

BENTHAM NEWS

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British swallows are a welcome visitor having arrived back on a weather vane in Bentham after spending the winter in South Africa. They travel up to 200 miles a day during migration, are about 18cms long and easily identified by their long tail streamers. Photo by Peter Hardy

Find us on Facebook and Instagram @thebenthamnews or on the web www.thebenthamnews.co.uk

The Bentham Hub Story Continues.....

By The Bentham Hub Trustees

Hi supporters of the Bentham Hub: we have just had our first birthday! Happy birthday to us and our younger family member, Hub Too. The Bentham Hub and Hub Too are both hugely successful, made possible by our customers, the quality and quantity of donations and our dedicated hard-working volunteers.

You may have noticed that the shop where the Bentham Hub has set up its temporary home, is to be sold. We always knew this would happen, but we are determined that the Bentham Hub will continue and are looking at several options to allow us to continue our work in the town. One option is to buy the youth and community centre which is almost next door – an ideal location. In the past this was a Quaker meeting house and now the building belongs to Bentham Town Council but has been unused for several years and has fallen into disrepair.



A group of Bentham Hub supporters attended the town council meeting on Monday June 5th to register our interest in purchasing this grade two listed building. The town council have given us until mid-July to raise the funds to buy the property. From our point of view this is Phase 1, and we know we can do it. Phase 2 will be actively renovating the property to become the amazing, flexible, beautiful community facility that we all dream about.

We are in the process of registering as a Community Investment Company, have a healthy bank balance and using the knowledge, skills and enthusiasm of our Hub volunteers are actively looking for more funds to help with Phases 1 and 2 of our ongoing projects.

Since the 'For Sale' sign went up outside the shop on 1st June, these are a few of the posts on our Facebook page:

"I'm sure there will be no shortage of volunteers to help clean up and convert the building"

"A fantastic idea – once tidied up it'd be perfect: a lovely building plus we get to keep The Hub"

"I was saddened when I first heard the building would be returning to the open market"

"Sounds like a win-win situation: continuation of the successful Hub and community use of a lovely old building, I hope the town council support this"

"We hope you can make it happen"

We're trying our best. Watch this space!



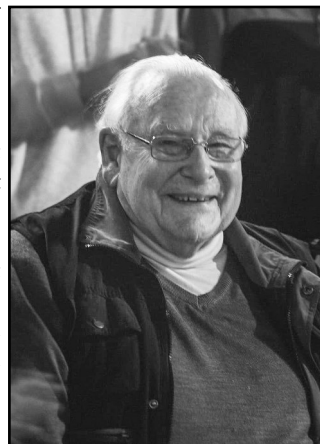
Peter Rollinson 10.10.1934-27.5.2023

Our loving dad and grandpa has passed away aged 88 after a bravely borne illness. Peter's family are very grateful to his friends and the people of Bentham for the kindness they showed to him these past few years, especially after our mum passed away in 2014. In particular our thanks to Pam and Colin, Debbie, Simon, Lesley and, of course, the Bentham Recorder Group and players who gave him so much pleasure with their music making. Also, we are grateful to the carers from Care Legacy and district nurses who made his last difficult weeks at home easier to bear.

After 35 years running their saddlery business in Scotland, Peter and Rosemary retired to Bentham in 2000, and quickly fell in love with the town, the community and the surrounding area. Dad loved to contribute to Bentham life – and over the years was involved with the Playing Field Committee, Looking Well, and the Bentham Pantomime. Dad took many wonderful photographs of local landscapes and was very proud when some were accepted for the Bentham Calendar. Best of all he loved to go down the street and into the shops and have people say, "Hello Peter" and it meant the world to him that he was – as they say in Scotland – a "kenspeckle fellow" in his beloved Bentham.

Peter wished his ashes to be interred with Rosemary at Friezland Church in Saddleworth. In celebration of his life, the family cordially invite his friends and well-wishers to a buffet lunch on Thursday 27th July from 1pm at The Swan Inn, The Square, Dobcross, Nr Oldham, OL3 5AA. If you wish to attend, please email his daughter Sue:

sue.jack@btinternet.com



Looking after our water supplies

By Jill Franklin

I come from the generation where water was never metered - we had a standing charge, the same price no matter how much water you used. It gave the impression that we could use as much water as we liked, without consequence or cost, and that supplies were endless. Well, those days are well and truly over. With most people on a meter now, we are charged for every drop we use. And with an emergency situation in Spain where they are fast running out of water, 90% of mainland Portugal suffering from drought and France emerging from its driest winter since 1959 and drought "crisis" alerts in four regions, it seems very likely that a UK drought is on its way. So, whether it's for cost reasons, for environmental reasons, or both, it makes sense that we all start to use water more carefully. Here are some simple top tips which will work in most homes:



- 740 billion litres – enough to fill 300,000 Olympic-sized swimming pools – is flushed down the loo every year in the UK. You can easily reduce the amount of water used for each flush by filling up a small plastic milk container with water, popping on the lid and dropping it into your cistern. This displaces the water and means your loo will use less to flush each time.
- If you have a hot water tank, rather than a combi boiler, it can sometimes take time for the hot water to reach your taps. Instead of running this water down the sink, keep a bottle by the sink to collect it in. The water can be used to fill up your kettle or watering your plants. You will be surprised how much water you save.
- What is called 'grey water' (i.e. water you have used) can be used for watering flowers in pots and in your garden (although not house plants or veg). If you use a natural washing up liquid (please check the labels), just cool your dirty washing up water and then use it to water your pots and flower beds. You can also collect the water discharged from your washing machine to do the same thing. This is a valuable source of a lot of water.
- When you cut your lawn, don't throw the cuttings away. Spread them on the soil in your garden to cover any bare patches. It will lock any moisture in and mean you will have to water less.
- Having a shower or bath is one of the main sources of water use in the UK. An 8-minute shower uses about 62 litres of water: that's almost half of your average daily water use. A power shower uses even more. Dermatologists recommend an average shower of 2-5 minutes to look after your skin, so you'll still be clean. And if you use chemical-free products and want to save even more water, a bucket in the shower collects a surprising amount of water for your plants or for flushing the loo with.
- And with a running tap using 6 litres of water per minute, it makes sense to minimise the amount of time when your tap is running, e.g. brushing your teeth, washing your hands, etc.

There are lots more water-saving ideas out there, such as here <https://www.wwf.org.uk/what-can-i-do/top-ten-water-saving-tips> - and here <https://energysavingtrust.org.uk/simple-ways-to-save-water-at-home/>

More information about the suggestions above is also available online. Not only will you be helping take care of a very precious resource, but you can also potentially save quite a lot of money on your water bill.



The Stainton Charity Tractor Run 2023

By Tara Wilson

The annual charity event was a complete WOW this year! This year the tractor run was in aid of Lymphoma Action, and we raised £1,045 and The Premier Inn then matched this amount, so we made a grand total of £2,090!

35 classic tractors took part in the 35-mile tractor run, led by our lovely daughter Anya on her late grandad's yellow Massey. The route went through country lanes and passed under Ribbleshead Viaduct, by kind permission of Ian Handley, finally returning to Bentham Auction Mart café for lunch.

Thanks to Bentham Mart for allowing us to set off from there, Auntie Jeanie and Debs at the Auction café, everyone who baked, the tractor drivers and passengers, B&W Funerals for sponsorship and a big thank you to all the locals that came to see us off.

The support is very much appreciated.



Distinguished Architect's Work in Bentham Church

By Ken Durkin

The re-ordering of St John the Baptist, Low Bentham, discussed recently in Bentham News by David Johnson, inspires me to describe the re-ordering of our local Catholic Church, St Boniface, back in 1999. The church building in Robin Lane is a squat, modest building, not much to speak of architecturally, but for the internal re-ordering of the liturgical furniture the church was fortunate to receive guidance from the late Professor Patrick Nuttgens (pronounced Nutchens), the distinguished architect and educationalist, a member of the elite Royal Fine Art Commission.

When we moved to Bentham in 1984 the interior was modern in the early 1970s. However, the altar was far too large for the space provided. The gap between the altar and the tabernacle plinth behind was a tight squeeze for the priest, and with the tabernacle directly behind the altar the priest celebrated Mass with his back to the Blessed Sacrament. By the end of the 1990s it was clear that some action was needed to improve the interior, not least because the canopy above the priest was in immediate danger of crashing down onto the altar – a dangerous place for a priest to be celebrating Mass.

