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I hope you are all enjoying the recent spell of good weather which, along with some heavy rain, has been a godsend for all the weeds in my garden at home! I am hoping that the long weekend for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee brings some warm, dry weather so that this "fair weather gardener" can make a start on chopping back them back!

It also looks as though summer has officially arrived as the heating at Church House has been turned off. More often than not, this is usually the sign for one more arctic blast before we can finally cast aside our jumpers, but fingers crossed that this is not the case this year!

The month of May has been a sad one for DAG in many ways. Firstly, at the beginning of May, **Sam (Helen) Grisedale** one of DAG's Trustees died after a long illness. A Trustee since 2019, Sam carried out her duties to the very best of her abilities and always acted in DAG's best interests. Then on Saturday 21st May, **Hilda Wray** died peacefully at Larpool Care Home. Hilda was an active volunteer for Whitby DAG from 2007, and became a Trustee

in 2015. We will miss them both very much and always be thankful for everything they did for DAG. On a personal note, I first met Hilda back in 2002 when I started working at Church House where she was a volunteer receptionist. Not only was Hilda an excellent Receptionist, she was an amazing character who always had a twinkle in her eye and a fascinating story to tell about her life and her many adventures.

Hilda's funeral will be at **1pm on Tuesday 7th June at Scarborough Crematorium**. The family are holding a celebration of her life at **Sneaton Castle from 3pm**. If any of her DAG friends would like to go to Sneaton Castle, but need transport, please get in touch with the DAG Office as we may be able to help.

May also saw **Lynne Lawson** depart to pastures new after three and a half years at DAG. We all wish Lynne the very best in her new job and she leaves us knowing that she has made a real difference to the lives of so many disabled people and she should be very proud of all the work she has done, whether running DAG's group activities or supporting people when they really needed it, by providing a listening ear, a friendly hug or just finding the time to offer a cup of tea and a natter.

The end of May also sees more change with the retirement of our Benefits Advisor **Mary Harland**, who came to DAG several years ago, firstly as a volunteer working alongside Mo and for the past three years in a paid role. Ever the professional, Mary worked tirelessly from home during the whole Covid 19 pandemic and she made a huge contribution to DAG's work. We will be recruiting in the next few weeks, and hope that we will be fortunate enough to

get people with similar qualities as Lynne and Mary.

On a different note, as the tourist season gets into full swing and more and more disabled people visit Whitby, our Mobility Equipment Hire Scheme gets incredibly busy.

Asa Jones has re-joined us for the summer, fresh from standing as a County Councillor, (coming a very creditable second) and subsequently joining Whitby Town Council as Councillor for the West Cliff Ward. Asa has already been inundated with mobility scooter and wheelchair bookings and having just a couple of **extra volunteers** to help run the scheme would make a massive difference to us. So please consider whether you can give a few hours a week of your time to help out. Volunteers are incredibly important to DAG and we would make sure that you get all the support you need to become a valued member of our team.

Until the next time

Ian

Spring Bank Holiday and **Platinum Jubilee Bank Holiday**

The DAG office and Mobility Equipment Hire Service will **close** for the **Bank Holiday/ Jubilee weekend at 4.30pm, Wednesday 1st June 2022**, and will **re-open** at **9am, Monday 6th June 2022**.

Any messages left on our answerphone or email during this period will be picked up when we return to work on Monday.

“Goodbye” and “Hello”

We’ve bid a fond farewell to **Lynne**, and welcomed **Asa** back to the DAG office. Let’s hear from them both.

A Message from Lynne

I am writing this on my last day at DAG, a day filled with mixed emotions for me. I am excited about starting my new job as Creative Learning Coordinator at **Arc** in Stockton but incredibly sad to leave DAG.

I started three and a half years ago as Creative Arts Project Worker. I’d just got back from visiting family in Canada, I was jet-lagged and nervous. But as soon as I got to the office I was made really welcome and settled in quickly. I started running the three creative arts groups in Whitby, Hinderwell and Staithes and helping out with the mobility hire. It soon became obvious that working for a small charity meant that you got a chance to do all sorts of other things, like coffee mornings, Dock End stalls, raffles, and Christmas lunches.

The next thing I was lucky enough to get asked to do was working with volunteers to try and improve access for disabled people. What started off as a small project to help local businesses make small changes has grown into our access group, made up of staff and volunteers. There are so many positive things to come from the group, perhaps the one I’m most pleased with is the **Changing Places** facility that will be built at the Marina carpark, thanks to **Peter at Wetwheels Yorkshire** for the amazing work he did on this project.





