

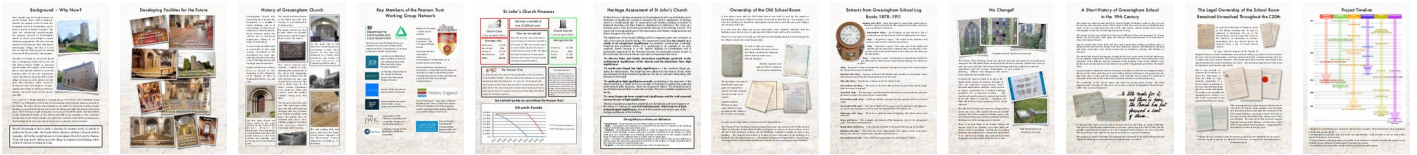


# Wagtail

The parish magazine  
of Whittington, Arkholme  
and Gressingham  
May 2017

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## Gressingham Pearson Trust Working Group Exhibition



**2pm to 6pm on Friday 21 April and Saturday 22 April**

**and 5pm to 7pm on Sunday 23 April**

*with open meeting with the architect in the school room from 7pm*

The Pearson Trust Working Group is pleased to present a detailed exhibition on the work the group has been doing looking into the options suggested by the village as possible future uses for the Old School Room and the church.

The group managed to secure a £10,000 grant which has funded professional fees, including historical and structural surveys, heating assessments, and some early architectural design ideas for how the church could be adapted for future use. The architects have produced nine outline design ideas for providing new facilities on the church site, and all nine will be on display at the exhibition.

The group has also carried out extensive research into the history and legal status of the Old School Room, the ownership of which has been debated since the 1850s.

The exhibition and consultation is an opportunity to learn about the work that has been carried out, see the history going back and possible designs going forwards, and feed in your comments and questions. It will culminate on the Sunday evening with a meeting in the school room where the architect and all the members of the working group will be available to answer questions. Please do come to see the work that has been done so far and to help guide the next steps.

***The exhibition venue has been changed from the school room to the church, to make it easier to visualise the various design ideas.***

**Friday 28 April 7.30pm**

**The Romans in Lunesdale**

*Gressingham Old School Room*  
with local historian Andrew White

**Sunday 30 April 3pm**

**From Commemoration to Celebration**

final event in Bill Taylor's fundraising year for the Motor Neurone Disease Association  
a concert by Charlie Lewis's **Divers Voyces**  
*Saint Margaret's, Hornby*

**Saturday 6 May 7pm**

**Gathered Voices**

fifty-strong *a cappella* choir, plus extra pieces from The Hornby Singers  
*Saint Margaret's, Hornby*

**Sunday 7 May 7.30pm**

**Montreal Guitar Trio**

*Arkholme Village Hall*  
Tickets £7 from 07875 000817 or 07519 281305 – *a Spot On event*

**more events on the back cover...**

# Classified ads

*We hope you find these listings helpful*

**Boarding Kennels and cattery** at Docker Park Farm, home from home for your dogs and cats enquiries@dockerparkfarm.co.uk 21331 www.docker-park-kennels.co.uk

**Boarding Kennels and dog day-care** Aughton Road, Gressingham LA2 8LS helen.burrow@hotmail.com 07766 446272 www.aughtonroadkennels.co.uk

**Karl's Fresh Fish** Every Thursday from Fleetwood to your door. Established in the Lune Valley for 20 years. Telephone Karl 079 799 47475 for a weekly or fortnightly delivery.

**Calluna Furnishings, Quernmore** creating unique interior upholstery and soft furnishings, made-to-measure curtains, cushions, re-upholstery, Roman blinds, upholstery and up-cycling, alterations and many more. Free consultation and collection service. 01524 805504 - www.callunafurnishings.co.uk / info@callunafurnishings.co.uk

**Funeral Services** B&W Funerals (J G Macdonald) – 24 hour Service, Private Chapel of Rest. Covering the Lune Valley and the Dales. 39 Main Street, Ingleton LA6 3EH. Office 41293, Home 61390, Mobile 07758 002260, email jmfunerals@gmail.com

**Logs Direct Ltd** – local specialists in Winter Fuel. Kiln-dried logs, smokeless fuel, house coal, kindling, firelighters, briquettes and pellets. Also top soil, compost & bark. Collect from us or delivered to your door. www.logsdirect.co.uk / 01524 812476

