From bare earth to bushes - overnight

There are holiday parks all along the Yorkshire coastline which, although increasingly bolstered by sales of holiday homes for use all year round, whether they be static caravans or lodges, still rely largely on the traditional tourism market. As such, most of these holiday parks close to the general public for a few months in the winter, and it is during this period that most large-scale development, renovation and improvement takes place.

Wykeham Mature Plants has become involved with a few holiday parks this year in the design, supply and installation of planting schemes. One such project was at the Blue Dolphin Holiday Park at Gristhorpe Bay, Scarborough, where the first stage of work was, amongst other things, to improve the appearance of the main entrance.



Clearly, as a high profile area, this needed to have impact and colour, whilst remaining low maintenance but, due to the proximity to the sea, the plants need to tolerate strong, salt-laden winds. This planting work was carried out in late January to early February.

Martin Howe, WMP Manager

Taking care of business

Business Manager Katrina Shamel looks after the interests of all the tenants occupying the Estate's commercial units, whether they be in the Wykeham Business Centre, Farfield, or the Hillyard. One thing they all have in common, however, is access to ultra-fast internet - at speeds that many can only dream of.

A recent survey showed that a third of addresses in Britain struggle to get above 5Mbps, whereas thanks to fibre-optic cable, Wykeham, despite its rural location, can offer up to 100 Mbps. Even the government does not aspire to more than a mere 2Mbps as a minimum for all addresses by 2015!

No wonder then that Wykeham is gaining a reputation for giving businesses a head start: last issue we reported on a company which had grown so fast it had to move in order to meet its commercial needs, and the same has happened in the case of York Potash.

We wish them luck, and look forward to providing a springboard for the future success of the next embryonic Wykeham-based business!



Katrina looking after the needs of Wykeham's business clients

A Wykeham record-breaker!



A huge pike has been caught in Wykeham Lakes, right at the close of the season, when fishermen's thoughts turn to trout.

Not only did the 46lb monster - caught by Andy O'Connor of Hull, above - break the record for Wykeham, it equalled the English record, which has stood for 190 years.

Fisheries Manager Mike Heelis said: "We have had some of the top pike fishing experts down, limited to eight people a day. So when 20-year-old Andy landed it recently it was quite a shock because his previous best catch was 7lbs.

It has been a big pull for us because you don't come across 40-pounders very often, let alone 46-pounders. There is still a chance that it could grow to over British record size because it is only 10 and they live until the age of around 25."

WiRE in the soul of the community

WiRE - Women in Rural Enterprise - is the only national UK organisation promoting, supporting and developing women running rural businesses, and Wykeham is now the centre of operations for this area. The Scarborough and District WiRE networking group launched in September 2011, and is having great success in attracting large numbers of local businesswomen to its meetings.

WiRE meetings offer a combination of practical business information and an opportunity to network and develop skills. The meetings are open to all women running businesses that deal with, cater for, or are based in rural areas, whether these be new, long established or still in the planning phase. WiRE understands that the usual problems of running a business are often exacerbated by a rural location.

In its first six months alone the group has had experts deliver advice on self assessment tax returns; approaching banks for funding; social media; marketing; and more. WiRE meetings are held every second Wednesday of the month from 9.45 am until 11.30 am. To find out more go to www.wireuk.org/scarborough-network.html, www.facebook.com/ScarboroughWiRE or email Katrina at k.shamel@dawnay.co.uk.