MUSIC, ARTS & WALKING IN THE YORKSHIRE DALES

SAT 23 MAY - SAT 6 JUNE 2026

SWALEDALE FESTIVAL












LOTTERY FUNDED

Supported using public funding by
ARTS COUNCIL ENGLAND

www.swalefest.org

Welcome to the 2026 Swaledale Festival

A unique creative gathering, held in the hills and dales, doing us all good...

This is your warm invitation to this year's Swaledale Festival – a celebration of music, creativity and walking held in the stunning hills and dales of North Yorkshire.

Over 15 days we present a kaleidoscope of wonderful music, alongside compelling visual art, intriguing film and literature, varied hands-on opportunities to get creative, and a wealth of guided walks exploring rich local scenery and stories.

Our Festival invites and welcomes people and influences from far and wide - while it's locally rooted and could only happen here. Venues include beguiling churches, intimate arts centres, homely village halls – and of course the great outdoors. Dales-based, international, and young artists create and collaborate on our stages. People from near and far explore and enjoy nourishing good things. All are drawn by the thrill of shared memorable happenings and discoveries.

You hear and feel things differently when you're in a centuries-old space, witnessing people performing or presenting with a full heart and a lifetime's skill. When you've journeyed there (or walked earlier in the day) through breathtaking landscapes. When fellow listeners are both devoted and playful. When much-loved classics combine with brand-new things made especially for here and now. When fresh experiences bring fun or revelation. And when the timeless music of birdsong and rivers mingles with the sounds of countless artists who choose to make their music here too.

The Festival is made for you and by you, in this special and joyful place. Come and be here among the late-spring wildflowers, and find your own magical moments in this creative gathering like no other.

SWALEDALE FESTIVAL



Festival Patrons



Kadiatu Kanneh-Mason



Ronnie Archer-Morgan

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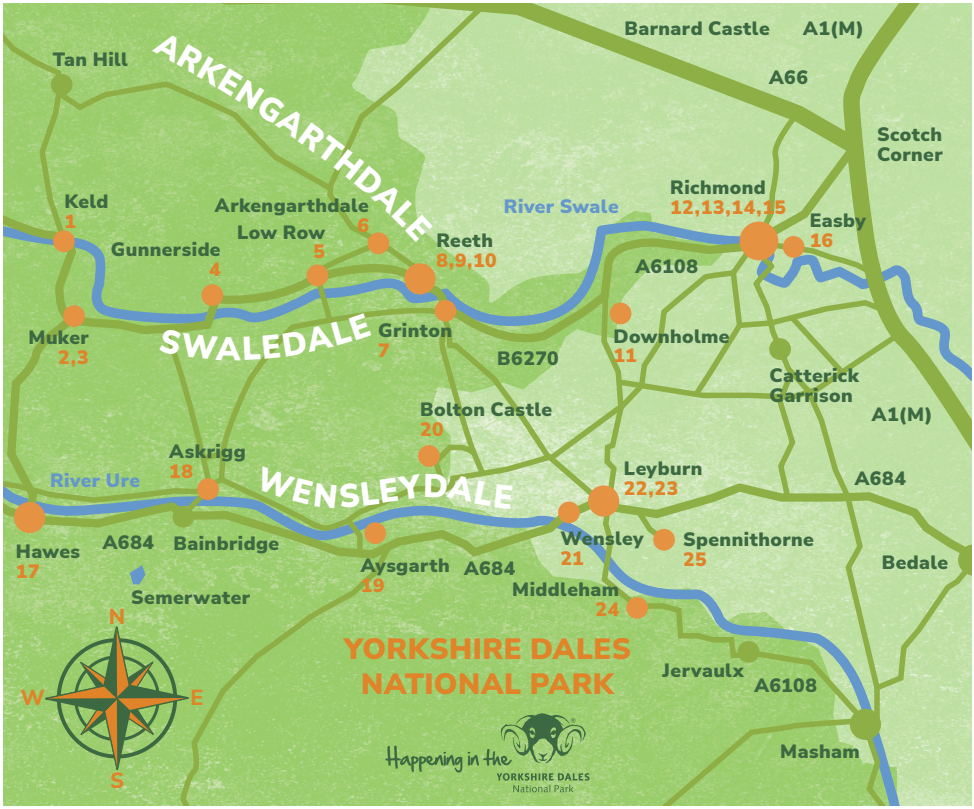
Friends priority booking opens Monday 2 February

Public booking opens Monday 16 February

Watch the Festival come to life on social media:

@swalefest **@swaledalefestival**

PLACES OF THE FESTIVAL



1 Keld Heritage Centre
DL11 6LJ

2 Muker Public Hall
DL11 6QQ

3 Muker, St Mary's Church
DL11 6QG

4 Gunnerside Village Hall
DL11 6LE

5 Low Row, Holy Trinity Church
DL11 6PG

6 Arkengarthdale, St Mary's Church
DL11 6RG

7 Grinton, St Andrew's Church
DL11 6HL

8 Reeth Congregational Church
DL11 6TE

9 Reeth Memorial Hall
DL11 6QT

10 Reeth, Hudson House Gallery
DL11 6TB

11 Downholme, St Michael & All Angels' Church DL11 6AD

12 Richmond, Georgian Theatre Royal
DL10 4DW

13 Richmond, Influence Church
DL10 4AS

14 Richmond, St Mary's Church
DL10 7AQ

15 Richmond, The Station
DL10 4LD

16 Easby, St Agatha's Church
DL10 7EU

17 Hawes, Dales Countryside Museum
DL8 3NT

18 Askrigg, St Oswald's Church
DL8 3HT

19 Aysgarth, St Andrew's Church
DL8 3SR

20 Bolton Castle
DL8 4ET

21 Wensley Village Hall
DL8 4HJ

22 Leyburn Arts Centre
DL8 5DL

23 Leyburn, The Garden Rooms at Tennants DL8 5SG

24 Middleham, St Mary & St Alkelda's Church DL8 4PQ

25 Spennithorne, St Michael and All Angels' Church DL8 5PR

Key: = Level access = Wheelchair-accessible toilet = Hearing loop

Excludes Guided Walk starting points

SATURDAY 23 MAY

11.30am–12.30pm | Reeth Congregational Church | Event 1

"Our trip to Marske" - a family musical adventure

Enjoy a new take on a century-old poem in this musical adventure for all the family.

Hop in a horse-drawn wagon and recreate Annas and Aggie's 1914 Sunday School outing from Muker to Marske. Hear a surprise guest read a century-old poem written by Annas's uncle Jack, sing along to local songs, and discover folk tunes from the Dales.

The concert is devised and performed by violinist Joanna Lawrence (Annas and Aggie were her grandmothers!) and Susanna Pell, viola da gamba.

Adult £10 | Under-25 £3



This afternoon in the heart of Reeth we present a series of four fascinating short talks by local people, giving snapshots of how various aspects of local life shift through the seasons.

