



NORTH COUNTRY theatre

ht
HARROGATE
THEATRE

The Rocking Horse Winner

by D H Lawrence
adapted for the stage by Nobby Dimon



Supported by
**ARTS COUNCIL
ENGLAND**

A white knuckle ride between
psychology and the supernatural

Programme £2

ANGELS & FRIENDS OF NORTH COUNTRY THEATRE 2011

Liz & Chris Floyd, Anna & Will Nabarro, Mary & Graham Watts, Anne & Geoff Wall, Cecily Horton, Vanda & Adam Hurn, Nina & Donald Cline, Iris Hillery, Chris Redman, Marjorie Solomon, Su Wompra, Jean Wrangham, Tim Culkin & Austin Lynch, David & Judith Shaw, Margaret Hartley, Susan Latter, Hilary & Tim Kendall, E. Blackman, MG & KM Nicholson, Dame Brenda Hale, Julian Farrand, Joy Millar, Domenic Tyrone Curran, Honora Barber, Michael & Julia Svennevig, Mavis Palfreman, Val & Mike Hook, Nicola Johnson, Ann Addinall, Malcolm & Joan Beer, Bill Lovett, Marie Lorimer, Dorothy Potter, Ian Mawson, Alan & Muriel Hoyle, Chloe Greenwood David & Jenny Paton-Williams, Pat White, P J Colley, Peter & Liv Hodge, Arlene Coulson, Stephen Wade, Hazel Waite, Lorna & Doug Christie, Christine Smith, Phil Woods, Helen Blakeley, Gavin & Joan Graveson, John & Judith Brickwood, Jennifer Chester, A. Wentworth, Mary & Mike Bell, Simon & Wanda Reynolds, Anne Cowan, Gordon & Diane Whitehead, A E. Wetherill, P Calow, Margaret Merlane, Josie Taylor, Sue Hutton-Squire, S White, Avril Gray, Sue Youdan, M & C Pinchin, Alison Wheeler, Amanda & Steve Cook, Peter & Marion Archer, M B Stevenson, Mr & Mrs N Graham, Ian Stalker, Betty Freeman, Marcia & Dennis McLuckie, Pauline Kilburn, Peter & Zoë Mort, Mary Buglass, Annette Clark, David Kirby, Kate Lawrence, Doug & Jane Waugh, M J Flux, Chris & Trish Brown, David Allan, Mary Stocks, Bryan & Janette Garbutt, Anne Scruton, Alan & Mary McDonald, Bev & Wendy Joicey, Moira Rutherford, Edward Welding, Nigel Hall, Fred & Margaret Dunn, Tony & Jenny Power, Paula Crapper, Peter Turner, Sally Reckert, Susan Eastham, Liz & Steve Bostock, Caroline Graham, Jennie Hancock, John & Julia Key, Anne Staniforth, Michael & Avrielle McCann, Allan Norfolk, Robert & Martina McClements, P J Parker, Patricia Kassel, Dave Dalton, David Crane, Anne Wilkie, C J Holden, Richard & Morven Lawson, Howard & Susan Crawshaw, Judith & Rodney Flint, Jane Metcalfe, Valerie Hirst, T R Lowes, Florence Bland, Ian & Kirsty Hallett, C & M. Stegman, Sophie Gore, A Christine Phillips, Margaret Hall, Grahame Laird, John Ward, Caroline Woodroffe, John & Tina McDonald, Derek & Sylvia Eccles, Peter F. Dean, Polly Whitehead, Jim & Sandra Stearn, Michael & Hazel Waldman, Roger Foster, Jean Richards, D & C Jeary, Marcia Howard, Jude & John Haslam, Andrew Maude, Mr & Mrs Train, Lindsay Trenholme, Mike & Kit Wherrett, Alan Hartley, Lynne Kerr, Derek Hopper, Meg Ramsbottom, Florence Whitelaw, Graham & Judith Barber, Judy Woodings, Mr & Mrs R Armstrong, Mavis Parry, Janice Quinn, Alan Harvey, Tim Wilcock, Ken Frame, Peter Harrison, Joan M Doyle, Ian & Susan Metcalfe, Roger & Rosalind Higson, J A Fox, Peter L Wood, Anne Golland, Michael Jones, Pamela Moffat, Anne & Philip Wicks, Liz Jackson, Arnold & Veronica, Robson, Mollie & David Squires, Catherine Bennett, Margaret Potter, Richard & Linda Harrison, Ann Rothenberger, David Portlock, Harry & Pam Wells, Rod & Nuala May, Anna & Peter Woolverton, Rod Kirk, Anne & Alan Miller, Dave Jenner, Rosemary Scott, Rosemary Peacock, Annabelle Pounder, Carol Morrison, Patricia Smith, Niki Torrance, Liz Robinson, Ted & Arlene Flexman, Anne Currie, Anthony & Sybil Pillar, Peter & Ann MacNamara, Colin A Wystyrk, Shirley Thubron, Gillian Larkman, P Jewitt, Jan Montgomery, Sue & Dave Stephenson, Nick Cole, Jennifer Claringbold, Joan Dodgson, Robin Brooks, J & J Gabriel, Barbara Barr Young, Pamela Kipling, Brett & Marilyn Roberts, Nick Read, Elva van den Bos, Colin Clark-Monks, Donald Gordon, Jean Ellison, Eva Middleton, David Noyes Jill Hicks, Stella Birch, Keith Merry, Andrew Bull, Jen Capewell, J Farrar, Marita Staite, Siobán Moore, Jean Addington, Wendy Patch, Marian Keay, Philip Welch, Upper Wensleydale Newsletter, Clifford Drama Group, Yorkshire Country Holidays, Jane Hatcher, John & Sue Appleton, Nick & Anne Kirk, Linda Drury, Hunton Pantomime, Lighthouse Theatre Co, David & Faye Doorbar, Tony Wells, Sue Holden, Hazel Woodcock, Tony James, John Stewart, Allan Jones, Marge McDonnell, Anne Stephenson, Anne Jellicoe, Patrick Barlow, Simon Corble.