**Painting and Decorating** A Holloway (Decorators) Interior and exterior Established over 25 years tonyholloway@hms.me.uk 01524 771880

**Physiotherapy** Marie Colyer MCSP HCPC Bentham 62216 www.benthamphysio.co.uk

**Lune Valley Physiotherapy** Leah Dalby MCSP HCPC Maximise potential after surgery, accidents, illness including cancer – leahthephysio@gmail.com Melling 07934 785797

**Darren Jones Plumbing** General plumbing and bathroom installations, Oil and Gas boilers installed and serviced, renewable energy options available 07738 379328

**Web design** Do you have a business, organisation or charity that needs a website? Our kettle's always on at the Urban Attic, call to arrange 01524 874549 urban-attic.co.uk

## New this month

**Hornby Day Nursery** – a family run nursery with a traditional friendly atmosphere. 30 hours free childcare from September 2017 for eligible 3 & 4 year olds, 15 hours free childcare for eligible 2 year olds. **Holiday club for ages 4 to 11** during all school holidays. Looking for childcare? 015242 22288 / info@hornbydaynursery.co.uk

## Advertising in Wagtail

**Ads in Wagtail** cost £2 per line per edition. There are ten editions per year (every month except January and August), and payment up to the end of the calendar year is appreciated for simplicity.

**It is also possible to sponsor an edition of Wagtail**, which buys a tag on the front page and half the back page as full-colour display ads, from £40 per edition. For examples, see past editions online at [wagtail.org.uk](http://wagtail.org.uk)

**Wagtail has a print-run of 460 copies**, and is distributed to every home in Whittington, Newton, Arkholme, Docker, Gressingham, Eskrigge and Aughton. The deadline for each edition is the nineteenth of the preceding month.

Contact [ads@wagtail.org.uk](mailto:ads@wagtail.org.uk)



# Wagtail

Welcome to the May edition.

All local churches and community groups are invited to send in news of their activities to Wagtail – reports of recent events (with photographs if possible) as well as announcements of what's coming up. Other local news is also welcome.

The next edition is the June edition. The deadline for items for inclusion is 19 May. Please submit all items to [editor@wagtail.org.uk](mailto:editor@wagtail.org.uk)

Wagtail is also available online at [www.wagtail.org.uk](http://www.wagtail.org.uk)

Many thanks as always to all our contributors and distributors.

*Michael Hampson*

## Directory

**Arkholme Post Office** *Arkholme Village Hall* Mondays and Thursdays 2pm to 4pm

**Whittington Post Office** *Whittington Village Hall* Thursdays 1.30pm to 3.30pm

**Arkholme School** *Headteacher Joy Ingram* [www.arkholme.lancs.sch.uk](http://www.arkholme.lancs.sch.uk) 21418

**Arkholme Village Hall** [www.arkholme-village-hall.co.uk](http://www.arkholme-village-hall.co.uk) 07716 122940 Committee usually meets second Thursday of each month (email or phone to check) – all welcome

**Book Club** *May Levick* 21669

**Bowling Club** Arkholme Monday evenings *David Smith* 03330 119 303

**Drama Group** *Neil Read* 21339 [realneed@hotmail.com](mailto:realneed@hotmail.com)

**Kirkby Lonsdale Voluntary Car Scheme** Car and volunteer driver, 45p per mile measured from driver's house back to driver's house 07788 522511

**Lunch Club** *Carole Webb* 22202 or *Doreen Airey* 22023 for retired residents of the three villages – usually on the second Wednesday of the month from October to May

**Playgroup/Toddlers** *Danielle Barker* [wagtailplaygroupandtoddlers@gmail.com](mailto:wagtailplaygroupandtoddlers@gmail.com) 21921

**Police** PC3573 *Rob Barnsley* [morecambept@lancashire.pnn.police.uk](mailto:morecambept@lancashire.pnn.police.uk) telephone 101

**Whittington Village Hall** *Karan Metcalfe* 71287

Coffee Mornings on the first and third Wednesdays of each month, 10.30am to 12noon