At the start of 1999 Mgr Basil Loftus JCD, the newly appointed parish priest, set about redesigning the interior. Before his appointment to St Boniface, he had re-ordered other churches where he had served as parish priest. Together with Fr Basil's friend, Professor Nuttgens, they re-ordered the church of St Edward's, Clifford. This church is the oft quoted "jewel in the architectural crown of the Leeds Diocese", and burial place of two former bishops (Poskitt and Wheeler). The re-ordering was so outstandingly successful that it has recently added a star to its grade 2 listing. Professor Nuttgens was only too happy to assist with Bentham's more modest needs. With the help of skilled local builders, they designed and built with local stone the altar, lectern, and plinth for the reserved Blessed Sacrament. The inspiration for the three pieces was the cairns on the summits of the local three peaks, Ingleborough, Wharfedale, and Pen-Y- Ghent.

The altar contains two special pieces. In a wonderful ecumenical gesture, St John the Baptist's, Low Bentham, donated a stone from that part of the church building that predates the English Reformation. The second piece is a relic of St Boniface that Fr Basil obtained from Dr Johannes Dyba, Archbishop-Bishop of Fulda, Germany, where St Boniface is interred. This came about because of a friendship between the two of them forged when both worked for the Vatican. During his Fulda visit Fr Basil was given not only the relic of the British saint, known as 'the apostle of Germany', but also a large and immensely heavy statue of the saint, carved from the same block of sandstone used for the statue in Fulda Cathedral, carved in the saint's lifetime. The statue, now in Bentham, had been carved as a back-up in case anything went wrong with a statue made for presentation to Pope John Paul II when he visited Fulda in 1986. So great is the devotion to St Boniface



in that part of Germany that on the homeward journey, the train guard, recognising the identity of the statue, invited both Fr Basil and St Boniface to First Class!

There's a story attached to the tabernacle. This jewelled case was originally the tabernacle in the chapel at Lawkland Hall, owned at the time by the recusant family, the Inglebys. When the interior of St Boniface was given its 1970s façade the Lawkland Hall tabernacle disappeared. Fr Basil later stumbled across the case at a parishioner's home, and it was re-installed on the plinth.

The spatial arrangement of the pieces is also interesting. The altar, the centre of the Mass, is brought forward right into the gathered people. The tabernacle is given its own pride of place, its own side chapel, where parishioners can kneel before it in private prayer. The lectern is raised and is the base for the proclamation of the Word.

The picture shows the re-ordered interior at the time Fr Basil retired from his role as a parish priest. The work was unfinished. The intention had always been to replace the wooden pews with chairs so that the chairs could be positioned around the altar. I asked Fr Basil why he didn't want to complete the work. "That," he replied, "is for one of my successors to complete."

Today, the current incumbent, Fr Frank Smith, has completed that part of the re-ordering, and with its recent decoration, the interior is very attractive. Unfortunately, the spatial arrangement designed by Professor Nuttgens was re-arranged soon after Fr Basil retired. The altar was dismantled and rebuilt further away from the gathered people and no longer facilitates Mass with people gathered around the altar. The chairs came too late! Also, the jewelled tabernacle from Lawkland Hall has been shipped to St Michael and St Mary, the Catholic Church in Settle, and the brass tabernacle with no history has replaced it once again.

Photo, left, of Patrick Nuttgens (painted by John Whittaker and located at the Edinburgh College of Art)

Photo, below, of Interior of St Boniface, Robin Lane, Bentham in 1999





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On the way to the Wenning ...

By The River Wenning Group

This little crayfish was found in June in Clapdale Beck, on the way down to the Wenning. He (or she) looks like a native white clawed crayfish. These are a protected species and should not be removed from our rivers. Having been spotted, this little creature was immediately returned to the beck. But did you know that 80% of British rivers, from the south of England to Inverness, have been invaded by American Signal crayfish? These larger red clawed cousins were introduced by a Dorset fishery in 1976 and escaped into our waterways. They devour all the fish and river creatures they can find, including each other.

Another challenge for the Environment Agency!



Bentham Social Media Roundup

Not all our readers use social media, but many local stories appear there, so here's our look at this month's highlights from in and around Bentham on Facebook and elsewhere, edited by Matt Purcell.

After enjoying a day at the recent Austwick Street Market and Cuckoo Festival, **Lynn Massey** has been trying to drum up support for a similar event in Bentham. She has suggested that Bentham residents make and display Auction Mart Animals in their gardens as a new annual event. Get in touch with Lynn if you are interested in helping to organise such an event.

Bentham Fire Station were delighted to announce that their clothing collection bins have raised an impressive £843 between April 2022 and March 2023 for the Firefighters Charity. This is the 6th highest figure in North Yorkshire and is a testament to the generosity of the people of Bentham.

Dan Buckley asked if anyone in Barghs Meadow has seen a drone or had one land in their garden.

David Johnson shared several photographs of Bentham Camp. Founded by Joe Hainsworth in 1907 it was one of the earliest holiday camps in the country. The family built a cinema on Robin Lane, opposite Bowland View and the holiday camp lasted until 1925. It attracted many people from the Leeds-Bradford area. The railway made it accessible, and campers were met by either Joe, his brother Walter or his son Reg and taken by horse and trap to the camping ground that occupied both sides of the Wenning just to the west of the Wenning Oak.

And finally, **Graham Lingings** has been busy metal detecting again. Amongst his finds was a George III Shilling dating from 1816. Correspondents pointed out that in 1816 a shilling would be a day's pay, so it would be likely that whoever dropped the coin would have been furious to have lost it.



WEDNESDAY BUS SERVICE

New Bus Service 582 Hornby Link

High Bentham – Low Bentham – Wennington – Melling – Hornby for service 80 to Lancaster

Wednesdays from 7 June 2023

	Service 582	Connecting Service 82
High Bentham Robin Lane	0914	
High Bentham Club	0915	
Low Bentham Sundial	0919	
Melling Gillison Close	0927	
Wennington Station	0933	
Hornby War Memorial*	0938	0948
Connection to Lancaster arriving		1022

* buses pick up outside Saint Margaret's Church opposite Hornby War Memorial. At Hornby the bus will wait up to 10 minutes for the service 82 from Lancaster. The connection cannot be guaranteed if service 82 is any later.

Fares.

£1 adult and 50p child fare for a single journey.

English National Concessionary Travel Scheme passes are accepted on this service.

* buses drop off at Hornby War Memorial opposite Saint Margaret's Church

	Service 582	Connecting Service 82
Connection from Lancaster departing		1335
Hornby War Memorial* arrive	1405	1411
Hornby War Memorial* depart	1415	
Wennington Station	1420	
Melling Gillison Close	1426	
Low Bentham Sundial	1434	
High Bentham Club	1438	
High Bentham Robin Lane	1439	

A weekly bus to get to Lancaster without having to go to Kirkby.
NB The service will be reviewed after 6 months, dependent on usage

At Hornby the bus will wait up to 10 minutes for the service 82 from Lancaster. The connection cannot be guaranteed if service 82 is any later.

Fares.

£1 adult and 50p child fare for a single journey.

English National Concessionary Travel Scheme passes are accepted on this service.

One of our readers, Peter Lennard, has contacted BN to say he was intrigued to read in June's BN that a bus link will be provided between the Benthams and Hornby for the 82 bus to Lancaster, a run of 7 miles, when the alternative of connecting with the 81 bus at Wennington would be just half that distance. He has given us his timetable (*see page 11*) of such buses that can be used with the Freedom (Bus) Pass. One Sunday recently he cycled to Wennington, took the 10.30am bus to Lancaster and got the 12.15pm back.

Wennington - Lancaster
Those bus services on which a free bus pass can be used

The majority are bus 81 which takes 45 minutes out and 47 minutes coming back. One service per day coming back, bus 582, takes 34 minutes.

MONDAY - FRIDAY

WENN	10.37	12.37		14.37	16.37
LANC	11.22	13.22		15.22	17.22
582					
LANC	12.35	14.00	15.45	16.45	18.20
WENN	13.22	14.47	16.19	17.32	19.07

SATURDAYS

WENN	06.47	08.47	10.37	12.37		14.37	16.37	18.37	20.37
LANC	07.32	09.32	11.22	13.22		15.22	17.22	19.22	21.22
582									
LANC	06.50	08.35	10.35	12.35	14.00	15.45	16.45	18.20	
WENN	07.37	09.22	11.22	13.22	14.47	16.19	17.32	19.07	

SUNDAYS

WENN	10.30	12.30	14.30	16.30	18.30
LANC	11.07	13.07	15.07	17.07	19.07
LANC	10.15	12.15	14.15	16.16	18.15
WENN	10.53	12.53	14.53	16.53	ASK DRIVER!

