

BENTHAM NEWS

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BENTHAM BONFIRE & FIREWORKS 2023

With the kind permission of the Auction Mart, this year's bonfire and firework display will take place on Saturday 28th October. Gates open at 5 pm. Wristbands can be purchased from Temptations, Black Bull, Riverside Caravan Park and Flowerfields, or you can pay at the door on the night.

Prices same as last year, adults £4, children £2.

Photo by Jon Brook from last year's Bentham Firework display. So definitely don't miss this year's!

Find us on Facebook and Instagram @thebenthamnews or on the web

www.thebenthamnews.co.uk

Marvellous Music on the Field

By The Playing Field Committee, drone photo by Jon Brook of Bentham Imaging

On Sunday 3rd September we held our 3rd annual 'Music on the Field' event, and what a day it was! The sun shone brilliantly from start to finish as people came and settled in for a day of live entertainment. We were treated to music from Ronnie and the Rockits, Gabriella and Jasmine T and the Seals. It was great to see so many up and dancing and enjoying themselves. This year we also had some additions of local stalls alongside the car boot and a cocktail bar from The Perfect Spirit Mobile Bar, which went down a storm. Bentham's Got Talent was also very popular this year and all the local youngsters involved were absolutely brilliant. We would like to say a massive thank you to everybody who came to support us and to all the amazing people that helped us to make this day possible, including the local businesses that contributed to the raffle prizes. A huge congratulations to Roger Chornley, who won the top prize of £200! Altogether we raised an amazing £1989.65. We couldn't do it without you all and we really do appreciate every single one of you for your kindness and generosity. We think you'll agree, this event gets better and better each year, and we have Sunday 1st September 2024 locked in our diary, so save the date!

Thank you for raffle prizes from - Angus Fire, Bentham Imaging, Bentham Golf Club, Richard Turner & Son, Neil Wright Estate Agents, Fisher Hopper, Flowerfields - Bentham Post Office, Pure Beauty Room, Bentham Co-op, The Black Bull Hotel, The Barber's Shop, Total Wellbeing, Country Harvest, Grove Hill, Riverside Caravan Park and Holiday Cottages, Harrison Garage, Atkinson Vos, The Black Bicycle, Duxburys' Discount Store, Coach House, Featherstone's Hardware, Country Tails Dog Grooming, Bentham Chippy, Kath Scaife Holistic Therapy, Daisy Hair and Beauty, Temptations Craft Boutique, Country Meats, The Black Pig, G&Mo's, Hairlines, Little Fortune Chinese Takeaway, SPAR, Simply Delicious and The Oven Maid.

We are very excited to announce that our next fundraiser will see the return of 'Off the Wall' at the Town Hall, on Saturday 9th December! This will feature music from the Groove Cutters and food from Simply Delicious. Watch out for tickets and get yours early before they get snapped up! We will release full details soon. Thank you again.



The Hub Has Raised Enough to Buy the Community Centre Building!

By The Hub Team

We have so much exciting news to report!

We are delighted to have received generous donations from Bentham Together, The Sunbeams Project, Harrison's Garage, Grove Hill Garage, Anguses, Wenningdale Escapes and many other businesses and individuals both from within Bentham and from the surrounding areas. In September we held a hugely successful jumble sale at Ingleton Community Centre raising £770. Many thanks to all our supporters and the ladies from Ingleton without whom it would not have been such a successful day. In September we also held a hugely enjoyable music quiz organised by Bryan from The Black Pig which raised £750.



And to complete this amazing show of support, we recently learned that we have been granted £10,000 from the Yorkshire Dales Millennium Trust towards the purchase of the youth and community centre. So now we have the funds to buy the property. **This marks the end of Phase One of The Hub project.**

This is when Phase Two starts! Phase Two is to make the building fit for purpose. Mike Reid, our project manager, requested a survey of the property and following its completion he is now actively seeking quotes for the work that is required.

We are incredibly grateful that The Hub shops continue to get quality items donated. These will enable us to continue our core work, which is donating to local good causes. We are pleased to announce that, having reached our initial target, from October donations to these projects will recommence. A massive thank you to all our volunteers and to our wonderful customers from near and far for their continued support for our work.

Thank You
for your support

To our amazing
Delivery Team

The Bentham News that comes through your letterbox every month is delivered by a team of more than 40 volunteers. Rain or shine, heatwave or cold spell, they carry on delivering. Some have been doing this for 30 years, others are newer recruits. Our heartfelt thanks to all of you for this amazing community and individual effort.

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Bentham's 149th Agricultural Show

By Janet Greenwood photos by Julie Blacow and Malcolm Preece

Bentham Agricultural Show was held on Saturday 2nd September in the Auction Mart. The society would like to thank the directors and staff for their generosity in allowing us to use the facilities once again for the show.

We had a fabulous show, and the sun shone all day. We would like to thank everyone who came along, exhibitors, judges, trade stands, craft stalls and visitors. We hope you all had a fantastic day, and we really appreciate your support. This year we welcomed Mr Frank Towers as president, local farmer from Wray. He and his wife, Sue, were kept busy during the day with various judging duties and trophy presentations. We thank them for giving up their time and expertise to do the role on show day. We welcomed many new exhibitors to the show this year and were pleased to see entries had increased in the handicraft, horticulture and sheep classes. The quality of entries across the board is a credit to our community. Thank you to all who took the time and made the effort to get involved. There is a huge range of classes at the show, so if you have not yet had a go, why not join in, and have a go next year?

The society would like to also say a massive thank you to the committee and other show day volunteers. They have worked really hard to enable the show to be a huge success and we couldn't do it without them. We hope to see many of you at our 150th show next year.





Person of Bentham - Hannah Lea

Not many people invite Bentham News to share some time with them on their 35th birthday, but that's what happened with Hannah. We were delighted to get to know a bit more about this lovely, interesting young woman, and to share the 67th interview in this series with you ... please read on.

How long have you lived in Bentham and what brought you here?

I've lived in Bentham since I was 1 year old. We moved here to be closer to my mum's family. I come from a large extended family, and I love being close to them and close to a home where everyone knows one another. I have 5 brothers and all except one live in Yorkshire. Will (a builder in Bentham), Jordan (runs Soccer Hub Coaching in Leeds), Michael (an electrician, currently in Australia), Jim (a mechanic at Grove Hill Garage) and Tom (a plasterer in Bentham). A massive sadness is that I lost my sister, Clare, who was only 28 when she passed away 2 months ago.

Tell us something about yourself that people wouldn't normally know.

That's a tough one when you live in a place like Bentham! I feel like everyone knows everything about me that they need to know! I wish I could say something interesting like I'm a black belt in karate or I can speak 7 languages, but I can't! People are always surprised though when I tell them I wasn't born here. Actually, I was born in Aldershot, but my family lived here and since I moved here so young and it's all that I can remember, I still class myself as a proper Benthamer!

If you could travel anywhere, where would you like to go?

I have been very lucky and have travelled a lot with friends from Bentham. I was in India for a few months, and in South-East Asia and Australia for 2 years, then 2½ years in New Zealand. I would also like to see more of the UK and Europe now that I'm back. I've always wanted to visit Italy and I have a holiday planned there next month, which I am really excited about! I'm going with my friend Suzie to a retreat near Rome where we'll be doing yoga, paddle boarding, horse riding, wine tasting and a cookery class, as well as lots of pampering and relaxing. I can't wait!

Wherever I go in the world, I always look forward to coming back home.

What does a perfect day look like to you?

I'd wake up slowly without my alarm and have a nice lazy morning with a fancy breakfast and good coffee. It'd be sunny and I'd spend the whole day relaxing outside, either reading or hanging out with my nephew and niece, Alfie and Phoebe. They are "my world" and I love being an auntie. I'd have a delicious evening meal of pasta, garlic bread and salad with a glass of red wine, whilst watching something funny on TV... with chocolate for pudding!

If you could witness any event of the past, present or future, what would it be?

I'd love to go back and watch how they built the pyramids and Stonehenge and other ancient sites around the world. I'd also like to go back and see the dinosaurs!

Are there any world events that you remember particularly from when you were growing up?

Unfortunately, the main world events that I remember from being younger are all sad ones, such as Princess Diana's death and the World Trade Centre terror attacks.

