

BENTHAM NEWS



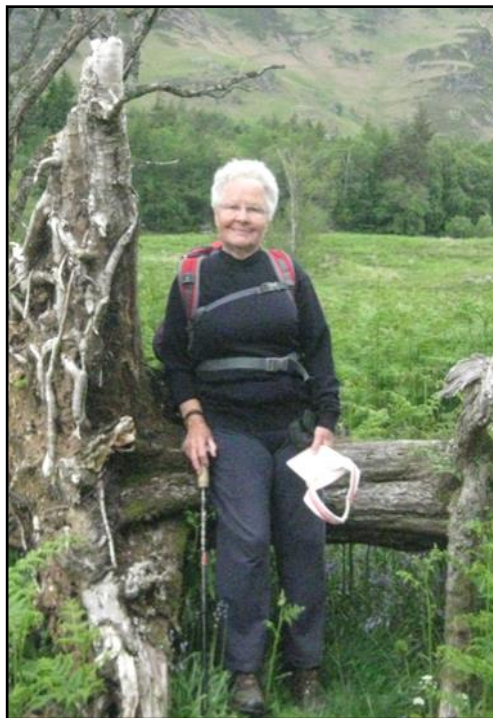
Keeping Bentham On The Map

By Shirley Brown

Bentham News is always pleased and proud to feature Bentham people when they achieve excellence in their chosen field, subject or profession. This month we are printing two photos by our local professional photographer, Jon Brook of Bentham Imaging. The competition for British Life Photography Awards attracts thousands of entries, and this year two of Jon's photos won awards. One of these was for the wonderful photo of local farmer Roger Duncan that we are using on our front page. Its title is 'The Escapee' and the photo was taken near Jon's house. Jon noticed the approaching storm and asked one of Roger's children to hold a flash off camera for him and got a couple of shots before it started to rain. The other photo, 'Armageddon Approaches' is on page 3.

April 2016

Issue 354



Striding out at Eighty

By Jane Proctor

A familiar figure around Bentham, rucksack on her back and walking up to Bentham, is Dorothy Stubbs who has recently celebrated her 80th birthday.

Dorothy was born in Tatham Fells at Seaview and although she moved away after she married to live at Hest Bank she retired back to Bentham and was a founder member of Bentham Footpath Group. Dorothy is an active member of several organisations in the town, including the Friends of Bentham Library and the Methodist Church. Dorothy puts her "get up and go" down to getting out every day.

For many years Dorothy has organised the Footpath Group's Good Friday ramble and, in addition to being a keen supporter of BFG walks, also walks on Monday mornings with the Walks for Women Group. An example to us all!

Photograph by Dorothy Stubbs.

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Armageddon Approaches

By Shirley Brown

Jon took this photo above when out walking the dog. He saw a storm gathering over Lancaster and grabbed his camera when he saw the setting sun suddenly burst under the clouds. This photo was 'highly commended' in the British Weather category, and as such joined the 10 best photos in each category to be exhibited at the prestigious Mall Galleries in London.

Jon entered six photographs in the competition, all made the long list and two of these were shortlisted and printed in the portfolio book. Fellow Benthamer and enthusiastic photographer, Malcolm Preece, also entered four photographs all of which made the long list. Since there were thousands of entries this is a considerable achievement for an amateur photographer.

This man has just been informed of the latest interest rate for his ISA

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Virgin Train Spotted On Bentham Line

Following the success of using The Bentham Line to test out the newly refurbished Flying Scotsman (as featured in last month's BN), a Virgin Pendolino train has been spotted in the vicinity. An eagle-eyed Benthamer, who happened to catch a glimpse of the Pendolino as it sped on its way between Bentham and Leeds, took this photo. Using up-to-date rolling stock raises the exciting possibility of a future new, speedy transpennine route. Imagine being able to get from Bentham to Leeds in half the time it takes now. What an exciting prospect for the future life and fortunes of Bentham. Or is this too much to hope for?

Photograph opposite page shows **Bentham Area Refugee Support Group Extravaganza night** on Saturday 12 March. See Thank You from Elza Sayer on People's Page 18.

Road Traffic Accident

Photograph of crashed car outside the Auction Mart in January, below. See reference in Town Council Report page 11.





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The Museum Of North Craven Life At The Folly

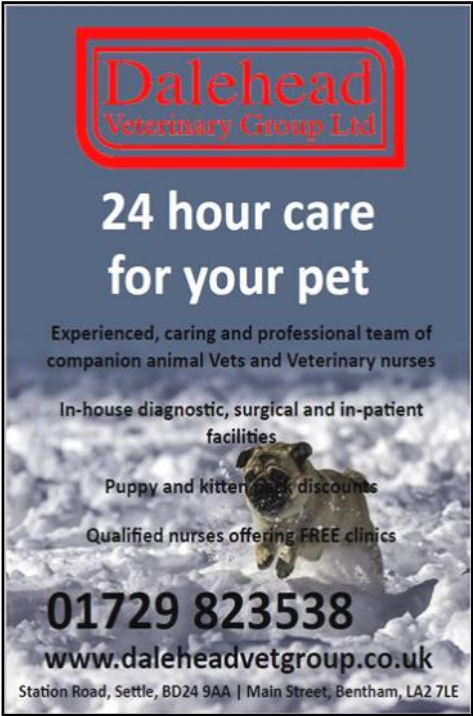
By Anne Read, 015242 51388 curator@ncbpt.org.uk

Exhibitions 22 March to 30 October, 2016: '1916: Chronicles of Courage' AND 22 March to 5 June: 'Back in Settle'

The new season at The Folly opens on 22 March with two hugely contrasting exhibitions. '1916: Chronicles of Courage' is the third in our series of World War I exhibitions in association with the Heritage Lottery-funded Craven and the First World War project. 1916 was a momentous year, in which the people of Craven played their part with great courage. It was the year in which Conscription was introduced and Conscientious Objectors stood up for their beliefs; it was the year in which terrible battles were fought off Jutland and best-known of all on the Somme. Our displays tell the stories of local men and women who served their country in many different ways: in the medical services and ambulance units as well as fighting in the trenches and at sea. We have followed the progress of many individuals and revealed acts of great bravery and humanity. Visitors can experience graphic reconstructions of life on the battlefield through installations of a section of trench and a regimental first-aid post.

Our companion exhibition 'Back in Settle' has been inspired by a remarkable Facebook group set up around three years ago by local man, Mick Harrison to share stories and old photographs from the Settle area. There are now almost 1,600 people involved from all over the world and the stories and photographs are ones most people will never have seen before, because up till now they have lain hidden in family albums and scrapbooks. Mick quickly realised how many wonderful memories were disappearing into a skip as families moved away and was determined to do something about it. Thanks to his enthusiasm some amazing pictures are seeing the light of day. The best thing about our exhibition is that it has been curated by a team from the group who add in their own memories and stories; it's about people: old friends, workmates, local characters – maybe even a photo of you you haven't seen before! It's also about places and how they've changed or maybe even disappeared. We want people to come in and enjoy the results and then go away and dig out their own photos to share. With so much of interest to local people, our newly-launched annual tickets, priced at £7 are a great bargain, giving unlimited access to all Folly exhibitions for a calendar year. There is so much to see and we make sure that our younger visitors are not forgotten, with special activities provided throughout the building and the chance to dress up.

Both exhibitions will be held at the Folly, Settle. For more information contact Anne. www.ncbpt.org.uk/folly.
Facebook: www.facebook.com/follysettle



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Could You Drive Us Round the Bend?

By Liz Tonge

How many of us decide we want to go somewhere and just hop into the car and go? Most of us I suspect, but there are those in our community that because of age or illness can't do that any more. How many of us get tired of our own company so call up a friend and invite them to meet for a drink and a chat? Imagine if it wasn't possible for you to do that because of mobility problems. Life wouldn't be that pleasant would it?

Where is this going I hear you ask, well I'll tell you. At Age Concern we endeavour amongst other things to be the transport that facilitates people who would normally be stuck at home to be able to get around a bit and socialise.

We had until recently a team of seven trusty drivers of our minibus doing sterling work for us. Unfortunately due to health issues we have lost two of them in quick succession bringing our number down to five. Obviously the more drivers we have the lighter the work load for each of them. If you have a clean driving license and a couple of hours to spare on a Friday every six weeks or so then maybe you would consider helping us. All you would have to do is pick up the minibus at about 9 o'clock on a Friday morning, go to the Masonic Hall to pick up an escort and a passenger list, pick

up the passengers and bring them back to us at the Masonic, and you'll be done by about 11 o'clock. At 2 o'clockish come back in the bus to the Masonic Hall, pick up the well fed and happy customers and return them to their homes. You'll be over and done by about 3.30p.m.

If you could see the pleasure which a couple of hours of your time, literally every 6 weeks or so can bring, I'm sure you wouldn't hesitate. Full training will be given and believe me you'll receive a very warm welcome. Please consider this carefully before you dismiss it. Don't just leave it to somebody else to do. My number is 62669. Please ring. Thank you.



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Lest We Forget - *Arthur James Harrison*

Words By Allan Hartley

Research By Marilyn Hartley

Arthur was born in 1891 at Clapham the son of John¹ and Agnes² Harrison nee Page. By the time of the 1911 census Arthur is 20 and the family home is given as High Birks, Clapham Station.

Prior to the war Arthur had served his time as a joiner with Messrs Seed Ltd in Bentham and we presume lived in Bentham. When the war came along we have very little knowledge of Arthur's war record and sadly we have no photo of him, but it is likely Arthur received his call-up papers in July 1916 when single young men of 18 and over were conscripted into the Army due to the sheer depletion of men from the slaughter at Gallipoli and the shortage of volunteers.