12noon–12.30pm | Reeth Memorial Hall | Event 3

Talk: Swaledale and Arkengarthdale Archaeology Group

1–1.30pm | Reeth Memorial Hall | Event 4

Talk: Land Management

2–2.30pm | Reeth Memorial Hall | Event 5

Talk: Swaledale Mountain Rescue

3–3.30pm | Reeth Memorial Hall | Event 6

Talk: Sustainable Swaledale

Each talk: Adult £5 | Under-25 £3

Angel: Information Centre and Shop at Hudson House



© Scenicview Gallery



© Swaledale MRT



© Scenicview Gallery



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11.30am–1.30pm | Reeth Green | Event 2

3–5pm | Reeth Green | Event 7

Guided Walk: Reeth Circular

A gentle three-mile walk from Reeth through spectacular scenery to the iconic Swing Bridge over the River Swale, returning via Grinton. A delightful introduction to the Dales, led by experienced walkers Gavin Young and Charles Collinson.

Adult £12 | Under-25 £3

SATURDAY 23 MAY

3.30–4.15pm | Reeth Congregational Church | Event 8

Ian Anderson and Friends

A special afternoon musical gathering in the company of singer and guitarist Ian Anderson and friends.

Adult £8 | Under-25 £3





5–6pm | Reeth Memorial Hall | Event 9

A Concert Party with Marske Choir

The premiere of a specially commissioned film that explores Swaledale's cultural life past and present, created by Marske Choir and the local community, including a live performance that will bring some surprises...

Adult £8 | Under-25 £3

7.30–9.30pm | Grinton, St Andrew's Church | Event 10

Braimah Kanneh-Mason and Plínio Fernandes

Exciting violinist Braimah Kanneh-Mason (from the renowned Kanneh-Mason musical family) lights up the Festival in a lively collaboration with virtuoso Brazilian guitarist Plínio Fernandes, a Classic FM Rising Star. Come and enjoy a dynamic opening evening of high-energy music-making.

Adult £25 | Under-25 £3

Angel: Bridget Garvin

Before the evening concert, why not enjoy a three-course supper at the renowned Two Dales Bakery in Reeth? 5–7pm, £35 per person. Find full details on our website. To book, email hello@twodalesbakery.co.uk.



© Richard Maude

SUNDAY 24 MAY

10.30am–1pm | Gunnerside Village Hall | Event 11

Take Part: Sound Meadow

All together now! Join this special outdoor music workshop with renowned composer James Weeks in the wildflower meadows of Gunnerside. Get ready to sing and make music, immersed in the soundscape of the natural world. A grounding, inspiring morning workshop. Everyone is welcome.

Tickets £25

Angel: A Festival well-wisher



© Scenicview Gallery



© Scenicview Gallery

11am–1pm | Bolton Castle car park | Event 12

Curlew Safari

A trip through the stunning Bolton Estate at the peak of the breeding season, getting up close with incredible wildlife. We will explore both upland and lowland terrain in 4x4 vehicles, hearing about the estate's work to conserve curlew, golden plover, little owl, merlin, and osprey, among others. Binoculars and walking boots are recommended.

Adult £15 | Under-25 £3

Angels: Frances Cole and Judith Hooper

1–5pm | Reeth Green | Event 13

Guided Walk: Calver Hill Circular

A 6-mile walk led by Helen Guy from Keld Heritage Centre, casting light on local geology, archaeology, and history. Featuring panoramic views of Swaledale and Arkengarthdale, a moorland walk to Healaugh past Thiernswood, a former shooting lodge, and a descent to the River Swale following the old Corpse Way to Grinton. Moderate difficulty with one steep climb up Calver Hill.

Adult £12 | Under-25 £3



© Scenicview Gallery

SUNDAY 24 MAY



3.30–4.30pm | Muker Public Hall | Event 14

Muker Silver Band

At the heart of the Festival as always, and with inspirational new bandmaster Allan Guy, the band presents an afternoon of music to uplift and excite.

Adult £12 | Under-25 £3

Angels: Richard and Sheila Good



7.30–9.30pm | Grinton, St Andrew's Church | Event 15

SYSTIR

The ethereal sound of Systir – meaning "sister" in Icelandic – bridges old and new, telling timeless stories in captivating new ways. They perform original songs and arrangements alongside works by the 11th-century abbess Hildegard of Bingen and contemporary artists such as Janelle Monáe and Kate Bush. The Festival proudly presents their debut UK performance! Don't miss experiencing these extraordinary voices in a spine-tingling live event.

Adult £25 | Under-25 £3

Angel: Carole Sobkowiak

MONDAY 25 MAY

10.30am–1.30pm |
Keld Heritage Centre | Event 16

Workshop: Art Journalling

Explore the fascinating process of art journalling, inspired by the natural world, with the gentle expert guidance of North East artist and designer Steve Pardue, in the serene updale setting of Keld Heritage Centre.

Tickets £40

Angels: Frances Cole and Judith Hooper





© Greg Marshall

10.30am–2.30pm | Reeth Green | Event 17

Guided Walk: High Fremington via Marrick Priory

A 6-mile walk led by Clive Herdman, including a visit to Marrick Priory at 11.15 for light refreshments and a talk about their work providing outdoor adventure activities within a 12th-century setting. The walk returns to Reeth via High Fremington and fields in Arkengarthdale. Easy terrain on paths and through fields. Dogs are not allowed on this walk.

Adult £12 | Under-25 £3

3.30–5pm | Bolton Castle | Event 18

Leyburn Band at Bolton Castle

A special Festival occasion as the award-winning Leyburn Band performs in the stunning surrounds of Bolton Castle, with a selection of greatest hits and classic brass-band favourites that will delight all ages. Bring a picnic and enjoy an afternoon of family-friendly music on the castle lawns!

Please see our website for notes on the weather at outdoor Festival events.

Adult £15 | Under-25 £3



© Gareth Buddo



© Gareth Barton

7.30–9.30pm | Aysgarth, St Andrew's Church | Event 19

The Lark Ascending: Fenella Humphreys and Martin Roscoe

Two captivating artists play in the heart of Wensleydale: the spellbinding violinist Fenella Humphreys and the consummate pianist Martin Roscoe. Classic FM Hall of Fame favourite The Lark Ascending paints a beautiful picture of a lark taking flight, soaring in your imagination. It's combined with music that reflects the season, including Beethoven's Spring Sonata and Lili Boulanger's lush "On a spring morning". Plus we feature the folksy, atmospheric music of Sally Beamish in her 70th birthday year. A bewitching evening of uplifting music and musicians.

> "They managed to relish the big acoustic whilst also creating the intimacy of a chamber recital ... this was music where you think your heart might break from simple happiness"
>
> Jane Shuttleworth, Music in Durham

Adult £25 | Under-25 £3

Presented in partnership with Wensleydale Concert Series

Angels: Charles Collinson and Eleanor Weetch

TUESDAY 26 MAY



© Greg Marshall

10.30am–1.30pm | Richmond, Fosse car park | Event 20

Guided Walk: Save Our Swale

A circular 4-mile walk led by Brian Benson from Save Our Swale, a volunteer group that monitors water quality and invertebrate health. There will be several stops to discuss issues of pollution, Richmond's rich history, and the town's relationship with the river. The walk will pass by Easby Abbey, following established tracks and going through woodland and pasture. Dogs on leads are welcome. There is no lunch stop on this walk.