In contrast to that though, and it's not a world event, but weirdly an event that I always remember from growing up in Bentham was when the actor who played Fred Elliott the butcher from Coronation Street came through Bentham on a small open top bus. He threw sweets and chocolate pretzels off to all the kids (I got loads) and I got his autograph! It was so random and always makes me laugh looking back at it! What a time to be alive! Ha ha!

But the most recent and obvious world event that affected me in my personal life was the Covid Pandemic. I was in New Zealand with my partner, Rhys, when it started in 2020. For the first 6 weeks there was a total lockdown, but because New Zealand has a smaller population than Britain and things were easier to control, everything changed



Photo by Jon Brook of Bentham Imaging of Hannah with Phoebe and Alfie

after that. The borders were closed, everyone followed the rules, and the government made generous payments to workers. As we were self-employed, we were each given a lump sum and when the restrictions lifted, we were able to travel around exploring this amazingly beautiful country with no crowded tourist beaches. Our visas were extended because of it all so we ended up staying there for an extra 6 months. To be honest, our experience of the Covid Pandemic was not bad at all, and we really were very lucky to be where we were.

If you had an unlimited budget, what investment would you make in Bentham?

I'm on the Playing Fields Committee and know how hard it is to keep fund-raising to make enough money just to maintain that area. Our next major project is that we need to raise £60,000 to knock down the old sports club (including asbestos removal) so I'd straightaway pay for that. We have a Go Fund Me web page set up if anyone would like to donate (<https://gofund.me/c9d4a75f>) and we are looking for someone to help do a few maintenance jobs on the sports club exterior to help keep it safe so if anybody would like to help, please get in touch! Then I'd put up a new community building which would have sports facilities and a youth club and whatever spaces the community needs.

Then I'd do whatever it takes to sort out the traffic problems in Bentham: control speeding traffic and make better parking arrangements to help the flow of traffic so that there are fewer traffic jams and pedestrians are safer.

What's the worst job you've ever done?

I've been lucky, as generally I've always had jobs that I've enjoyed. I'm a painter and decorator and continued this work whilst in New Zealand. One part of the job there sometimes involved using chemical paint stripper and scraping paint from the exterior weatherboards of houses and it was awful. To do the work I had to wear full, zipped-up overalls, goggles, a mask and gloves so that no chemical touched my skin. Sometimes it would go through the overalls and burn my arms and legs. It was hot, sweaty, dangerous, unpleasant work: I'm never doing that again!

...../Continued on page 8

...../Continued from page 7

What's your most treasured possession?

I'm quite sentimental and keep various things to remind me of family and friends. I have lots of things made for me by Alfie and Phoebe, I also have a green stone necklace that Rhys made me which I always wear. I have a ring that belonged to my sister Clare which is really special to me.

How do you relax?

I love spending time with family and friends, reading, writing, playing music, listening to audiobooks, sewing, knitting, arts and crafts or generally doing anything creative, including (believe it or not!) painting.

What did you want to be when you were growing up?

I feel like I'm still growing up and I am not done with wanting to do different jobs yet!

I had wanted to be a palaeontologist or marine biologist when I was at school and had dreams of being an artist or musician (I still do!) I love making up jingles and songs. I ended up studying childcare at college as I love working with children. I did a year of primary school teacher training at university, but I left as it wasn't really what I wanted. It was when I was a dinner lady and cleaner at Queen Elizabeth School (QES) that I got into decorating, which I had a natural ability for, and I learned on the job. Now that's what I do, self-employed, which suits me at this stage of my life. One day I would like to work in community arts at somewhere like The Looking Well.

Are there any live events or books that you've particularly enjoyed recently?

I went to the Edinburgh Fringe Festival this summer and saw 8 different comedians – they were all great. We stayed with friends, and I really enjoyed myself. Then the 'Music on the Field' in Bentham with live music in September was brilliant: a real community event. I'm also enjoying reading the Richard Osman books now, he's such a clever writer.

What would you like to say to Bentham News readers that feels really important to you?

I've done quite a bit of travelling, and whenever I come back to Bentham, I appreciate how wonderful it is and am grateful to be living here. I've always felt really lucky to be from here – a place where I feel supported and safe and have been able to develop lifelong friendships. There are inspiring people in this town and our community has so much potential. Our town gets overlooked by grant givers. Our main street could be so much more colourful and inviting. I'd love to help brighten it up with community art projects, murals and artwork. My ambition is to get children involved in making a difference through arts and music – we need to invest to make Bentham's future brighter.

Also, after losing my sister to suicide, I would like to say to anyone that is struggling, please reach out or speak to someone. You're not alone, help is always available. Some useful numbers are:

Mind: 0300-123-3393

National Suicide Prevention Helpline UK: 0800-689-5652

Samaritans: 116-123

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News from the Bentham Pantry Club

By David Bayes



The Bentham Pantry Club welcomed its first members at the end of August. Formerly The Pantry, the new club is open to all and is stocked with a range of food items and toiletries. Membership is £5, which includes a first shop. Members join as either single household (£3 per visit, and may choose up to 9 items) or multi person household, (£5 per visit, and may choose up to 15 items). In addition, fresh fruit and vegetables can be added to your shop at no extra charge.

Trying to make ends meet? Come and join the Bentham Pantry Club!

The Pantry Club has teamed up with national charity **FareShare** to help combat food waste. The amount of food thrown away each year is unacceptable, especially in the cost-of-living crisis. FareShare distributes supermarket surplus, which would otherwise end up in landfill. With the help of Age Concern, we now receive around 100Kgs each week of this surplus stock. Items may vary week to week but have already included Hovis bread, peanut butter, M&S biscuits, Costa sauces, L'Or coffee, sponge puddings, cereal bars and tacos.



Want to help tackle food waste? Come and join the Bentham Pantry Club

The Bentham Pantry Club opens every Wednesday 11am - 12.30pm and 3.30 - 4.30pm. Free refreshments available. Entry at side door of the Methodist Church on Station Road. Our volunteer team look forward to welcoming you. Find us on facebook.

The Bentham Pantry Club is part of Churches Together in Bentham.

Photo shows left to right: Maggie Bruno, June Gerrie, David Bayes, Louise Vigor and Jim Vigor, all volunteers at the Pantry Club.











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We were sent this fascinating précis of My Long Journey to Freedom, the autobiography of Anna Hebblethwaite, by her friend, local resident Lindsay Young. Anna lived in Bentham from 1947 until her death in 2008. Lindsay was concerned that Anna's story, along with her courage and enormous resilience, should be both remembered and saluted. Many of you may recall Anna. This is her story, which we will run over two editions.

Anna Hebblethwaite's Long Journey to Freedom

Part One

from Lindsay Young

Some 20 years ago I met Anna Hebblethwaite down by the Wenning, where I was sitting by Bentham waterfall with my dog. She was collecting leaves from the lime trees and we started to chat. I later learned that she would use the lime leaves to make an infusion with which to soothe tired feet or painful legs - a remedy handed down to her by her Polish grandmother.

She began telling me about her extraordinary life before she came to live, work and marry in Bentham. I began to visit her and one day she took me aside and handed me a small printed volume with a shiny red cover. She said to me 'Please promise to try to get this published!'

It was entitled "My Long Journey to Freedom", written by herself and dated 1988. It was her own privately printed account of her country childhood in Poland, how she survived the occupation, then forced labour in Nazi Germany and then her wanderings across Europe which brought her to Britain as a refugee after WW2.

To my regret, though I thought about it often, I did not know how to get it printed. It is only recently that I have made some progress in making her story more widely known. Two years ago I had several copies made at Bentham Printers on Main Street. Recently I shared some of these with Bentham Library Book Club and got a wonderful response.

Librarian John Frankland did some great detective work. We traced Anna's son John Hebblethwaite, who now lives in Kendal. It turned out that he has a website with Anna's story and up to date details of her family. It was John who worked on Anna's story with her and wrote it up in its finished form and continues to add to it via his website.

Thanks to John Frankland her book is now catalogued and available in the library system which means it is now permanently in the public domain. It is a story that should not be lost. In terms of history it could be an excellent resource for school children.

I shared my copies with a few Book Club members and also with David and Judith Johnson. All of them enjoyed reading it very much and were very positive about it.