Here there is quite a bit of confusion as to whom he served with as Arthur is given as enlisting in the Royal Lancaster Regiment [Kings Own] as Private 22038, and the

Duke of Cambridge's Own [Middlesex Regiment] as Private G/41225. Thereafter the trail goes cold until Arthur is recorded as being killed on the 31st May 1917 being buried at Hem Farm³ Military Cemetery grave ref 11.D.8.

However, given the location of the cemetery on the Southern Sector of the Somme at the village of Hem Monacu actually located on the River Somme, it is likely that Arthur was involved in the latter stages in the Spring Offensive for the Battle of Arras 3rd to 17th May and one of the many sub-battle around Albert.

Arthur is commemorated on the memorial plaque on Station Road and the memorial plaque at the Methodist Church High Bentham. Also on the Roll of Honour at Tatham Parish Church that includes a stained glass memorial window.

Arthur was the 21st Bentham man to be killed. He was 26.



Photo of Tyne Cot Military Cemetery Cross of Sacrifice and site of the German Command Centre block house. Nine Bentham men are commemorated here.

Reference Notes

1. John Harrison was born at Clapham and was a farmer. At the time of Arthur's death the family home is given as Parry's, Wennington.

2. Agnes Harrison was born and grew-up in Ravenstonedale, Westmorland.

3. Hem Farm Military Cemetery was begun by British troops in January 1917. There are 600 burials one third of whom are unidentified being of soldiers brought in from the surrounding Somme battlefield.

Bentham's Roll of Honour

Words By Allan Hartley

Research By Marilyn Hartley

When we started this project two years ago our main points of reference were the War memorial plaque on Station Road and the Craven Herald's excellent book 'Craven's Part in the Great War'. Of the 54 Bentham men killed in the Great War we have now reached number 25, approximately half way but with obviously many more to come over the next few years until we reach a natural conclusion around November-December 2018, 100 years after the conflict came to an end.

BN readers will have observed that by date we are ahead of ourselves by reporting on deaths in 1917. To recap, one hundred years ago the final evacuation from the disastrous Gallipoli Campaign had been completed in January 1916 where Benthamers Edward Magoogan and Donald Morrison lost their lives. The summer 'Battle of the Somme' in 1916 would claim the lives of Benthamers Lancelot Dowbiggin, Edward Briscoe, Thomas Wilcock, Ezra Stephenson, Robert Carter and Edwin Smith. Now as we head through 1917, casualties from Messines and the Third Battle of Ypres, better known as 'Passchendaele', start to mount and Bentham does not escape the nation's collective pain and grief.

At this point it's important that everyone

has a good mental picture of what Passchendaele was like, and here we quote a conversation between an Australian Sergeant and his commanding Officer.

Officer: you are instructed to attack Owl Trench, Sir: there is no trench just a huge sea of mud. Officer: your orders are to attack the trench. Sir: there is no trench just mud.

And so it was that our soldiers feared as much from drowning in mud as they did from being shelled or shot at. When Field Marshall Haig visited the Front after the battle and found it overlaid with twisted war debris, dead bodies of men and horses and endless pools of mud as large as Bentham, he said: Good God, did we really send men to fight in that? Yes, is the answer with 300,000 casualties. No wonder the men called it 'Passion Dale', just as the suffering of Christ on the Cross at Easter is called 'Passiontide'.

But whilst we have been writing about the bad news, in our research we have also observed a steady stream of Bentham soldiers being reported as visiting or home on leave, many of whom appear to have survived the war. One of the sad facts of war research is that the lives of the dead are better recorded than those that survived. At this stage we would ask Bentham News readers to let us know if they have any knowledge of the following men who appear to fit the category of survived:

Arthur Jackson, John Kidd, Lieu Dow [RAMC] Robert Harrison, Kenneth Turner, John Jackson, William Batty [served at Gallipoli] Walter Leeming¹ [survived the Somme] Joe Harrison, Walter Newhouse, Alec Proctor, Alfred Wells, John Crayston², John Blacow, John Parker, John Robinson³, T.D. Batty, Tom Bateson, William Norcross, John Wilson, Squire Jackson, George Fleming, George Burrows⁴, John Dowbiggin⁵, James Dowbiggin⁵, Albert Coates⁶, Alf Canby⁶, Leonard Shakleton⁶, brothers⁷ John, Alex and Reuben Wilcock, Joe Jackson, Leonard Auton⁸, James Thompson,

W. Bradley, Stephen Newhouse, Henry Jacques, James Henry Jacques [wounded at Gallipoli], brothers Fred and Tom Smith, S. Brown, Richard Parrington, Jack Parker and James Wilshaw.

All these men would have had medals and had perhaps brought home military souvenirs such as bullets, bayonets, spent artillery shells, postcards and other war memorabilia.

Reference Notes

1. *Maybe a relative of John Leeming who had emigrated to Canada but who was killed in Belgium. BN335?*

2. *Maybe a relative of A. Crayston who was killed in the Spring Offensive of 1918?*

3. *Maybe a relative of William Robinson who was killed at Passchendaele?*

4. *George Burrows is listed on the Roll of Honour at the Victoria Institute Low Bentham, and was a highly decorated soldier.*

5. *John and James Dowbiggin, maybe brothers? Maybe a relative of Lancelot Dowbiggin BN345 killed on the Somme?*

6. *Albert, Alf and Leonard made several attempts to enlist but each time they were rejected for reasons unknown, but whatever the reason they must have been the luckiest three men in Bentham at the time.*

7. *John, Alex and Rueben all survived the war. Rueben was awarded a Military Medal for gallantry. Where is that medal now?*

8. *Leonard Auton was the brother of James Auton who was killed at Passchendaele?*

9. *Passchendaele, most who died at Passchendaele are buried at Tyne Cot Military Cemetery that is the largest Commonwealth cemetery in the World. Here there are 11,953 burials, 8366 are unknown. The wall panels to the missing include the names of 35,000 men including Benthamers John Adamthwaite, Charles Bargh, Alfred Clarke, John Maudsley, William Robinson, William Savage, Tom Harry Smith, William Throup, Percy Preston Whitfield. When King George V visited he suggested that the Cross of Sacrifice be placed on top of the main German block-house that had inflicted such carnage.*

Bentham News Accounts

The Certified Accounts for the year ended 31st December 2015 were recently presented to the committee. The figures showed a modest surplus for the year with sufficient reserves to accommodate the current year's increased running costs without the need for any uplift in advertising rates in the medium term. A copy of the accounts is available from Ken Robertson at 61285.

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March's Town Council

By Shirley Brown

Councillors Taylor, Bridgeman, Swales, Marshall, Adams, Stannard, Vendy and Townson were present for the Town Council meeting on 7th March, as was District Cllr Thompson and 5 members of the public. Apologies were received from Cllrs Cowling, Pritchard, Faichney and County Cllr Ireton.

In the public participation slot, Keith Hartley spoke with great feeling about the urgent need for Extra Care Housing in Bentham for older and disabled local people. At present people are sent out of our community when they can no longer live independently and need extra care, and this is wrong. At present NYCC are prioritising the provision of extra care facilities in towns where they are carrying out their policy of closing care homes, and the craziness of this is that since Bentham hasn't even got a care home to close we're not high on the list for getting extra care facilities either. He asked for the TC's support in asking NYCC to prioritise Bentham. Cllr Townson said the situation was very frustrating and strongly recommended that the TC not only write letters of support to NYCC and the hard-working, determined Extra Care Group in Bentham, but also that the provision of such care should be included in the Neighbourhood Plan.

Various highway matters are outstanding after the recent floods. Repair work to the B6480 'is progressing' and blocked gullies on Station Road are still causing a health hazard at the parking areas by the station. Cllr Stannard wants the contractors to collect their orange rubble bags that are now littering the banks of the River Wenning.

Repairs to the wall that was demolished during a road traffic accident outside the Auction Mart in January were discussed. Responsibility for carrying out the repairs is complicated, as NYCC say it's nothing to do with them. The TC is responsible for a small section of the wall and the drivers of the vehicles involved and the landowner will have insurance cover, but Cllr Marshall asked if

the TC could take the lead on getting repairs underway.

Cllr Bridgeman asked for more information about how to register an interest in getting B4RN broadband to Low Bentham. (See also Article on page 16.)

Plans to celebrate the Queen's 90th birthday are in hand. Cllrs Adams and Marshall said an official beacon will be lit on Thursday 21st April at 7.30pm, St John's are producing a booklet about what was happening in this parish 90 years ago and have various celebration events on 12th June, and there are commemorative medals available for schools and councils at a cost of £1.99 each. Also see the article on page 21 about an event at Ripon Cathedral for those celebrating their 90th birthdays in 2016.

David Johnson's request that the Town Council take over responsibility for maintenance of the Bygone Bentham plaques was well received, and this may come under the 'Open Spaces' committee's remit. More uncertain was how to respond to the Footpath Group's request for clarity about insurance for repair work that their volunteers undertake.

There is full occupancy in the alms-houses where work is underway to refurbish bathrooms and kitchens. Cllr Vendy reported on future training for the public in the use of defibrillators and in the substantial changes that are taking place on the committee and the volunteers at the youth café.

To end the meeting on a creative note, Cllr Bridgeman wondered whether the TC could use some of the empty shop windows in Bentham to showcase artworks by local people. And Cllr Marshall suggested that the tollhouse at Low Bentham be reinstated to allow a toll to be charged for Internet shopping vans from Tesco, Asda and Sainsbury's. The proceeds from such tolls would be used to support local traders who have been adversely affected by the closure of the B6480. Perhaps Cllr Marshall had an eye to the publication date of the April BN, 1st April?