Unhappy with Local Public Transport? We know you are, and this is your chance to influence future policy in North Yorkshire, so "Let's Talk Transport"

By Let's Talk Team, North Yorkshire Council, DL7 8AD

Residents from the Bentham area are being encouraged to share their travel habits in a bid to shape a transport strategy across North Yorkshire over the coming decades. North Yorkshire has launched a survey which will be used to inform the first draft of the new Local Transport Plan to guide the development and management of travel infrastructure across the county. The plan will look at all aspects of the region's transport, including road, rail, bus, cycling and walking.

Since the current North Yorkshire Local Transport Plan came into effect in 2016, more people are using electric vehicles, the Covid-19 pandemic has changed how people live, work and travel, and there have been advances in technology. So, it is vital to have an up-to-date, comprehensive plan to improve infrastructure and services that reflects the priorities and needs of the public in all parts of the county. That's why we want to hear about your travel habits now and your aspirations for transport into the future. This is just the start of our conversation with the public, but this initial stage will be critically important to shaping our strategy for all forms of transport.

The Local Transport Plan is a Government requirement and will be based on Ministers' objectives for transport while reflecting local ideas and issues. It will link closely to the council's wider strategies to support local economic growth and sustainable development.



...../Continued on page 12

We know North Yorkshire faces specific challenges given its size, rurality and diversity. It is very different to cities like London and Manchester, but residents and businesses nonetheless deserve good, affordable transport links with infrastructure that is fit for purpose. The creation of the new council and the prospect of the newly elected mayor as part of the devolution deal currently under consideration by the Government creates the ideal opportunity to revise our Local Transport Plan, ensuring it can meet the challenges we face now and in the years ahead.

Please take a few minutes to complete this important survey, which closes on Monday 17th July. You can [complete the survey online](https://letstalkny.commonplace.is/). Follow the link: <https://letstalkny.commonplace.is/>

Paper copies are available from your local library, and can be requested by emailing letstalk@northyorks.gov.uk, or by calling [01609 536400](tel:01609536400) or writing to: Let's Talk, County Hall, Northallerton, DL7 8AD.

Broader Horizons

By Brian and Joan Metcalfe

For some time, we had been thinking about joining the Ingleton and District Twinning Group after we retired, however, life does like to throw a curved ball every now and then. So, after some setbacks, of which one was the total lockdown of all travel, we took the plunge and joined the group. Joining in with social activities and fund raising we made lots of new friends.

The big day soon arrived for the UK group to visit the French group at La Chapelle des Marais. How could we cope? With only minimal French, largely forgotten after 50 years of inactivity and French hosts who also spoke little English, the travel, the food and money. We need not have worried; we can honestly say we coped with everything due in no small part to the boundless hospitality and generosity of our hosts. The whole trip ran smoothly. We would like to thank the organisers both in France and at home who made this possible. Thanks also to Bibby's of Ingleton and to Jimmy who was our excellent driver.

This was one of the most memorable experiences we have had. Should have started this sooner! We eagerly await the return visit of our French friends in two years' time.



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30th Anniversary of Our Twinning with a Town in Brittany

By Margaret Cowling

This photograph shows a very happy group of people, 29 members of Ingleton and District Twinning Group with their hosts in our twinned town of La Chapelle des Marais in Brittany. It was taken just before we returned to England after 6 lovely days being hosted in France.

Our group included members of the original Twinning Group from 1993. We also had several new members including Lucy Watkinson, aged 11, who accompanied her father, Paul; Lucy was an absolute delight to have with us.

We travelled down to Portsmouth on a Bibby's coach driven by Jimmy Wrathall, who was an excellent driver and very humorous. We crossed on the Brittany ferry to Caen. When we arrived at La Chapelle des Marais, we were warmly welcomed by everyone, including the Mayor, Franck Hervy, and the Deputy Mayor (Adjutant), Jean-Francois Josse, who are both dear friends.

We presented them with presents, a beautiful engraved wooden tray, and a picture of the Three Peaks by our local artist Carol Sinclair. Liz Neale made a speech outlining the history of the Twinning and particularly thanked Annie Legoff and Keith Bradshaw who were founder members of the twinning between Ingleton and La Chapelle. After aperitifs we went home with our hosts.

On the next two days, we went on excursions to Saint Nazaire looking at the history of Liners, an Eco Museum and an exhibition of their newly built wind farm. This trip concluded with tea and delicious cakes at a house purchased and renovated by the council to be used by the community for meetings, parties and events. Next day we went to an amazing garden owned by Robert Coudray, who is described as a 'Scrap Metal Poet'. We saw some unusual architecture and over 70 animated sculptures which he had made from scrap metal in the garden. During our picnic there we were thrilled to meet the poet!

Our last day was spent with our hosts. In the evening we had a social gathering with a meal of many courses. We were entertained by a choir singing sea shanties. A small group of us sang some friendship songs and 3 Beatles songs which everyone enjoyed. The evening finished with a cake made specially to celebrate the 30th anniversary of our twinning. It was cut by Annie Legoff, Liz Neale and me. We were all given parting gifts of a bottle of wine and souvenir bag and in return we gave them beer and chocolates.

We were sad to leave the next day but we were given a warm send-off by our hosts, with the promise that they would return to us in Bentham and Ingleton in 2 years' time.

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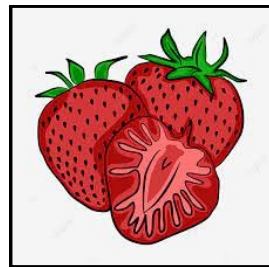
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Your Garden or Allotment in July

By Joyce Knapp

By the time we get to July we should be starting to reap the rewards of our labours earlier in the season, whether this be harvesting fruit and vegetables or, simply sitting back and viewing our floral displays. As we come to the end of the strawberry picking season, we can step in to tidy up the overall area where they grow by removing all but the strongest few runners, keeping just a small number of young plants to replace the oldest of our existing stock. We can also remove all the old, large leaves from mature plants (reduces incidence of disease) before weeding, then finally apply a mulch of leaf mould or garden compost. This month summer raspberries should be providing us with luscious, sweet berries and it is usually a good idea to put netting over the canes, otherwise the birds may find the fruit before we do.



In the vegetable garden/allotment we should now be able to collect a range of salad ingredients such as radish, spring onions, lettuce and carrots and cabbage to make into coleslaw (red cabbage is especially good for this purpose although many varieties may not be fully grown until the winter). Just a note to say that if we find it necessary to thin out root crops such as carrots and beetroot to the spacing recommended on the seed packet, we can lift alternate young plants in the hope that they will be sufficiently big to warrant cooking as baby vegetables.

I keep going back to the topic of reducing our water consumption, but I find this is particularly relevant this year as we have already experienced a long, hot, dry spell in late May and early June. In the past I have experimented with using grass cuttings to cover the soil around rows of different vegetables with varying degrees of success. This year I have found that by earthing up potatoes when about 6" tall (standard practice to cover tubers as they develop), then spreading a thick layer of grass cuttings between each row, the ground has remained moist for nearly three weeks without watering.

Very few plants need pruning in July, but one exception is box, and this will usually just consist of a light, overall trim, especially for those trained as a box ball or used as a hedge.

Don't forget the BN deadline date is 12th July for the August edition

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People Page

Letters /Messages/Thanks

Dear Bentham News

Where Have All the Flowers Gone?

Railway users will see that there are empty flower tubs on our station. The reason for this is that we have no water supply, which means that members of Bloomin' Bentham cannot do their usual summer planting.

There is a major fault with our water supply due to pipes being damaged under the rail-track with no sign of them being fixed. It has been like this for most of the year, though it has not a problem for us until now, because in the winter we collected rainwater from the station roof and the water butts were full.

For 10 years, Bloomin' Bentham volunteers have been working hard to make Bentham station beautiful and we are very sad that this has happened. A group of stalwarts have planted, watered and tended the plants, but our ages are creeping up and we are less agile now, indeed some of us can no longer carry full watering cans or lift sacks of compost! We would love to have some younger volunteers to go on our rota for watering and planting, when the water supply is restored!

Please contact me if you can help.
Thank you,

Margaret Cowling, tel. 63175

My Mum, **Mavis Embley, (née Carlin, née Johnston)** is looking to regain contact with a lifelong friend, **Hazel Mount**, married name **Schofield**. Hazel and her husband Jack, a former cricketer with Burnley, recently moved to the Bentham area, where their daughter lives. It is possible that Hazel has had to move into a care facility. If anyone in your area knows them, I would be grateful if they could contact me so I can pass on my Mum's contact details. Thanks, in anticipation.