It was passed to Bentham News, who suggested this article. Her story will hopefully touch a wider audience, including those from Bentham with a personal interest in those times and some who may have known her. For that reason I have included many local names from the early days of her story in the section entitled "Life in Bentham".

If it jogs any memories we'd love to hear from you. I'd love to hear more about the Picture House in Robin Lane, the old cinema to which she refers!



'My Long Journey to Freedom' begins with Anna's birth in Poland in 1925 in an area which has since become part of Ukraine. She grew up there with her family experiencing the day to day life of the little village called Ilawcze where they lived.

Her parents had four children born between 1922 -1929. At some point in her early childhood they decided to emigrate to France to earn more money. There they enjoyed a comfortable lifestyle and were happy.

"Soon we learned to speak French all the time" says Anna "and forgot all the Polish we had known!" Despite their pleasant life there, when Anna's mother fell ill, she moved back to Poland with the children on the advice of her doctor, and Anna's father returned soon after.

Anna's mother recovered. At first it was difficult for the children to readjust to schooling in Polish (at 10 and 13, Anna and her sister Maria were placed in the infant's class!) but then Anna, with diligence and determination, found her feet and started to excel at her studies.

The account of this stage in her short biography 'My Long Journey To Freedom' gives the reader the first indication of how, throughout her life, Anna's sheer strength of character and hard work earned her her freedom.

In 1939 a twist of fate resulted in a tragic turn of events. Her reward for an excellent result in her exams was a trip to the capital Warsaw. This was a school trip with 40 schoolfellows to perform plays and songs in front of the Polish Prime Minister. She anticipated this with excitement.

One morning during their fortnight's stay at a college in Warsaw, they were raided by the German military. "Soldiers were everywhere and we realised we were trapped and that Poland had been invaded". The children were taken and locked in a 'stark, stone building' then herded onto a cattle truck and taken to Germany.

Despite this, nowhere does Anna overdramatise her account, whatever the horror of her experience. Her feelings are generally left to the imagination or are played down.

"We were always crying because we did not know where we were going or what was going to happen to us" she says, perhaps an understatement.

They were sent to a camp in Germany, from where Anna was sent as an unpaid labourer to a farm. She milked cows and picked potatoes. For a long time there was no news from her family and no possibility of letting her parents know she was alive, but eventually contact was made. Her parents wrote that they had sold land and animals to pay the Germans for her return. They had paid but she was not returned.

In 1944 she was taken from the farm to work in a Nazi slave factory. Here the 'work was very hard and the food poor'. They were given 'black bread with splinters in it' which became embedded in her tongue so her mouth was too sore for her to speak.

She had a very narrow escape here, once again her rigorous character saving her from the worst fate. Creating for herself a regime of hard work and cleanliness, she washed her clothes every night and herself in the early morning "to make sure I was awake and alert". Thus she avoided following the Germans' instructions one morning for all of them to 'have a bath' as she had already washed.

Those girls, her friends who obeyed instructions, never returned, sent not for a bath but very possibly to their deaths. Anna lived on and eventually in May 1945 British soldiers arrived. The war was over 'and we were free!'

The black and white photograph of Anna was sent by her son John Hebblethwaite and was used for her bus pass. The photographer is unknown. John Hebblethwaite continues to keep in touch with the family in Ukraine and further details can be found on his website:

www.hebblethwaites.net/index.htm#home

To be continued in the November edition



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'Hip Joint' is Back - a lunchtime event for the actively retired!

By the Hip Joint team

The next three Hip Joint parties will be at **The Victoria Institute in Low Bentham**. Here's a taste of what's to come!

Friday 6th October... try for last minute tickets.

Enjoy the gastronomic delights of **French** food in, of course, a French café. Bon appétit ...!

Listen to Helen Longworth's rich voice with Fred Binley on keyboard. They have both performed at Hip Joint before, separately, and enjoy working together.



Friday 10th November

This will be an **Irish** themed event. Sam Lawrence will play Uilleann pipes, which he also makes! He is a multi-talented musician who plays a variety of instruments, so there could be some surprises! He may be joined by another local musician who plays internationally - an event not to be missed. Here's an Irish joke to get you in the mood ... "Never iron a four-leaved clover, because you don't want to press your luck!!"

Friday 15th December

You will be treated to a **Victorian Christmas** theme. The stage and TV actor Peter Rylands, who played Alan Bennett for us at a previous Hip Joint, will provide a Dickensian flavour. Get into the Christmas spirit: who knows in what way!

"A warmth, a feeling of belonging and a sense of being loved filled the room." This quote from 'The Christmas Carol' by Charles Dickens reflects what many of us feel at a Hip Joint gathering.

As you can see, there are three very different Hip Joint events to come. It's amazing. We are constantly in awe of the talent around us and that, together, we create this wonderful community event. Make the most of it and don't miss out. As those of you who have experienced many joyful and fun Hip Joints will know, this is very much a community event. It is the active support of so many people that has created the successful event it has become:

- Fantastic and varied food
- A wide range of live entertainment
- Visually interesting themed settings

If you would like to be on our mailing list let us know at hipjointbentham@gmail.com.

Join us, and become actively involved with Hip Joint. By doing so you will gain access to early tickets. Everyone wins!

Simple Booking

The cost is £12.50 plus a 15p ticket fee. Buy tickets by card or use PayPal.

Go to www.trybooking.co.uk/CPTD.

If you have any queries, please email hipjointtickets@icloud.com.

There is the option of a £7 ticket if you are on a reduced income. Please email hipjointbentham@gmail.com to obtain a ticket. Tickets must be booked a week before the event for catering purposes. We are aware that most of the October tickets will have been sold, but please contact us. You could be lucky! There is no need to print out your ticket as we will have a list of those who have booked.



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

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Bentham Youth Club relies on volunteers from our community to help our youth worker run the club.

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Your Garden or Allotment in October

By Joyce Knapp

The month of October can be a surprisingly busy time for us gardeners even though many people see it as the end of summer, it is certainly not the time to put away our gardening tools. We can use the dry days this month to tidy up some of the stragglier plants, such as hardy geraniums, which will no doubt have spread widely during the summer months as they have flowered. We may also wish to reduce the size of the root, discarding the centre section, that will be very woody, then replanting the outer root to form a new, fresh young plant. It has become quite popular in recent years to leave the heads on some flowering plants as their flowers fade, so the resulting seed heads can provide a free source of bird food in the winter months. This is the case with Globe Thistle which will have produced a beautiful mauve pink flower throughout the summer, then it will stand strong into the winter and looks particularly good when covered in frost. Another plant that can be relied on to produce a good crop of seeds for the birds is teasel, though this does tend to grow quite tall, so is only suitable for larger gardens or allotments.

Moving over to the allotment/vegetable garden, October is probably the best month to spread any leaf mould we have made, by simply rotting down last year's fallen leaves. If we are ahead with our planning, we can spread this as a thick layer of mulch on the beds where we intend to grow root crops such as carrots, beetroot and parsnips; it will not only add slow-release nutrients to the soil but will also improve soil structure allowing the roots to form more easily. Other plants that appreciate a mulch of leaf mould include strawberries, as they naturally grow in woodland areas, and anything that likes an ericaceous soil e.g., heathers and conifers. Once we have emptied the leaf mould bin/bags we can start collecting the leaves as they fall this autumn and leave them to rot down ready for use next year. It is worth noting here that if the leaves are extremely dry it may be necessary to add a little water as a certain amount of moisture is needed to allow for the breakdown process to begin.

A last thing to mention this month is the planting of bulbs such as daffodils and crocus, though I believe tulips are best left until November to avoid them springing up too early and being damaged by frost.



Nature Notes

By David Fisher

While moth trapping late one night in August, there was a fairly big hedgehog wandering about in the garden beds. I would say it's large enough to survive winter in hibernation. Previously, during the day, I had spotted hedgehog droppings on our lawn. On the same night, a tawny owl landed on my garage roof, stayed a short time then flew off. Then my cat brought a mouse into the conservatory – it was dead. Recently, I had some good species of moths in the trap, one being a Canary-shouldered Thorn and another being a Ruby Tiger.