April Garden

By Joyce Knapp



April has always been my favourite month of the year, when I was a little girl growing up on a sheep farm, high up in the hills, it was a month filled with sunshine, Easter eggs and chasing spring lambs. This year, although Easter is already behind us and I very much doubt I will be chasing lambs, I do hope we get plenty of spring sunshine to help us get started growing an abundance of flowers and vegetables in our gardens.

We can usually assume the worst of the winter weather is behind us as we get the seed packets out and decide what to sow where. Some relatively easy-to-grow vegetables, including most root crops, eg. carrots, beetroot and parsnips can be sown directly in the ground at this time of year and nature will, hopefully, take the strain by providing both warmth and moisture as required.

Seeds that we can start off in the greenhouse include less hardy varieties such as courgettes and these rather large seeds can be sown in small pots, preferably two in each pot, removing the weakest plant as they begin to develop. These plants can be allowed to grow on in their pots before being hardened off, for a week or two, then they will be ready for planting out at a distance of 18"-24" to allow room for them to spread their trailing stems.

We can also sow seeds of French and Runner beans this month and, whilst it is possible to grow them in situ, better results are usually gained by starting them off in deep, large pots in a greenhouse. They can then be planted out in late May, when there is less risk of a night frost which could kill them off.

Once all the seeds are sown, we can turn to providing nutrition for some of our fruiting plants. If we are fortunate enough to be able to produce our own garden compost, then this can be used to spread under and around blackcurrant and gooseberry

bushes and apple trees. Strawberries, however, prefer a mulch of leaf mould, as they grow naturally in woodland areas. It is worth checking under and around the strawberry plants, before applying the mulch, for any slugs and snails that may be lurking nearby before removing and destroying them.

Moving away from fruit and vegetables, there are one or two shrubs that will benefit from a light prune at this time. Firstly, Witch Hazel, can be tackled, removing only any weak or crossing branches before the leaf buds begin to burst. Then we can prune *Viburnum x bodnantense* simply by removing 1/5 main stems and cutting out any old, weak shoots near/at their base.

Nature Notes



By David Fisher

In Low Bentham it was good news to see a pair of buzzards circulating above. Also a pair of thrushes at Staggarth. On the river a dipper, a sign that the river is unpolluted, red grouse in small numbers on the moors.

There is nothing unusual in our garden, the birds are doing well on the suet I am feeding them. There are animal tracks up the river bank made by small rodents probably a brown rat.

Fungus is apparent on tree trunks at Shakey bridge. Lesser celandine and dog's mercury are the early wild flowers. Spring is here.



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Churches Together in Bentham

By Rev Bryan Yardy

High Bentham Methodist Church

I remember when moving into my first house in South Yorkshire I came home from work one day and couldn't find my key to get back in. I searched high and low and retraced my steps to find the missing key to no avail. I then tried climbing down the cellar grate to gain access, but it was like getting a camel through the eye of a needle. In the end I had to smash the door open with some help from a heavy duty neighbour.

Well, if you've ever lost or forgotten your house key you'll know how infuriating it is not being able to get in. And, for many, much of the Bible and the Christian faith can feel rather similar. It offers a way of life that's often misunderstood or, on the surface, seems too difficult to get into – just like a locked door with a missing key. How can we believe in a loving Creator, you may ask? What is meant by eternal life? Where and what is God? There are a multitude of questions that even the most scholarly struggle to answer. It has rightly been observed that no one has ever been argued into the kingdom of heaven. Even those who profess a firm faith in God have had to struggle to make sense of much written in the Bible. But if we dismiss it or simply give up on it then we will never reach a point of commitment and forever find ourselves on the outside looking in, and no amount of forcing the lock will gain entry.

What we really need is someone with the key, and that person is Jesus, the one who makes God real, the Word made flesh. It is only when we look at him that we are able to see what God is like, and it is through accepting his love and following his way that we find the door opened into the wonder of his kingdom.

No one has ever seen God. It is God the

only Son, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known. (John 1:18 NRSV)



Pilgrimage

By Judith Johnson

Saturday April 30th, Sunday May 1st and Monday May 2nd

Come and join us for a unique opportunity to walk, drive or cycle between the churches of Bentham, Ingleton, Burton, Chapel-le-Dale and Thornton. There will be maps, displays, flowers, refreshments and a warm welcome available between 10am and 4pm on each of the three days.

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High Bentham

By Jill Noble

"Crafty Evening" with Rosie Hall

Enthusiastic WI members watched tentatively as Rosie Hall, local artist and teacher, gave an interesting demonstration on "Iris Folding", a technique originating from the Netherlands. Old, used envelopes were recycled, their pretty inside patterns, cut and arranged in a layering process, resulting in an almost 3D, unique eye catching piece of work. Members chose a selection of 4 contrasting patterns/colours, worked in small groups, following a template, of an Easter Egg. Rosie swept swiftly around the groups, ensuring the desired technique had been mastered. Now working back to front,

can be quite worrying, so came the moment of truth. The last piece of paper in place, time to turn it over, the room filled with little shrieks of delight, (and relief) it had worked! Trimmed edges, sparkling jewels, buttons and ribbons added and they were complete, a hand made individual Easter Card.

Rosie brought along samples of her work and shared a heart warming story of her journey into teaching, fuelled by her passion for art. All through her education, Rosie showed a creative flare, sewing, making her own clothes, even designing a pair of "flip flops" out of Lino and string! A little later in life, inspired, by "Go Creative" courses in Millers Court, Rosie took her interests further. Already holding a Business Study degree, and City & Guilds qualifications, Rosie progressed to teaching others. Today Rosie runs her own classes inspiring others, in various types of needlecraft, and works in Temptations.

The president welcomed visitor June Gerrie to the group.

Members will meet for a meal



at the Horse and Farrier on the 31st March and were reminded about the coffee morning date at the end of April.

The competition "A Pot Of Spring Bulbs" was won by Barbara Shuttleworth.

Next Meeting Thursday 7th April 7.30pm, "Children of Nepal" speaker Jane Chilton.

Visitors and new members always welcome.

Low Bentham

By Pam Warbrick

Our expected speaker for February being indisposed, Brenda Halliwell stepped in to present a talk entitled 'The joys and thrills of sheepdog training'. Brenda, full of enthusiasm for her subject, gave an account of how this passion has developed over the last 10 years since her first sheepdog, Bess.

Investigating breeding lines and seeing how individual dogs respond to training from being pups, allows her to choose the most likely animals for entry to trials. The ideal dog is strong, enjoys the work, is eager to please; yet stays calm and will take correction. Needless to say endless hours of training are necessary to get the dogs to the required level for entry into the various categories, from nursery to open, to national, international and world title events. Video evidence alongside her lively narrative brought the subject to life in the most engaging way.

Our next meeting will be at 7.30 pm on Thursday 21st April at the Victoria Institute. Our speaker, Trish, will speak about 'The work of a lady cobbler'. It sounds fascinating doesn't it? Do come along and join the fun!



Deadline date has changed—12th April for May Bentham News



Lowgill And Tatham

By Mary Taylor

Jackie Foott, Co-coordinator Northern Red Squirrels, gave an interesting and informative illustrated talk to Tatham Fells Women's Institute members in the Old School on Tuesday evening, 8 March.



Jackie spoke of her passion for preserving red squirrels, showing many slides, some beautiful but some upsetting, of diseased red squirrels which had caught pox from the grey ones. Greys were brought into this country in the 1880s; they eat eggs of nesting birds even eating the chicks and food which native species need. They also cause millions of pounds worth of damage in woodland by stripping the bark from trees, so killing them. The only way to preserve the red squirrel is to eliminate the alien greys. She asked members to inform the South Lakes Red Squirrel Group of any sightings, the nearest to Tatham being at Ingleton.

Barbara Haddow thanked the speaker, who judged the competition for nut crackers; winners were Lucy Lee, Gerda Southwell and Mary Myers.

During business, President Margaret McIntosh informed members of coming events and of the two resolutions to be voted on at the National AGM in June.

The evening concluded with refreshments provided by Gill Gilbertson and Barbara Haddow.

Longstaffe Educational Foundation

Each year, the Trustees of the Longstaffe Educational Foundation award grants of varying amounts to applicants who have attended a maintained High or Low Bentham Primary School and are currently under 25 years of age and in full time education.

These grants are to assist with educational costs; in the past helping with the purchase of books, technology, music and dance lessons, and essential equipment.

If you would like to be considered for an award, please contact the Secretary, Mr D Johnson at Holly Gill, Burton Road, Low Bentham LA2 7EW (015242 61905) or email info@longstaffeducationalfoundation.co.uk
The closing date for applications is 12 noon on Wednesday 4th May 2016

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Bus Cuts

By Peter Lennard

The new timetable for the bus service between Bentham and Lancaster affects the whole community in Bentham. Unfortunately, a new, greatly reduced service comes into operation on 3 April 2016. The new timetable is shown below:

NEW TIMETABLE FROM 3 APRIL 2016

High Bentham to Lancaster, Monday to Friday. OUT = Bentham to Lancaster, RETURN = Lancaster to Bentham. Bentham times are at Conservative Club, High Bentham.

OUT	RETURN
07.33	
09.18	10.15
[10.18 scrapped]	12.15
11.43 [was 12.18]	14.15 [moved from 16.15]
13.43 [was 14.08]	17.15
[scrapped 19.08]	

High Bentham to Lancaster, Saturday

OUT	RETURN
	[07.45 scrapped]
[08.03 scrapped]	
09.18	10.15
[10.18 scrapped]	12.15
11.43 [was 12.18]	14.15 (LAST BUS)
13.43 [was 14.18]	[17.15 scrapped]
[19.08 scrapped]	

The main changes affecting Bentham appear to be:

- Only 4 buses per day weekdays and only 3 buses on a Saturday each way
- Cancellation of Saturday 17.15 bus back from Lancaster, with no service after 14.15 on a Saturday
- Cancellation of 19.08 bus into Lancaster, the last bus being 13.43
- The reduction in the Kirkby Lonsdale service means that it is no longer possible to get an evening bus to Wennington and then walking or getting a lift to Bentham.