Adult £12 | Under-25 £3

1.30–2.30pm | Askrigg, St Oswald's Church | Event 21

4–5pm | Downholme, St Michael & All Angels' Church | Event 23

Intesa Duo

Music that blurs the lines between folk, baroque and the contemporary, with this unique duo whose heritage spans Italy and Armenia. Playing viols (the mellow ancestor of the cello) and entwined with singing, they perform two intimate, time-travelling concerts: firstly in Askrigg's iconic church in upper Wensleydale, and later in the enchanting hillside church at Downholme.

Adult £16 | Under-25 £3

Angels: Pauline Oldershaw in memory of Tony Oldershaw (Askrigg); Sue Miller (Downholme)



© Musician's Photographer



3–5pm | A684 car park just east of West Witton | Event 22

Guided Walk: Bolton Estate

Join Tom, 9th Lord Bolton, for a guided walk through some beautiful scenery in the valley, including the historic landscape around Bolton Hall. Discover how thoughtful estate management is helping to enhance and reconnect a swathe of wildlife-rich habitat through the middle of the estate.

Adult £12 | Under-25 £3



© Scenicview Gallery

7.30–9.30pm | Richmond, St Mary's Church | Event 24

Jonny Bruce: The Golden Age of Swing

We welcome renowned trumpeter Jonny Bruce – celebrated for his fiery playing and magnetic stage presence – back to the Festival after his acclaimed 2025 appearance with Moscow Drug Club. Leading his hard-swinging quintet, Jonny brings a high-energy take on the Great American Songbook, blending Duke Ellington-inspired swing with verve, sophistication, and irresistible jazz.

Adult £22 | Under-25 £3

Presented in partnership with Leyburn Jazz Festival



WEDNESDAY 27 MAY



11am–12noon | Richmond, Georgian Theatre Royal | Event 25

The Wildlife Year: How to Reconnect with Nature Through the Seasons

Bestselling author and columnist Sally Coulthard has spent over two decades writing about her favourite things - nature, history, and craft. This morning includes conversation and readings from her books, inspiring readers to connect with nature through the changing seasons. After the event, join Sally in the theatre bar for coffee and chat.

Adult £15 | Under-25 £3

Book Event 25 tickets directly with the theatre: www.georgiantheatreroyal.co.uk

Presented in partnership with Richmond Walking and Book Festival

Angels: Elizabeth and Andrew Bedford

1.30–5.30pm | Richmond, Round Howe car park | Event 26

Guided Walk: Nature and Flowers in Swaledale

A moderate 5-mile walk led by Naomi Meredith and members of Yoredale Natural History Society, over tracks, woodland and pasture. The walk includes Whitcliffe Woods and Low Applegarth, and will return along the river Swale. No dogs please.

Adult £12 | Under-25 £3



© Scenicview Gallery



2.30–3.30pm | Richmond, Georgian Theatre Royal | Event 27

All-Age Musical Seasons Safari

Eleanor Grant, soloist in Avatar Live In Concert in Europe and Asia, is one of four brilliant musicians presenting this sparkling afternoon of music for all ages, exploring the magic of the seasons through excerpts of Vivaldi's Four Seasons and other music.

Interwoven with poetry by local people, this playful concert invites audiences of all ages to experience the joy of live performance. Perfect for younger listeners and their grown-ups!

Adult £10 | Under-25 £3

Book Event 27 tickets directly with the theatre: www.georgiantheatreroyal.co.uk

Angel: Meryl Austin



7.30–9.30pm | Richmond, Influence Church | Event 28

Vivaldi's The Four Seasons

A classic evening of Vivaldi's famous and much-loved music played in a fresh new version by four outstanding instrumentalists, including a virtuoso percussion part for Festival favourite Delia Stevens. The concertos are combined with other music that charts the changing seasons, including some surprises. An enchanting evening at the much-loved Influence Church.

Valerie Barr ACCORDION
Eleanor Grant DOUBLE BASS
Fenella Humphreys VIOLIN
Delia Stevens PERCUSSION

VIVALDI, ARR. HUMPHREYS The Four Seasons, and other music



© Matthew Johnso

Adult £25 | Under-25 £3

Presented in partnership with Richmondshire Concerts

Angels: Geoffrey and Anne Hope

THURSDAY 28 MAY



11am–12.15pm | Reeth Bridge | Event 30

1–2.15pm | Reeth Bridge | Event 31

Playing in the Trees

Starry percussionist and composer Delia Stevens leads a unique exploration in which nature becomes the orchestra. In this immersive experience, Delia and forestry expert Chris Curry guide a small adventurous group through the intriguing Intake Wood, revealing its hidden percussive qualities and inviting you too to "play the trees". The event involves a couple of miles of walking, including some on sloping ground.

Adult £15 | Under-25 £3

Angels: Maria and Paul Laybourn (11am); Adam Nichols (1pm)

10.30am–12noon | Leyburn Arts Centre | Event 29

1–2.30pm | Leyburn Arts Centre | Event 32

Film: Van Gogh: Poets and Lovers

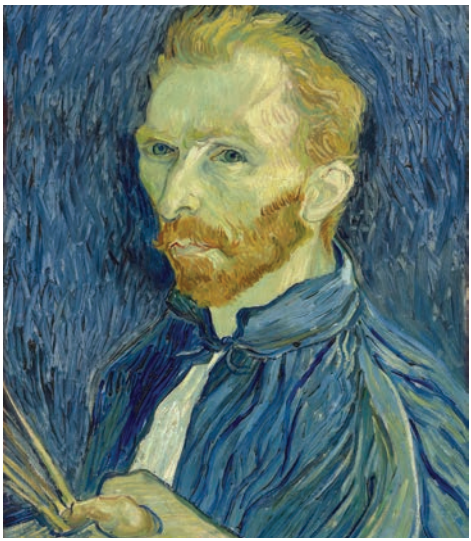
The UK's largest-ever Van Gogh exhibition was universally praised and described by Forbes as "once-in-a-lifetime". Director David Bickerstaff's remarkable film explores the passion that drove one of the world's most beloved artists to transform art forever. Using Van Gogh's revealing letters, it celebrates his genius, offering a fresh, intimate perspective on his life and work.

"This Van Gogh blockbuster is simply stellar... the exhibition of the year"

Evening Standard

Adult £10 | Under-25 £3

Angels: Rosi Keatinge and an anonymous Festival well-wisher





3.30–4.30pm | Arkengarthdale, St Mary's Church | Event 33

Eleanor & Gus: Seasons in Time

Eleanor Grant (vocals, double bass) and Gus McQuade (guitar) are passionate about showcasing music in its broadest sense. Genres dissolve and we see the unifying thread behind all music, as they move effortlessly from John Dowland to Joni Mitchell and beyond. Don't miss these two rising stars lighting up the music scene.

Adult £16 | Under-25 £3

Angels: Amanda and Ian Robinson



© African Product

7.30–9.30pm | Grinton, St Andrew's Church | Event 34

The Future is Ancestral

Experience the artistry of Suntou Susso: singer, percussionist, and master of the kora, West Africa's 22-string harp that has carried the soul of Mandinka culture for centuries.

Born into a revered Gambian griot lineage of storytellers and peacekeepers, Suntou stands as both guardian and innovator, blending ancestral rhythms with fresh contemporary expression. Touring songs from his acclaimed new album, he explores themes of heritage, unity, and belonging with heart and thrilling skill.