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People Page

Letters

Dear Bentham News

Driving up to High Bentham the other day, I was aware of the grass verges being cut. Inspired by having seen the efforts of other local authorities, the thought came to me how lovely our verges would be if covered in wildflowers instead of neatly cut green grass. And the benefit would be more than aesthetic: we know wildflowers support wildlife. It would be good to learn of other peoples' thoughts.

Tony Bennett, Low Bentham

Thanks/Notices

Richard Wallace

It is with great sadness that we at Bentham News heard of the death of Rev'd Richard Wallace on 9th September 2023. He passed away peacefully, aged 84 years, at The Dales Care Home in Draughton. He was the beloved husband of the late Daphne, who many in Bentham will remember with great affection. He was a kind and gentle man with a great sense of humour and enormous generosity of spirit and was a good friend to Bentham News serving on our committee for many years. We miss him and are grateful for the time he spent with us.

Welcome to the New Vicar at St John's

By Libby Wheildon

We warmly invite you all to the Collation and Induction of our new vicar, Reverend Canon Peter Greenwood, by the Bishop of Leeds, the Rt Revd Nick Baines and the Archdeacon, Jonathan Gough, in St John the Baptist Parish Church, Bentham, on Thursday 26th October at 7pm.

Please also join us for Reverend Canon Peter Greenwood's first services in church at 9am and at 10.30am on Sunday 29th October.

Bentham & Beyond Calendar 2024 – Now Available

By Tony Burton (Councillor)

The Bentham & Beyond Calendar for 2024 is now available – and will make a great Christmas present. This year's beneficiary is The Bentham Hub, and copies of the calendar can be purchased from The Hub and from the Town Hall. Once again the production costs of the calendar have been covered by our generous sponsors: S & W Fabrications Ltd, Dalehead Veterinary Group, Friends of Bentham Station/LASRUG, AI Harrison & Co, Taylor Environmental Groundwork, , Elite Bathrooms & Tiles, Atkinson Vos, Bentham Butchers, AEG Joinery, HB Plumbing & Heating, Mark Burrow Electrical and Grove Hill Garage, meaning that all proceeds from the sale can go to The Hub. The Town Council would like to thank them all for their continued support of this important community project.

Bentham Christmas Lights

By Julia Abbotts

We are extremely grateful once again to Gary Carter for choosing to donate the fundraising efforts from the President's Day to The Bentham Christmas Lights Committee! Thank you so much for your long standing support, the monies raised will go towards lighting up Bentham this festive season!



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Settle Photographic Group Returns to The Folly with a New Exhibition

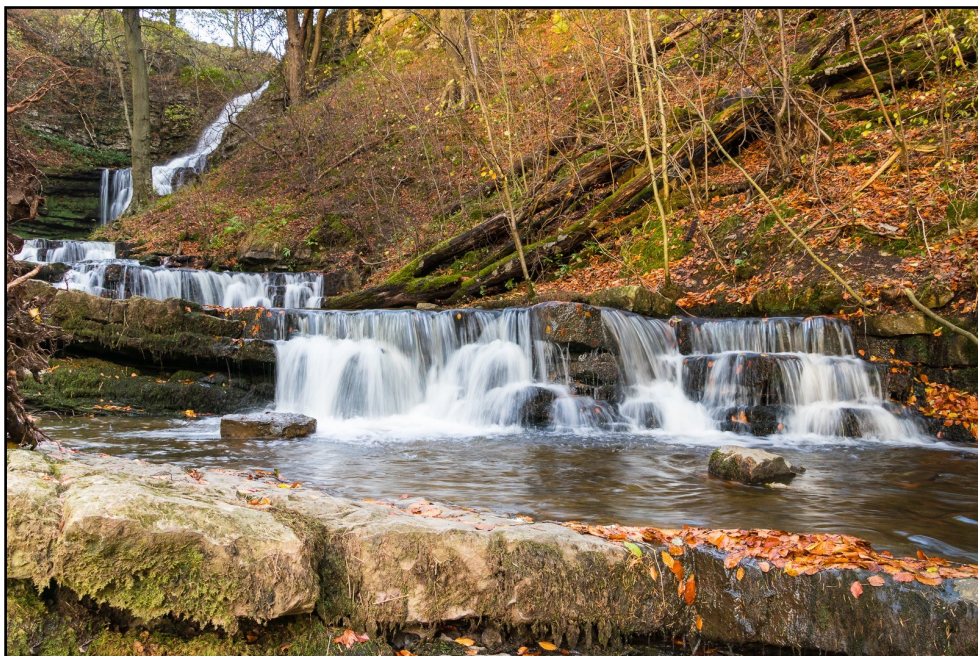
By Jill Franklin

Settle Photographic Group (SPG) is returning to the Museum of Craven Life with a new exhibition. *Focus on North Craven*, comprises more than 50 photographs taken by SPG members, including landscapes, buildings, outdoor activities, farming and wildlife. Featuring a wide variety of styles and subjects, the exhibition runs from **Saturday 7th October 2023 to Wednesday 3rd January 2024** at the Museum at The Folly in Settle, BD24 9EY. It is open Tuesday to Saturday 11am to 4pm, closed on Sundays and Mondays (except Bank Holidays).

Harry Pinkerton, Chair of Settle Photographic Group, says: "Members of the group were asked to find images which, for them, captured different aspects of North Craven. We hope it will help shine a much-deserved spotlight on the people and landscapes of North Craven, one of the most beautiful and fascinating parts of the Dales."

Most members of Settle Photographic Group are based in Craven. The Group's aim is to help every member develop their photographic skills through a varied programme of talks, demonstrations, discussions, challenges, online galleries, outings and exhibitions. Members share their knowledge about a range of cameras, photographic accessories and software. While some of the group use large cameras, others are content to take images on compact cameras or even mobile phones. Visitors are welcome to come along to any meeting and details can be found on their website - www.settlephotos.org

Autumn at Scaleber Force by Peter Robinson





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1/2 Page £88.00

Non-Local Rate

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Bentham Police News

Members of your Safer Neighbourhood Team covering the Bentham, Ingleton and Settle area are PS1006 Paul Evans, PS231 Ikhlq Mohammed, 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.



There have been **28 incidents reported between 13th August and 9th September 2023.**

These included: A probation absconder, civil dispute, sudden death, a suspect phone call, harassment, anti-social behaviour concerning noise, a neighbour dispute, a domestic dispute, a sexual crime, a road traffic accident involving a tractor and a car in Low Bentham, a vehicle hitting a wall in Mewith Lane, Low Bentham, a crime of violence and damage to a wall with overhanging foliage on Burton Road.

Crime Prevention Advice:

North Yorkshire Community Messaging is a free email messaging service from North Yorkshire Police and the Office of the Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner, providing news and updates on policing matters that are relevant to you and your local community. Sign up and receive email alerts about policing activity and initiatives in your local area as well as crime prevention advice and crime appeal. You can also reply directly to your neighbourhood team and provide feedback via surveys.

The alerts can be tailored to where you live and work and you can unsubscribe at any time.

If you would like to sign up, please email your name, address and email to Jayne.Grace@northyorkshire.police.uk -

Or visit WWW.NYCM.uk.

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

**Don't forget if you contact Bentham News via telephone be sure you get an acknowledgement if you want your article in!!!
If not ring or email again.**



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For more details pop into the library or contact 015242 62672 or email office@pioneerprojects.org.uk

Herbal leys are flavour of the week at Low Sizergh



By Kate Gascoyne (Farmer Network Project Manager)

In July the Farmer Network teamed up for a farm walk with Becky Swinn from Innovative Farmers and Dr Lisa Norton from the UK Centre for Ecology and Hydrology. An enthusiastic group of farmers were kindly hosted by Richard and Alison Park at Low Sizergh Farm near Kendal and the main topic for discussion was the management of diverse swards and herbal leys.

Herbal leys are temporary grasslands made up of legume, herb and grass species that easily fit into mixed farming and arable rotations. The wide variety of plant species in herbal leys increase soil fertility, as legumes add nitrogen to the soil. They improve soil structure with their deeper rooting depths and are important food sources for pollinators. They also capture more carbon, transferring it deeper into the soil as organic matter. Importantly, there are payments available within the Sustainable Farming Incentive and Countryside Stewardship options to establish and maintain herbal leys.