**Women's Institute** *Janice McIlveen* 21693

**Vicar** *Revd Michael Hampson* [vicar@these4parishes.co.uk](mailto:vicar@these4parishes.co.uk) 21712

**Arkholme and Whittington Parish Council Clerk** *Gillian Hodgson* 21814  
6 Meadoway Arkholme LA6 1AT [arkholmebrownies@hotmail.com](mailto:arkholmebrownies@hotmail.com)

**Details of all three parish councils**, and full minutes for Whittington and Arkholme, are online at [committeeadmin.lancaster.gov.uk/mgParishCouncilDetailsList.aspx](http://committeeadmin.lancaster.gov.uk/mgParishCouncilDetailsList.aspx)

**Gressingham Parish Council** agendas and minutes are available online at [www.hornbyvillage.org.uk/organisations/gressingham-parish-council](http://www.hornbyvillage.org.uk/organisations/gressingham-parish-council)

**Details of all planning applications** are online at [www.lancaster.gov.uk/planning](http://www.lancaster.gov.uk/planning)

*Local churches and community groups can be listed here for free  
Please send additions, updates and corrections to [editor@wagtail.org.uk](mailto:editor@wagtail.org.uk)*

# Notices

**Congratulation and best wishes to John Haston** who celebrates his 100th birthday on Saturday 20 May.

**Many thanks to all those who deliver Wagtail round the parishes**, and a particular thank you to Eric Pelter, who has delivered more than fifty copies around Whittington each month since Wagtail came into being! Sadly he has now retired and we have had to replace him with three new volunteers. Again, very many thanks to everyone involved. *Sue Kimber*

**Sadly news reaches Wagtail** that the Vale of Lune Point to Point (Whittington Races) has disbanded – and even sold its equipment – having missed two seasons following flood damage to the course in December 2015.

**Lunesdale Agricultural Society's** annual Cheese and Wine fundraiser will take place on Saturday 13 May from 7.30pm at Lunesdale Hall, Kirkby Lonsdale, LA6 2BG. £8 adults / £4 children including buffet and first drink. Lots of stalls, games and raffle.

**Whittington Race Night** returns on Saturday 24 June 7.30pm in Whittington Village Hall. You can be owner, trainer, jockey or punter – reserve the date.

**Whittington Village Hall AGM** is in the village hall on Tuesday 9 May at 8pm

**Hornby Swimming Pool** has been mothballed for six months to allow a local group to try to raise funds to save it. The campaign group is setting up a Community Benefit Society and inviting people to pledge multiples of £25 (the cost of one 'share' in the society) to try to save the pool. Send pledges (no money at this stage) to [lunevalleycs@gmail.com](mailto:lunevalleycs@gmail.com) or 01524 805666, or come along to a public meeting at Hornby Institute to find out more at **7pm on Monday 15 May**.

**Alice Roberts** is celebrating her 21st birthday in April with fundraisers for *North West Air Ambulance* and *Lune Valley Community Society* (which aims to save Hornby Swimming Pool). A quiz about the Lake District is on sale for NWAA, and a quiz about the North West of England (set by Janette and Andrew White) is on sale for the Hornby Pool fund. "The pool and the availability of a hoist made a great contribution to my recovery from my accident in 2010" – as did a flight in the air ambulance. The quizzes are £1 each at various local shops, or order both (and a bundle for friends and family) direct from Alice on 21047. Return them by 9 June for prizes including a voucher for Hornby Butchers, an Easter basket of goodies, a signed CD of harp music and more.

**Lunesdale Lawn Tennis Club** is in the aptly-named Ball Lane in Caton, with two floodlit all-weather courts open all year round and three grass courts open from April to September. There is both team and social tennis, coaching is available by arrangement, and there are free fun sessions for juniors every Monday in term time 7pm to 8pm. There are open days on **Sundays 7 and 14 May** 2pm to 5pm – all welcome – or visit [lunesdaletennis.net](http://lunesdaletennis.net), or for more information about junior sessions contact Siobhan Tough on 01524 770000 or [shivtough@btinternet.com](mailto:shivtough@btinternet.com)

**Hornby Singers** continues to meet every Tuesday, and everyone is welcome to come along and enjoy singing – there are no auditions. Choose the afternoon sessions or the evening sessions, or both. Tuesday evenings 2, 16 and 30 May, 7pm to 9pm, and Tuesday afternoons 9 and 23 May, 1.30pm to 3.30pm. Pat 21449

**When I can't speak for myself**, what do I want to say? A free workshop on dementia and choice at the end of life – organising in advance the treatment and care you want – presented by '*Compassion in Dying – supporting your choices*'. Tuesday 9 May 10.30am to 12.30pm at Hornby Institute. More information from Pat Seber on 21449.