"Suntou's playing summons the sunshine – guaranteed to brighten any stage"
Bristol Folk Festival

Adult £22 | Under-25 £3

Angels: Brian and Barbara Randall

FRIDAY 29 MAY



10am–2pm | Marske Bridge | Event 35

Guided Walk: Tales from Marske – from Archbishops to Motorcycles

A 5-mile walk around Marske valley led by historian Stephen Clark. Highlights include Marske's three archbishops, the history of Swaledale estates, and stories of trophies and silverware. The walk will be on footpaths, tracks and minor roads. Parking is limited so please car-share if you can. Dogs on leads are welcome.

Adult £12 | Under-25 £3

10.30am–4.30pm | Gunnerside Village Hall | Event 36

Plein-Air Painting Workshop: Life in the Meadow

In this full-day workshop, painters are invited to capture the inspirational sound and movement of world-renowned violinist Fenella Humphreys as she plays live in the breathtaking wildflower meadows of Gunnerside. Swaledale-based award-winning artist Martin Lever will offer words of direction and inspiration. Open to artists of all levels. Bring your own materials and a packed lunch.

Tickets £55



© Scenicview Gallery



© Raphael Neal

3–4pm | Reeth Congregational Church | Event 37

Mikeleiz-Zucchi Duo

Sparks will fly as this award-winning duo brings together the unique pairing of saxophone and accordion with high-tempo energy and imagination. Expect a mix of old favourites and cutting-edge new works, with music by both classical greats and exciting contemporary composers.

Adult £16 | Under-25 £3

Angels: Amanda and Ian Robinson

FRIDAY 29 MAY

7–9pm | Richmond, Influence Church | Event 38

Jeneba Kanneh-Mason

We welcome back this effervescent pianist, praised for her "maturity and musical insight". Following her acclaimed BBC Proms debut with the Chineke! Orchestra, Jeneba performs highlights from her new album Fantasie - a radiant programme spanning Bach to Chopin, with Beethoven, Debussy, Florence Price and William Grant Still. A memorable Friday evening out in the presence of a wonderful musician.

Adult £25 | Under-25 £3

Presented in partnership with Darlington Piano Society

Angels: Kay and Gavin Young



© Johanna Berghom © Sony Music Entertainment

To enhance your evening, enjoy a selection of local cheeses and fruitcake curated by The Cheese Press and served in the Georgian Theatre Royal bar from 9pm. Pre-order for £14 via the theatre box office. Wine and other drinks will also be on sale.



© Guy Carpenter

9.45–10.30pm | Richmond, Georgian Theatre Royal | Event 39

Late Night Bach

A powerful and transporting solo recital from acclaimed violinist Philippa Mo. In a special late-night setting, she plays Missy Mazzoli's Dissolve, O My Heart and Bach's scintillating Partita in D minor. An intimate performance in Richmond's historic theatre by an "international sensation" (The Weekender).

Adult £16 | Under-25 £3

Book Event 39 tickets directly with the theatre: www.georgiantheatreroyal.co.uk

Presented in partnership with Richmondshire Concerts

Angels: Diana and Paul Finan

SATURDAY 30 MAY



8.30am–12.30pm | Muker car park | Event 40

Wandering Walk and Wild Swim

An exploration with wild swimmer Les Peebles – otherwise known as the Dales Dipper! A gentle morning adventure that combines movement, nature, and mindfulness in stunning Swaledale, with the option to take a refreshing wild swim along the way. And music might just play a part too...

Bring swimming things and suitable footwear for about 6 miles of walking.

❝ What Les offers is truly special. He is an incredibly gifted soul, able to gently listen and guide in such a beautiful way ❞

Swim & Soul Participant

Adult £25 | Under-25 £3

11am–12noon | Grinton, St Andrew's Church | Event 41

Reeth Brass Band

Reeth's celebrated brass band returns to St Andrew's Church, making for an uplifting Saturday morning of brilliant brassy delights.

Adult £12 | Under-25 £3

Angel: John Frankland in memory of Janet



© Scenicview Gallery



2–3.30pm | Reeth Memorial Hall | Event 42

Reeth Lecture: Alison O'Neill

The celebrated shepherdess reflects on the seasons of life and the seasons of the year, describing the "labour of love" that is her way of life. She carries on high-nature-value farming in the stunning landscape of Shacklabank Farm and the magnificent Howgill Fells, offering an antidote to fast fashion and intensive farming, and encouraging wildlife to flourish.

Adult £20 | Under-25 £3

Angel: Jim Coulson

2–3.30pm | Hawes, Dales Countryside Museum | Event 43

Stir the Air: Creative Writing for All Ages

Writer Beth Daley leads an all-age workshop inspired by music, images and the changing world around us. Through playful props, prompts and gentle guidance, you'll create your own poems inspired by the seasons. For all ages and all levels of experience.

Adult £10 | Under-25 £3



Creative Commons

SATURDAY 30 MAY



4–5pm | Aysgarth, St Andrew's Church | Event 44

Military WAGS Choir, Catterick Garrison

A Festival debut for the decorated Military WAGS Choir – the original group made famous by Gareth Malone and the BBC series The Choir, uniting women connected to the Armed Forces for friendship and the joy of singing. They've performed at the Royal Albert Hall, Castle Howard, and Bradford Cathedral... and now in beautiful Aysgarth church in our Festival.

Adult £16 | Under-25 £3

Angel: Fiona Parker



© Evan Dawson

7.30–9.30pm | Leyburn, The Garden Rooms at Tennants | Event 45

Clare Teal

The masterful singer and broadcaster Clare Teal brings her silken-voiced magic to a Festival Saturday evening out. We invite you to a showcase night of timeless jazz, big-band classics and swinging rhythms in the company of the wonderful several-time Jazz Vocalist of the Year and her exceptional four-piece band.

Front area: Adult £25 | Under-25 £3

Rear area: Adult £20 | Under-25 £3

Presented in partnership with Leyburn Jazz Festival

Angels: Gerald and Janet Broadbent

2026 SWALEDALE FESTIVAL AT A GLANCE

SATURDAY 23 MAY

1	"Our trip to Marske" - a family musical adventure	11.30am–12.30pm	Reeth Congregational Church
2	Guided Walk: Reeth Circular I	11.30am–1.30pm	Reeth Green
3	Talk: Swaledale and Arkengarthdale Archaeology Group	12noon–12.30pm	Reeth Memorial Hall
4	Talk: Land Management	1–1.30pm	Reeth Memorial Hall
5	Talk: Swaledale Mountain Rescue	2–2.30pm	Reeth Memorial Hall
6	Talk: Sustainable Swaledale	3–3.30pm	Reeth Memorial Hall
7	Guided Walk: Reeth Circular II	3–5pm	Reeth Green
8	Ian Anderson and Friends	3.30–4.15pm	Reeth Congregational Church
9	A Concert Party with Marske Choir	5–6pm	Reeth Memorial Hall
10	Braimah Kanneh-Mason and Plínio Fernandes	7.30–9.30pm	Grinton, St Andrew's Church

