



# THE DALES DAILY



WW2 Veteran  
celebrates 100th  
birthday

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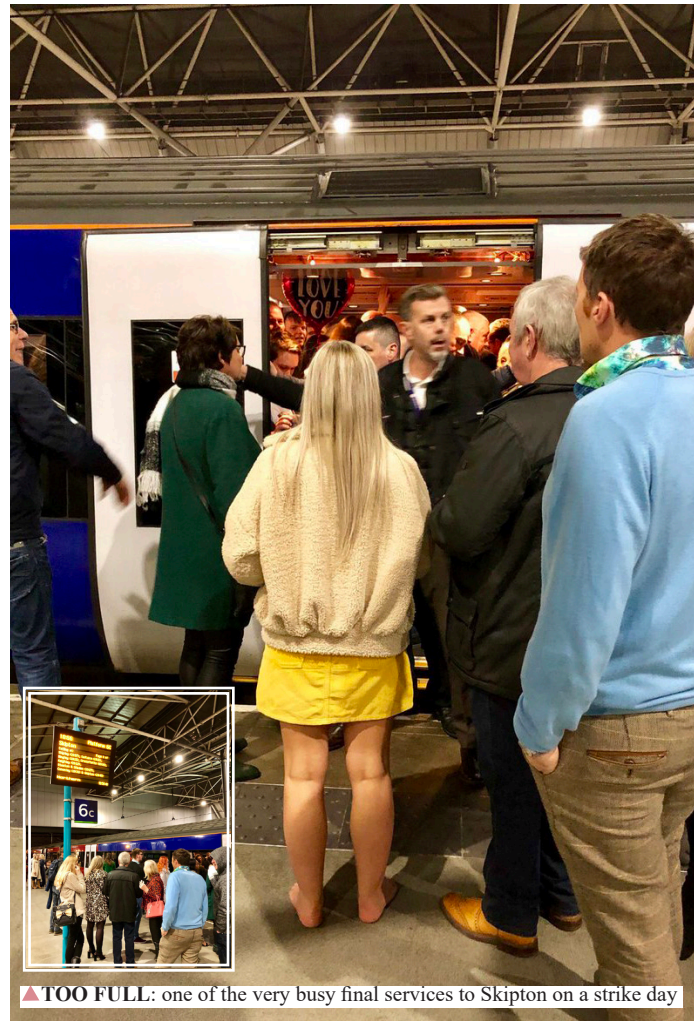


Craven libraries  
introduce new  
self help scheme

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# TRAIN CHAOS COULD GO ON UNTIL NEXT SPRING



▲ **TOO FULL:** one of the very busy final services to Skipton on a strike day

By Ellie Tyson @mmuellie

**N**orthern Rail has announced strikes taking place every Saturday in December and disruption that could last as long as May next year.

The strikes come as a response to their union's plans to abolish many train guard jobs and implement Driver Controlled Operation (DCO).

DCO means that the driver would be the one to control the opening and closing of the doors therefore making the guards job redundant.

The strikes will take place on the 1st, 8th, 22nd and 29th of December and will run all day with some services terminating as early as 5pm.

With talks to settle the dispute

collapsing and fares set to rise 3.2% early next year, Northern have said it is likely the disruption will last until May 2019.

The strikes planned for December heavily effect the Leeds-Ilkley and Leeds-Skipton services.

The last train to depart from Skipton going to Leeds will be at 16:47. The last Ilkley to Leeds train will depart from Ilkley at 17:43 with no services operating on either of the lines until the following day.

Northern have warned its customers that services are likely to be very busy, particularly in the run up to Christmas and that passengers should always check timetables before they travel.

Story continued on page 3.



# PARADE FOR WW2 HERO'S SPECIAL DAY

Photos by Paula Honeyball and Paul Davies

**Air Force veteran Edith Kupp celebrated her 100th birthday in style with a horse drawn carriage parade through Silsden.**

Ms Kupp served in World War 2 and helped to track the movements of German bombers as part of the Women's Auxiliary Air Force (WAAF).

It started at The Raikes care home where Ms Kupp, from Silsden, currently lives. She was also joined by Flight Sergeant Elisabeth King who celebrated her 18th birthday on the same day.