During the farm walk the key learning points from the discussions included the following:

- Herbal leys are best managed by rotational grazing.
- It is essential to monitor the sward to understand how management affects the mixture and how the mixture then affects production.
- Each field and the mycorrhizal bacteria and fungi balance of the soil will suit some plants over others. It is a learning curve on the farm.
- Don't put too much area down to herbal leys in one season if they are being grazed. They should be managed carefully in the first couple of years with no grazing in wet conditions.

Sizergh Farm Walk below

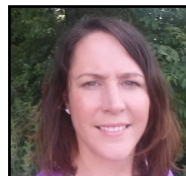




Trees and Livestock can Complement each other on the Farm!

There is currently much talk about tree planting on farmland, and many funded schemes available to help farmers looking to add more trees to those already established on farm. These can range from commercial planting opportunities to laying hedges and single trees within pastures.

Farmers wanting more information about the themes concerning “Trees and Livestock” should contact Carol Moffat on 01768-868615 or carol@thefarmernetwork.co.uk



New Base for The Farmer Network

By Adam Day (Managing Director)

01768-868615 or

adam@thefarmernetwork.co.uk

The Farmer Network Head Office team recently moved offices for the second time in just over two years, following the closure of Newton Rigg College of Agriculture in 2021. Now the independent, not for profit, farmer-support organisation has relocated to new office premises located within Penrith Auction Mart, close to J40 on the M6. The new office location gives the Farmer Network much more room and easier access. Penrith remains an ideal base between all our networks, and this will allow us to continue to develop our services to the farming community.



The Farmer Network Head Office currently manages networks across Cumbria and the Yorkshire Dales, with more than 1,200 farmer members and over 70 corporate members and sponsors. A new Network is also being developed in Northumberland with major funding from the National Lottery and further support from the Royal Countryside Fund.

The Farmer Network proudly supports farmers whatever the challenge or opportunity that they may face. It delivers a range of support services to help farmers maximise income opportunities, save on business costs and ensure that farmers are up to date and fully informed about real-time changes within the industry. It passionately believes that farmers are the key players in ensuring a sustainable farming and food sector to feed an expanding UK and global population. Farmers with the right support and knowledge, can at the same time deliver significant and lasting improvements to the natural environment. Agriculture is currently in a time of great uncertainty with many pressures being placed upon farmers from all directions. We remain totally focussed on delivering support to them at this time.

Pictured in front of the Farmer Network Head Office at Penrith Auction Mart is Adam Day, Managing Director and Donna Gough, Senior Operations Manager

Town Hall

Every Monday,
Indoor Bowls 1 - 4pm, BR

Every Tuesday,
Craft Club 10am-12noon, WR
Dance 9.30am - 12noon, LH (*except 31st*)

Every Wednesday
Pilates, 9.30 - 10.30am,
Stepping Stones, 9am-12:30pm

Every Thursday & Friday 6-7pm

Sandra Tallon Yoga BR

Thursday 5th October

WI, 7-10.30pm, LH

Town Hall - Meeting

Monday 2nd October

LH 7.30pm, Full Town Council Meeting

Town Hall - Coffee Mornings

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

Saturday 10am - 12noon

7th - Age Concern Friday Lunch Club

14th - High Bentham WI

21st - St Boniface Church

28th - Bentham Agricultural Society



WI (*see pages 36-37*)

High Bentham

Thursday 5th, 7:30pm, Bentham LH
AGM. Members only.

Low Bentham and District

Thursday 19th, 7pm in the Victoria Inst.

Tatham Fells

Tuesday 10th, 7.30pm at the Old School
AGM. Members only.



Bentham Fire Station

Thursday, 12th & 26th October 10am
Bentham & District Dementia Friendly
Community Breakfast Club

Ewecross Historical Society

October 30th 7.30pm at High at Bentham
Methodist Church. *Prof Angus Winchester:*
Common land. Visitors welcome: £3.

Events in October

Footpath (*see page 35*)



We have four walks in October and for each meet first at Lairgill for 9.30 am. Advance notice is given of the November 1st walk where we meet at Lairgill for 9.15 am and this linear walk includes bus travel one way.

Thursday 5th. Kate Rowe, 015242-51402, Tarn Hows, 7miles.

Wednesday 11th. Peter Lennard, 07474-120898, Gargrave/Eshton, 6 miles.

Saturday 21st. Bryn and Sandra Craggs, 015242-62416, Rawthey Bridge, 9 miles.

Friday 27th. Alison Kinder and Colin Stroud, 07854-789311, Heathwaite Coastal, 5 miles.

Wednesday 1st November, Ed Badley, 015242-62502, Levens Bridge and Holme, 8.5 miles.

Bentham Pantry Club (*see page 9*)

Every Wednesday

11am - 12.30pm and 3.30pm - 4.30pm

Free refreshments available. Entry at side door of the Methodist Church on Station Road. Our volunteer team look forward to welcoming you. Find us on facebook.

Settle Chess Club

Settle Chess Club meet weekly in Settle Social Club on Monday evenings 6pm to 8ish (Bank Holidays excepted). Our team plays in some local leagues against neighbouring clubs. We would welcome anyone in the Bentham area interested in playing. <http://settlechessclub.uk>

Bentham Bonfire and Fireworks

This year's bonfire and firework display (*see front page*) will take place on **Saturday 28th October**. Gates open at 5 pm. Prices same as last year, adults £4, children £2.

Bentham Golf Club

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

Victoria Institute

Every Monday

9:30am - 12.30pm, Office Open, Enquires/ bookings.

11:30am - 2pm, Community Link Café.

Light lunches and activities.

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

September 4th, 11th & 18th

Every Tuesday

10am - 12noon Mexican Train, £1.50 with coffee, everyone welcome.

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

Every Wednesday

9.30am - 12.30pm, Office Open, Enquires/ bookings.

10am - 12noon Post Office Services.

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

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

Thursday

Low Bentham WI meeting 19th October 7pm

Every Friday

10am - 12noon, Post Office Services.

Every Sunday

11am - 12.30pm Cornerstone Church Service

BINGO NIGHT Friday 3rd November

Doors open 6pm. Eyes down 6.30pm.

Refreshments served. All welcome.

Burton in Lonsdale Films

Saturday 7th October 'The Banshees of Inisherin'. Due to a short notice change to September's film, we are now showing The Unlikely Pilgrimage of Harold Fry on Saturday 4th of November instead of the mystery film. Both films start 7.30pm in the village hall.

St John the Baptist Parish Church

Collation and Induction of Reverend Canon Peter Greenwood, by the Bishop of Leeds and the Archdeacon, on Thursday 26th Oct at 7pm in the church and his first services at 9am and 10.30am on Sunday 29th October (see page 17).

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 (except 31st) 9.30am to 11am, Little Notes Music session in the library.

Every Tuesday (except 31st) 10.30am to 12.30pm, Creative Community Hub

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

Tuesday 10th October 2pm to 4pm, Book Group in the library

Every Wednesday 10am to 12noon, Sing Along to Every Song – face to face and Zoom

Every Wednesday 2pm to 4pm, Art for All

Every Wednesday 9.30am to 4pm, Barclays Bank.

Every Thursday 12.30pm to 3.30pm, Community Art Shed

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

Every Friday 9.30am to 3.30pm, Barclays Bank

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

Bentham Community Library

(See advert page 21)

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!

Methodist Church

Mondays 2nd, 9th, 16th & 23rd (not 30th - half term) 10 - 11.30 am

Toddle-In for parents/carers of children from birth to school age. £2 per family includes drinks and refreshments.

1st October – 11am – Harvest Thanksgiving followed by bring and share lunch, all welcome
4th October – 10 - 11.30a.m. Coffee morning, coffee and scones and an opportunity to see the harvest displays. Donations for refreshments to support Bentham Pantry Club.

Lune Valley Swimming Pool Hornby - 5th Anniversary Celebrations

By Roger Carter

Perhaps against the odds, the LVSP Hornby Pool will celebrate 5 years under community ownership in October this year. It's a superb success story and since October 2018, thanks to all our supporters and friends, we have offered more swimming opportunities to the surrounding local communities than ever before. There will be several activities to mark the occasion and we invite you to share in our achievements over the last 5 years!