Unfortunately the deadline for the receipt of objections to the changes was 4 March but if anyone still wants to contact the Council to express their views on the subject, they should write, quoting reference PC0002407/93, to:

Bus Registrations Team
Central Licensing Office
Hillcrest House
386 Harehills Lane
Leeds
LS9 6NF

or email Philip.Stagg1@otc.gsi.gov.uk, putting PC0002407/93 in the Subject line.

It might be worth contacting our MP to bring to his attention the detrimental effect the new service will have on the community.

More On The Buses B4RN In Bentham?

By Richard Wilson

Since Lancashire County Council's decision last year to axe subsidies for rural bus services, Bentham bus users have been trying to find out how they will be affected. Faced with a campaign to minimise cuts, neither LCC nor Stagecoach would commit themselves early, but the changes to services 80/81 from 3rd April are now final and include:

- An hourly service between Lancaster and Hornby, with a bus every two hours to Bentham and Ingleton (service 80) or Kirkby Lonsdale (service 81). All Kirkby Lonsdale services will travel via Melling, Tunstall and Burrow.

- There will no longer be an evening or Sunday service but there will be buses to Halton on Monday - Saturday until 7.30pm on service 49.

- There will be journeys from both Ingleton/Bentham and Kirkby Lonsdale arriving in Lancaster for school and college start times.

At the time of writing, the new timetable wasn't available on the Stagecoach website, but could be viewed on the Lancaster District Bus Users Group website.

To mitigate the cuts, B.E.S.T. has set up a Lift-Share Scheme to help people in Bentham and the surrounding area to offer and receive lifts. Google "Bentham Lift Share Scheme" to find out more.

The summer Sunday and bank holiday Northern Dalesman service from Morecambe to Richmond via Bentham, Hawes and Muker will run as in previous years, from 1st May to 25th September. However, its support from the Dales National Park has been halved, and unless new funding sources are found, this may be its last season. There will be not this year be a connection in Hawes with the Wensleydale Flyer, which no longer flies on Sundays. Full timetables can be found on the Dales-Bus website.

By Julie Bridgeman

Regarding B4RN being available in Low Bentham interested parties need to register their interest at B4RN.org.uk. This alerts B4RN to the people who may want it. Registering an interest is in no way a commitment. When registering people will be asked a series of questions. It costs £150 to get connected to B4RN and then £30 per month. B4RN is funded by people buying shares in a Not for Profit Community Benefit Society, more information about which, can be found on the B4RN website at B4RN.org.uk.

Interested parties then form a group and dig to the B4RN connection which is currently at the North end of the village. Getting B4RN into houses is not a quick process and very much up to those people who want it to get together and organise it. I am happy to co-ordinate activity in Low Bentham.

If anybody wants to chat about this please feel free to email on julie@lowbentham.plus.com or ring 62276.

*Deadline date has changed—
12th April for May Bentham News*



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Bentham People Page

Thanks

Bentham's Extravaganza Charity Concert in aid of Refugees raised £1040 for the work the RED CROSS do with Refugees in Europe. Bentham Area Refugee Support Group (BARSG) would like to thank everyone who came to the Concert and especially those who sang, played, recited poems, did comic turns and told stories making the evening so enjoyable and entertaining.

Elza Sayer

North West Air Ambulance charity was the recipient of the latest donation of £100 by the Bentham Line Dancers. Come and join us on Thursday evenings at the Methodist Church 7.30pm. Good exercise, good fun and good company.

Jenny Durrant

Sue Arnott would like to thank everyone who supported her marathon run in aid of the **Dr Hadwen Trust and Brain Tumour Research**. If anyone would still like to sponsor her, all donations would be welcome, through

<http://www.justgiving.com/Susie-Arnott> or at Bentham Post Office.

Personal

ROWCROFT, Margaret

The family of the late Margaret Rowcroft would like to thank all relatives, friends and neighbours for their kind words of sympathy and support, cards of condolence and donations in Margaret's memory to Myasthenia Gravis and to all those involved in Margaret's care. Thank you to everyone who attended the funeral and to Rev Mabel Parr and Rev Pauline Taylor for the service. Thanks also to B & W Funerals Ltd for their kindness, understanding, guidance and dignified funeral arrangements.

Your Letters

Dear Bentham News,

On a distinctly dismal, cold day in March I was travelling along the closed part of the B6480 when I came across two people slow-

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ly walking along the roadside, heads down with bin bags in one hand and a stick in the other. It took me a few seconds to realise who they were and what they were doing, they were picking up litter!



So, I would like to say thank you to Shirley and Bev for keeping the road so tidy. I know this is the second time the litter pickers have been down the road since it closed. I would also like to say thank you to the rest of the litter pickers who go around Bentham and pick up litter, you really do make a difference.

Linda Brockbank

Dear Bentham News,

I wish that those who object to the practice of marking dog fouling in our streets would take a moment to consider their fellow residents, instead of the temporary presence of dayglow marking. This marking not only highlights (literally) the indifference of some dog owners to the toilet habits of their

dogs but warns the unwary, or those who are not well sighted to an unpleasant addition to their footwear. It also makes any subsequent clean up by the council an easier task.

Dog fouling is an insult to the many dog owners who take extreme care to remove dog droppings and is presumably caused by the same people who would abandon litter on our pavements.

Pam Parkins. 4 Low Bentham Rd, 61767

Dear Bentham News

Arguments rage as to whether we will be better off leaving or staying in the EU. Both sides suggest dire consequences of the alternative option. I am old enough to have voted to join the Common Market 40 years ago, when we were opening up new opportunities for trade. However there's been little mention of EU-driven advances on the environment, food quality, animal and workers rights, equality etc. in the past 15 years, nor how a Britain outside the EU might unpick these "burdens on business". European Directives have boosted Britain's abysmal recycling rates from 4% in the 1990s up to nearer 50%, driven closure of coal-fired power stations and the expansion of renewable energy alternatives, cleaned up our rivers, beaches and Victorian sewage systems and protected our wildlife habitats. While air pollution still kills thousands, it is the EU Clean Air Directive that campaign groups have used to force tougher government action on air quality that breaches World Health Organisation safety standards. Reviewing regulations in the wake of a leave vote will see the poor and the environment getting lower priority. Don't just take my word, see what Friends of the Earth and other environment groups have to say: <http://ow.ly/YMCcu>

Name supplied

Dear Bentham News

Objections to my pavement paintwork notwithstanding (BN Issue 348) I can report that my 'graffiti' have drawn spontaneous and unsolicited applause from a surprising

number of concerned citizens. It is gratifying to know that my CAD is somewhat supported. Those who find the residual paint offensive might well turn their attention to spat out chewing gum. It is a good deal stickier than dried paint.

Having been warned about impending prosecution for my Bentham Banksie artwork, tactical withdrawal seemed appropriate. Craven District Council Environmental Health advised me to report instances of dog-fouling and droppings would be cleared by Waste Management. I decided to do just that, and CDC's Dog Warden has been repeatedly sent photographs of infringements of the Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act 2005i. Whether as a result of my efforts or not, it did appear that some of the offensive dollops disappeared. That's progress, and I do hope CDC Waste Management will continue to cope with demand.

But confidence eludes me and funding-must be very stretched. And incredibly, several surviving dog piles evidently tempted pedestrians to set foot on 'The Path Less Trodden'. That is to say, spots where the chance to accidentally 'put your foot in it' seemed vanishingly small. Others have that irresistible urge to bag it up and dump or hang the bag where it couldn't possibly be missed. Nowt so Queer as Fowks?

From 6 April, all dogs will have to be micro chipped. Responsible dog owners might consider DNA profiling if the option is available under the Microchipping of Dogs (England) Regulations 2015. I might even volunteer to take any necessary samples. EU Health & Safety Regulations permitting, of course!

How long can I keep my can off the streets? Only time, and deeds of delinquent doggeydoers will tell.

Bob Sloan CAD (Retired?)

Craven District Council

Craven Concerns

By D.Cllr Ian Thompson

Cllr.ithompson@cravencdc.gov.uk

Tel: 015242 62472

Craven District Council Has Approved Its 2016/17 Budget Of £7,876,000

On February 25, 2016 Councillors voted to increase council tax at Band D by £5 per year, to £157.21 for the district council portion of the bill. This equates to a rise of around 3.3 per cent or just 10p per week. Other parties (the county council, police, fire service and parishes) set their own rates for their proportion and this is collected on their behalf by CDC. This follows a five year period during which Craven District Council froze Council Tax and also made cumulative savings of £973,000. In 2016/17 the Central Government Revenue Support Grant to CDC will reduce by 38% and by April 2019, it will disappear completely. CDC has balanced the budget by making additional savings, transfers from reserves and a plan to generate new sources of revenue.

Have You Chipped Your Dog Yet?

Wayne Gray of Craven District Council's environmental health team was recently called to recover a stray dog in Kildwick. The dog, called Spike, had been micro-chipped so Wayne was able to identify Spike's owner in Silsden and reunite them. Wayne said: "I would also advise dog owners to make sure that the dog has a collar and a tag. This makes it easier to track down the owner, and it's also easier for us to catch hold of the dog if it's wearing a collar."

Every dog owner in England will have to microchip their animal from April 6, 2016 under plans intended to cut a rise in

strays. The microchips will be coded with owners' details, and owners who do not comply could face fines of up to £500.

If your dog goes missing, or if you find a dog you suspect is lost, call the council's Environmental Health Team during office hours on 01756 700600. When the office is closed, please contact the out of hours number 01653 699392.