Ben Embley (benedict915@btinternet.com)

Dear BN

What a good idea Peter Robinson's is to get the name of Bentham changed to Bentham-by-Bowland (article 'Time For a Change?' in June edition of *Bentham News*). It has a great ring about it. The roads' name change to High Street and Low Street is good too. I guess the road name changes would have to go via North Yorkshire Council, but what about the town name change?

Jonathan Oldfield

The V.I management committee are asking for volunteers to come and help, weed, tidy, prune and/or cut the grass in our community garden. Joyce Knapp is happy to co-ordinate a small group of helpers.

Please ring Diane on 63162.

NSPCC OPEN GARDEN

Sunday, July 9th, 1 - 4pm

Lakeber House, 28 Robin Lane, Bentham
LA2 7AF

Refreshments available and other stalls
Donations to NSPCC

Don't grouse on the glorious 12th!
Swing along with

The Gershwin Gang
Performing 20s and 30s jazz favourites

In the Grounds of Ingleborough Hall, Clapham
On Saturday 12th August, 2.00 - 4.30pm

Tickets £12.50 available from 1st June at Clapham Village Store
or Denise Wilson on 01524 251104
Ticket price includes Pimms, sweet & savoury party food
Proceeds to St James's Church, Clapham

The One When We Actually Had Good Weather!

By Gayle Denny

The community of Tatham Fells gathered once again for Lowgill Sports and Sheepdog Trials on Saturday June 10th. This year saw the return of the Sheepdog Trials after a break due to Covid and a road closure. The Dalesbred Hogs provided the 42 dogs and handlers with a challenging run around the course, with Frank Cleary and his dog Roy taking the overall win.

Carole Butcher then officially opened the sports and commented on the many years that she has attended, come rain or shine. Carole has recently moved away from the area, so was delighted to be back seeing old friends.

The afternoon's sunshine brought many competitors to the event and meant the ice cream man was VERY busy! The fancy dress was won by Lily Blacow and the local schools' handwriting competition was won by Winnie Ray. 91 juniors and 68 seniors participated in the fell race. The tough route saw many first-time competitors as well as "old timers" with locals from Bentham Beagles Running Group and Settle Harriers. As always, the Cumberland and Westmorland Wrestling was entertaining to watch, this unique sport requires a lot of skill as well as strength! The Vale O'Lune Young Farmers were present for the first time this year with their 'ducking stool' before getting involved in the evening events including Tug O' War and Welly Throwing.

As the sun was setting, trophies for the pillow fight battles were won by Emma Wallbank, who took the Diamond Jubilee Cup and Alan Taylor, who won the Robert Whitfield Memorial Trophy. Robert always helped at the sports and sheepdog trials, as well as being a champion at pillow fighting! He is sadly missed by us all. Esther Ward was awarded the Tatham Fells Outstanding Athlete Award and Zac Ward FINALLY defeated Edward Huddleston in the Quoits to win the cup!

The committee would like to thank everyone who helped before, during and after the event. Also, all our fantastic sponsors, the landowners for the use of their fields and last but not least, all the enthusiastic participants who make the day so special. We look forward to doing it all again next year!!

Vale O' Lune Young Farmers with the Ducking Stool, above, Joseph Whitfield presenting the 'Robert Whitfield Memorial Trophy' to Alan Taylor, right.





Left, a heat from the plank race, below the women's sack race and below, enjoying watching the sheepdog trials in the sun. Right welly throwing and below, the 2 Caroles (President and Vice President). Bottom, the start of the senior fell race.



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Longstaffe's Educational Foundation – Applications Welcome!

By the Trustees

For those of you who may not have come across our Foundation before, here is a little overview of what we do, our history and how you can apply for funding. Longstaffe's Educational Foundation provides funds for the young people of High and Low Bentham to assist them in their educational endeavours.

Our history: A Mrs Longstaffe of York died circa 1713 leaving £200 in her will to provide for poor relief in the Parish of Bentham. These funds became known as 'Longstaffe's Charity'. In 1725 Thomas Baynes left property in his will, and in 1738 his widow, Isabel added to this; the income generated was to be used to provide education for poor children in the parish. At a public meeting in Bentham held on 16th November 1870, it was decided that the Longstaffe's Charity would thereafter divert its income to 'educational purposes' and in 1933 Longstaffe's Charity became Longstaffe's Educational Foundation.

Funding can be provided for a wide range of educational activities, all with the aim of supporting enthusiastic and determined young people with aspirations to develop their skills and knowledge in their chosen field. Examples for funding can include, travel costs, cost of equipment, class/lesson fees, university fees, cost of books, sports/music club fees, the list goes on.

We would welcome applications from people who have attended a maintained primary school in the parishes of High and Low Bentham and are under 25 years of age on 1st September 2023. The closing date for applications is **Friday 15th September 2023**.

For more information or to download the application form please visit our website - www.longstaffeseducationalfoundation.co.uk

Longstaffe's Educational Foundation



Did you attend High or Low Bentham
Primary Schools?

Will you be under 25 on the 1st of
September this year?

*The Foundation will consider ALL eligible
applications, whether it is for books, I.T.,
classes, music, sport, dance, transport -
if it makes a difference to your education,
we will try to help.*

Applications from students at school as well as in
higher/further education
are welcome



Please download an application
form from our website

www.longstaffeseducationalfoundation.co.uk
and return it before 15 September 2023



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Bentham Police News

Members of your Safer Neighbourhood Team covering the Bentham, Ingleton and Settle area are PS1006 Paul Evans, PC871 Ian Hunt, PC188 Jane Carpenter, PCSO5561 Jayne Grace and PCSO5881 Julia Runciman. They will be keeping you updated on recent crimes and incidents in Bentham and the surrounding area.



58 incidents were reported between May 13th and June 12th, 2023.

These included safeguarding, abandon/hoax calls, anti-social behaviour, concern for welfare, a crime involving violence and a road related offence involving speeding/manner of driving.

Bentham News has asked us to include the following advice after they were informed of a horrific dog attack on livestock (see opposite)

Crime Prevention Advice re Livestock Worrying and Dog Owner's Responsibilities

Dogs (Protection of Livestock) Act 1953

Legislation to provide for the punishment of persons whose dogs worry livestock on agricultural land.

'Worrying Livestock' means -

- (a) Attacking livestock,
- (b) Chasing livestock in such a way as may reasonably be expected to cause injury or suffering (in the case of females, includes abortion, or loss in their produce)
- (c) Being at large (not on a lead or otherwise under close control) in a field or enclosure in which there are sheep.

This section shall not apply in relation to -

- (a) a dog owned by, or in the charge of, the occupier of the field or the owner of the sheep or a person authorised by either of those persons
- (b) police dogs, guide dogs, trained sheep dogs, working gun dogs or hounds.

No proceedings shall be brought except -

- (a) by or with the consent of the chief officer of police for the police area in which the land is situated, or
- (b) by the occupier of the land, or
- (c) by the owner of any of the livestock in question.

In the case of a dog found on any land -

a police officer has reasonable cause to believe that the dog has been worrying livestock on that land, and the land appears to him to be agricultural land.

(b) no person is present who admits to being the owner of the dog or in charge of it, then for the purpose of ascertaining who is the owner of the dog the police officer may seize it and may detain it until the owner has claimed it and paid all expenses incurred by reason of its detention.

Contact Information:

1 Ring 999 in an emergency or to report a crime in progress

2 Ring 101 to report incidents or provide information

3 Ring Crime Stoppers on 0800 555 111 to remain anonymous

4 E-mail SNACraven@northyorkshire.police.uk

Dog Attacks Bullocks

By Shirley Brown

One Saturday in May, Lois Dennis was working a busy shift at The Goat Gap café on the A65 near Newby, when her boss, Ed, noticed some disturbing activity in a field on the other side of the road. There were 10 bullocks and a bull in the field and a large dog chasing after them, snapping at their legs and then latching on to one of the bullocks by the neck. Amid all the commotion were two women running after the dog and trying to control it, to little effect. The dog wasn't taking any notice of the women and was caught up in the excitement of the chase. The dog which had been walking off leash on the open fell (on which sheep and lambs are grazing at this time of year) had jumped the stone wall field boundary in order to get to the cattle.

Lois, as it happens, loves animals and has several years' experience working on a variety of farms. She is very used to handling livestock so ran to the field to save the bullocks from being attacked if possible. In retrospect this was probably not necessarily the wisest course of action, as she soon realised that the out-of-control dog was a fairly new breed, the all-muscle 60kg American Bully XL, an extremely powerful breed that has been behind a large number of fatal dog attacks (*photo of this breed of dog, not the actual dog in the attack*).