Obviously the biggest challenge came with the pandemic, the groups had to stop and the office closed. We worked so hard as a team to carry on supporting our Members and other disabled people in the Whitby area. In the first weeks, with my trusty co-worker **Rocky cat (pictured above)** by my side, I rang people to make sure they were okay and that they knew where to get food deliveries, prescriptions, support etc. **Zoom** was my next challenge, learning how to set up and run meetings, I'm not a huge technology fan but the weekly zoom groups were fun and a great way to keep in touch. We delivered '**summat to do**' packs, Christmas dinners, afternoon teas, and standing on the doorsteps seeing people and having a chat was wonderful. It is great that we are now meeting in person again, the groups are back together, trips are running and we have reconnected with so many people.

I'm incredibly grateful for my time working at Whitby DAG. It was one of the hardest decisions I have had to make to leave. I will miss my fabulous colleagues who I consider my friends and the wonderful people who have attended the groups and of course DAG members. Thank you all for the laughter, support and friendship especially over the last two years, I wouldn't have got through the pandemic without you. I am completely overwhelmed by the gifts, cards and messages wishing me good luck, I am truly grateful for it all. I will be coming back to help with fundraising and hopefully I will get an invite to the Christmas meal.

Until then take care of each other and thank you again from the bottom of my heart for the last three and a half years.

Lynne & Rocky Cat



Scooterboy (Asa) returns!

I'm back! That's right, they tried oh so very hard to get rid of me last December (and they nearly succeeded) but the relentless tide of tourists in need of some mobility scooter assistance has not ceased and DAG have begged desperately for my return!

I left DAG last December after completing my work looking at the accessibility of some of Whitby's most popular Guest Houses and B&Bs. Now I'm back, almost a year since I first joined you all, to once again make sure holiday makers and locals alike are unhindered in their enjoyment of our town. On top of that, I've taken over running the **Staites Knit & Knatter** group to run on Wednesdays and I can tell you I've already become a master of the knitting arts (expect a follow-up article once I get my first scarf completed!).

"But what have you been up to over the winter months, oh scooterboy?" I hear you ask.

Well in truth, the time away from work has proved invaluable to me as I've been able to commit all my energy on one of my great interests: **Local Politics**.

Shortly after leaving DAG last year, I decided to stand in the election to the new Unitary Authority. It was a decision I made as a result of my experiences growing up and working in Whitby.



There's an abundance of low-pay and seasonal employment (no I don't mean DAG) but few worthwhile jobs which someone could actually support their family on. People are also really struggling to get onto the local housing market, let alone rent anywhere in Whitby. When you add into the scenario how much the social care sector is struggling and how much public transport has declined and become expensive, it becomes quite clear why our communities are in a state of decline and really struggling.

As I put in my election material "Whitby is facing a crisis!". It can't be denied that people are being forced out of town in search of decent jobs and affordable housing, especially young people, and I wanted to at least try and do something about it. So I became the Labour candidate for the ward of Whitby West.

Spoiler alert... I didn't win. But after several months of leafleting and talking to hundreds of people going door-to-door I was very pleased to come second place with 470 votes and I will continue to try and help, as a representative on Whitby Town Council, Whitby become a place where working class people can afford to live.

So for the time being, its back to work for me. I've no doubt you'll see me riding around town at some point on one of our many scooters or perhaps even on my bicycle as I've taken up cycling along the Cindertrack at least once a week as well as cycling into work most days. **Here's hoping we have a very busy summer season,** with plenty of scooters **that need driving all over the place.** But for now...

Scooterboy out.

MEMBERSHIP & ACTIVITIES

If you would like to become a DAG Member, please contact us at the office.

CHAT & CRAFT

Our Chat and Craft groups in Hinderwell (Village Hall) and Staithes (Memorial Village Hall) meet on Wednesdays.



These are friendly, relaxed groups, and we always have a cuppa and a biccie. Bring some knitting, crocheting or other project to do and have a really good natter.

If you want to come along, please get in touch with us at the DAG office.

OUTINGS



Thursday 9th June - **Wetwheels Yorkshire Trip**

There are still a couple of places available for our **2pm trip** on the **Wetwheels Yorkshire power boat.**

For more information or to book a place, please ring on 01947 821001. **Closing date - Monday 4th June.**

£10.00 for DAG Members, £15.00 for non-members, which includes transport to the boat if needed. Payment required on booking to secure your place.

Tuesday 21st June: Thornton-le-Dale



Places still available. Contact the DAG office by 14th June.