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What Has Your Town Council Been Doing In The Last Month?

By Cllr John Vendy on behalf of Bentham TC

Marketing Committee:

A meeting was held to discuss the "Bentham and Beyond Calendar" for 2017. As you may be aware, this is published to raise funds for a local group or organisation. If your group feel able to sell calendars and would benefit from the money raised, please contact the Town Clerk or call in at the Town Hall on Monday or Tuesday mornings.

(townclerk@benthamtowncouncil.co.uk)

Please note that the Annual Parish Meeting will be held on Wednesday, April 27th at 7.00pm in the Town Hall.

Queen's Birthday:

As part of the celebrations for the Queen's 90th birthday there will be a beacon lighting ceremony on April 21st at 7.30pm on the Fourstones Estate near the Big Stone. All will be welcome. Due to parking limits, please leave your car near Green Smithy and walk to the beacon and don't forget a torch and warm coat may be a benefit!

AboutBentham Website:

www.aboutbentham.org.uk

Council are updating the listings and events sections. Have a look and see if your organisation's details are correct. Please send any new Bentham events or corrections to bentham@aboutbentham.org.uk.

Calling All 90-Year Olds!

By David A Kerfoot MBE, Deputy Lieutenant of North Yorkshire

To celebrate Her Majesty the Queen's 90th Birthday, the Lord Lieutenant is organising a celebration on Sunday 12th June in Ripon Cathedral. We expect 1,000 invited guests to attend, and the Lieutenancy is hoping to invite some very special people who reside within our area, which includes Bentham.

To make this event as inclusive as possible, we would like to invite a unique group of people. If your date of birth is either 21st April 1926 or 12th June 1926 (the dates of Her Majesty's actual and official birthdays) you may apply for a free ticket for yourself and someone to accompany you. Anyone with birthdays on these dates will be guaranteed an invitation to this prestigious celebration.

In addition we will hold a draw for anyone with a 90th birthday occurring during 2016. If this is you, then you may apply on line for inclusion in the draw. Those successful will receive an invitation for themselves and someone to accompany them.

To apply for an invitation, go to www.nyll.org.uk/iam90thisyear. Applications may be made on your behalf by a member of your family or by anyone else.

We are hoping to make this a key event in the year and want to include as many 90 year olds, who have contributed so much throughout Her Majesty's reign, as possible.



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<http://www.sole-to-soul.net/gigong.html>

Bentham Library News

By John Frankland

Meet The Author – Philip Caine

Author Philip Caine has relinquished a lifetime's work in some of the world's most hazardous places to turn his hand to writing a modern day adventure. After work in the oil and gas industry he led a major project in Baghdad in 2003 for the US led-coalition and travelled the length of Iraq. His debut novel, 'Picnic in Iraq' is fiction but based on fact.

Come and meet Philip at Bentham Library as part of his book signing tour of libraries from 11 am – 1 pm on Wednesday 20th April and hear about his exhilarating life and his new book.

Computer Problems? Help Is At Hand!

Come along to Bentham Library's Computer Club where library staff and volunteers from Friends of Bentham Library (FoBL) can offer practical advice on using your new device, and contacting friends and family, staying safe, shopping online or browsing the web without any confusing jargon.

The Computer Club is a free, friendly, and a great way to build your confidence in using the internet. It meets on the last Thursday of every month - No need to book – just drop-in; everyone is welcome. The next event will be on Thursday 28th April, 2 – 4 pm.

Story and Rhyme time



Come along to our StoryTime session for Under-5s. The Storytimes, led by volunteer Lydia Bennett, will take place weekly in term time on Monday afternoons from 2.30 – 3 pm.

and include rhymes and singing as well as stories. These sessions are completely FREE, and all are welcome.

For more information about any of these events, call 01609 534533 or Email: bentham.library@northyorks.gov.uk to find out more.

Library Opening Times

Bentham library is open Mondays 2.30-7pm, Wednesdays 10am-4pm, Fridays 2.30-5.30pm and Saturdays 10am-12noon.

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info@kidzdaynursery.co.uk**

Planning Matters From The Clerk's Report To Bentham Town Council

Granted:

Change of use from Care Home to residential dwelling at The Red House, Gas House Lane, High Bentham.

New Applications:

(1) Proposed development of single two storey detached dwelling at Lairgill House, Mount Pleasant, High Bentham.

(2) Change of use of Playing Field to residential development of 2 dwellings at Bank View, Doctor's Hill, Low Bentham.

Costume Crisis

By Sue Halsall

Bentham Theatre Group has quite a big collection of costumes that used to be kept above the HSBC bank, but it all got moved to a member's barn when the bank closed. However, we now need to find another space for the clothes and boxes because the space in the barn is now needed. There are 4 rails of clothes and about 15 stacker boxes of hats, fabric, clothes and assorted small props. Is there anyone who has some space in a garage or barn that they are willing to let us use, please? If you have then please contact Sue Halsall on 62083 - the Theatre Group would be very grateful.

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Colour quarter page £40 local —£50 non local

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Events in April

Town Hall Codes: TB Ballroom LH Lower Hall WR Wenningdale Room

Fri 1st Victoria Inst. 10am-12noon, Post Office Services. And every Fri.

Masonic Lodge, 10am-2.30pm, Age Concern. And every Fri. A Bobbie's Life—Part 2, Alan Tonge.

Sat 2nd Town Hall, 10am—12 noon,

 Tourist Information Coffee Morning. TB.

Looking Well, 12-2pm. Warm Weekends are back! And every first Saturday. See page 26.

Bentham Footpath Group,

Skipton, 7.5 miles, Leaders David and Sheila Longton, 61838, Meet Lairgill 9.30 am. See page 38.

Mon 4th Victoria Inst., 10am-12noon,

Office Open. And every Mon.
12:15-2:15pm, Community Link Café. And every Mon.

4-6pm, Helen Howard School of Dance. And every Mon.

6:15-7:30pm, Tai Chi. And every Mon.

Town Hall, 1-3pm, N Y Horizons. And every Mon. WR.

7-8pm, Boxercise. And every Mon. TB.

8.15-9.15pm, Boxercise. And every Mon. TB.

Youth Café, 7.30pm Full Town Council Meeting

Bentham Methodist Church Hall, 10-11:30am, Toddle-in for parents and carers with children 0-4. And every Mon except Bank Holidays.

Tues 5th Victoria Inst., 10am-12noon, Office Open. And every Tues.

4-8pm, Helen Howard School of Dance. And every Tues.

Town Hall, 10am-12noon, Craft Club. And every Tues. WR.

7-8pm, Aerobics. And every Tues. TB.

Wed 6th Victoria Inst., 10am-12 noon, Post Office Services. And every Wed.

11:30am-2:15pm, Community Link Café. And every Wed.

3.45-8.30pm, Helen Howard School of Dance. And every Wed.

 **Methodist Church**, 10-11:30am, Coffee Morning. Donations to local charities. And every Wed.

Bentham Footpath Group, Addingham, 6.5 miles, Leaders David and Janice Toft, 62570, meet Lairgill 9.30am. See page 38

Thu 7th Victoria Inst., 10am-12noon, Bat'N'Chat. And every Thurs.

1-3.30pm, Piper's Painters. And every Thurs.

4-8pm, Helen Howard School of Dance. And every Thurs.

Town Hall, 9.30-10.30am, Pilates. And every Thur. LH.

7-8pm, Boxercise. And every Thurs. TB.

7-10pm, High Bentham WI. LH.

Fri 8th Masonic Lodge, 10am -2.30pm, Age Concern, Exercise.

Town Hall, 8pm, Film Group The Third Man see page 27.

Sat 9th Victoria Inst, 10am-12 noon, Book Swap and every second Saturday in the month.

 **Town Hall**, 10am-12noon, Bowling Club Coffee Morning. LH.

Mon 11th (Looking Well reopens after Easter) Lairgill Car Park, Meet 9.30 am, Walks for Women. And every Mon.

Looking Well, Making Art. Ring 62672 for details. For those with Memory Loss and their carers. And every Mon.

Carers Group 10-1pm.

Town Hall, 9:30-11am, Zanna's Adult Ballet. And every Mon .LH.

Bentham Library, 2.30pm, Story time for under 5s. And 18th & 25th.

See Page 22.

Bentham Methodist Church Hall,

3.45-4.45pm, Adventurers, for children aged 4-6 years. And every Mon in term time.

6.15-7.30pm, Springboard, for children aged 7-11 years. And every Mon in term time.

Tues 12th Looking Well, 10:30am, Tuesday @ Looking Well and Community Lunch at 1pm. Café and soup. Writers Group 11.30-1pm. And every Tues.

Town Hall, 10-11am, Mature movers. And every Tues LH.

Bentham Primary School Hall, 6-7pm, Yoga. And every Tues

BENTHAM NEWS DEADLINE

Wed 13th Ingleton Community Centre, 10am -12noon, CAB. And 27th.

Looking Well, 2-4pm, Art for All. Art Group. And every Wed.

Thu 14th Looking Well, 2-4pm, Art Shed, Community Art. And every Thur.

Methodist Church Hall, 2-4pm, Welcome-In. Dominoes and tea for all ages, transport contact Anthony 63156. And 28th.

Fri 15th Lairgill, 8.30-11am, waste paper collection in aid of NSPCC.

Looking Well, 10.30-1pm, Art Skills Development. For details ring 62672. And every Fri.

Town Hall 9:30-11am, Little Stars Toddler Group. And every Fri.

Masonic Lodge, 10am-2.30pm, Age Concern. Precious Memories, Mary Hartley.

Methodist Church Hall, 6-7pm, Yoga. And every Fri.

Sat 16th Town Hall, 10am-12noon,  Sunbeams Coffee Morning, TB.