RAF historian Paul Davies organised the parade with help from Ms Kupp's family, care home staff and current RAF members and air cadets.

Edith's fiancée at the time (pictured right) Denis Wissler also served in World War 2 but was killed in 1940 when his plane was shot down into the sea. Edith was on duty at the time of his death and overheard the call announcing the tragedy.

Edith still very much cherishes the time she spent with Mr Wissler and says that the love letters they wrote to each other when they were apart will be cremated with her when she dies.

According to historian Paul Davies, it is likely that Edith is the only remaining member of the WAAF that served in 1940.

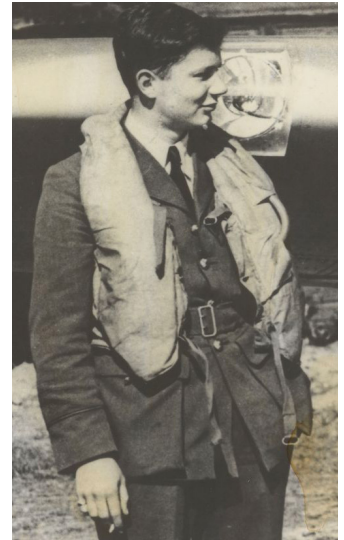
Mr Davies said that Edith reflected on her time serving in the war as "just something that had to be done."

He added: "she [Edith] doesn't have any regrets because had she not served, she would not have met Denis".

After spending time speaking to current members of the air cadets, Ms Kupp was escorted from The Raikes (to what she thought was a birthday lunch) and was greeted with a horse drawn carriage that paraded around Silsden to an audience of well-wishers.



▶ **CELEBRATION:** Ms Kupp with today's air cadets and RAF members



▶ **YOUNG LOVE:** Edith (left) and her fiancée at the time Denis Wissler (right)

## ANTI-INCINERATOR GROUP'S APPEAL FOR FINAL OBJECTIONS



▶ **TOXIC AIRE:** Members of Aire Valley Against Incineration protesting outside the proposed incinerator site in Marley

**Aire Valley Against Incineration (AVAI) have announced a last call for residents to submit their rejection of the building of a waste incinerator.**

Endless Energy, the site developers, have to get a permit from the Environment Agency in order to be able to go through with the planned work.

If they receive enough objections from the residents of Aire Valley, Endless Energy will not be able to go through with their plans.

The deadline for the public's objections is Thursday, December

13th so AVAI are urgently looking for as many people as possible to submit their concerns.

The permit being granted would mean that the old Keighley Gas Works in Marley would be built on for waste disposal purposes which could have a big impact on the environment and even human health.

Research by UKWIN (UK Without Incineration Network) has shown that incinerators release nitrous oxide that can aggravate breathing problems, heart and lung disease.

As well as the health concerns that the incinerator raises, the

proposed site is near a care home, nursery, playing fields and hundreds of homes.

Kelly Larkin of Garforth Road, just minutes from the proposed site said: "I'm really worried about what will happen if it [the incinerator] gets built. I've done my research so I know how dangerous it can be."

She has even considered moving away from the area: "Me and my partner have been looking at new places, just in case."

Visit the Aire Valley Against Incineration page on Facebook for more information.

## £500 reward for Friends of Park

**Friends of Silsden Park have been awarded a £500 grant from Skipton Building Society's Grass Roots scheme.**

The group was one of 165 awarded out of over 740 applicants.

Grass Roots Giving is a scheme set up in 2013 to 'help people and communities to help themselves'.

The money is given to those groups that would normally struggle attracting any kind of funding.

The Friends of Silsden Park group was set up by local people who regularly use the park and have seen it's gradual deterioration over the last few years.

According to the Friends group, the £500 will be spent on trees and flowers, gradually opening up more bedding areas within the park. They are also working with the Council to make the park more accessible for prams and wheelchairs.

Roger Smith, one of the members of Friends of Silsden Park, said: "Our mission is to see the park used more, preserved and returned to its former glory."

Group meetings are held at Silsden Town Hall every two weeks on a Thursday evening and always welcome new members to give fresh ideas.