On Saturday afternoon, 21st October, we will be holding a Family Party with a Bouncy Castle, party games, music, a picnic tea and much more. There will be an 'Under the Water' themed fancy dress with a prize being awarded to the child with the best costume! In the evening on the same Saturday, we are having a 'Sounds of the 70s' Party Night with all your favourite hits! Dig out your 70s outfit and come and join the party with great music, licensed bar and a grand raffle (*see poster above*).

Both events will be taking place at the Hornby Village Institute. Tickets for our Family Party are available at the swimming pool reception and tickets for the Party Night can be bought online via our booking system. For all Hornby Pool general enquiries please contact Georgia or Scott on 01524-805666.

Website: www.lunevalleypool.com; Email: poolmanager@lunevalleypool.com

Lunesdale Probus Club Hornby

October meetings

On **Monday 2nd October** Sarah Drake from Cancer Care in Lancaster will talk to us about The Work of Cancer Care at Slynedales Lancaster. She will give information on the many forms of support and assistance available free to the local community.

On **Monday 16th October** Roger Jump of the Lancashire Beekeepers Association will talk on Bees and Beekeeping. This will include information on the valuable environmental contribution of beekeeping.

Lunesdale Probus Club meetings are held on the first and third Monday of each month.

Guests, friends and visitors are always welcome to join us at the Hornby Village Institute at 10.15 am for coffee and chat before each meeting.

No obligation to join - just come along and enjoy a nice social break from routine.

For further details or any information please contact - Roger Carter. 015242 22283



Third Beagle reaches 100 Marathon Mark

By Nick Armstrong

Saturday 9th September saw the third member of Bentham Beagles complete their 100th marathon. Kate Harrison hit this amazing milestone by completing the Bridgeathon Marathon which starts and finishes at Guys Thatched Hamlet near Garstang and runs along the canal side. Kate completed her first marathon in 2014 at Windermere. She has steadily increased her numbers over the years including many marathons abroad with other members of the Beagles in locations such as Paris, Barcelona and Malta. This year she has powered her way to reaching the magic 100 figure by completing 22 marathons in 2023 alone. Although Kate will remain first and foremost a Bentham Beagle, she was also welcomed into the prestigious 100 Marathon Club by fellow Beagles Diane and Nick Armstrong. Kate has said she won't be stopping marathons although she is looking forward to taking part in some shorter distance races as well.

Over the past month Beagles members have been out and about representing the club all over the country. On September 3rd Simon Denny, Ollie Burton-Roe, Nick Armstrong, Lisa France and Diane Armstrong all completed a very hot Garstang Half Marathon. On September 9th Simon Denny and Kimberley Towler completed Malham Trail Half on another hot day. This was also Kimberley's first half marathon.

Further afield Iain Povey completed the 56-mile Bullock Smithy Hike held in the beautiful Peak District on September 3rd. And last, but not least, the Beagles were literally on top of the country on September 2nd as Adrian Leigh took the long drive up to Fort William to complete the 2023 Ben Nevis Race.

Finally, as the dark nights are now upon us, we will ensure that our members are wearing reflective clothing and headtorches on our club-night runs which are every Tuesday and Thursday from 7pm.

For more information about the Beagles or to see our Autumn training schedule please visit our website www.benthambeagles.co.uk or email benthambeagles@live.co.uk where we will be happy to answer any questions.



Kate Harrison (left) after being presented with her 100 Marathon Club t-shirt and medal by Diane Armstrong (right) – picture taken by Nick Armstrong.



Five Years of ‘Suzy the Sheep’ Encouraging us to ‘Stay Off The Tracks’

By Rod Tickner

Children are helping promote rail safety with the message ‘Stay Off The Tracks’ in their artwork on the theme of ‘Suzy the Sheep’ which has been used to publicise the need for safety on and near railway lines and stations.



The ‘Suzy the Sheep’ project started in 2018 with children from Carnforth, followed by Cononley pupils later in the same year and Clapham School in 2020. Later that year it was the turn of pupils from Giggleswick and Hellifield to help produce panels for display at their schools and stations. The character, ‘Suzy’ originated in an illustrated guide to rail safety produced in 2017 and published by the Bentham Line (CRP). Each school contributes to an original artwork which is framed and presented to the school and incorporated into a finished display panel, for their local station, by Alastair Nicholson, a local professional artist. The classes also enjoy a visit by train to the activity room at Bentham Station or the Heritage Centre at Carnforth, and the opportunity to learn other information about train journeys. Last academic year, Heysham and Bentham joined the growing list of stations along the Bentham Line to display this important reminder.

Hedgehog Class (Year 2) from Bentham Community Primary School have been the latest to take part in the project, with a visit to Carnforth to create their ‘Suzy’, with its unique Bentham background, and enjoy various additional rail-safety-related activities. To round off the school year, the partnership visited the school to present the pupils with certificates to mark their participation and to formally hand over their completed Suzy. The youngsters came to Bentham station early in September to unveil the replica panel for the community.



Photo of hedgehog class at Bentham Primary School with the Bentham Suzy

Springfield Bowling Club Successful Season!

By Pam Woof

On Thursday 31st August, Springfield Bowling Club won their final match of the 2023 season in Division 4 of the Kendal Bowling League. This win at home against Allithwaite B took them to the top of the division, winning by 10 clear points over Bowness A and gains them promotion to the Third Division next season.

Team players from left to right back row: Danny Conroy, Pam Woof, Andrew Cross, Tony Bowler, Andy Abbott, Tom Davies, and Alan Tonge. Front Row: Geoff Longshaw Helen Cross (Captain) and Martin Carr.



On Monday 11th September Springfield A team had an exciting 'play off' in the South Westmorland Seniors League to gain promotion to the First Division. They had finished the season joint second with Netherfield C in Division 2. The deciding game was kindly hosted by Milnthorpe Bowling Club. A good spirited but very competitive game was won 6 - 2 by Springfield.

In the South Westmorland Seniors League Springfield B finished an honourable 3rd place in the fourth division, just 7 points behind Heversham B and only 2 points behind Ingleborough.

Please come and enjoy a coffee with us at our Coffee Morning at Bentham Town Hall on Saturday 30th September.

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GFP

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*Opposite, top: This view of Bentham looking
towards Ingleborough is from the Bentham
Imaging Calendar 2024, available from the Post
Office and The Hub*

*Opposite, below: Sierra Leone passing the church
crossing, Bentham on 31st August on its way to
Scarborough*

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Photos by Jon Brook, Bentham Imaging (see left)



Bentham Town Council Meeting on 4th September 2023

By Bob Clark

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

All councillors were present for this meeting except Councillor Paige, from whom apologies were received. There were no North Yorkshire Councillor, Police or Public Safety Officer present at the meeting. However, there were around 30 members of the public attending the meeting in addition to the Bentham News reporter.

Comments and Concerns: Public Participation

The first member of the public to speak expressed his concern about the planning application from the Open Spaces Society regarding Greta Wood, to turn most of the wood surrounding his house into common land. He went on to say that in the early seventies Bentham Town Council had turned down a similar application from Burton Council, and he asked if they still had the minutes of the meetings going back to 1968 which took place regarding the turned down application which he could view. Councillor Adams (chair) replied that there was no objection to anyone viewing the minutes, but it was a matter of first finding them as they were all stored in a container at the back of the Town Hall, and it was not clear what sort of condition they would be in.

The next member of the public to speak was a resident of Springfield Crescent who said he objected to the planning application proposed at Springfield Crescent and asked the Town Council to reject the proposed development and reminded the Council that two previous applications for development of this site had been refused. Also an appeal lodged by the developer with the building inspectorate had been dismissed and planning permission refused, with a number of serious issues identified, which still had not been addressed in the new application. He went on to say that the amount of housing, and the mix of houses, were not in accordance with the Craven development plan, and had substantially less affordable housing. He added that beyond this there were several other major issues which should lead us to refuse the development of this site. These include the flooding risk from water runoff, sewage, and the proposed access at Springfield Crescent, which is totally unsuitable for the proposed increase of traffic that the development would create.