North Country Theatre is a professional theatre company based in the beautiful market town of Richmond in North Yorkshire. Under the direction of its Artistic Director Nobby Dimon it has created many original new plays along with exciting adaptations of classic novels since it began in 1996. It has a special understanding of the nature of touring to a rural area as well as educational and site specific drama.

It is committed to giving exciting, entertaining and intelligent theatre to audiences whose access to live theatre is limited by geography or who simply enjoy sharing the experience of live theatre in their local community. We would like to express our gratitude to the local promoters, the majority of whom are unpaid, whose hard work allows us to visit their venues.

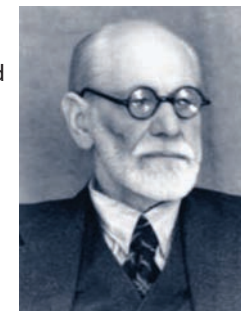
D H Lawrence and The Rocking Horse Winner

The name David Herbert Lawrence now stands with other respected names in the canon of English Literature but it was not always so in his lifetime. When he died of tuberculosis in 1930 many regarded him as little more than a pornographer who had wasted his literary talents.



Even today his fame rests partly on the controversy surrounding the censorship of *Lady Chatterley's Lover*. That association does him little justice. He was a very serious minded writer creating many novels, plays and poems, and if he often explored suppressed (and expressed) sexuality at a time when this was not thought suitable material for literature the world has caught up with him pretty

quickly. On the surface *The Rocking Horse Winner* is a satire on gambling and the obsession with money but Lawrence wrote when Freudian and Jungian ideas about the unconscious mind were newly in vogue and the short story has many elements that lend themselves to "Freudian" interpretation. There is however an oddity about the story, for



Sigmund Freud

what happens in it is absolutely supernatural. Lawrence does not leave room for it to be all rationalised away.