# ONLY 35% OF TRAINS ON TIME

## Cover Story

Statistics show that in urban areas of West and North Yorkshire between October and November, only 35.6% of trains arrived at their destination on time.

The figures for local areas of West and North Yorkshire weren't much better, with only 46.6% of services being on time.

These numbers come from Northern Rail's performance statistics for the last month.

The strikes taking place in December will mean it is doubtful that these numbers will improve, with stations and individual services being much busier than usual.

The first December strike marks the 38th strike by workers disputing the threat of job losses.

Customers all over the north have been dissatisfied with the service that Northern Rail have been providing for a while now, especially in our region.

Hannah Butler, a regular user of the Skipton-Leeds line, is one of



▲ **OUT OF DATE:** Northern customers have also been unhappy with the old, rundown quality of many Northern trains

these unhappy customers.

She said: "I don't pay over £100 a month to not be able to get to work or Uni on time. I often find myself late

or unable to attend lectures because of the delays and the Saturday strikes mean getting to work is also a nightmare. I don't feel like a valued Northern Rail customer".

*"I don't feel like a valued Northern customer"*

When asked about the dispute causing the strikes, Northern said: "We have embarked on a programme

to modernise its services that will help make the North a better place in which to live and work."

Matthew Sharpe, another disappointed Northern customer said: "I definitely support the strikes. I think the way that Northern

Rail deals with them is ridiculous."

He continued: "When they talk about 'modernising' they mean all they care about is money, not the livelihood of so many people that could use their jobs. It's not fair on them or any of their customers that are so heavily effected by all of the disruption that has been happening, particularly in the last year."

Visit the Northern Rail website for any inquiries.



## PHOTOS OF THE DAY

The festive spirit has come to today's Photos of the Day with 2018's first Christmas themed shot.

"I think Napier's Santa might have had a few too many sherries today!" says Jo Tamsons who took today's first picture (shown top left) outside Napier's in Skipton.

It seems the B&B and restaurant on Chapel Hill are getting in the festive spirit with their giant blow up santa who may not quite be able to withstand our Yorkshire winter.

The second of today's photos

(top right) shows The Cringles tower located on Cringles Lane in Silsden. The shot of the tower in all it's glory was taken local resident, Lucy Honnoraty.

"I'm glad it actually looks good after I was sitting and waiting in the car for god knows how long with about 6 layers of clothing on!" she said.

**Got a photo you think should be featured?**

Tweet us: @dalesdaily  
E-mail: potd@dalesdaily.co.uk

## New office for Keighley MP

Keighley and Ilkley MP John Grogan has opened a new office in Ilkley.

The brand new Constituency Office will be located in one of the cottages in Castle Yard that is managed by Ilkley Manor House Trust.

It will be open from Monday, November 26th and will be staffed part-time.

Appointments with the Labour MP for our area can be made by simring his office on 01943 603198.

## Libraries offer bags of support

Libraries throughout Craven are trialling a new project that could help hundreds of people.

The scheme offers 'wellbeing bags' to provide people with health help, all they will need is a library card.

The wellbeing bags include things such as self-help books, puzzles, relaxation CDs, healthy recipes and some information about general health.

The bags are available for anyone to borrow for up to three weeks.

If the trial is successful, it is thought that the scheme could be expanded to different parts of the country.

## Massive cuts to charities budget

£186,000 has been slashed from community groups and charities funding in the Aire Valley.

The cuts, that will begin next April, are an attempt from Bradford council to reduce their spending.

The money is given to groups with low resources which may mean that many places, such as community centres, will be forced to close in the near future.

Brendan Stubbs, a Lib Dem councillor for Eccleshill, has described the cuts as 'offensive'.

## Tributes to Corrie star

Peter Armitage, best known as Bill Webster in Coronation Street has sadly died.

Mr Armitage, who grew up in Farnhill, played Kevin Webster's dad in the soap on and off for over 30 years.

His death came as a shock to most, with people taking to social media to pay tribute.

"He was so lovely always came out to say hello to the ponies in Con-onley. RIP" wrote one Facebook user.

"Such sad news, came into Steeton Top Cafe for years, always so friendly and full of life" said another.