Bentham Footpath group, Arkholme/Gunnerthwaite, 5miles,

Leaders Cherith Metcalfe and June Hewitt, 61742.

Meet Lairgill 9.30am *See page 38*

Wed 20th Bentham Library, 11-1pm, Meet the Author. Philip Caine book signing event, see page 22.

Looking Well, 8-9.30pm, Singing for all.

Thu 21st Hornby Village Institute, 7.30pm 'Floral Journey to Chelsea Gold ' *see page 31.*

Fri 22nd Masonic Lodge, 10am-2.30pm, Age Concern. A Trip to India—Cecille Nock.

Footpath Group Annual Dinner 7 for 7.30pm

Sat 23rd Town Hall, 10am-12noon, High Bentham WI Coffee Morning

Mon 25th Methodist Church, 7.30pm. Ewecross Historical Society AGM. Edward Huddleston 'Caton to Keasden' - History from a Hot-Air Balloon.

Wed 27th Town Hall, 7pm Annual Parish Meeting, LH/Galley

Thu 28th Bentham Library—Computer Club. See page 22.

Caton St Paul's School, 7-8.30pm, Children's Nearly New sale.

Bentham Footpath Group, Helvellyn, 9 miles, Leaders David Longton and Ed Badley, 61838 Meet Lairgill 9.30am.

Fri 29th Masonic Lodge, 10am-2.30 pm, Age Concern. Dominoes.

Sat 30th Town Hall, 8am-12noon,  Bentham Beagles Coffee Morning Child's Party, 3-6pm, TB.

7-11pm, Ballroom dancing (Big G Dance) Bring drinks.

Ingleborough Team Pilgrimage. Between 10am and 4pm. See page 13. Also 1 & 2 May.

APRIL 29TH

BENTHAM NEWS PUBLISHED

Warm weekends are back! Looking Well, Saturday 2nd April, 12-2pm. Come in for soup, cake, socialising and try your hand at a bit of drawing or painting. All ages welcome. Children must be accompanied by an adult. **First Saturday of every**

Self Belief

By Peter Knowles, Looking Well Written

Stop saying you've only got yourself to blame,

you've only got yourself to praise.

Give everything you've got and give yourself a raise.

I can be working flat out whilst lying down,

I get my exercise making a smile out of a frown.

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love others,

and make your life's work spreading joy around.

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Bentham News is published at New House, Mewith Lane, Bentham, by an editorial committee consisting of Shirley Brown, Jane Proctor, Kathleen Kelly, Howard Matthew, Peter Phillips, Richard Wallace, Pam Woof, Alice Ellwood and Denise Henshaw—co-ordinator, who can be contacted on 015242 61515. Emma Greenep will be working alongside Denise administering the advertising side of the paper and can be reached on ads@thebenthamnews.co.uk. Every effort is made to ensure that information contained in the paper is correct, however Bentham News is an open access paper and views and opinions expressed are not necessarily those of the editorial committee. The committee reserves the right to edit contributions. We are willing to withhold names on request, but names, addresses and telephone numbers must accompany all items for publication. Please hand in to the Gallery, Station Road or email to info@thebenthamnews.co.uk. Copy deadline is 12 April for the May edition. We aim to acknowledge all emails, if you do not receive a reply to an email, please contact us again, as it may not have been received.

month.

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Bentham Film Group

By Stella Hall

Bentham Film Group's Evening of Nostalgia



On Friday 8th April we will be showing an undisputed masterpiece of the cinema in High Bentham Town Hall: **THE THIRD MAN**.

This black and white film, which will be shown on our BIG SCREEN, was released in 1949. It is an atmospheric spy thriller set in postwar Vienna. Joseph Cotten plays pulp novelist Holly Martins who travels to that shadowy city only to find himself investigating the mysterious death of an old friend, Harry Lime. Its jaunty but haunting musical score, provided by a zither, is instantly recognisable.

Come join us as we 'wallow' in nostalgia!

As usual, the film starts at 8pm and tickets cost £5 on the door.

There will be a raffle and refreshments in the interval.

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Save A Life For FREE?

By John Vendy

First Aid in the minutes following a heart attack can make an incredible difference to the outcome for the patient. Cardio Pulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) will keep a patient alive while an ambulance arrives. An Automated External Defibrillator (AED) will monitor the heart and will automatically "shock" to re-set abnormal rhythms. They are designed to be easy to use by anyone with minimal, or no, knowledge or training and the built-in safety systems prevent doing any harm.

Following the invaluable support and help we have had from "Ingleton's Save a Life" team and the British Heart Foundation, we are now in a position to offer FREE training in CPR and awareness training in the use of AEDs. If you find yourself at a loose end on the mornings of Saturdays April 9th or 23rd (10:00 am to noon), come along to the Lower Town Hall and have a chat, watch a video and learn to give CPR. We have a set of dummies to practice on and there will be advice and help on hand (thanks to John Lloyd of Low Bentham who has offered to "train the trainers"). There is no cost to you.

The first two AEDs will be appearing soon (one on the Town Hall and one at the Doctor's Surgery) and a third is already part-funded. All will be available for public use in an emergency. When you dial 999 you will be directed to the nearest one and given the access code.

AEDs are a potential benefit to EVERYONE in Bentham! The more we can have the better. Any donations or fund-raising ideas welcome!

If you would like to be involved or to know more about the project please contact:

Jill Noble (015242 61202, Jill.Noble@gp-b82061.nhs.uk) or

John Vendy (015242 62083, john.vendy@benthamtowncouncil.co.uk).

If you witness a cardiac arrest now, you can increase the person's chances of survival by phoning 999 immediately and giving CPR while you wait for the ambulance to arrive. The ambulances all carry AEDs.

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NYCC Community Awards 2016

By Claire Lowery (claire.lowery@northyorks.gov.uk)

North Yorkshire County Council community awards to recognise and celebrate voluntary work carried out by people and organisations countywide are now open for nominations.

The award categories are as follows:

Best Community Project Award: this award will recognise a specific community project that has resulted in real benefits for the community in 2015-16.

Best Community Group Award: this award will recognise an inspirational community group that has made a positive impact on a community and/or people's lives in 2015-16. This is for on going day-to-day activity, not a one-off project.

Volunteer Of The Year: this award will recognise an inspiring individual who has made an outstanding contribution to their community through volunteering above and beyond their normal role in 2015-16.

Young People Volunteering Award: this award will recognise projects or activities run by an individual or group aged 11-25. It will be awarded to a young person, or people, who have made a positive difference to other people's lives by volunteering their time and skills to help solve a problem or provide a service.

The winner of each category will be awarded £1,000 for the relevant project, group or nominated local charity in the case of the volunteer awards. Two runners-up in each category will receive £250.

Nominations close on 31st May 2016. More information and online nomination forms can be found at:

<http://www.northyorks.gov.uk/communityawards>.

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Do What You Cheer

By Andy Mouncey (Fitness Fix at the icentre, Ingleton, 07799 063115)

'Go on, my son!'

'Stick with it!'

'You're catching her up!'

'C'mon – last bit – sprint all the way!'

'KEEP GOING!'

These are the typical sounds of grown-up encouragement at kids' running races, and last month Knight Stainforth Caravan Park was echoing to just such a chorus as Jill Eccleston (www.runbikefun.co.uk) and I staged our first family-friendly run-bike-run races of the year.

The 4-6 year olds start at a full-on sprint as only the little ones do, and as we went through the age groups a hint of tactical racing brain was glimpsed every now and then, but the dominant trend was that EVERYONE was giving it EVERYTHING they'd got, and of course that included a death-or-glory finishing sprint.

So was there prize money in abundance, or lucrative sponsorship deals on offer to the winners? No of course there flippin' wasn't. The kids ran and biked their hearts out because that's what they do, even if they'd been to football or gymnastics earlier and lunch was two crème eggs and a cheese stick in the car on the way over.

Then it was the turn of the adults. This year we'd added a twist: The Gasper For Grown Ups: a 20 minute continuous run-bike relay that teams could complete in any combination they chose. 'So who's up for a relay?' we shouted. 'WE ARE!' shouted back all the kids, who had already raced their socks off, and 'we are!' mumbled some of the half-dressed for action grown-ups. By the time we were ready for the off nearly everyone had been co-opted into a team – pressure is a wonderful thing – and that included some grandparents who'd come to watch and for whom getting ready was just removing a coat.

And so the roles were reversed and the grown ups got a chance to practise doing what they'd been cheering earlier: Stick with it. Keep going. Finish with a sprint. 'Cos anything else is just wrong – right?

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Ewecross Historical Society

By Mary Taylor

Sir John Kerr welcomed Dr Mike Winstanley former senior lecturer at Lancaster University, to the Ewecross Historical Society meeting, held in Bentham Methodist Church on Monday, 29 February.

Dr. Winstanley illustrated his subject, "Markets and Supermarkets, 200 years of shopping in the North West", with many slides of paintings and photographs of this area, pointing out the difference in the North West from other parts of the country.

His earliest reference was to a map of 1577 showing the day of the week on which the market was held in each village. Spaces in the market place and surrounding streets were allotted to different produce; the smell from the meat market could only be imagined as animals were slaughtered in the street.

This progressed to market halls, chain stores - the Coop being one of the biggest - and supermarkets with the Trafford Centre becoming a cathedral of shopping. However, the street market is now back in Market Square Lancaster 150 years after it closed.

Dr Winstanley concluded with speculation for the future with on line shopping. Coffee shops and charity shops are on the increase and private hairdressers are still flourishing.

The next meeting on 21 March will feature, "Roads and Roadsides in the North West in the past 200 years" by Jean Turnbull.