SUNDAY 24 MAY

11	Take Part: Sound Meadow	10.30am–1pm	Gunnerside Village Hall
12	Curlew Safari	11am–1pm	Bolton Castle car park
13	Guided Walk: Calver Hill Circular	1–5pm	Reeth Green
14	Muker Silver Band	3.30–4.30pm	Muker Public Hall
15	SYSTIR	7.30–9.30pm	Grinton, St Andrew's Church

MONDAY 25 MAY

16	Workshop: Art Journalling	10.30am–1.30pm	Keld Heritage Centre
17	Guided Walk: High Fremington via Marrick Priory	10.30am–2.30pm	Reeth Green
18	Leyburn Band at Bolton Castle	3.30–5pm	Bolton Castle
19	The Lark Ascending: Fenella Humphreys and Martin Roscoe	7.30–9.30pm	Aysgarth, St Andrew's Church

TUESDAY 26 MAY

20	Guided Walk: Save Our Swale	10.30am–1.30pm	Richmond, Fosse car park
21	Intesa Duo I	1.30–2.30pm	Askrigg, St Oswald's Church
22	Guided Walk: Bolton Estate	3–5pm	A684 car park east of West Witton
23	Intesa Duo II	4–5pm	Downholme, St Michael & All Angels' Church
24	Jonny Bruce: The Golden Age of Swing	7.30–9.30pm	Richmond, St Mary's Church

WEDNESDAY 27 MAY

25	The Wildlife Year	11am–12noon	Richmond, Georgian Theatre Royal
26	Guided Walk: Nature and Flowers in Swaledale	1.30–5.30pm	Richmond, Round Howe car park
27	All-Age Musical Seasons Safari	2.30–3.30pm	Richmond, Georgian Theatre Royal
28	Vivaldi's The Four Seasons	7.30–9.30pm	Richmond, Influence Church

THURSDAY 28 MAY

29	Film: Van Gogh: Poets and Lovers	10.30am–12noon	Leyburn Arts Centre
30	Playing in the Trees I	11am–12.15pm	Reeth Bridge
31	Playing in the Trees II	1–2.15pm	Reeth Bridge
32	Film: Van Gogh: Poets and Lovers	1–2.30pm	Leyburn Arts Centre
33	Eleanor & Gus: Seasons in Time	3.30–4.30pm	Arkengarthdale, St Mary's Church
34	The Future is Ancestral	7.30–9.30pm	Grinton, St Andrew's Church

FRIDAY 29 MAY

35	Guided Walk: Tales from Marske	10am–2pm	Marske Bridge
36	Plein-Air Painting Workshop: Life in the Meadow	10.30am–4.30pm	Gunnerside Village Hall
37	Mikeleiz-Zucchi Duo	3–4pm	Reeth Congregational Church
38	Jeneba Kanneh-Mason	7–9pm	Richmond, Influence Church
39	Late Night Bach	9.45–10.30pm	Richmond, Georgian Theatre Royal

2026 SWALEDALE FESTIVAL AT A GLANCE

SATURDAY 30 MAY			
40	Wandering Walk and Wild Swim	8.30am–12.30pm	Muker car park
41	Reeth Brass Band	11am–12noon	Grinton, St Andrew's Church
42	Reeth Lecture: Alison O'Neill	2–3.30pm	Reeth Memorial Hall
43	Stir the Air: creative writing for all ages	2–3.30pm	Hawes, Dales Countryside Museum
44	Military WAGS Choir, Catterick Garrison	4–5pm	Aysgarth, St Andrew's Church
45	Clare Teal	7.30–9.30pm	Leyburn, The Garden Rooms at Tennants
SUNDAY 31 MAY			
46	Guided Walk: Birdwatching in Marske Valley	9.30am–2.30pm	Marske Bridge
47	Swaledale Festival Celebration Service	10.30–11.45am	Low Row, Holy Trinity Church
48	Richmond Chamber Orchestra: Bach and Max Richter	3.30–5.15pm	Richmond, St Mary's Church
49	Homecoming	7.30–9.15pm	Grinton, St Andrew's Church
MONDAY 1 JUNE			
50	Dry Stone Walling Walk & Talk	10am–2pm	Muker, Usha Gap Campsite
51	Guided Walk: Hawes to Shaw Ghyll	10.30am–2.30pm	Hawes, Dales Countryside Museum
52	Hadewych van Gent	3.30–4.30pm	Low Row, Holy Trinity Church
53	Katherine Priddy	7.30–9.30pm	Grinton, St Andrew's Church
TUESDAY 2 JUNE			
54	Take Part: Bookbinding	10am–1pm	Wensley Village Hall
55	Guided Walk: Marske to Helwith	10.30am–2pm	Marske Bridge
56	Carducci String Quartet with Hadewych van Gent	3–4.45pm	Middleham, St Mary & St Alkelda's Church
57	Ladies of Midnight Blue	7–9pm	Richmond, St Mary's Church
WEDNESDAY 3 JUNE			
58	Take Part: Dry Stone Walling Experience	9.30am–4.30pm	Reeth Green
59	Guided Walk: Heggs-Castle Renaturing Project	10am–2.30pm	Reeth Bridge
60	Jasdeep Singh Degun	3.30–4.30pm	Arkengarthdale, St Mary's Church
61	Die Schöne Müllerin and Philip Glass	7.30–9.30pm	Grinton, St Andrew's Church
THURSDAY 4 JUNE			
62	Roderick Williams' Schubert Walk	10am–12noon	Aysgarth Falls Visitor Centre
63	Guided Walk: The Source of the Swale	10am–2pm	Hoggarths Bridge, near Keld
64	Composer in Conversation	2–3pm	Aysgarth, St Andrew's Church
65	Centuries of Song: from Dowland to a World Premiere	3.30–5pm	Aysgarth, St Andrew's Church
66	Rachel Parris	7.30–9.30pm	Leyburn, The Garden Rooms at Tennants
FRIDAY 5 JUNE			
67	Guided Walk: Tales from Marske	10am–2pm	Marske Bridge
68	Take Part: Swaledale Botanical	10.30am–1.30pm	Reeth Memorial Hall
69	Janice Burns and Jon Doran	3.30–4.30pm	Spennithorne, St Michael's Church
70	Love Flows as the Brook Flows	7.30–9.30pm	Richmond, St Mary's Church
SATURDAY 6 JUNE			
71	Guided Walk: Rivers Flora and Fauna	10am–3.30pm	Hawes, Dales Countryside Museum
72	House of Wonder: Happy Birthday Sally Beamish	11am–12.15pm	Easby, St Agatha's Church
73	Richmond On Song: A Celebration	2–2.45pm	Richmond, St Mary's Church
74	Richmond On Song: Fauré's Requiem	3.15–4pm	Richmond, St Mary's Church
75	Mishra + Deepa Shakthi	7.30–9.30pm	Grinton, St Andrew's Church

SUNDAY 31 MAY

9.30am–2.30pm | Marske Bridge | Event 46

Guided Walk: Birdwatching in Marske Valley

A circular 4-mile walk led by Howard Whicker, featuring undulating terrain along the Marske Beck to Helwith, including Telfit Bank. Enjoy views of the valley's moorland and riparian birds. No dogs please.

Adult £12 | Under-25 £3



© Paul Fowlie

10.30–11.45am | Low Row, Holy Trinity Church | Event 47

Swaledale Festival Celebration Service

Everyone is welcome at the annual Festival Service, which this year marks Trinity Sunday and the Rev Canon Caroline Hewlett's 20 years as Vicar of Swaledale with Arkengarthdale. It takes place at charming Holy Trinity church, nestled on the fellside.