**Whittington Village Hall Draw** £20 Manon Ogden, £10 Mike Barr, £5 Daisy Blackburn

**Arkholme Parish Council met on Mondays 6 March and 3 April.** This year's Hopewell Cup competition will be a Traditional Style Cake Competition, incorporated with the School Sports Day, with three categories: adult male, adult female, and schoolchild. The Empty Homes Officer at Lancaster City Council has been informed about the state of disrepair of the farm house at Storrs Gate Farm. The clerk will inform the Planning Case Officer about the severe hedge pruning undertaken opposite Thorneys. Councillors agreed to donate £100 each to the Children's Sports Day, the Children's Party Committee, and Wagtail Playgroup. The annual £12 rent for each of the pounds had been collected and banked. The clerk will complete the Local Plan Consultation Response Form with councillors' comments regarding Arkholme being unsustainable for new development because of lack of facilities, and South Carnforth being in the designated greenbelt. Scaffolding at the West House development has been reconfigured so as not to block the pavement. Tree preservation orders were confirmed for trees between The Herb Garden and The Sheiling.

**Whittington Parish Council held a special open meeting on Monday 6 March.** Present were five Parish Councillors, the clerk, and forty-two members of the public. The Chairperson put the motion to parishioners that *This Parish Meeting confirms its support of the Parish Council and the decisions made over the past 24 months.* Various views and issues were put forward by parishioners and discussed at length. Support from parishioners was accepted with regard to fiscal maintenance, an official Whittington Village website being established, and improvement in communication and minute taking. The motion was carried with 39 votes in favour, one against, and two abstentions. The open meeting was closed and a Parish Council meeting followed. Councillors discussed alleged speeding of vehicles through the village. It was clarified that the increase in precept was not specifically for a Speed Indicator Device, and more information was needed. The Town Quarry gate has been repaired and the posts replaced. The litter-pick had been a success. There was still a dog-mess problem on public footpaths. Flytipping, potholes, water rising from a manhole, and the state of Hosticle Lane, were all reported to FixMyStreet. One bench repair was complete and another was pending. The meeting was adjourned, and continued on Wednesday 29 March, when plans were advanced for a new Parish Council website for the village. The future of bus service 81A is still undecided by Stagecoach, but Kikrby Lonsdale Coaches may be proposing an alternative service – details to be confirmed. Councillors made a grant of £50 to Wagtail parish magazine. The planning application for development behind the Dragons Head had been refused again; the application concerning the Old School was awaiting a decision. *Next meeting Annual Parish Meeting 7pm on Monday 8 May, then Annual General Meeting 7pm on Monday 15 May.*

**Arkholme Village Hall Draw** MAY £20 MR AND MRS P WOOD , £10 MRS A SHEPHERD , £10 MR AND MRS METCALFE , £10 MR AND MRS BOWKER , £10 MR AND MRS MCCLEMENTS , £10 MR AND MRS TAMLIN , £10 MR G BARTON

### **SUNDAY SERVICES in MAY**

	<b>Whittington</b>	<b>Arkholme</b>	<b>Gressingham</b>	<b>SoP</b> – Songs of Praise
<b>7 May</b>	-	9.30am HC	6.30pm EP	<b>HC</b> – Holy Communion
<b>14 May</b>	9.30am SoP	9.30am HC	8am HC	<b>WHD</b> – Heritage Day event with refreshments before and after
<b>21 May</b>	5.30pm WHD	9.30am HC	-	<b>EP</b> – Evening Prayer (evensong)
<b>28 May</b>	9.30am HC	-	9.30am HC	

**Hornby 10.45am** Parish Communion every Sunday  
*including Sunday School on 7 May and youth-led service on 21 May*  
**Midweek Communion** is at 10am every Wednesday in Hornby  
**Vicar** Revd Michael Hampson · vicar@these4parishes.co.uk · 21712  
**Weekly bulletin online:** [www.these4parishes.co.uk](http://www.these4parishes.co.uk)



