



# Kettlewell Scarecrow Festival

Dear Neighbour,

## Cancellation of this year's Scarecrow Festival

The Scarecrow Committee recently reached a unanimous decision to cancel this year's festival. We've considered the options, as well as the government guidance, and with due consideration to the concerns we all have about bringing thousands of people into the area over a nine day period and potentially placing our most vulnerable friends and neighbours at risk, we felt there was no way we could safely run the festival in its usual form.

We accept that there will still be tourists coming to the Dales this summer: we do not feel it is our place to add to their number by holding a festival.

We have chosen instead to run a virtual festival, using both our website and social media. Conscious as we are that a number of businesses have suffered greatly from the lockdown, the message we want to send to the world is that Kettlewell will have plenty to offer visitors in 2021, when we hope to be able to run the Scarecrow Festival as usual, while providing some humour, a little distraction, and a reminder that we will not be preparing our usual welcome to the village itself this year. It is also our hope that some of the content of the virtual festival will be built with local businesses in mind, and show some of the great food, drink and accommodation available in and near Kettlewell.

If you would like to help - or if you're a local business and would like to talk to us about how you can get involved with our virtual festival - please get in touch with Melanie Denyer (chair) or Silas Denyer (treasurer) on 761923, email [kettlewellscarecrow@gmail.com](mailto:kettlewellscarecrow@gmail.com), or have a - socially distanced - chat with any member of the Committee. More details of the online festival will be shared in due course.

Hoping you all stay safe and well,

Kettlewell Scarecrow Committee.