Free to attend



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SUNDAY 31 MAY

3.30–5.15pm | Richmond, St Mary's Church | Event 48

Richmond Chamber Orchestra: Bach and Max Richter

This special Festival collaboration brings together our local chamber orchestra with two starry violinists. Be hypnotised as the violins dance magically with each other in Bach's timeless concerto – it's playful, romantic, and joyful by turn. We also have the drama and excitement of Max Richter's vivid reimagining of Vivaldi's The Four Seasons – taking us through the year from autumnal harvest and icy winter to the joys of spring.

GRIEG Holberg Suite
BACH Concerto for Two Violins
MAX RICHTER Recomposed: Vivaldi's The Four Seasons

Fenella Humphreys and Philippa Mo
VIOLINS / DIRECTION

Adult £25 | Under-25 £3

Angel: A Festival well-wisher in memory of Josephine Smith



© Alejandro Tamagno



© Guy Carpenter





7.30–9.15pm | Grinton, St Andrew's Church | Event 49

Homecoming

Multi-instrumentalist Eleanor Grant, hailed as "one of Britain's greatest talents" (Hollywood in Vienna), brings her singing and songwriting to the Festival stage. Inspired by Joni Mitchell, The Carpenters, and Simon & Garfunkel, Eleanor and her band perform songs from her new collection – music that she says "finally feels like home."

Joining them on his home patch is Toby Pearson, a singer-songwriter with North Yorkshire roots. A special Festival collaboration by young stars.

Adult £18 | Under-25 £3

Angels: Jack and Tansy

MONDAY 1 JUNE

10am–2pm | Muker, Usha Gap Campsite | Event 50

Dry Stone Walling Walk & Talk

Expert Rodney Marsh reveals the ancient craft of walling, sharing fascinating insights while demonstrating the repairing and building process that goes on all year round. A unique blend of scenic walk, live demonstration, and an engaging talk - ideal for both enthusiasts and curious explorers.

Adult £15 | Under-25 £3

Angel: A Festival well-wisher



© Scenicview Gallery



© Wendy McDonnell Photography

10.30am–2.30pm | Hawes, Dales Countryside Museum | Event 51

Guided Walk: Hawes to Shaw Ghyll

A 5-mile walk over mainly easy terrain led by the Woodland Trust, exploring the Trust's work and how it enhances the landscape with woodland creation that benefits wildlife and people. We will pass the famous waterfall at Hardraw Force. Red squirrels might make an appearance! No dogs please.

Adult £12 | Under-25 £3

3.30–4.30pm | Low Row, Holy Trinity Church | Event 52

Hadewych van Gent

Experience the mesmerising sound of Dutch cellist and singer Hadewych van Gent, who blends her voice and cello into a single, distinctive instrument. A fearless musician, she reimagines classical works that have reached audiences across the globe and presents brand-new music too.

Adult £16 | Under-25 £3

Angel: Roger Selby





© Matty Deveson

7.30–9.30pm | Grinton, St Andrew's Church | Event 53

Katherine Priddy

A star of the British folk scene, Katherine Priddy is celebrated for her haunting vocals and distinctive finger-picking guitar. She has sold out headline tours, supported world-class artists, collaborated with Poet Laureate Simon Armitage, and performed on the BBC's legendary Later with Jools Holland. Tonight she performs songs from her new album These Frightening Machines alongside other favourites. Don't miss this sensational artist in the atmospheric setting of Grinton Church.

"Utterly brilliant...one of my favourite voices in contemporary music"

Guy Garvey, BBC Radio 6 Music

Adult £22 | Under-25 £3

Presented in partnership with Reeth Memorial Hall concert series

Angels: Chris and Liz Atkin



TUESDAY 2 JUNE

10am–1pm | Wensley Village Hall | Event 54

Take Part: Bookbinding



Delphine Ruston leads a hands-on workshop exploring three versatile book structures: a concertina book, a 3-hole pamphlet (or chapbook), and an exposed-spine link-stitch sketchbook.

By the end of the session, you'll have the skills to create books at home in any shape or size, using everyday materials and simple tools. All materials are provided, and no prior experience is needed.

Tickets £55

Presented in partnership with Richmond Walking and Book Festival

Angels: Michael Cotton and Ian Pattison



© Greg Marshall

10.30am–2pm | Marske Bridge | Event 55

Guided Walk: Marske to Helwith

A 6-mile circular walk led by Maria Laybourn, with some steep terrain across open moorland and through woodland. Refreshments will be available at the tea garden in the secluded valley of Helwith. Please car-share if possible as parking is limited. Dogs on leads are welcome.

Adult £12 | Under-25 £3

3–4.45pm | Middleham, St Mary & St Alkelda's Church | Event 56

Carducci String Quartet with Hadewych van Gent



A special one-off Festival collaboration between a legendary string quartet and a dazzling young cellist. Together they play Schubert's extraordinary String Quintet, a thrilling exploration of darkness and light. Plus the quartet plays three infectious dances by Britten – March, Waltz, and Burlesque – and Rebecca Clarke's exquisite Poem. We're delighted that the Festival returns to the historic church in Middleham for this concert.

BRITTEN Three Divertimenti
CLARKE Poem
SCHUBERT Quintet

Adult £25 | Under-25 £3

Angels: Chris and Ruth Coles

© Tom Barnes



7–9pm | Richmond, St Mary's Church | Event 57

Ladies of Midnight Blue

This dynamic duo fuses rhythms, brass, and vocal chants into an exhilarating musical ride. With bass trombone, percussion, conch shell and more, the electrifying chemistry of Hannabiell Sanders and Yilis del Carmen Suriel makes currents flow and hearts thump.

In this special Festival collaboration, they perform alongside young artists from Richmond School in a youthful celebration of the joy of music!

Adult £16 | Under-25 £3

Angel: Hilary Disney



WEDNESDAY 3 JUNE



© Scenicview Gallery

9.30am–4.30pm | Reeth Green | Event 58

Take Part: Dry Stone Walling Experience

An all-day masterclass in the timeless Dales tradition of dry stone walling with expert craftsman Rodney Marsh. This special hands-on experience offers bespoke personal guidance and coaching, as you learn to deconstruct and rebuild a section of wall from start to finish in the course of the day.

Bring lunch and a flask – and immerse yourself in a day of craftsmanship and Dales heritage.

Tickets £80

Angels: Helen and Phil Sykes



© Scenicview Gallery

10am–2.30pm | Reeth Bridge | Event 59

Guided Walk: Heggs-Castle Renaturing Project

A 6-mile walk led by Liz Sutcliffe of Heggs Farm looking at flood management, tree-planting, birdlife, ancient trees and returning wildlife. The walk starts at Arkle Beck, ascends steeply to Fremington Edge, and continues to Heggs House on tracks and footpaths. Dogs on leads are welcome.

Adult £12 | Under-25 £3

WEDNESDAY 3 JUNE

3.30–4.30pm | Arkengarthdale, St Mary's Church | Event 60

Jasdeep Singh Degun

Multi-award-winning sitarist Jasdeep Singh Degun is a composer, improviser, and innovator, blending tradition and genre-defying creativity. Fresh from international touring, he brings a captivating programme of Indian classical music for an afternoon of transcendent inspiration.