However, she got hold of the bullock now injured with deep puncture wounds and the dog clamped onto its neck, the bullock was wide-eyed and making a horrible distress moo-ing sound. The dog was pulled away by the two women who had eventually caught up, who were themselves in shock and saying that the dog had "never done this before". It seems they had been walking two dogs on the moor and had let them off their leads. The larger dog had taken off, jumped over the wall and barbed wire round the field of bullocks and started chasing them. He lives with his owner, one of the women, in Manchester and had never seen cows or sheep before, so neither the dog nor his owner had ever had any training about how to behave around livestock. It is important to remember we can never guarantee the behaviour of our dogs around other animals regardless of however well we feel we know our dogs.

When the farmer arrived, Lois explained the whole situation, and as far as we know the bullock recovered from the attack, which as Lois says, "just shows how tough cows are". However, this horrendous event should never have happened. Dogs must be kept on leads when walking in the countryside. You never know what is round the corner, and normally docile dogs can behave quite differently in different environments. What might seem to a dog-owner as "just chasing" can cause abortions, heart attacks and extreme exhaustion of cows and sheep.

Next day the women, themselves traumatised and truly sorry came to the café to thank Lois and give her some flowers as a thank you.

Lois' advice to any dog walkers who will be heading out into the countryside this summer would be to please, always keep dogs on leads. If you are unfortunate enough to witness an attack such as this one, please don't put yourselves in danger trying to help cattle that may be under attack. Cattle can easily weigh upwards of 400kg and may cause serious injury in the panic of a situation such as this even without intent. We are very pleased that in this situation the dog showed no aggression towards Lois and that she was able to resolve the situation without any livestock fatalities, if the dog had caught sight of any of the sheep and lambs on the fell this could have ended up being a far worse situation.



Town Hall

Every Tuesday,

WR, 10:00am - 12:00noon, Craft Club LH

Blue Moose Dance

9.30am - 10.30am, Mature Movers

10.45am - 12noon Adult Ballet

Both until 18th July

Every Wednesday,

BR, 9:00am - 12:30pm, Stepping Stones.

LH, 9:30am - 10:30am, Pilates, Sally Horn

Town Hall - Meetings

Monday 3rd

LH 7.30pm, Full Town Council Meeting

Monday 10th - Finance Meeting

Monday 24th - Full/Planning (later than usual to catch August planning applications)

Town Hall - Coffee Mornings

These dates were correct at the time of printing but please clarify with the Town Clerk 

Saturday 10am - 12noon

1st - Methodist Church

8th - St Boniface. Huge book stall and usual

Raffle, Cake stall, Tombola and Bric-a-brac

15th - Tatham Fells Village Society

22nd - Molly's Coffee Morning for Cancer research

29th - Bentham Dementia Friendly Group

WI (see pages 36-37)

High Bentham

Thursday 6th 7:30pm, Bentham LH

Town Hall

Low Bentham and District

Thursday 20th 7:00pm in the Victoria Inst

Tatham Fells

Tuesday 11th Games evening at the Old School followed by a strawberry supper



Events in July

Footpath (see page 35)



For the three listed July walks meet at Lairgill for 9.30am but for the August 3rd walk (advance notice) meet either at Lairgill for 6pm or Keasden Church for 6.15pm.

Tuesday 11th. Terri Kwiecinska, 07972-653791, Whitbarrow, 6.5 miles.

Thursday 20th. Colin Stroud and Alison Kinder, 07854-789311, Claughton, 7 miles.

Sunday 30th. Peter Lennard, 07474-120898, Dunsop Bridge, 7 miles.

Thursday AUGUST 3rd. Kate Rowe, 015242-51402, Keasden Wander, 5 miles.

The Pantry

Every Wednesday

11am-12noon and 3:30pm-5pm

Everyone welcome to drop in for a chat, a brew and to top up on food and groceries.

Left side of Bentham Methodist Church.

Methodist Church

Monday 3rd, 10th and 17th July

10 - 11:30am, **Toddle In**, £2.00 per family. For children new born to starting school, and their parents/carers.

Youth Club - Tuesdays

Juniors 8-11 4pm-5.30pm Seniors 11+ 6pm - 7.30pm

Bentham Golf Club

Every Friday 11:00am - 2:00pm, Age Concern Bentham Friday Lunch Club



Victoria Institute

Every Monday

9:30am - 12noon, Office Open, Enquires/
bookings.

11:30am - 2:00pm, Community Link Café.

Light lunches and activities.

6:15pm - 7:45pm, Tai Chi.

Every Tuesday

10:00am - 12noon, Kay's Chat & Mexican
Train meet, £2 tea and biscuits.

4:00pm - 9:00pm, Helen Howard School Of
Dance. Term time.

Tuesday 4th - Vic. Inst. AGM 6.30pm.

New members welcome

Every Wednesday

9:30am - 12noon, Office Open, Enquires/
bookings.

10:00am - 12noon Post Office Services.

12noon - 2:00pm, Community Link Cafe`
Lunch club.

4:00pm - 7.45pm, Helen Howard School Of
Dance. Term time.

Every Friday

10:00am - 12noon, Post Office Services.

Saturday 8th, 10.00am - 12noon

Book Swap and every 2nd Saturday of month

Every Sunday

11.00am - 12:30pm Cornerstone Church
Service.

Sunday 9th Afternoon Teas and Plant Sale

2-4pm Victoria Institute Garden

Bentham Fire Station

Thursday, 6th and 20th, 10:00am

Bentham & District Dementia Friendly
Community Breakfast Club

NSPCC OPEN GARDEN

Sunday, July 9th, 1 - 4pm

Lakeber House, 28 Robin Lane, Bentham
LA2 7AF

Refreshments available and other stalls
Donations to NSPCC

Pioneer Projects Looking Well Studios

**PIONEER
PROJECTS**

Every Monday,

Meet Lairgill carpark 9.20am Health Walks
for Women

**Every Monday, 10.30am to 12.30pm, Making
Connections Dementia Group**

**Every Tuesday, 10.30am to 12.30pm, Creative
Community Hub**

**Every Tuesday 11.45am to 1pm, Creative
Writing Group face to face and Zoom**

Tuesday 11th, 2pm to 4pm, Book Group

**Every Wednesday, 10.30am to 12noon, Sing
Along to Every Song – face to face and Zoom**

Every Wednesday, 2pm to 4pm, Art for All

**Every Thursday, 12.30pm to 3.30pm,
Community Art Shed**

**Every Friday, 10am to 12.30pm, Mental
Health & Wellbeing Hub**

*For more info and to join any of the above groups
please contact 015242-62672 or
office@pioneerprojects.org.uk*

Bentham Community Library

Telephone 01609 534533

Monday 2:30pm - 5:00pm

Wednesday 10:00am - 2:00pm

Friday 2:30pm - 4:20pm

Saturday 10:00am - 12:00noon

Craven Warm & Welcome Place

during library opening hours - hot drinks,
games, computers & of course lots of books!

Lunesdale Arts

Saturday 1st/Sunday 2nd 11am - 5pm

lunesdalearts.co.uk

Settle Photographic Group - Free exhibition,
Clapham Village Hall, 10am-5pm, Bank
holiday weekend (26th - 28th August).
Donations welcome. www.settlephotos.org

Burton Village Hall films doors open 7pm
for 7.30pm. Tickets £5 at the door.
Refreshments available.
Saturday 1st July: 'Emily'

Lunesdale Probus Club, Hornby

There are two meetings planned for July. The subject and speaker for Monday July 3rd is yet to be confirmed. And on Monday July 17th David Talbot will be telling us about The Falkland Islands and Antarctica, including South Georgia and the Shackleton Expedition. There are no meetings in August when we take our summer break.

Lunesdale Probus Club meetings are held on the first and third Monday mornings of each month (except August). Why not come along and enjoy a nice social break from routine? We start with coffee and chat at 10am. For further details or any information on this or other Lunesdale Probus Club matters please contact Roger Carter on 015242-22283.

Friends of the Dales Summer Events - All events are free!

By Victoria Benn

Make Space for Nature - Saturday 1 July, 10.00am – 3.00pm

This is a unique opportunity for individuals, villages, schools and community groups to find out how they can make more space for nature. We will review hedge planting, wildflower and pollinator plantations, pond building, riparian planting, hide building, bog garden creation and Riverfly sampling. Complimentary light lunch included. **Still places available**, so to book email: victoria.benn@friendsofthedailes.org.uk

Creative Campaigners 2023 - Saturday 29 July 10.15am - 4.30pm

If you are aged 20-30 and care about the countryside, wildlife and people of the Yorkshire Dales, then why not join the launch of Friends of the Dales Creative Campaigners network at Malham? Run in partnership with Neil Heseltine of Hilltop Farm – a traditional livestock farm embracing biodiversity and sustainability. This fully funded day will explore the ways you can create influential environmental messages and promote campaigns in creative ways – e.g. through writing, photography, graphic design, illustration, video, activism or social media. Free travel from Skipton, travel bursaries available for all attendees plus complimentary lunch. For an informal chat to find out more email: ann.shadrake@friendsofthedailes.org.uk or What's App: 07483-438346



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Home and Away with the Beagles

By Nick Armstrong



With the longer days and light nights of spring and summer, the running club takes the opportunity to build more away runs into our regular training schedule.