Transport: **£9 DAG Members, £11 Non Members**



Friday 8th July: Helmsley Market Day

Departing Whitby between 10am—11am. **Transport £13.00 for DAG members, £15 for non-members.**

If you wish to go to the Walled Gardens the entrance fee is **£9.00**. Carers accompanying a disabled person do not need to purchase ticket.

Wednesday 20th July: Burnby Hall Gardens and Museum



We aim to get there around 12noon

Transport £13.50 for DAG members, £15.50 for non-members.

Entrance to gardens and museum £7.50 (£6.55 for over 60s).

Fundraising For DAG

We are getting set for a summer of fundraising for DAG, so put the dates in your diary.



DOMINO DRIVE
Tuesday 28th June
at the **White Hart, Mickleby.**
Starting at **8pm**

Organised by DAG Member Ian Lawson. Players are asked to bring a raffle prize. **The entry cost per person is £2.00.** Light refreshments provided.



Organised by DAG supporter, **Caroline Davies.**

There will be a raffle, stalls and old school fete games. Entry is free. **Donations of raffle and tombola prizes, cakes and bakes to the DAG office.**

**Saturday 27th
August, 10am-4pm**

DAG Annual Fundraiser

Come and visit our stall at Dock End (opposite Oxfam/ Specsavers), where we will have a **Super Tombola** and a **Cakes/ Preserves Stall**.



Contact the DAG office if **you can help on the day**, donate a **tombola prize** (for adults or children) or make a **cake or preserves**.



On **Sunday 11th September 2022**, **Bev Crisp** will be competing in the **Great North Run** to raise money for DAG.

Bev (pictured left with granddaughter **Edith**), is DAG Manager, Ian Peck's partner. Since her late teens, Bev has completed the half marathon

12 times. The picture shows her with Edith, then aged 4yrs, after completing the children's run together in 2019.

Details of how to sponsor Bev, including online options will be included in our July newsletter and on the DAG Facebook page.



Whitby, Scarborough & Ryedale DAG is one of this year's nominated causes for the Co-op Local Community Fund.

So, **between now and October 2022**, we would love as many Co-op Members as possible to **choose Whitby DAG** when you shop at **Whitby Co-op** or purchase **Co-op Funeral Care services (Well Close Square)**.

For every £1.00 Co-op Members spend on selected Co-op branded products and services, 2p will go into your membership account. The same amount will support community organisations and local causes like DAG. To collect rewards and contribute to your cause, you must swipe or scan your Co-op membership card when you shop.

DAG has a dedicated page on the Co-op membership website. This explains who we are and what we do.

<https://membership.coop.co.uk/causes/61181>

If you aren't already a Co-op member and would like to support Whitby DAG, **this link** also takes you to the **membership registration**.

Thank you for your support.

VOLUNTEER



Help the work of DAG by Volunteering with us.

DAG could not support so many people without the help of our wonderful Volunteers.

We would love some more to join us. So, if you have skills to share and time to spare, or would like the opportunity to learn something new, please have a look at the roles below.

Personal Assistant on bus trips – helping people on and off the bus, getting them seated comfortably etc.

Companion on Trips – supporting one person, maybe pushing their wheelchair, for a whole trip.

Delivering Mobility Equipment – during the summer we need help to deliver mobility scooters and wheelchairs, either riding the scooters to and from the holiday home or delivering them in our wheelchair accessible car.

Admin Support – office based and working from home

Fundraising – Organising fundraising events and volunteers to help out.

Agreed out of pocket expenses paid. On the job training provided. DBS checks required for some roles.

If you are interested in any of these roles, or have another role in mind, please contact **the DAG office** on **01947 821001** or Email info@whitbydag.org.uk

Do you support a family member or friend?

*Staithe Surgery Patient Participation Group
are supporting National Carers Week 2022*

join us

for coffee, cake and a chat
on Wednesday 8th June from 2pm
at Staithe Club, Seaton Cres, Staithe

Refreshments

Activities

Tai chi

Support organisations

Free prize draw

*Information about -
How your surgery supports you
Staying healthy
Your rights as a carer
Accessing benefits
Getting a break
Support groups + activities*



Carers Week

The event is particularly for carers who are
registered patients at

Staithe, Danby and Egton Surgeries

June's Flower: Wild Rose by Janet Fife

Scientific name: Rosa canina (literally 'dog rose')

Common names: dog rose, dog berry, witches' briar, briar rose, eglantine, cat-rose, cock-bramble, hip-rose and pig-rose.

Our native wild rose got its name from its **fang-shaped thorns**; the Roman writer Pliny thought the roots could be used to treat the bite of a wild dog. The field rose (*Rosa arvensis*) is very similar but lower growing, and it's flowers are always white.

Roses are the national flower of England.