Why would North Country, best known for high adventure spoofs want to deal with this dark tale? Vivid memories of the 1949 film version which sacred the life out of me as a child must have something to do with it. *Nobby Dimon*

North Country Theatre's Rocking Horse



Tom Davies bought the rocking horse in 1977 at auction (it was not in good condition) as a Christmas present for his eldest

daughter Anna and his late wife Sally restored it. It was used by all three daughters in turn as they passed through their childhood and all three eventually became accomplished riders on the real ponies and horses which followed as they progressed to their teenage years. So the rocking horse triggered an extremely expensive but enjoyable hobby for all four females in his family and which provided piles of good quality manure for his vegetable garden! The use of it now is dedicated to the memory of Sally Davies, a lover of horses and a wonderful mother, and to those volunteers working for the Lymphoma Association.

CASTLE HILL BOOKSHOP

1 CASTLE HILL • RICHMOND • NORTH YORKSHIRE • DL10 4QP

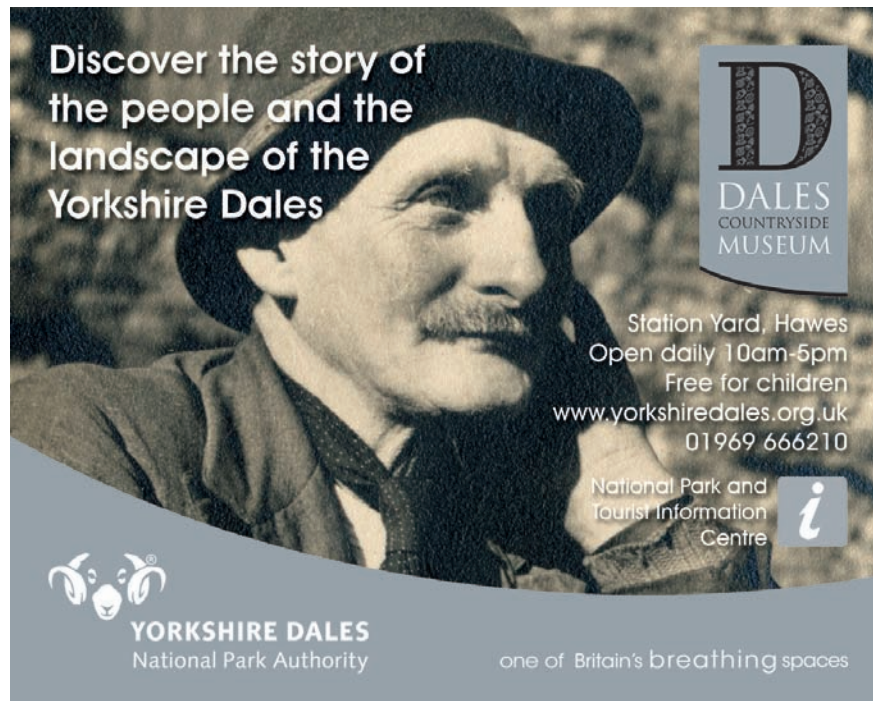
 castlehill@yorkshirebooks.com

YOUR LOCAL INDEPENDENT BOOKSELLER


24 hour order service  01748 824243

- Wide range of new books
- Free Out-of-Print book search • Naxos CDs
- Use our loyalty card and earn £10 of free books of your choice
- Friendly knowledgeable service on your doorstep
- Browse and order online, collect and pay instore


www.castlehillbookshop.co.uk




Discover the story of
the people and the
landscape of the
Yorkshire Dales

**DALES**
COUNTRYSIDE
MUSEUM

Station Yard, Hawes
Open daily 10am-5pm
Free for children
www.yorkshiredales.org.uk
01969 666210