Hornby Flower Club next meets on Thursday 21st April, 7.30pm at Hornby Village Institute. We are very fortunate to have as our speaker and demonstrator Sara Barrow, winner of a prestigious Chelsea Gold. She will be talking about her 'Floral Journey to Chelsea Gold'.

Pat Seber

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Rebecca Brings Sunbeams To Rotary Club

By Lilian Barton



On 3rd March Rebecca Porter, founder of 'Sunbeams' in Bentham, was the speaker at the Rotary Club. Rebecca, as a young mum whose eldest daughter has autism with learning difficulties, understands very well the situation of families who have a child with additional needs. So six years ago she formed 'Sunbeams' to bring people together who have similar experiences. Now ten families with 23 children to support regularly attend monthly meetings and activities. This group brings families together so that they can discuss and share their experiences. Siblings, especially teenagers, often feel isolated and unable to cope with their situation, and this is where 'Sunbeams' can help. Rebecca's hope for 2016 is to be able to provide a safe haven for young people, and also to create more social opportunities for families to bring comfort to each other. A coffee morning is planned for 10am-12 noon on 16th April in Bentham Town Hall. If you belong to a group needing speakers, or would like more information about 'Sunbeams', then please contact Rebecca on 015242-63062.

On Sunday 5th June the Rotary Club is organising 3 walks, all starting from Kirkby Lonsdale Rugby Club for "Lune Walk 4UR Charity". Parents with toddlers in pushchairs will be catered for as well as people who don't want to walk too far. You can see full details on the club website, www.lunesdalerotary.org.uk.

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Bentham Community Primary School

By Catherine Boocock, Head Teacher

As many readers will have heard, Bentham Community Primary School was inspected by Ofsted at the end of February 2016. At the time of writing, the official report is eagerly awaited, and when it is published it will be on our school's website (www.benthamcpschool.org.uk) for all to peruse. We would like to take this opportunity to say 'thank you' to parents, grandparents, families, staff, governors, children and the community for their continued support of their local primary school.

Fundraising

The Friends of Bentham School are collecting 'Active Kids' vouchers from Sainsburys and any donations of vouchers towards this collection from the community would be very gratefully received.

Many children recently took part in 'Thanks a Bunch', a fundraiser that supports 'Mothers' Day' or 'Special Persons' Day'. Thank you to Mrs Pamela Leak at Flowerfields for sourcing the beautiful bunches of daffodils for our children at cost. Our annual Easter Egg raffle took place on 24th March, so thanks go to all the local shops and organisations who have helped support this by donating prizes and Easter Eggs. We would like to take this opportunity to thank the 'Sunday Boys Club', a group of local fundraisers who recently made a significant donation towards the Friends of Bentham School's Gazebo fund. We have now managed to raise nearly half of the amount required to build a permanent outdoor Gazebo in our school playground. This structure will benefit everyone in every class.

Countryside Festival In June

On Saturday 25th June, the Friends of Bentham School will be hosting their very first Countryside Festival at Bentham Community Primary School. There will be live

music, refreshments, games, craft stalls, cake stalls, and much, much more. If you would like to reserve a stall at this event please contact Sally in the school office on 015242 61412.

Fair Trade Fortnight

As part of 'Fair Trade Fortnight' (29th February to 13th March) children had lessons about Fair Trade. On the morning of 8th March they were invited to take part in a 'Fair Trade Breakfast'. For this, alongside Fair Trade produce, children were offered a range of cereals, and were encouraged to think about fair trade for farmers in our local community, many of whom are currently struggling with extremely low milk prices.

World Book Day

On Thursday 3rd March, the school took part in 'World Book Day'. This educational day was celebrated by encouraging children to dress up as a favourite book character. Apologies to any local residents who thought they were seeing things that morning when they saw 'Superman' and 'Woody' making their way towards school! Instead of collecting voluntary contributions for the privilege of dressing up, children were asked to bring into school a book that they no longer wanted and donate it to Oxfam. This activity helps to support our school's UNICEF accreditation and SMSC learning within the curriculum.

No More Leaks!

External remedial work on the school building has now been completed and we are very pleased to report that, following the recent inclement weather, the previous leak situation has not recurred: so far, so good! Finally, we still have places available at our wonderful school nursery. For more information, please contact the School Office on 015242 61412.

Deadline date has changed—12th April for May Bentham News



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Carnival Bentham Problem Page

By Mike Redfern

Another expert



Your personal problems dealt with by an expert

This month the postbag was fuller than usual. You all seem to want to raise questions about free will and determinism; almost everyone is asking the same question:

"Is choice an illusion?"

I don't know what's brought this on – is it Trump and Clinton? Staying in or getting out? Red or white? But I know what I think – if you (and yes I mean you, dear writer) don't identify the options and make your own choices, then life becomes like that film where Jim Carey's in a made up world and there's a man with a beret.

So practice making some choices. Here's some Carnival options:

This year's Carnival procession will be full of decorated umbrellas of all shapes and sizes; why don't you :

- Find an old umbrella and decorate it at home?
- Come along to the Looking Well Studios (King Street) between 2pm and 4pm between the 31st May and 3rd June, and make an umbrella for the procession (or bring your own and decorate it)
- Contact us on Website www.carnivalbentham.co.uk
Facebook page www.facebook.com/CARNivalBentham
And volunteer to help prepare for the day, or help on the day itself.
- Come to our April Carnival meeting on Thursday 27th April – 7.30 pm in the Black Bull
- And finally, why not choose to come along on Carnival day - 4th June – and enjoy the fun – stalls, fairground, music, food.

And remember – if metaphysical libertarianism isn't your scene then that's fine by me, a little bit of causal determinism never did anybody any harm.

Apart from that man in the beret.

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The Bike Bin Comes To Benthams

By Andy Mounsey

Do you have a bicycle that's rarely ridden?

Are the kids leaving you behind?

What if there was a thriving cycling hub in the village?

The Bike Bin is a new project that I am setting up in Benthams. It will be based at Looking Well, King Street, Benthams and will be open on Saturday mornings. It will recycle and repair old/unused bikes and support local people to widen their cycling horizons and bike with confidence. The Bike Bin will be a not-for-profit scheme and will operate as a business run by a team of local people supported in the short term by grant funding.

The Bike Bin Needs You If

- You have bike repair/build skills and would teach others
- You'd like to learn how to repair/build bikes
- You have an old/unused bike that could be recycled
- You have children that would ride if they could
- You don't ride but would if you could
- You ride and would happily guide/support others
- You just want to keep in touch with The Bike Bin developments

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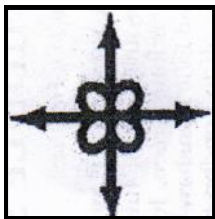
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Footpath Matters

By Kate Rowe

*"April brings us sun and showers
And the pretty wildwood flowers"*



Sun, showers, wind, or snow?

What will April bring? I know it will bring my favourite "wildwood" walk, Oxenber Woods at Austwick. I was lucky to miss a month of winter with a visit to New Zealand, but I did not escape the rain. The first two weeks were quite wet, with almost 6 inches on the day we drove into Milford Sound on the West Coast of South Island where they have 7 metres a year. Heavy rain is normal, and the very, very wide river beds are able to cope. One bridge over the Rakaia River is over a mile long!

"Clean for the Queen", a campaign to encourage us to pick up litter to celebrate the Queen's 90th birthday would not be needed in New Zealand. The New Zealanders' attitude to rubbish is "if you bring it in, take it back with you". So there are no litter bins in the National Parks, a policy I think we could adopt here to encourage everyone to be responsible for their own rubbish.

All walks leave from Lairgill at 9.30am.

Our first walk is 7.5 miles at Skipton on Saturday 2nd. We start from the Coach Street Car Park (Pay and Display £4.50) and find our way onto the Leeds Liverpool Canal towpath which we follow through the town. Our route then leaves the canal and climbs onto Skipton Moor via Horse Close and Cawder Hall Farms. From the top of Skipton Moor we should enjoy good views over the town. We drop back into town via Jenny Gill and on past the Castle into Skipton Woods. We return to the cars over Park Hill to the canal, with a final treat for the true Yorkshire men amongst us.

On Wednesday 6th our 6.5 mile walk will start from the layby on Bark Lane in Addingham, go into the village centre and then up Sugar Hill to cross the golf course. We will then pass Chelker Reservoir and

Haw Pike before heading down to Bolton Bridge. From there we will follow the Dales Way to the Quaker Meeting House near Lobwood House and then follow the river back to Addingham.

The Arkholme/Whittington walk on Saturday 16th has had to be changed as the footbridge over Newton Beck is impassable. So it will now be a 5 mile circular from Arkholme to Gunnerthwaite, returning by High Farm.

A more strenuous walk awaits us on Thursday 28th April as we climb Helvellyn. We park by the roadside at the top of Dunmail Raise and climb steeply alongside Raise Beck to Grisedale Tarn. Then we continue our climb up and over Dollywaggon and Nethermost Pikes to the top of Helvellyn. Our walk down from the top will depend on which paths are open at the time and may be shorter than the 9 miles advised in the programme.

A reminder of the Annual Dinner on Friday 22nd, 7pm for 7.30pm.

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Virals

By Kathy and Brendan Reichs

Teen Book Review by Imogene Henshaw

Virals is the first book in the Virals series. The next four books Seizure, Code, Exposure and Terminal have already been released but the series is still unfinished with no information as to how long it will be. Virals follows the story of Tory Brennan (niece of Temperance Brennan, the protagonist of the Bones novels and TV show) as she moves to the secluded Morris Island off the coast of Charleston, South Carolina to live with her father after the death of her mother.