The past month has seen us on the trails around Stainforth, Clapham, Settle, Stocks Reservoir and up to the top of Gregareth. We have plenty more planned throughout July, August and early September. If you are interested in joining us for one of these runs, please get in touch or check out our training schedule page on the website to see where we will be meeting.

The Beagles Club Championship continues with members representing the club at the Blacksticks Blue 10k, Levens 10k and Gargrave Marathon over the last month. Highlights included runners receiving a block of blue cheese instead of a medal at the Blacksticks 10k and a blistering time by club member Spencer Moran of 38 minutes and 50 seconds at Levens 10k.

Congratulation also to members Viki Hindle and Ruth McDonald for completing The Lap which is a tough 47-mile ultra-marathon that circumnavigates Lake Windermere. Finally, we had another great turnout for our monthly social Parkrun at Morecambe, which is the first Saturday of every month.

Back at home in Bentham. We are looking forward to hosting our Bentham 10k again on Sunday 16th July, which starts at 10am from Bentham Golf Club. If you want to see the runners, great spots for supporting are at the top of Butts Lane, Lairgill Car Park, near the Bowling Club or the start and finish area at the Golf Club. If you would like to be a volunteer marshal on the day, please get in touch with us for more details.

If you fancy running the Bentham 10 then entries are available on-line: www.bookitzone.com/steve_ashcroft/MFjFFX

For further information on the Beagles visit our website www.benthambeagles.co.uk or email benthambeagles@live.co.uk where we will be happy to answer any further questions.



Beagles on top of Gregareth, from left to right:

Kathy Stott, Simon Denny, Keith Stronach, Ruth McDonald, Ollie Burton-Roe, Andrew Easterby, Nick Armstrong, Kimberley Towler, Gayle Denny



Tatham Fells CE (VC) Primary News

By Fiona Ip, Headteacher

Although at time of writing this we have only had 2 weeks of our final half term this year, we have had such a good time and learned a lot.

Our Y5/6 children went to Edinburgh with the children from Melling and Wray and spent a busy 3 days soaking up the sights of Edinburgh. We travelled by train from Lancaster and arrived at Edinburgh at 10am for a full day of action. We went to dynamic earth where we watched a film about volcanoes in the planetarium, we were amazed. We then had a workshop all about earthquakes after which we went on a tour of how the earth began. Following Dynamic Earth,



we went to the Scottish Parliament where we had a guided tour. After dinner at the youth hostel, we went for a steep uphill walk to Calton Hill, from where the views are spectacular. Our second day in Edinburgh involved

seeing all the amazing optical illusions and exploring the pinhole camera views across Edinburgh in Camera Obscura. We then went to the castle where we got caught up in a ceremony with lots of well-dressed people. The Scottish Museum was next where we had a lesson about renewable energy and make our own wind and solar-powered buildings. We had our dinner at Pizza Express and then an evening tour of Mary King Close. The next day, before we returned home, we had the best time at the highly recommended Chocolatarium.



We all made our own chocolate and sampled a tasting timeline of the history of chocolate. Despite west coast trains being cancelled and having to journey via Newcastle and Carlisle we still made it back in time for tea!

While the Y5/6 children were in Edinburgh the rest of the school went to the Wensleydale creamery and Dales Countryside Museum. In school in history, they are learning all about food and farming and so it was fascinating to see how cheese is made and taste lots of it and then at the museum we made butter.



Our sight-seeing activities continued this week with a visit to the Buddhist temple in Ulverston and the children were all fascinated by the calm atmosphere, showing great respect during the meditation.

Back in school on Friday afternoons we welcome babies, toddlers and pre-schoolers to our little explorers' sessions in our forest school area. These run from 1-2:30pm every Friday and all are welcome. Feel free to join us and bring your children and enjoy our amazing views and environment.

Busy End to the School Year 2022-2023

By Mrs Besharati and Mrs McGregor, Co-Headteachers

As I am sure all readers will agree (although probably not the keen horticulturists) the weather over the school half-term holidays and early into June has been glorious, with warm sunshine almost every day. This has meant that our children have had lots of opportunities to learn out of the classroom and take part in lots of outdoor PE activities. We also encourage Sun Safety and families are regularly reminded about the importance of keeping safe in the sun.

Children in school have been as busy as ever, and eager to start new class topics and projects as we head towards the end of the 2022/2023 academic year. Our youngest children in **Ladybird** Class started their new topic 'Sand between my Toes' and are busy learning about the seaside and the oceans. Meanwhile children in **Butterfly** Class have started their topic 'Sand in my Sandwiches' and have been busy learning about the beach, sharks and pirates (Arrrrr!). Children in **Hedgehog** Class have been looking at 'everything plants' in Science and have also enjoyed a trip to Carnforth Station taking part in an art activity for Bentham Train Line. Children were also visited by local railway enthusiasts, Mr Townson and Mr Haworth who we would like to thank for taking time to speak to our children. Meanwhile, children in **Rabbit** Class have been busy learning about 'changes within living history'. Children in both **Hedgehog** and **Rabbit** Class will also be taking part in a visit to Brockhole on Windermere. Children in **Badger** Class will be looking at Anglo Saxons over the coming weeks, with children in **Fox** Class looking at local Geography and carrying out a study of Bentham, together with working with textiles in DT (watch out The Great British Sewing Bee). Our oldest children in **Owl** Class are very much looking forward to their residential visit to Keswick later in the month. This adventure holiday will also be part of children celebrating the end of their primary phase in education. To help fund some extra activities at Keswick, our year 6 children have been planning an Enterprise Project to help raise additional funds.

Thank you to everyone who came along to our **FOBS Summer Fair** on the evening of 16th June. It is always lovely to see so many people supporting their local primary school. A big thank you to our wonderful FOBS for organising this fund-raising event. Thank you also to those families who came along to our recent Open Morning on 9th June. If you were unable to attend but are interested in a place for your child at our school, then please do not hesitate to get in touch on 015242-61412. There are always so many activities and opportunities taking place at the school, why not take a look at our website for more details and weekly up-dates? (<https://www.benthamcpschool.org.uk/>).

Finally, we are still seeking a **Co-opted School Governor**. Following an internal skills audit, it was identified that ideally an individual with knowledge and skills based within the construction and/or building industry would be suitable for the vacancy, but we would also welcome enquiries from individuals from other sectors. Whilst being a Governor is hard work it is also rewarding. For an informal chat about the vacancy, or more information please contact the school on 015242 61412.

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Creating Soup and Smoothies (and Smoothie-Makers to Give-Away)

By Carolynne Lobb (Multiply Engagement and Delivery Officer/Co-op Member Pioneer)

The Co-op and North Yorkshire Council's Multiply Team are working together again with yet another community event and as I work across both organisations, I could not be more thrilled! After successfully working together within local Co-op Stores with the North Yorkshire Council Spag Bol. Challenge, we are now working together again on another food project. This time, we are out and about across the Dales with our smoothie and soup workshops. We have some fantastic soup/smoothie makers to give away along with some other great prizes. The Co-op are also, once again, providing all the yummy ingredients for these sessions. So, make a note of these places and dates:

Pioneer Projects - Saturday 8th July 10am to 12noon and 12.45 to 3pm

Settle Library - Thursday 27th July 10am to 1pm

We will be showing you some great ways to create your soups and smoothies, in a budget friendly way whilst also, of course, talking numbers (we are the Multiply Team after all). We will be producing an amazing potato and leek soup along with a summery, strawberry and apple smoothie with plenty of options for variations if this is not to your taste. We are also running a raffle to win some super cool 'Asda/Love to shop' vouchers and, of course, some of our give-away smoothie makers. All welcome, please just feel free to turn up on the day and you are more than welcome to bring your children and any extended family along too.

If you would like any of these sessions delivered at your venue, or have any other queries, please do get in touch. Telephone: 07815-656300 Email: Carolynne.lobb1@northyorks.gov.uk Carolynne.lobb@coop.co.uk



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Town Council Meeting on 5th June

By Pam Woof

These are not official Benthams Town Council minutes, but a factual report of matters discussed at the Town Council meeting. The official minutes will be posted on the BTC website in due course.