National Park and
Tourist Information
Centre 

**YORKSHIRE DALES**
National Park Authority

one of Britain's breathing spaces

The Rocking Horse Winner

Adapted for the stage by the company from the short story by D H LAWRENCE
Written and directed by Nobby Dimon

Cast in order of appearance

Paul	Mark Cronfield
Dr. Langmann	Nobby Dimon
Hester	Victoria Brazier
Basset	Thomas Frere
Oscar Cresswell	Simon Kirk
Set Design	Simon Pell/Nobby Dimon
Stage Carpenter/Prop Maker	Malcolm Wood
Costume	Nicola Downing
Lighting Design	Thomas Weir
Music/SFX	Dave Harris
Video Projection	Tom Thursfield
Scene change music	Portico Quartet
Admin	Jacquie Wood/Gillian Howells

For Harrogate Theatre

Production Manager	Richard Bielby
Technical Manager	Maurice Stewart
Theatre Technician	Jonny Coulson
Theatre Technician	Lucy Elmer
Theatre Technician	Oliver Stables

Sponsored by Friends of North Country Theatre and thecitysecret.com

We'd like to thank the many people who support the company throughout the year along with those who have helped with this production: Tom Davies, Nancy Murgatroyd, Micky Hammond, Lindsay Trenholme, Alice Lawson, Richmond Operatic Society, Jennifer Thursfield, Influence Church, Mick Bannister, Richmond Motor Services, Brenda Hale, Julian Farrand, John Ward, Caroline Woodroffe, Liz Shaw, Jenny & Tony Power, Amanda & Steve Cook, Faye & David Doorbar, Geoff & Anne Wall, Tim & Hilary Kendall, Donald & Nina Cline, Susan Alexander, Lady Holden [bequest], Richmond Civic Society, Lorraine Clissold, Wilma Burniston, Liz Floyd, Mike Potter, Greville Worthington (Catterick Race Course), Ronnie Cassels, Marcia Howard and The Friends of North Country Theatre who have sponsored a 5th actor for this tour.

You need Friends... we need 'Friends of North Country Theatre'

The Friends of North Country Theatre are a wonderful group of supporters who pay an annual subscription of £20 per household. For this they get a newsletter and occasional invitations to special fundraising events. They are often invited to come to the opening night of a production and stay behind to see the set and meet the cast. Friends do an invaluable job for the company, and money raised by them is used to enhance the work produced by North Country Theatre, often enabling us to buy props, costumes or even commission work we would not otherwise be able to afford.

If you are interested in becoming a Friend please sign up at the Friends table tonight, contact Tim Kendall via email on Timkenda11@aol.com or fill in the form overleaf.

Nicola Downing *Costume designer*

Nicola trained at the London College of Fashion in Advance Craft Ladies Tailoring, Pattern Cutting & Design. She has worked at Covent Garden Opera House, Worcester Swan, The Royal Northampton, and Harrogate Theatre.

In 1981 she established her own design and tailoring workrooms in Harrogate which now encompasses work for theatres on a contract basis, cutting, making and wardrobe supervision.

Simon Pell *Scenic artist*

Simon trained at The Slade and worked as a Scenic Artist at the National Theatre before moving to County Durham in 1987. Since then has designed over 150 shows for a variety of companies, including; The Gala Theatre, Durham (resident designer 2006-10), Welfare State International, Durham Theatre Co, Cleveland Theatre Co, Promenade Promotions, and Jack Drum Arts. He is also Artistic Director of The Castle Players in Barnard Castle. He is delighted to be working for North Country Theatre again, this being the twelfth show he has designed for them since 1997.

Malcolm Wood *Stage carpenter*

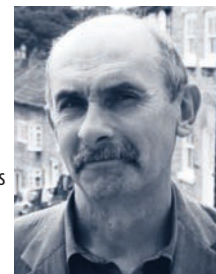
Malcolm Wood is a self employed joiner who has contributed design ideas and constructed sets for numerous North Country productions. His knowledge of early magicians and his experience of Punch and Judy are invaluable as is his knowledge of pin hinges, drill bits and "2 x 1". You can book "Professor" Wood's Punch and Judy Show with its beautiful hand carved traditional puppets for parties and events by contacting us.