Fourteen year old Tory Brennan loves to investigate bones and dead bodies like her aunt Temperance, together with her friends Ben, Hiram and Shelton she explores Loggerhead Island (home of the Loggerhead Island Research

Institute (LIRI)). When Tory finds a rusted dog tag that dates back to the time of the Vietnam War she is determined to find out who the owner was. However they discover that the case runs deeper than just a lost dog tag when Tory and her friends discover the remains of a body from an unsolved murder case and, determined to investigate further, Tory persuades her friends to sneak into LIRI together to use their specialist equipment. When in the facility the group find a sick dog locked in a cage; they rescue the dog

but, unknown to them, the dog had been injected with a mutated strain of canine parvovirus that is able to infect humans as well and when Tory and her friends recover they discover that the virus has changed their DNA and given them heightened strength and senses.

Tory and her friends will need to use these powers and their brains because they're not the only ones who are interested in the murder mystery and their lives have just become a lot more dangerous.

I really love this series because it, seem-

ingly effortlessly, combines high school life, a murder investigation and what are basically superpowers in a way that seems realistic instead of just using whatever tropes /storylines they can think of to keep you interested with no regard for logistics like some books do.



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Opening Day Springfield Bowling Club

By Helen Cross, Club Secretary



Are you interested in learning to bowl, or are you a bowler who hasn't played for a while and would like to play again?

On Saturday 2nd April the club will be having an Opening Day at 1.30pm. You will be most welcome to come and join in the fun, whether you are 6 years old or 60 years old, age is no barrier. Don't worry if you haven't got any bowls, we have some you can borrow! The club is on the main road at the end of the town, just before Pye Busk.

Springfield Bowling Club is a thriving club. We play friendly matches most week-ends against clubs such as Ingleborough and Burton-in-Lonsdale. We are in two different weekly leagues plus we have inter club competitions. We also have a club day every Wednesday, when a round robin is played in the afternoon and evening.

If you would like more information please phone me on 015242-80079 or Tom on 015242-61101, or just come along on the day, we will be pleased to see you.

There will be a coffee morning at the Town Hall on Saturday April 9th, held in aid of club funds. Come along and meet some of the bowlers whilst enjoying your coffee and biscuits.



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Scouting For Girls And Boys

By Emily Taylor, Aged 15

I recently moved to this area and was told about a Scout group that was running in the village of Wray. Whilst being interested in outdoor activities and presently doing my Duke of Edinburgh Award the Scout group information had not registered with me as I thought scouting was only for boys. However, I was wrong and I have now been a member of this group for the last year and in fact there are as many girls as boys in my troop.



The founder of the scouting organisation was Lord Robert Baden-Powell. He was a Lieutenant General in the British Army, serving in India and in the Boer War in Africa. On returning to England he thought that the skills he had learnt in the army would be beneficial for young boys to master, and so he founded the Scouts in 1907. He created Scouts because he saw that many working class boys were under a great deal of social pressure and had great potential that was often left unacknowledged and untapped.

Scouting became, and remains, incredibly popular and is now the biggest mixed youth organisation in the UK. Its present aims are to change the lives of young teens by offering them enriching activities such as camping, orienteering, canoeing and much, much more which they may never otherwise have had the chance to enjoy. In 2007 the decision was made that any girl between the ages of 10 ½ -14 can join Scouts.

I joined Hornby 3rd Division in late March 2015 as I heard about it from a friend who was a member. Over the last year I have enjoyed a whole range of exciting activities including indoor and outdoor rock climbing and running stalls at Wray Scarecrow Festival to raise money for scouting equipment. We have also done other exciting activities such as a number of hikes and some of us got to participate in a night activity against other Scout groups.

Hornby Scout's leader is Will Williamson who told me he became involved about two years ago because the Scout group was finishing as there were no adults who wanted to help out, but since then other helpers have come along and also become leaders.

Outside activities which the troop has done include: cycling, rock climbing, hiking, caving, raft building, orienteering, shelter making, campfire cooking, growing vegetables, wide games and team games.

Inside activities include: circus skills, art and craft, fundraising, festivals and celebrations, problem solving and team building, baking plus many individual activity badges.

When asked what qualifications are needed to become a Scout leader Will said, "Any interest and enthusiasm will get you started; then you need some basic first aid and your DBS clearance so you are okay working with young children".

I have now turned 15 and I am officially too old to be in the Scout troop but I have progressed to become a young leader helping my fellow Scouts once a week at our meeting and on weekend activities.

I would encourage all young people between the ages of 10 ½ to 14 to come and join either our troop or one locally. It is great fun, you get involved in the community and you get to do some great activities. We meet every Thursday evening between 7:00-8:30 at Wray Institute.

Emily has written this article as part of her Duke of Edinburgh Award scheme.





B6480 Progress

Photograph by Will Simm on the We Are Bentham Facebook site of repair work underway.

A Fresh Tourism Initiative?

By Carrie Destone

The ever-present issue of how to attract more tourists into our town has been concerning the people of Bentham for some time. Recently the debate has been conducted on social media with Facebook being used to highlight a particular area of interest and possible development. I recently found the following comment: "It has become obvious in recent years that the Big Stone isn't attracting the number of tourists that it should, and we think that this is for three reasons. Firstly, its location up on the moor away from the traditional tourist routes which lie on the north side of the A65. Secondly, because the tourism committee has been unable to promote the attractions of the Big Stone due to lack of funds. And thirdly, because the badly-maintained, boggy, muddy path to the Stone from the layby, puts off many but the hardy tourists from attempting to reach the Stone, let alone climb it. Negotiations are currently taking place with Ingleton Parish Council concerning the sale of Big Stone. It is hoped that this will raise enough money to pay for essential improvements to Bentham's facilities, such as white lines in Cleveland Square car park, and the return of the much-missed public conveniences. This is a win-win situation for Bentham."

This is a bold initiative. In the past the town council have sometimes felt unfairly

criticised for not doing enough to help the town, so this proposal is to be applauded. I gather from social media that the town council propose to relocate the Great Stone of Fourstones to the top of Ingleborough. The daring plan is for it to replace Ingleborough's trig point, thus making this, the most popular of the Three Peaks, also the highest.

However this proposal is not universally popular with all the town councillors. One has contributed to the debate by suggesting that moving The Big Stone is not feasible. But others have reminded the faint-hearted, that if it was possible to erect Stonehenge in 2,000 BC, then moving one big stone should not be beyond our capabilities. However those opposed to the move point out that the solution to the problem would simply be to move the Lancashire/Yorkshire border a few yards to the left, so that the issue of the maintenance and upkeep of The Big Stone would come under the remit of County Hall in Preston rather than the council tax payers of Bentham.

As news of this has leaked out, a spokesperson for the Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority has told BN: "I can confirm that to date the planning committee has not received a 'Change Of Use' application from either Bentham or Ingleton councils. Such applications would need to be in before the deadline of 1st April to be considered in this financial year".



Green Futures For Young People

By Sarah Pettifer, Marketing and Communications Officer at YDMT

Tel: 015242-51002, email: media@ydmtd.org

A partnership based in the Yorkshire Dales is receiving £819,827 from the Big Lottery Fund for 'Green Futures', an exciting five-year programme that will support and develop environmental opportunities for young people right across the region.

Stephanie Hilborne OBE, Chief Executive of The Wildlife Trusts said: "It is brilliant that the Big Lottery Fund has recognised that societal and environmental challenges are two sides of the same coin. The programme supports young people to develop the skills needed to thrive in the workplace, and it does so through the environment."

Yorkshire Dales Millennium Trust (YDMT), based in Clapham, will lead a partnership of local young people and organisations, including Craven Development Education Centre. This 'Green Futures' partnership

aims to enthuse and inspire 4,000 young people, aged 11-24, to connect with their local environment around the Yorkshire Dales. There will be range of initiatives to provide exciting hands-on opportunities for young people to get involved and make positive environmental changes. Some of this work will target youngsters who are not traditionally connected with the outdoors.

YDMT works to support the social and economic well-being of this special area and has to date delivered over 1,900 projects covering areas as diverse as countryside apprenticeships, restoring woodland and wildlife habitats and conserving heritage features.

You can follow the progress of this work by using any of the following links:

www.ourbrightfuture.co.uk

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Bentham Beagles

By Sue Arnott

The Beagle Belles have triumphed in Europe again and put Bentham firmly on the international running map! All six finished the Barcelona Marathon with very respectable times and did the Club proud. Not only did they each run the 26 mile marathon but we were up at 5.30am for breakfast so as to be at the venue for an 8:30am start. Despite there being over 20,000 runners taking part, there was no missing the bright orange shirts of the Bentham Beagles.



A spring marathon is fast becoming an annual event for the girls. Feel inspired? (Or just exhausted!)

Fellow club runners Alan Chesters ran the Seville Marathon last month and Janet Monaghan will be running the London Marathon on 24 April.

In both photos there's Zoe MacDonald, Diane Armstrong, Jill Noble, Lynda Morris, Kate Morris and myself - left we'd just finished the breakfast run the morning before the big race and above we're all euphoric (and shattered!) after we'd finished the marathon.

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Thirty Years Of Bentham Footpath Group

By Kate Rowe

On Saturday 5th March, 29 members celebrated the 30th Anniversary of the Footpath Group with a walk on one of the local Millennium trails. The group was started by Len Moody in 1986, and initially he led all the walks with the idea of finding out where the local Bentham paths went. Eventually the group ventured further to Ingleton and Burton-in-Lonsdale! Nowadays our walks cover a very wide area. Len knocked on Bernard Ellershaw's door, as Bernard was responsible for looking after the paths for the Council, and Bernard became a founder member. It was pleasing to see that Bernard and two other founder members, Dorothy Stubbs and Sue Pilkington, did Saturday's walk. Both of Len's daughters, Jenny and Bridget walk with us when they can, and it was lovely that Jenny had come up from London for the walk. We did wonder how many of the present group would be walking in another 30 years!