"one of our greatest musicians in the country"

Nitin Sawhney

Adult £16 | Under-25 £3

Angel: Tony Ellender



© Govert Driessen



© Britten Pears Arts

7.30–9.30pm | Grinton, St Andrew's Church | Event 61

Die Schöne Müllerin and Philip Glass

An evening of drama and emotion as two tragic tales are told through stunning music by world-class artists. The evening begins with the UK premiere of Philip Glass' ninth quartet, written for a Broadway staging of King Lear – brooding, menacing, and untimely.

Schubert's exquisite song cycle Die Schöne Müllerin, setting poems by Wilhelm Müller, recounts the tale of "the fair maid of the mill". By a river, a young man falls hopelessly in love with a maiden. Does she love him? Is she even real? Confounded, he throws himself into the river, which flows on, unheeding.

PHILIP GLASS String Quartet no.9 (UK premiere)
SCHUBERT, ARR. WILLIAMS Die Schöne Müllerin

Carducci String Quartet
Roderick Williams BARITONE

Adult £25 | Under-25 £3

Angels: Nigel Tooze and Chris Shaw

THURSDAY 4 JUNE



© Theo Williams

10am–12noon | Aysgarth Falls Visitor Centre | Event 62

Roderick Williams' Schubert Walk

Join a small group of adventurers as leading singer Roderick Williams brings Schubert's The Fair Maid of the Mill to life with an evocative walk along the river in and around Aysgarth. The story unfolds magically as you journey through a landscape reminiscent of the one that inspired the music. A rare opportunity to enjoy Roderick Williams' artistry up close and personal, in the great outdoors.

Adult £20 | Under-25 £3

Angels: Frances Cole and Judith Hooper

10am–2pm | Hoggarths Bridge, near Keld | Event 63

Guided Walk: The Source of the Swale

Led by Ian Wharton from Keld Heritage Centre. A gentle 3-mile walk through easy terrain to the confluence of the Birkdale and Great Sleddale becks, the source of the Swale. We will explore the heritage of Upper Swaledale, including farming, social history, and lead mining. We will cross the beck to view the ruins of the Lane End mines. Then we'll drive to Keld for a hosted visit to the Heritage Museum with curator Helen Guy. Dogs on leads are welcome.

Adult £12 | Under-25 £3



© Wendy McDonnell Photography



2–3pm | Aysgarth, St Andrew's Church | Event 64

Composer in Conversation

A fascinating discussion on composition and the art of creating new music with Vivek Haria and Festival Patron Dr Kadiatu Kanneh-Mason.

Before the world premiere of Vivek's new work, he shares insights into his creative process, the influence of the Dales and its rivers, and the journey from first idea to performance.

Adult £10 | Under-25 £3

Angel: Fionagh Bennet Music

THURSDAY 4 JUNE

3.30–5pm | Aysgarth, St Andrew's Church | Event 65

Centuries of Song: from Dowland to a World Premiere

Witness the first performance of new songs, inspired by the rivers Swale and Ure, created especially for our Festival by composer Vivek Haria, performed by returning outstanding young soprano Margaret Lingas and Grammy Award-winning pianist Christopher Glynn.

The programme of music old and new, flowing through the centuries, also features works by Benjamin Britten and – with renowned lutenist and Dales resident Jacob Heringman – songs by the Renaissance composer John Dowland.

Adult £20 | Under-25 £3

Vivek Haria's new work is commissioned by the Royal Philharmonic Society

Presented in partnership with the RPS, Ryedale Festival, and Wensleydale Concert Series

Angels: Jack and Tansy



© TORIAVA



7.30–9.30pm | Leyburn, The Garden Rooms at Tennants | Event 66

Rachel Parris

Join award-winning comedian and musician Rachel Parris (The Mash Report, Live at the Apollo) for an evening of razor-sharp wit, glorious musical comedy and inventive satire. Known for her blend of clever lyrics, warmth, and relatable humour, Rachel brings her trademark charm and piano-powered songs to Swaledale Festival for this special one-off performance.

Front area: Adult £25 | Under-25 £3
Rear area: Adult £20 | Under-25 £3

Angels: Hazel and Paul Cambers

FRIDAY 5 JUNE



10am–2pm | Marske Bridge | Event 67

Guided Walk: Tales from Marske - from Archbishops to Motorcycles

A 5 mile-walk around Marske valley led by local historian Stephen Clark. Highlights include Marske's three archbishops, the history of Swaledale estates, and stories of trophies and silverware. The walk will be on footpaths, tracks and minor roads. Parking is limited so please car-share if you can. Dogs on leads are welcome.

Adult £12 | Under-25 £3

10.30am–1.30pm | Reeth Memorial Hall | Event 68

Take Part: Swaledale Botanical

Discover the beguiling art of arranging dried flowers in this creative hands-on workshop with Mundy Kilner of Swaledale Botanical in Reeth. Learn how to preserve and arrange local wild blooms, and craft your own piece of floral art to take home. All materials will be included.

Tickets £45



3.30–4.30pm | Spennithorne, St Michael and All Angels' Church | Event 69

Janice Burns and Jon Doran

A duo at the heart of the new folk generation, Janice and Jon weave traditional Scottish and English songs into performances of warmth and charm. With soaring vocals and spellbinding arrangements for mandolin, guitar, bouzouki, and harmonium, their music is rich in storytelling, connection and subtle power.

Adult £16 | Under-25 £3





© Theo Williams

7.30–9.30pm | Richmond, St Mary's Church | Event 70

Love Flows as the Brook Flows

A recital that explores the twists and turns of love as it flows like a river... A moving and heartwarming evening in the presence of masterful storyteller Roderick Williams and visionary pianist Susie Allan, filling the stunning space of St Mary's Church with music that evokes all the emotions. Includes a captivating selection of songs by Vaughan Williams, Finzi, Schubert, Ireland, and more. Come and be transported by this uplifting journey and musical celebration of love and life.

Adult £25 | Under-25 £3

Presented in partnership with Richmondshire Concerts

Angel: The Joseph Nickerson Charitable Foundation

SATURDAY 6 JUNE

10am–3.30pm | Hawes, Dales Countryside Museum | Event 71

Guided Walk: Rivers Flora and Fauna

A 7.5-mile walk and talk looking at fauna, flora and rivers led by Catherine Mason from the Yorkshire Dales Rivers Trust. The picturesque circular walk will include rivers and streams, pastureland, moorland and woodland, taking in spectacular views of Upper Wensleydale, and returning via Aysgill Force and the village of Gayle. No dogs please.

The event will end with an optional free tour of the Rivers4Life summer exhibition at Dales Countryside Museum.

Adult £12 | Under-25 £3



© Wendy McDonnell Photography



© Sarah Hickson

11am–12.15pm | Easby, St Agatha's Church | Event 72

House of Wonder: Happy Birthday Sally Beamish

A special celebration of the extraordinary composer, violist, and creative force Sally Beamish, as she turns 70. Join Sally and members of her family in sharing music, stories and birthday cake.

The morning will include premieres from Sally's forthcoming anniversary album, alongside reflections on her remarkable career and creative life.