# The weather in Arkholme

*Robin McIlveen*

## **March Weather in Arkholme**

11 Slightly Wet Days (less than 5mm) together adding up to 21.8mm

10 Decidedly Wet Days (from 5mm to just under 25mm) together adding up to 88.1mm

0 Extremely Wet Days (25mm and over)

**21 Rain Days** in total adding up to **109.9mm** (4.3 inches) – leaving 10 dry days

Wettest Day 18th-19th had 18.7mm

**March came in with nearly 20mm of rain in the first four days**, but then was much dryer until the rains restarted strongly on the 16th, adding nearly 70mm in the next eight days. Then it dried again before finishing the month with another 13 mm in the last four days. It was therefore a month of contrasts in rainfall, and associated weather, which makes a welcome change from months where the weather seems to get stuck in a rut. Afternoon temperatures moved around from modest values in the cloudy periods, to 17 and 17.5°C on the afternoons of the 25th and 26th. I recorded only two air frosts in the month - one on the morning of the 2nd and the other on the morning of the 25th. April has so far been extraordinarily dry, with only 12mm in the first eighteen days.

**In lovely weather on the afternoon of Easter Monday** (April 17th), a small group of us were strolling along the bridleway to the Arkholme-Melling viaduct, recovering from a splendid lunch. Suddenly we were sprinkled by smallish drops of rain falling from a nearly clear blue sky. The drops were about 1mm in diameter, and such drops fall at about 5 metres per second (roughly 10 mph), because that is the speed at which the pull of gravity is balanced by the frictional drag of the drop of that size falling through the air. At this rate they fall about 300m in a minute in quiet air, which means that they had probably been falling for about 10 minutes from their formation zone about 3,000 metres above our heads - not vertically above us, since the light northerly blowing at the time must have carried the drops about 2km southwards as they fell. So if, ten minutes before we were surprised by the “magic rain”, we had had the prescience to look 2km to the north to a height of 3 Ingleboroughs, we might have seen the smallish cloud which grew the raindrops in the first place. But we didn't, and so we were surprised and teased because that particular cloud had evaporated by the time we were sprinkled. The sky was a picture anyway: the gloomy overcast of a weak front had been replaced in the early afternoon by a largely blue sky, to the north and west, dotted by these smallish clouds working their magic.

**Scientists are getting excited about a moon of Saturn** which may have conditions conducive to the development of life. I know I should be interested, but nothing could remotely compare with the Lune Valley on a fine Easter Monday, with Oystercatchers piping as they swerve over the viaduct, and mysterious raindrops falling on our heads.

**By the end of March** there have been 22 dry days in 2017, 48 Slightly Wet Days giving 70mm of rain, 10 Decidedly Wet Days giving 209mm and no Extremely Wet Days, a total of 68 Rain Days giving 279mm of rain.

*Robin McIlveen*

# Arkholme and District WI



We were back in Arkholme for our April meeting, where Janice welcomed twelve members and one guest. Our visiting speaker Ruth Gibbons spoke enthusiastically and humorously about **“Eating Well, Feeling Great”**. She reminded us that ‘good advice’ on food and nutrition seems to change from week to week, but Ruth’s golden rule is: eat a variety of foods in the right quantities and proportions to maintain a healthy weight. The government’s 1980s campaign to improve the health of the nation, hoping to cut down on heart attacks and strokes, is a good plan to follow, using their famous divided-plate poster showing proportions and amounts as a guide. Ruth recommended rapeseed oil as a good fat to help us keep HDLs high and LDLs low. Alcohol to be consumed in moderation; red wine contains healthful flavinols. Ruth’s important message was: don’t spoil your life by worrying about food fads; enjoy your food, but use common sense, and remember, what matters is not the years in your life, but the life in your years.

The Treasurer reported a healthy bank balance, we are very grateful to Arkholme for their generous donation. Barbara reported on the Spring Conference in Southport which she had greatly enjoyed, particularly the talk by an inspirational female Tornado pilot, and a very humorous talk by Leslie Smith who spoke about Nell Gwyn. Two more outings have been arranged by Anne Symons, to Larch Cottage on 22 March and to Raby Castle on 28 June.