The next member of the public to speak brought with her a map with the outline of the proposed development in Springfield, and said why they wanted the council to object to this. Having looked at the application she found that many documents were missing or incomplete, which does not allow anybody to make a considered view of it. There is no sustainable drainage plan. The pond and Lairgill beck seem to be seen as the solution to the problem of surface water, which would mean that the water would have travel uphill and around a corner. There are no overflow measures for the pond in the plan, and no maintenance reports or ownership for the sewage plan, or of the trees, which must be looked after for five years. There is no United Utilities report, and there is no Highways report. Out of the eleven parties consulted only five have responded to this application. She went on to say that the one new document to appear was a financial viability document showing that the out of town builder would expect to make an estimated £1.9 million profit at the expense of the quality of life of the local residents. For all the above reasons she asked the Council to reject this planning application.

One other member of the public spoke on this subject highlighting the dangers of United Utilities pumping overflow sewage down to the Wenning which would then flow through the village and caravan park and cause diseases not seen since Victorian times.

To further consider the **2024 Bentham Calendar** and any progress made:

Councillor Burton confirmed that the calendar was nearly complete and ready for the printer, and the Council voted that the beneficiary of the 2024 calendar would be **The Hub**.

To consider and comment upon **New Planning Applications**:

- **Trees at Bowland View.** There is a Tree Preservation Order at Bowland View, and details of the location of the trees were received. Councillors were not quite clear what kind of response was being asked of them, but they agreed that the trees needed to be pruned and preserved.
- Erection of **45 residential dwellings** and associated infrastructure at land at **Springfield Crescent** High Bentham. **Application Rejected.**
- Notice of Hill Waste Land Application to Correct Non-Registration of Land As Common Land at **Greta Wood** to preserve access right of way of the inhabitants of the three properties in Greta Wood whilst still preserving the wood as common land for the general public. **Agreed.**

Highway Matters:

To consider **Parking Problems in Bentham** and agree a way forward.

After receiving several complaints about cars parking on pavements and double yellow lines throughout the town, and parking in front of dropped kerbs restricting access for wheelchair users and the elderly, it was decided that there needed to be more of a presence of Traffic Wardens in the town rather than just now and again. Councillor Marshall agreed to get in touch with the Highway Authority and David Ireton, North Yorkshire Councillor, to help address this problem.

Local Bus Service.

The one feeder-bus a week to Hornby to connect to Lancaster from Bentham is over-subscribed and in much demand. It was agreed to look at ways to involve more ways of transport.

Speed Limits.

After a lengthy discussion on whether to reduce the speed limit through Bentham to 20 mph or to keep it at 30 mph, it was decided, by a vote of 5 to 2, to keep it at 30 mph.

Confidential Business:

The Council went into closed session to discuss the sale of the **Community Youth Building**, to discuss the **Community Forum Proposal**, to consider a request from **The Hub** and to further discuss the **Clerk's Vacancy**.

The next monthly Town Council Meeting will be held on Monday October 2nd at 7.30pm. All are welcome to attend.

***Don't forget the BN
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12th October for the
November edition***

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Four Varying October Walks

By Don Cartledge

There are four varying walks on offer in October and for each, meet first at Lairgill for 9.30am. Also included in this write-up is a linear walk on November 1st where we take the bus from Holme to Levens Park and return on foot. So, bus passes, if you have them, at the ready and meet at Lairgill for 9.15am.

The first October walk is on **Thursday 5th**. Led by Kate Rowe (015242-51402) it covers 7-miles around Tarn Hows and starts from the National Trust car park on the A591 between Ambleside and Coniston, NT membership cards if you have them. The route starts very steeply alongside a stream and waterfalls to Tarn Hows which we circuit clockwise. After passing the main car park the route descends through trees, fields, roads and tracks to Yew Tree Tarn and a permissive path which takes us partway round the Tarn and back to the start.

Wednesday 11th is our next ramble which covers 6-miles around Gargrave and Eshton. Peter Lennard (07474-120898) is the leader, and the parking is at North Street car park, Gargrave. Initially, we head north along the Pennine Way, soon leaving the road to cross rolling fields before turning east to pass the remarkable Helen's Well, a very productive spring. Then we pass just south of Friars Head, a superb 17th century yeoman's farmhouse with four bays and lots of mullioned windows which once belonged to the monks of Furness Abbey. Turning south we pass through Gamsbers Wood returning to Gargrave via the Leeds and Liverpool canal.

Bryn and Sandra Craggs (015242-62416) take us on a 9-mile walk from Rawthey Bridge on **Saturday 21st**. Sandra points out that this walk can be boggy, so be prepared! Parking is at a rough area off the A683 just before Rawthey Bridge (and the turn off to Uldale and Fell End). After crossing Rawthey Bridge on the road, we walk back along the river through fields and woodland to Northwaite, where we head around Wandale Hill. After reaching Adamthwaite the route follows a clear track at the base of Harter Fell to Murthwaite where we head down and cross the A683. Picking up a minor road we travel to Uldale and take a bridleway at the base of West Baugh Fell, below Bluecaster and back to the cars. Sandra also suggests that an afternoon snack may be appropriate.

Finally, on **Friday 27th** there is an easy 5-mile ramble which starts from Arnside promenade (free parking) and the leaders are Alison Kinder and Colin Stroud (07854-789311). Following the concrete path alongside the Kent estuary and past the coastguard station, we continue to New Barns where we turn left through the caravan site. The path goes through woodland to reach Far Arnside where we turn left heading for Arnside Knott and left again through Copridding Wood eventually reaching a road below the Knott. Reaching the main Silverdale Road through a Woodlands Trust path we simply turn left to return to the start.

Advance notice of an 8.5 mile walk on November 1st led by Ed Badley (015242-62502) from Levens Bridge to Holme (note 9.15 am. start from Lairgill). We take the bus from Holme to Levens Bridge, cross the A6 and walk northwards along the eastern bank of the River Kent through Levens Park. On reaching the minor road we turn right towards Hincaster, moving onto the old canal bank as soon as possible. At the village we follow the engineered horse track over the canal tunnel and regain the canal bank on the other side and this leads us on to a level path back to Holme via Crooklands.



Low Bentham and District

By Kathryn Brownsord

Our August meeting was a little depleted in numbers due to holidays. It was presided over by our President Christine Jennings and when all the general WI business was concluded

Mr Rob David gave us a talk/power point on "Holidaying in the Lake District in the 40s and 50s". This took many of us back to our own childhood holidays and showed how regimented some of the holiday camps were whilst still enjoying the beautiful countryside – camping, caravanning, cycling and walking. Mr David judged the competition which was of '40s and 50s memorabilia': 1st Sue Fitzsimmons, 2nd Simone Pridmore and 3rd Kathryn Brownsord. Sheila Brown's grandson, Tyler, drew the raffle which was won by Christine Jennings.

A walk in Giggleswick was organised by Kath Taylor, where the weather smiled on us and was concluded by refreshments at 'Lay of the Land'. Our coffee morning in the Town Hall in August was a success and thank you to all who supported us and helped in any way. The choice of cakes and produce was a sight to see and we were spoilt for choice.

We meet on the third Thursday every month at 7pm in the Victoria Institute, Low Bentham, and hope to see you there on 19th October.

High Bentham

By Jan Stuiver

The speaker at the September meeting of High Bentham WI was Alison Priestly, the owner of the 'Craftopia' shop in Ingleton. She gave a very interesting talk about her experiences teaching in various places around the world and shared her passionately held views on the importance of teaching arts and crafts to children to



foster creativity and confidence, especially for those children who do not find the very academically focussed National Curriculum rewarding and therefore turn off from engagement with education. Practical and creative subjects can foster a whole range of life skills, from improving manual dexterity to perseverance and problem solving. Crafting can be a great way to reduce stress and give one a feeling of achievement throughout life. If anyone is interested in exploring knitting and crocheting Alison welcomes individuals and small groups to her shop to learn in a supportive atmosphere.



Several members of our group enjoyed a walk from Chapel-le-Dale to Philpin Lane towards the end of August. We were lucky with the weather, despite a grim forecast. The showers missed us, the clouds lifted, and we ended up with sunshine and glorious views.

Our October meeting is our Annual Meeting when the president is elected by the members from amongst the committee members and is therefore not open to visitors. However, we would be delighted to welcome guests to our November Meeting on Thursday 2nd November at 7.30pm when we will be having a short presentation on the Hindu festival of Diwali, followed by a chance to make a Diwali card or decorations, play some Indian games and taste some Indian treats. On Saturday 21st October we are planning a trip to 'Pots in the Pens' at Penrith Auction Mart. It is a gathering of independent craft potters from around the country selling a wide range of ceramics. An excellent place to look out for some unique and beautiful Christmas presents. Anyone interested in joining us just needs to call or text Jan on 07807-360835. We are also holding a coffee morning on Saturday 14th October at the Town Hall and hope to see many of you there.