All Councillors were present except Cllr Stannard, who sent his apologies. Jo Burton acted as the temporary clerk. There was no one present from County Council or Police. There will be a zoom meeting with the police later this month where any questions can be asked. There was no report from the County Council. There were around 15 members of the public at the meeting, including those reporting for Benthams News.

Comments and concerns

A local resident asked the Council for help with the ongoing problem of access to his car port. The adjacent land is owned by a housing group and recently a flower bed has been created in a position that restricts his access. The Council will do what they can to help and thanked him for the written report on the matter.

Lesley Barker gave a report on the work of The Benthams Hub. They are looking for new premises and would like to buy the old youth club building from the Council to further their good works. They are currently going through the process of becoming a Community Investment Company with the Charity Commission. This may take a few months but then they would like to make a formal offer for the building. (See page 2.)

Council Matters

The minutes of the previous meeting were approved. No applications have been received to fill the vacant positions for councillors. The clerk was unable to finish her report because there was more information needed about the new windows and other works on the town hall. Councillor Adams will look this information out.

Councillors agreed to join up to the NYC crime- community messaging service. There will be an opportunity for the Council to attend a Zoom meeting with the police but questions must be sent in before 26th June. It was agreed that this would be useful. There was no written report from County Councillor Ireton this month.

Planning Applications

Application No LA2324984/TPO: To fell two trees at 12 High Croft. No Objection

Application no ZA23/2495: Garage rebuild at 1 Springfield Crescent. This was approved subject to the door not opening over the pavement. Comment to be made that the door must not impede the footpath. No objection

Application ZA23/25018: Robin Lane 5 houses in the field at the end of Lakeber Drive.

Councillor Adams left the room. Question was asked if it was in the local plan.

Access would be onto Lakeber. No objection

Road Marking

There has been a survey done by NYC and some lines will be redone hopefully by August.

Town Hall Repairs

The window frames are done, and it was agreed to make some repairs to the wall plaster in the ballroom before the decorators come in. A piece of timber would be put on the wall beside the table trolley to protect the wall. Paint was already in possession. The windowsill on the landing is also in need of repair but this will be left to a later date. Two new boilers will be purchased, one for the Wenningdale Room and one for the Lower Town Hall that will be the same as the one upstairs.

Bentham Masterplan

There will be 2 meetings with NYC sports and leisure and strategic development officers. These will take place in Bentham in July.

Other Matters

An armed forces flag will be flown during armed forces week.

Grass cutting in Low Bentham used to be done in various places in Low Bentham especially beside the pumping station, but they have not been done this year.

The Council are not sure if it is their responsibility. It was resolved to ask

Thomas Brown where he cuts as a first step forward to improve the situation.

A request from Bentham Primary School Eco community has been received for help with their garden possibly to buy 2 water butts. It was agreed to ask exactly what they need and ask for a request in next year's precept. The school also requested signs to prevent parking outside the school gates, but nothing can be done as it would be a NY Council matter.

Concern was expressed about the parked vehicles on Main Street outside the Auction Mart during one of the recent sales. The problem will be discussed at the next Auction directors' meeting.

Councillor Marshall reported on Collingwood Terrace's new applicant who will be moving in shortly.

The annual accounts are ready for signing and will be done at the next Council meeting which will be held on 19th June.



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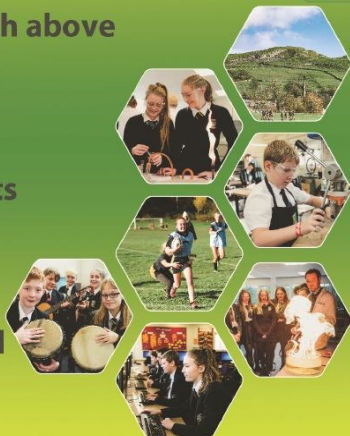
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Three "Nice n' Easy" July Rambles

By Don Cartledge

We have three easy walks in July and for each one we meet first at Lairgill for 9.30am. We also provide advance notice of another of our popular summer evening strolls, a "Keasden Wander" on August 3rd, for this walk meet either at Lairgill for 6pm, or at Keasden Church for 6.15pm.



There is a walk on **Tuesday 11th** led by Terri Kwiecinska (tel. 07972-653791). It covers 6.5 miles along part of the Whitbarrow Geotrail and geotrail leaflets can be purchased for £2.75 from a small kiosk at the start. Free parking is at Ravens Lodge and, as we set off on a gradual climb, there is an opportunity to spend time identifying fossils in the "great slab" (if it's not too wet and slippery). Walking on the well-established path, there are further geological features to observe before we ascend through a wooded area to the Bay viewpoint or maybe to see the ospreys at Foulshaw Moss. We then follow the cairns to Lord's Seat at the top of the scar, again with panoramic views, erratics and fabulous flora and fauna in the nature reserve. A short detour takes us to Bell Rake Adit tunnel before returning for a slow descent back to the start.

Colin Stroud and Alison Kinder (tel. 07854-789311) lead a 7-mile Claughton circular walk on **Thursday 20th**. Starting from the Bull Beck carpark, we walk through the field up to Brookhouse and continue to the windfarm above Claughton. On a good day, this provides superb views over the Lune Valley and the Forest of Bowland. We then descend via footpaths past the clay quarry, through woods and past Claughton Hall, back to the main road. Crossing the road, we follow a lane and eventually reach the River Lune where we follow the river bank for some way before turning left, back to Bull Beck and the cars.

On **Sunday 30th** there is a 7-mile walk starting from Dunsop Bridge and the leader is Peter Lennard (07474-120898). Dunsop Bridge claims to be the very centre of the United Kingdom, and we begin by following the bank of the River Hodder before ascending gentle slopes to Back o' Hill Barn. There are clear views of the way ahead before we descend to cross the valley over an ancient clapper bridge which crosses the clear waters of Rough Skye. The route continues gently uphill past Rough Skye Barn and on to a green track to reach Bull Lane. Travelling down to Newton, we cross over the Hodder and follow the riverside path on its south bank to pass a novel suspension bridge and on to Knowlmore Manor which was built in 1849 for Jonathan Peel. The path continues along the river and returns to the start via the bridge and driveway to Thorneyholme Manor.

We have a 5-mile summer evening stroll on Thursday August 3rd (advance notice). Kate Rowe (tel. 015242-51402) the leader, has called it a "Keasden Wander" and it will cover paths and quiet roads starting from and around Keasden Church.

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Low Bentham & District

By Kathryn Brownsord

Unfortunately, the Forest of Bowland warden was unable to attend the May meeting so instead it was decided to have a quiz night. The first quiz was compiled by Sheila Brown on Royalty and the second by myself on Pub Names. I think we all enjoyed it, there was plenty of laughter and brain searching going on.

A month or so ago we had a walk up and down the riverside which was enjoyable although we all got a little wet in the rain. A few of our members enjoyed an afternoon at Long Preston to celebrate the North Yorkshire West WI 40th anniversary event.

One of our members, Wanda Lewcun, judged the competition of a bird ornament. Sheila Brown was first, and she also drew the raffle, I was lucky enough to win. Letters of thanks were read out from two of our members who have been hospitalised recently but are now doing well.

Our WI meets on the third Thursday every month (20th July) at 7pm in the Victoria Institute, Low Bentham. We hope to see you there.

High Bentham

By Jan Stuiver

On Thursday 1st June, we met in the Lower Town Hall for our monthly meeting. The speaker was Rowena Lee, who talked about "A Life in Service in the 21st Century". She explained that she had wanted a complete change of career from a well-paid, high-powered job in IT where she worked long hours, but which was also very stressful. Instead, she became a housekeeper for various families in both Scotland and London. At the end of her talk some members felt that she had possibly jumped out of



the frying pan and into the fire! But at least the work itself was a complete change from her previous job and very varied. Members and a couple of guests found her talk extremely interesting.

Several members enjoyed an evening walk around part of the Ingleborough Nature Reserve recently, followed by a meal at the Station Inn at Ribbleshead. Our next meeting will be on Thursday 6th July at 7.30pm in the Town Hall. Anyone interested is very welcome to attend as a guest. Our speaker will be Helen Thurston, who will be telling us about the work of The Yorkshire Dales Millenium Trust, an organisation which has its headquarters nearby in Clapham. Anyone wishing to enter our monthly competition should bring a photograph taken in the Yorkshire Dales to the meeting.