Adult £16 | Under-25 £3

2–2.45pm | Richmond, St Mary's Church | Event 73

Richmond On Song: A Celebration

The Dales Community Pop Choir and the Catterick Service Children's Choir unite for a joyful celebration of song. A burst of music-making, spirit and smiles from singers of all ages for everyone to enjoy!

Adult £10 | Under-25 £3

Angels: Anne and Alan Maryon-Davis









3.15–4pm | Richmond, St Mary's Church | Event 74

Richmond On Song: Fauré's Requiem

The Swale Singers join forces with rising-star soprano Sophie Montgomery and renowned baritone Roderick Williams for a performance of Fauré's much-loved Requiem.

Adult £10 | Under-25 £3

Angels: Anne and Alan Maryon-Davis

7.30–9.30pm | Grinton, St Andrew's Church | Event 75

Mishra + Deepa Shakthi

Do not miss global folk collective Mishra with international fusion vocalist and Sufi singer Deepa Shakthi as they close our festival with infectious rhythm, style and grace.

A rich soundscape of Indian ragas, folk melodies and contemporary rhythms including tracks from their new album.

Expect hypnotic grooves, heartfelt improvisation, and moments of pure musical unity.

"A stunning cross-cultural collaboration – Mishra and Deepa Shakthi conjure a musical dialogue that feels both ancient and daringly new. Hypnotic rhythms, luminous vocals, and a rare sense of intimacy ★★★★★"

Songlines

Adult £22 | Under-25 £3

Angels: Frances Cole and Judith Hooper





© Martin Lever

Friday 22 May–Wednesday 3 June | Richmond, The Station | Open daily 9am–8pm

Into Over Beyond

An Abstract Journey through Swaledale by award-winning local artist Martin Lever.

Renowned for his striking abstract landscapes and portraits, Lever presents a distinctive celebration of Swaledale and beyond – featuring new works inspired by the 2026 Festival.

From sweeping vistas to playful animal portraits and ethereal bird's-eye views, Lever's paintings invite you on a vivid journey through time and space, people and place, light and shade, energy and calm.

A vibrant, contemporary vision of the world around us, seen through a refreshingly original lens.

Works will be for sale. Part proceeds from sales will be donated to Swaledale Festival.

Free to attend



© Scenicview Gallery

Friday 22 May–Sunday 7 June | Reeth, Hudson House | Open daily 10am–2pm

Composed by the Land

A visual celebration of Swaledale's rhythm and beauty through carefully observed moments of light, weather and form. Photographers Gray Walker and Debbie Allen of Scenicview Gallery explore how the landscape itself shapes mood, movement, and memory.

These images invite you to see the Dales not just as a place, but as a living composition – ever-changing, deeply felt, and profoundly moving.

Works will be for sale.

Free to attend

Exhibition Angels: Brenda and Ian Evans

GENERAL INFORMATION

2026 Box Office Dates

Friends priority booking opens: Monday 2 February, 9am

Public booking opens: Monday 16 February, 9am

Book online: www.swalefest.org

If you need help with your booking please call our office on 01748 880019 or email enquiries@swalefest.org. Please note that tickets booked over the phone are subject to a £2 booking fee per transaction.

Our office is staffed on a part-time basis. If we're unable to answer your call straight away, please leave a message and we'll get back to you as soon as we can.

Festival Friends

Become a Festival Friend and enjoy a two-week priority booking period beginning on Monday 2 February, along with an invitation to the annual Friends' Reception during the Festival - and, of course, the warm glow of helping to make something truly special happen here in the Dales.

Take out or renew your membership at www.swalefest.org.

Refunds and exchanges: We only provide refunds or exchanges if a performance is cancelled.

Tickets: Please bring your ticket to each event, preferably on your smartphone or device. If that is not possible, bring a printed copy.

On-the-door sales: Tickets may be purchased at the door, subject to availability. Please check our website before travelling to avoid disappointment.

Doors: Generally open 30 minutes before the start of each event.

Seating: Seats are not numbered and it is not possible to book or reserve specific seats. Some seats might have a restricted view due to the nature of church architecture. You're welcome to bring a cushion for extra comfort.

Intervals: Evening events generally include a 20-minute interval. Daytime events usually run without an interval.

Photography and filming: These may take place at events for marketing purposes. If you prefer not to appear, please inform a staff member. Please do not take your own photographs or make recordings during events.

Programme changes: The Festival reserves the right to make changes due to unforeseen circumstances.

Parking: Please park considerately and respect our neighbours.

Access: The map on page 3 provides access information for Festival venues. For further details, please visit our website. If you have specific access requirements you can call our office on 01748 880019 or email enquiries@swalefest.org. We are happy to reserve accessible seats for those who need them, advise Blue Badge holders on parking options, and assist with drop-offs.

Refreshments: will be available at selected events. Where possible, details will be posted on our website.

Outdoor events are designed to take place whatever the weather, and will only be cancelled if conditions make it impossible to go ahead. In that case we will notify bookers by email and announce it on social media. For all such events, please dress for the day's weather and conditions, so that you can enjoy the great outdoors come rain or shine!

Guided Walks: For all walks you'll need sturdy boots, waterproofs and a hat. For the longer walks bring lunch and water. Coins for ticket machines may be needed. Published durations are approximate. Dogs are only permitted on certain walks as advertised. Please contact us with any questions.

Travel: We encourage Festival-goers to consider sustainable travel options and to journey-share where possible. Please see our website for further travel information.

THANK YOU

Thank you to all the Festival Friends, Angels, sponsors, funders, partners, volunteers, audiences and collaborators who so generously sustain Swaledale Festival.

Thank you to Richard and Beverly Phillips for their support as Audio Angels and for contributing to our Royal Philharmonic Society corporate membership; to Danya Glaser, Frances Cole and Judith Hooper for their generosity as Piano Tuning Angels; to Alèxe Finlay and Jonathan Roberts, and Peter and Cathy Trewby for their invaluable support as Piano Angels; to Susan and Stewart Nicholls for being Walks Angels; to Elizabeth and Andrew Bedford for contributing to transport; and to Judy and Ian White for supporting our outreach work.

Thanks also to advisors Ruth Fawcett, Alèxe Finlay, Rolline Frewen, Joanna Lawrence, Martin Lever, and Phil Upton - and to everyone who has helped to make this year's Festival so far.

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Festival office: 01748 880018

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Help to ensure a bright future for the Festival

Become a Friend, enjoying two-week priority booking from 2 February 2026, the annual Friends Reception, and the community of Friends from far and near.

Donate any amount at any time, either online or in person at an event. If you are a UK taxpayer, Gift Aid adds 25% to the value of your donation.

Spread the word about the Festival to your networks!

Buy more tickets, because every purchase enables us to keep creating brilliant programmes.

Volunteer as part of our award-winning scheme, which hundreds of people take part in each year.

Sponsor the Festival through the Local Business Support Scheme or by partnering with us as a Festival sponsor for mutual benefit.

Leave a Legacy, so that your love of the Festival lives on. Talk with us at any time.

Become an Angel to contribute directly to a particular event.

Sign up to our mailing list to hear first about Festival announcements, special offers and more.









Visit www.swalefest.org for more information

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