Thomas Weir *Technician*

Thomas is working for a seventh time with North Country Theatre having previously worked on *The Imitation Game*, *The 39 Steps*, *The Man Who Would Be King*, *The Prisoner of Zenda*, *Home on the Range* and *Blood Wedding*. Thomas did a seven-year stint at the Octagon Theatre Bolton where he has designed both lighting and sound for numerous productions the most recent being *I Just Stopped By To See The Man* by Stephen Jeffreys. He has worked and designed with numerous theatrical companies and venues around the country. They include Belgrade Theatre, Buxton Opera House, Opera House Manchester, Everyman Theatre Liverpool and Pitlochry Festival Theatre amongst others.

Nobby Dimon

Has been the Artistic Director of North Country Theatre since it was founded in 1996. He has been writer adapter as well as director of most of the company's output since then, including acclaimed adaptations of J. L. Carr's *A Month in the Country*, Austen's *Northanger Abbey*, and Conan Doyle's *The Lost World*, as well as writing the large scale community play for Richmondshire *Last Dance of a Dalesman*, which moved its audience from gales of laughter to tears and back again. His adaptation with Simon Corble of Buchan's *The 39 Steps* inspired the West End Production that received an Olivier Award as BEST NEW COMEDY in February 2007. Described as "uproariously funny... strikingly inventive" in the Guardian, as well as the Critics' Choice it also won the People's Choice Award and the Broadway production won a couple of Tony Awards.



Victoria Brazier

Victoria played Princess Flavia and the comically pigtailed servant girl Heidi in North Country Theatre's *Prisoner of Zenda*. Her other theatre roles include Viola in *Twelfth Night* for Cottongrass Theatre, various roles in *French*



Fancies with Two Friends Productions, Helena in *All's Well That Ends Well* at Lancaster Castle and *Hobson's Choice* at The Royal Exchange. On television, she has appeared in *Land Girls*, *Doctors*, *Coronation Street*, *Boy A*, *Vincent* and *The Street*. She works regularly in radio drama; highlights include the title role in *Sophie* and Queen Elizabeth II herself in *Writing the Century*.

She recently recorded her first audiobook - *A Weekend with Mr Darcy*. Obviously she'd also like to dedicate her performance to the memory of her first pet...

Mark Cronfield

The Rocking Horse Winner is Mark's seventh appearance for North Country Theatre after last year's *Blood Wedding* in *Wensleydale*. He has previously worked with Theatre Hullabaloo, Proper Job, three over eden, Mad Alice and The National Theatre.



He currently lives in Bishopdale and is grateful to the Friends of North Country Theatre for supporting his employment in this production and putting Christmas Dinner on the table for his wife, children and Tiny Tim.

Thomas Frere

Thomas has been a regular for North Country Theatre since playing Hannay in the original version of *The 39 Steps* 15 years ago and has since appeared in many of the company's productions including *Moll Flanders*, *Mak the Sheepstealer*, *Egil Skallagrimsson* and *The Passion Plays* as well as directing *The Man who would be King*.



Elsewhere, he has performed in rep theatres around the country including seasons at Lancaster (*Comedy of Errors*, *Romeo and Juliet*, *Sleeping Beauty*); Bolton (*Christmas Carol*); West Yorkshire Playhouse (*Wind in the Willows*); York (*Tom Jones/Moll Flanders*); Southampton (*The Seduction of Anne Boleyn*); Ludlow Festival (*A Midsummer Night's Dream*) and Liverpool (*Candide*).

His knowledge of the geography of the British Isles has been vastly improved by extensive touring in shows such as *Charlie & the Chocolate Factory*, *Bittersweet*, *Tess of the D'Urbervilles*, *The Great Gatsby* and *Return to the Forbidden Planet*.