Tatham Fells

By Mary Taylor

Karen Bond gave a hilarious account of 'It Shouldn't Happen to a Vet' to Tatham Fells Women's Institute members on Tuesday evening, June 13th in the Old School. She said that she was determined to be a vet from when she was very young in the 1980s; her mother tried to put her off, but she loved helping at her local practice in the holidays and at weekends and went on to train at Glasgow Vet School. After graduating she went back to her home on the Isle of Man; the vet she had worked with had retired and the only practice that would employ her were two women vets in the north of the island who worked from their home – more like 'All Creatures Great and Small' than what she was used to at university. She gained the reputation of being an expert on fish from a piece she had read in the vet magazine. When she had been there only 11 months, Karen was left on her own for three weeks, on call all the



time; she successfully surgically removed a wish bone from the throat of a dog with only her student drawings to rely on. She also told of the sad times when an animal had to be put to sleep, but there was lots of laughter to balance the tears. Karen has worked as a vet in this part of the country but had to give up physical work because of a shoulder injury and is now a Vet Advisor in a large laboratory.

Sue Dawson thanked Karen who judged the competition for An Animal Ornament; winners were first Ruth Holden, second Margaret McIntosh and third Ann Dawson. President Ruth Garstang led the meeting and announced future events including a walk on June 20th and an outing on August 30th.

The evening concluded with refreshments provided by Liz Whitfield and Sue Dawson. The next meeting on July 11th will be a Games Evening at the Old School, followed by a strawberry supper.



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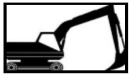
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News from the Fells of Opera, Wild Church and Birds Nesting

By Helen Wilkinson

Our concert in May was an entertaining mix of songs from opera and musicals. Nicola Mills started the evening with some of her life story and then sang music chosen by the audience from the 'menus' she had put on the pews. Her passion for singing and her desire to make opera accessible for all were clear as she shared stories of her career throughout the evening.

At the end of May the theme for Wild Church was Pentecost; thinking about flames and wind. The children made windmills and Rev Jane had brought two kites; it was a sunny day but there was just enough wind slipping round the corners of the Old School to make them fly. Everyone enjoyed toasting marshmallows on the fire pit and eating gooey 'smores.

A hot sunny day brought a large crowd to Lowgill Sports (*see pages 18/19*) and there was also a very good entry for the Sheepdog Trials; it was lovely to have Carole Butcher back in the village enjoying her day as President of the sports. The following day we had our annual garden service in the garden of Clearbeck House; half the service was held on the lawn before we had to rush into the shelter of the garage as loud thunder announced the arrival of some very welcome rain.

A pair of Swallows made a brief visit to our stable before deciding to move on to better lodgings; it must not have met their standards so maybe I will have to do a bit of dusting and clear the cobwebs out for next year. On 20th May two pairs of House Martins arrived, and the young birds have now left the nest. I haven't seen any barn owls, but two tawny owls have fledged from a nest box at Ivah Old barn (*see photo above*).

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Dementia Action with the Bentham Line

By Rod Tickner, Alzheimer's Society Ambassador for Dementia Friends rod.tickner@cloud.com

During Dementia Action Week, the Leeds-Morecambe Community Rail Partnership (CRP) attended an event held in Leeds Civic Hall on Thursday 18th May alongside Northern Trains Ltd. and with many other groups and organisations providing services to those living with dementia.

We were able to share our experiences of working to establish the Bentham Line as a dementia-friendly railway. This has been achieved through consideration of the station and train environments, raising staff, and volunteer awareness through dementia friends' sessions; and arranging visits which are geared to supporting those living with dementia and their carers.

The event was arranged by Dementia Friendly Leeds and there was a short presentation by Tim Sanders, Leeds Dementia Commissioner, and Warren, who is living with dementia, spoke about his own experiences of being diagnosed. He was from the Dementia Engagement and Empowerment Project (DEEP) a national project for dementia voices.

Photo shows Maxine Myers and Elliott Bateson of Northern Trains with Rod Tickner of the CRP



Recently, we took the Bentham Wednesday Lunch Club by train to Carnforth to have lunch in the celebrated station buffet, made famous in the 1945 film 'Brief Encounter', followed by a tour of the various displays in the adjacent Heritage Centre to help those living with dementia to recall memories of their youth. The entire site is under cover so even if the weather is awful a pleasant outing is assured.

The CRP is happy to arrange visits to a variety of places, suitable for those living with dementia along the Leeds-Morecambe route. For those nearer Lancaster the possible visits could be to Skipton, Keighley or Saltaire. Whilst for those living nearer to Leeds: Morecambe or Carnforth. Bentham's sensory farm and the Forest of Bowland are potential destinations for groups from both ends of the line. Please contact us by telephone on 015242-98940 or by email if you wish to pursue this.

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Friday Lunch Club Trip to Hawes

By Deb Hawkins

The Bentham Age Concern Friday Lunch Club had a lovely day out on 6th June with a trip to the Wensleydale Creamery in Hawes. Nine members jumped on the bus on a rather cool morning. Once there, everybody went their own way either to the gift shop, to the cafe or restaurant for a refreshing cuppa or to the Cheese Shop where you could sample all the different combinations of Wensleydale Cheese!

Later we watched a fabulous demonstration on how Wensleydale Cheese is made by a very informative chap, before heading to the Museum and the Viewing Gallery where we could see the factory in action! After a final sweep of the gift shop, we headed back to Bentham with bags full of cheese, fruit cake and other goodies! Had just about enough room on the bus!

A big 'Thank You' to Chris our fab volunteer driver and to Gill, our lovely volunteer helper. Without these guys, day trips like this wouldn't be possible. All our volunteers are the backbone of the Friday Lunch Club's operation and are very much appreciated. If you would like to volunteer in some capacity, please contact Bentham Older People Together:

Tel: 015242-63162, Email:

benthamolderpeopletogether@gmail.com



*Don't forget the BN deadline
date is **12th July**
for the August edition*

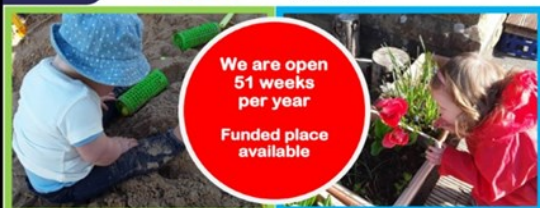
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What to look for in July

By Sue Halsall

Hogweed (*see photo right*) is a very common plant growing along paths, hedgerows and is in flower now. The flat umbrella shaped flower clusters are usually covered with feeding insects, but the leaves, stalks and flowers are edible to us too. Fortunately, you are unlikely to mistake it for the unpleasant, harmful Giant hogweed – I haven't ever seen any around Benthams.

If you walk along the lanes or footpaths throughout summer, you may notice lots of small purple flowers that are like mini sweet peas. This is bush vetch (*see photo right*) and it is a member of the pea family, each flower stalk has 2-6 flowers, it climbs using tendrils and will eventually produce a black seed pod with pea-like seeds in. It is great for pollinating insects like bumble bees and hover flies, as you can see from my photo. Just behind the bee, is a stem of crosswort with the small yellow flowers, and leaves that are arranged in a cross on the stem. This also grows in profusion in hedgerows through July.

A rather lovely plant that flowers in July is common or black knapweed which belongs to the thistle family but isn't spiky at all (*see photo right*). I have many in my garden as they self-seeded from a wildflower mix I once sowed, but it grows on verges and in meadows too. It is a lovely purple and as you can see, looks like a thistle and is great for pollinating insects as it produces a good supply of nectar– my photo shows a hoverfly on it, but bees and butterflies love it too and birds will eat the seeds.

If you are out in woodland between June and September, you may find this small white flower, called enchanter's nightshade (*see photo right*). It has oval shaped leaves and is not related to deadly nightshade but is a member of the willowherb family.

The common spotted orchid (*see photo left*) can be found in verges, grassy places and old meadows. The colour can vary from almost white to deeper pink and they spread by minute seeds which can take some years from landing in a suitable place to producing the flowering plant. I stopped mowing my lawn and after about 4 years of this, three plants appeared and have increased in number every year.

All photos are Sue's



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Email to: info@thebenthamnews.co.uk or hand in to Daisy Hair and Beauty in the Main Street or use our website www.thebenthamnews.co.uk

Copy deadline is 12th July for the August edition. Please note we cannot guarantee the inclusion of any articles after this date. We aim to acknowledge all emails and also articles sent by telephone contact, if you do not receive a reply to either, contact us again, as it may not have been received.

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"This photo of a bumble bee with its 'head in the blues' was taken on the sunny evening of May 18th near Gill Beck, Mewith by Katie Mackenzie. After finishing her academic studies, Katie says she 'found photography', a hobby which she is passionate about and which has allowed her to reconnect with her childhood love of art and creativity.

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