The red hips (fruit) have 20 times the Vitamin C of orange juice and can be made into a syrup. During WW2 some 2000 tons were picked as a diet supplement. The hips are also called **itchy-coos**, because the seeds are coated with fine hairs that make an itching powder.

In ancient Greece and Rome the rose was a symbol of **secrecy**. A rose hung from the ceiling of a room indicated all discussion was confidential. A rose used to be carved into a confessional for the same reason. The term 'sub rosa' still means 'secret'.

Roses feature strongly in vampire folklore. In *Dracula*, a branch of the wild rose placed in or on the coffin of a vampire prevented them from rising out of the grave. **Vampires may hate roses, but bees love them!**





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for Voluntary Service

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Support
- Day Services
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- Dementia Specialist Nurse

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George Armitage House
Church Lane
Burton Leonard
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How to contact us :

-  www.dementiaforward.org.uk
-  info@dementiaforward.org.uk
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Please enjoy using me as a bookmark
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Registered Charity No 1148225



FARMERS' BREAKFAST

Caring Together
Whitby & District

Lythe Village Hall ,10.15 - 12.15 (ish)

Cuppa, conversation, memories and a bacon buttie

Wednesday June 1st - **Kerry Fieldhouse** - the flora and fauna along the North Yorkshire Moors Railway

Advance booking required. Call Rural Activities Coordinator, **Isabelle Harrison** on:-

M: **07811 638504** T: **01947 605 757**,
E: isabelleryedalecarers@gmail.com

Caring Together is a local voluntary organisation and registered charity providing practical and emotional help for carers, the people they care for and older people living on their own. For details please phone **01947 605757**.

Trinity

activities
talks and demonstrations
celebration events

Registered Charity 1164415

Social activity centre for older people in Whitby and surrounding district

Mondays, Wednesdays & Fridays
11.30am-2.30pm

Trinity Centre, Flowergate, Whitby, YO21 3BA
T: **01947 601548**; E: info@trinitycentrewhitby.org

Scarborough & District CAB

Contact Details

Website: www.scarcab.org.uk
Online Advisor: citizensadvice.org.uk/chat
Tel: 0808 278 7889 (Mon-Fri 9am-5pm)
Email: info@scarcab.cabnet.org.uk
Relay UK: 18001 0800 144 8884

Contact DAG to be referred directly to Scarborough CAB for general enquiries and their money, welfare benefits and debt advice service.

A blue circular logo with a white speech bubble shape inside. The text "citizens advice" is written in white, with "citizens" on the top line and "advice" on the bottom line.

citizens
advice



Dalewood Trust supports adults with learning disabilities providing leisure activities, adult education, volunteering and work experience.

They also provide services for the wider community in the Whitby area – **Shopping, Laundry, Meals on Wheels** and **Afternoon Teas**.

For more information and to arrange services

Tel: 01947 600583

Email: info@dalewoodtrust.org

Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/DalewoodTrust/>

Make your donations to DAG go further through

- **Gift Aid (if you are a UK Taxpayer)**
- **Give as You Live**
- **Leaving a Financial Gift in your Will**
- **Amazon Smile**
- **LocalGiving**
- **Easy Fundraising**

**Please support Whitby DAG by
nominating us for the Co-op Local
Community Fun 2021-22**



Contact the DAG office for more details.



The Computer Centre

Repairing Whitby's computers for over
15 Years

Sales & Repairs

Computers, Laptops, Tablets & Phones

E: sales@apc4me.co.uk W: www.apc4me.co.uk

Visit: Unit G1B St Hilda's Business Centre, The Ropery

T: (01947) 605859

- Have you changed your address?
- Would you like your details to be added to/ removed from our newsletter mailing list?
- Do you have any articles, stories, items wanted/ for sale or information you would like to be included in our newsletter?



Send the details to the DAG office by the 20th of each month.

DON'T FORGET - you can get a PDF version of your newsletter by e-mail. It gets to you more quickly and saves on paper, printing & postage costs for us!

Find us at Church House Centre, Flowergate, WHITBY, YO21 3BA Mon, Tues & Thurs 9am-5pm; Fri 9am-4.30pm

Telephone: 01947 821001 Email: info@whitbydag.org.uk
Website: www.whitbydag.org.uk

Mobility Equipment Hire has re-opened. All enquiries should be via the DAG office.

Reg. Charity No: 1131037
Company Reg: No: 6956837



Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of the information in this newsletter. However, Whitby, Scarborough & Ryedale DAG can accept no liability whatsoever for any matters in any way connected or arising out of use of this information. No recommendation is implied by the insertion of such information.