On television Thomas has as worked for the Discovery Channel, HTV and Nickelodeon, has appeared in *The Royal* for ITV and in the horror film *The Spell*.



Simon Kirk

One time thoroughbred, now put out to grass, Simon has appeared for North Country Theatre in *Egil Skallagrimsson Keeps his Head*, *Prisoner of Zenda*, *The Electrical Wizard of the North*, *The Man who would be King*, *The 39 Steps* and *Cartimandua*. He has toured extensively with, among others, Midsomer Actors, Heartbreak, Found Theatre and his own unnamed company performing plays he has written and directed on *Militant Suffragettes*, *The End of Slavery*, *The Roman Empire in Britain* and, most recently, *The Olympics!* Film and TV credits include *Emmerdale*, *Casualty*, *The Bill*, *Conviction*, *Mary Tudor*, *Kingdom* and a new, as yet unreleased, science fiction film. Simon is delighted to be back in North Yorkshire, where the going is always good to firm and the nosebag is excellent!

> Andy Thursfield donated the time he spent designing this programme in support of North Country Theatre. Apart from graphic design he tries to find time to paint ~ take a look at

www.andy-thursfield.com



PLEASE PRINT: TITLE, FORENAME AND SURNAME

ADDRESS

POSTCODE

TELEPHONE

FAX

EMAIL

I understand that this information will be held on a database exclusively for the use of North Country Theatre and the Friends Group

I should like to become a Member of the North Country Theatre Friends Group and enclose my annual subscription of £25 (per household)
Cheques payable to:
Friends of North Country Theatre
Return to:
Tim Kendall
Friends of North Country Theatre,
Old School House, Kirklington,
Bedale DL8 2NG

01845 567295

The Rocking Horse Winner

by D H Lawrence

TICKETS & INFORMATION FROM THESE LOCAL PROMOTERS, START TIMES VARY, PLEASE CHECK WITH VENUE



If you enjoyed this performance please tell your friends they can catch it these venues ➔

THE FUTURE

2012 will be a significant year for North Country Theatre as for the first time in years we will not have the support of regular funding from Arts Council England, so we are busy gathering a Host of Angels – individuals, families, businesses, charities, committees, councils etc – who will commit to giving at least £100 to North Country for the next three years.

With this support we plan to take *Egil Skallagrimson* on tour again in February and March, create some more labyrinths and educational work and in Autumn create a new production based on J S Fletcher's *Lighthouse on Shivering Sands*.

NORTH COUNTRY THEATRE

3 Rosemary Lane Richmond DL10 4DP

Tel: 01748 825288

Email: office@northcountrytheatre.com

www.northcountrytheatre.com

SEPTEMBER

Wed 21	Harrogate Theatre	HG1 1QF	01423 502116
Thu 22	Harrogate Theatre	HG1 1QF	01423 502116
Fri 23	Harrogate Theatre	HG1 1QF	01423 502116
Sat 24*	Harrogate Theatre	HG1 1QF *Matinee & evening	01423 502116
Tue 27	Richmond Georgian Theatre Royal	DL10 4DW	01748 825252
Wed 28	Richmond Georgian Theatre Royal	DL10 4DW	01748 825252
Thu 29	West Burton Village Hall	DL8 4JY	01969 663753
Fri 30	Barton on Humber Ropewalk	DN18 5JT	01652 660380