*Our next meeting will be in Whittington Village Hall on Monday 8 May at 7.30pm, when the resolutions will be discussed, and our choice will be sent to the Lancashire Federation, and then the chosen one will go on to the National Federation, and then on to lobby the government on our behalf. Our visiting speaker will be Rosemary Blanchfield, who will speak about Denman, the WI’s college in Oxfordshire. Visitors welcome as always.*

## Gerald writes...

**That wonderful man John Haston** will be 100 years old this month. Over the years John and his late wife Muriel devoted much of their leisure time on village committees, first helping to raise funds to build the village hall, and later as chairman of the committee. He and Muriel rarely missed an event held in the hall. John was also the chairman of the Horticultural Society which held the annual flower show. It was always the case if you wanted something doing in the village John was always willing to help. I will always have so many happy memories of our work together on the village hall committee and the friends we made running the dances there. Have a very happy birthday John.

**Whatever happened to the Solar Farm** that was going to be built on Sadler Nook Lane, that promised untold funds for the village? Did they find out that there is not enough sunshine in Whittington, or are there great crested newts in the beck?

**Our street had not been swept** for at least six months until last week when a sweeper suddenly arrived, the driver must have enjoyed the scenery as for the next two hours he went up and down the street at least ten times. He left the street beautifully clean but surely with all this modern equipment one time up and down should have been enough.

**Come along to Whittington Church Heritage day on Sunday 21 May** when some of the collection of my Whittington Archive material will be on display, along with old photos, maps, and other items I have collected over the years. I hope to see you there.

*Gerald Hodgson*



# Wagtail

**Wednesday 10 May 1pm**

**Lunch Club** Arkholme Village Hall

Open to all retired residents of Whittington, Arkholme and Gressingham  
Three-course lunch £7 – *please book by Monday: Carole 22202 or Doreen 22023*

**Wednesday 10 May 7pm**

**Arkholme Annual Parish Meeting**

Arkholme Village Hall

**Guest Speaker Robert Partington**, chair of Wray Neighbourhood Planning Group  
*followed at 7.30pm by Parish Council Annual General Meeting*

**Sunday 14 May**

**9.30am**

**Sunday Morning Songs of Praise**

Whittington Church  
informal half-hour service of the best all-time favourite hymns with Anthony

Smith at the organ – *refreshments afterwards – a great way to start Sunday – everybody welcome*



**Monday 15 May 7pm**

**Save Hornby Swimming Pool**

Public meeting with update on plans to set up a Community Benefit Society to save Hornby Swimming Pool. More inside on page 4. *Hornby Institute*

**Wednesday 17 May 2pm**

**Paddlers for Life**

Louisa Balderson talks about the health-promoting, fun-promoting project that gets breast-cancer survivors into dragon-boat paddling across the UK. *Presented by Hornby MU – Hornby Institute*

**Wednesday 17 May 7.30pm**

**Renes Fashion Show**

Arkholme Village Hall

in aid of Westmorland Mencap  
Bar and raffle – admission £15 includes glass of Prosecco and canapes

**Thursday 18 May 1.30pm to 3.30pm**

**Beginners Family History**

Learn how to research your family history and trace your ancestors – free weekly course running on Thursdays through to July, sponsored by Lancashire Adult Learning *Hornby Institute*

**Sunday 21 May**

**from 5pm**

**Whittington Heritage Day**

Whittington Church

Local historian **Andrew White** presents the

history of Whittington church, with its 15th century tower and 19th century nave on an 11th century site used for worship for more than 800 years. Plus Gerald's Whittington archives, photos, maps, parish registers and more.

**5pm** tea and cakes, **5.30pm** Andrew White, **6pm** wine and savouries

**Saturday 27 May**

**10.30am to 3.30pm**

**Craft and**

**Contemplation Day**

at Saint Joseph's House of Prayer, next to Tunstall Church  
LA6 2RQ

Sister Judith and Sister Sue invite you to a day of crafts and contemplation on the theme *Decorating Bible passages*. All equipment provided but if you have your own watercolour pencils or pastels you might like to bring them. Soup and sandwich lunch. No charge, donations welcome. Call 03330 119563 to book.



**Monday 29 May from 7pm**

**Bank Holiday Barbecue**

Whittington Village Hall

Bring your own food, bar open

**Friday 9 June 8pm**

A Celebration of **Simon and Garfunkel** performed live by *Tim Chu and Ian Bailey*  
Advance booking strongly recommended  
*Hornby Institute* £12 – 22227 or [ticketweb.co.uk/event/272575](http://ticketweb.co.uk/event/272575)