Tatham Fells

By Mary Taylor

'Tatham's Place on a Healthy Planet' was the title of the illustrated talk given to Tatham Fells Women's Institute on Tuesday evening, September 12th by Esther Nimmo and Richard Wilson. Richard, a Parish Councillor, gave an overview of the Parish, the second largest in England, it is 8.5 miles long, has 45 miles of footpaths and just over 200 dwellings. They told of the past of the Parish and what Parishioners can do to improve the environment. One of the drawbacks is that everyone needs a car, it is 6 miles from the farthest dwelling to the nearest shop or public transport, another is that most of the houses are old with stone walls that absorb the heat, a thermal imaging slide showed a house wall hotter than the windows which were double glazed. All members recycle what they can including batteries and soft plastic, buy locally produced goods, and reuse containers, some grow their own produce, have a compost heap and buy secondhand clothes. The theme of the evening was 'Believe in the Power of Small Actions'. During business, Bronwen Osborne, also from Tatham Parish Council, thanked members for cutting back vegetation and thorns from stiles and clearing footpaths.



President, Ruth Garstang, thanked Andrea Ball for organising the most enjoyable day out on August 30th, a voyage on the Lancaster Canal with afternoon tea, starting from Barton Grange. Several members had won prizes at Bentham Show. The evening concluded with refreshments provided by Diane Denby and Kath Coates, who also thanked the speakers. Winners of the competition for 'A Healthy Recipe' were first Helen Wilkinson, second Kath Coates and third Isabel Hilton. The next meeting in the Old School on October 10th, will be the AGM, a members' evening with a sales table.



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'Words from the Dales' – digital talk

By Victoria Benn

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Wednesday 11th October, 4.30pm

Dr Fiona Douglas, project lead for The Dialect and Heritage

Project based at the University of Leeds will bring to life some of the key insights and discoveries uncovered through its recent work with the Yorkshire Dales Countryside Museum and Ryedale Folklife Museum. Fiona will share snippets of rare audio interviews gathered by researchers in the 1950s alongside newer oral histories, to illustrate how, and explore whether, the Yorkshire language and dialect has changed and developed over the last 75 years.

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www.friendsofthedales.org.uk

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Photo, right, of People Unknown, and below of Clapdale Wool with, left to right, Farmer John Dawson and Edward Sexton.

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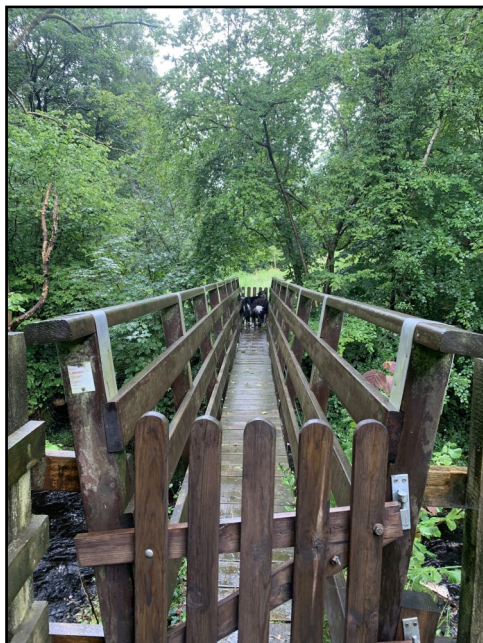


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News from the Fells of a Treasure Hunt, Stiles Repaired and Harvest Celebrations

By Helen Wilkinson

On 20th August around 30 people set off from the old school on our annual treasure hunt. Set by John Wilson we were mentally challenged by cryptic clues, our knowledge of Shakespeare and some local history, although none of us managed to spot the happy chap in the church grounds (fun-gi). Sharp eyes were needed to spot clues hidden in walls and on roof tops. Making good use of the gates and footpaths that have been maintained by the parish council and local landowners we walked as far as Moor Cock on the Slaidburn Road before returning to the Old School for tea and cream scones. The hunt was won by Harry's team and raised £141 for the Old School repairs.



More stiles were cleared in early September when members of the WI met on Long Lane and cut back the rampant brambles and hedges around Ashleys, Fourscore Acre and The Green. The warm, wet summer has certainly kept all the hedges growing and there is now an abundant crop of blackberries and rose hips waiting to be picked. The heather on Burn Moor has obviously also appreciated the humid temperatures and put on a stunning display of purple in the late summer. On Bentham Show Day we had our church coffee morning in Bentham Town Hall; after a slow start it was a successful event raising £330.10. A service of harvest praise will take place at 6.30pm on 1st October and this year we will also have a harvest sale at 7pm on Monday 2nd October in the Old School. Decorating the kitchen and repairs to the Old School roof are planned to begin this autumn; hopefully making the building watertight and ready to withstand another Tatham Fells winter. This building functioned as a school from 1863 until 1961.



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Ewecross Historical Society

By Mary Taylor

Members of the Ewecross Historical Society joined members of the Lancaster Archaeological and Historical Society for a Guided Tour of Ripon Cathedral on Saturday, August 19th. Arriving at 11am, they had free time before meeting in the Cathedral at 1pm, where the party were divided into three with each group having their own guide. They descended steep stone steps to the oldest part of the building, the awe inspiring crypt, built by St Wilfrid in 672. On ground level the guide pointed out features covering the long history of the building; the tower where two of the arches are rounded and two pointed. Following the collapse of the south east corner in 1450, they could only replace two arches before the money ran out. One of the carvings on a misericord in the chancel inspired the author of Alice in Wonderland.

Historians studied the evidence of the different rebuildings covering centuries and styles, and learned of the living history of the Cathedral, revealed all around up to the modern statues and pulpit. The Cathedral is in use every day with a pilgrimage once a year to nearby Fountains Abbey. The party rejoined the coach at 4pm where they thanked John Wilson, Secretary of the Ewecross Historical Society for organising a most pleasant and informative day.

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All-Terrain Wheelchair Demo Day

By Sarah Dornan

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Gisburn Forest, near Slaidburn, will be the venue for an all-terrain wheelchair demonstration day on Wednesday 11th October, offering a great chance for people to try vehicles out for themselves.



The demo day will run between 10am and 3pm at the Forestry England site at Gisburn Forest Hub. There is a pay-and-display car park with disabled spaces, an accessible toilet and a café on-site where you can purchase refreshments. Please follow the link below to book your demo slot, which will give you an hour to explore the different vehicles, and an opportunity to speak directly with the manufacturers. Please note that participants must be aged 14+ to use the vehicles and under 18s must be accompanied by an adult. Please follow this link to book: <https://forms.office.com/e/8JVKyGyx6m>.

This is a **free event** where representatives from several all-terrain wheelchair providers - along with members of the AONB and Access the Dales team - will be on-hand to assist you in exploring the opportunities of these fantastic off-road wheelchairs – including Trampler, Paratreker and TerrainHopper. We have several hub locations in the AONB where all-terrain wheelchairs are available to hire and can be used along designated trails, including a Trampler which is available to hire from the café at Gisburn Forest provided by Champion Bowland. Come along to this free demo day to find out more about these exciting opportunities.

There is such a variety of specialist all-terrain wheelchairs now available, which have been carefully designed to be able to travel over a wide range of different terrains. These terrains can include things like muddy woodland trails, gravel paths, wet grass, tree roots and uneven ground, hills and even mountains!

We look forward to welcoming you to the beautiful surroundings at Gisburn Forest.

Friday Lunch Club

By Deb Hawkins



Bentham Age Concern Friday Lunch Club Coffee Morning

Saturday 7th October

10am - 12noon

Bentham Town Hall

Donations of prizes for tombola and raffle as well as biscuits and cakes, bric-a-brac very welcomed! Thank you!

benthamolderpeopletogether@gmail.com

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One of Bentham's wonderful community events in September. A Moo is carried across the field while The Seals are playing! *Music on the Field* photo courtesy of June Percy



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