OCTOBER

Sat 1	Hutton Rudby Village Hall	TS15 0HP	01642 701744 / 701586
Tue 4	Marton cum Grafton Village Hall	YO51 9QY	01423 325179
Wed 5	Baldersby Park, Queen Mary School	YO7 3BZ	Private venue
Thu 6	Sawley Village Hall	HG4 3EQ	01765 620250
Fri 7	Otley Courthouse	LS21 3AN	www.ilkleyliteraturefestival.org.uk & 01943 467466
Sat 8	Otley Courthouse	LS21 3AN	www.ilkleyliteraturefestival.org.uk & 01943 467466
Tue 11	Torpenhow Village Hall	CA7 1HT	01697 371514
Wed 12	Bowness Old Laundry Theatre	LA23 3BT	www.oldlaundrytheatre.co.uk & 08445 040604
Thu 13	Catterick Village Memorial Hall	DL10 7LN	01748 811305
Fri 14	Hunton Village Hall	DL8 1QZ	07702 521410
Sat 15	Hambleton Forum	DL6 1LP	01609 772620 or Cover to Cover Books 01609 777729
Tue 18	Edgton Village Hall	SY8 7HN	01588 680302 / 672248
Wed 19	Eastwood Theatre, Eastwood Comprehensive School	NG16 3EA	01773 786212 extn.123
Thu 20	Barnard Castle, St Mary's Parish Church	DL12 8NQ	01833 637334
Fri 21	North Stainley Village Hall	HG4 3HT	01765 635467
Sat 22	Lanchester Community Centre	DH7 0JQ	01207 521275 & village newsgent
Tue 25	Kirkby Fleetham Village Hall	DL17 0TX	01609 748258
Wed 26	Wetherby Methodist Church Hall	LS22 6FG	www.wetherbyfestival.co.uk or 01423 359961
Thu 27	Sutton on the Forest, Grey Village Hall	YO61 1DP	01347 810206
Fri 28	Terrington Village Hall	YO60 6QB	01653 648249
Sat 29	Long Newton, The Wilson Centre	TS21 1DD	01642 583405

NOVEMBER

Tue 8	Gilling West Village Hall	DL10 5JG	tbc 01748 850158
Wed 9	Carlops Village Hall	DH26 9NF	01968 660388 / 660727
Thu 10	Peebles, Eastgate Theatre & Arts Centre	EH45 8AD	box office 01721 725777
Fri 11	Melrose, The Wynd Theatre	TD6 9LD	08432 898555 or www.redshedtickets.com
Sat 12	Melrose, The Wynd Theatre	TD6 9LD	08432 898555 or www.redshedtickets.com
Tue 15	Thornton le Beans Village Hall	DL6 3SL	01609 774458
Wed 16	Kirklington Village Hall	DL8 2NJ	01845 567295
Thu 17	Pocklington Arts Centre	YO42 2AR	01759 301547
Fri 18	Muncaster Parish Hall	CA18 1SQ	01229 717656
Sat 19	Gosforth Public Hall	CA20 1EL	01946 725700
Tue 22	Darley Village Memorial Hall	HG3 2RP	01423 781862 / 780673
Wed 23	Nayton Village Hall	YO7 4AZ	01845 537457
Thu 24	Glentworth Village Hall	DN21 5DF	01427 667118
Fri 25	Newton le Willows Village Hall	DL8 1SH	01677 450715
Sat 26	Helmsley Arts Centre	YO62 5DW	01439 717100
Tue 29	Grindelford, The Maynard	S32 2HE	Ann Atkinson 01433 631949
Wed 30	Husthwaite Village Hall	YO614PF	01347 868247

DECEMBER

Thu 1	Leyburn Methodist Church Hall	DL8 5AT	01748 825288
Fri 2	Yarm Fellowship Hall	TS15 9BU	01642 888786
Sat 3	Ingleby Greenhow Village Hall	TS9 6LX	01642 723492
Tue 6	Fearby Village Hall	HG4 4NF	01765 689409 / 01677 460244
Wed 7	Hawes Dales Countryside Museum	DL8 3NT	01969 666210
Thu 8	Settle Victoria Hall	BD24 9DZ	01729 825718
Fri 9	Clifford Village Hall	LS23 6HY	www.clifforddramagroup.org.uk 01937 530652
Sat 10	Reeth Memorial Hall	DL11 6QT	01748 884759