

BENTHAM NEWS

ICY ROADS CAUSE CHAOS

December saw the coldest weather in Bentham for some years and the roads and footpaths remained treacherously icy for days on end, trapping many elderly people in their homes.

On Tuesday 2nd December Bentham's roads were dangerous due to freezing snow falling on already icy roads, which were not gritted despite severe weather having been accurately forecast for some days. Peter Bibby (of Bibby's Coaches) who has been driving buses for over 30 years and has many of the school contracts for this area, told one of our town councillors that he had never before been kept out of Bentham by less than an inch of snow. It was chaos: the school buses did not get through; artics, some heading for Kidde Products, were sliding on the unsalted Ravensclose Road, the only way into Bentham for high-sided vehicles; and journeys of stock and buyers to the auction mart, the largest in the North of England, were disrupted.

The reason? Well it seems that the winter service review completed this summer by North Yorkshire County Council revised gritting priorities on some routes, but did not inform the Councils concerned. NYCC decided to concentrate on 'A' and 'B' class roads, such as the B6480, and downgrade 'C' roads, such as the Ingleton to High Bentham road. Perhaps, as Bentham is served mainly by 'C' roads, on reflection this was not such a clever idea.

The angry, detailed letter that our Town Council has written to NYCC about this situation is on display in the notice board outside the Town Hall.



This superb picture of the Slaidburn Road, showing the snowy conditions in early December, has been kindly provided by Jon Brook, Bentham Imaging.

STEAM SPECIAL - 29th NOVEMBER

By Peter Phillips

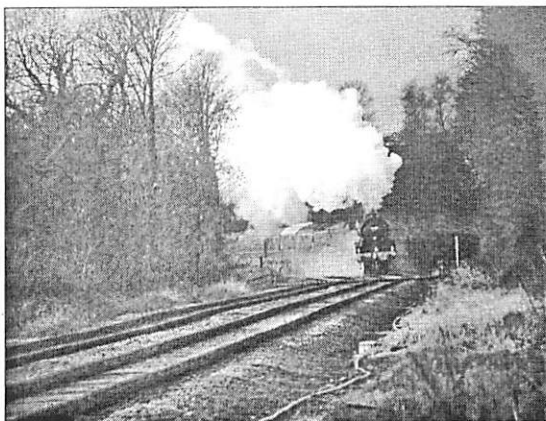
8.40am. Standing on a crowded platform 2 at Carnforth station with 400 people waiting for our 9a.m. steam train to York and Scarborough. Passengers arriving for the 8.55am to Carlisle were probably a bit worried about how they would get into their train until they discovered the reason for the crowd!

9.00am. The train pulled in - 12 coaches long. The platform is on a steep curve and coach E, our coach, had a leaking steam pipe obscuring the step so, as well as a 2 foot gap to cross, it was almost impossible to see our way onto the train but we managed it.

The train started and as far as Long Preston the weather was beautiful - hoar frost on the trees and white fields, the steam trailing behind for almost a mile and hardy, frozen individuals in the fields with their cameras to record the scene. We stopped for water shortly afterwards and then ran into freezing fog which shut out our view for the rest of the run to York.

We sat at a table for two and beside us was a table with four ladies who had obviously done this before and come well prepared. They began by spreading a tablecloth with plates, napkins, china and cutlery before tucking into a feast. Afterwards they played word games and card games before getting out glasses for the gin and tonics! They were going all the way to Scarborough so we left them to their revelries as we pulled in to York station.

York was crowded but Christmassy. The St. Nicholas Christmas Street Fair was on with the many stallholders dressed in Victorian outfits. There was an ice rink and ice sculptures and everywhere masses of people making pushing a wheelchair a hazardous occupation, short of scything through them like Boadicea! It was almost impossible to get into a shop and, once there, the queues were long and there was a struggle to get out again. Credit crunch? What credit crunch? - although we did see a few



signs for businesses for sale.

Back to the station for the return trip at 5 p.m. The four ladies were still happily playing cards although this time they had wine and nibbles including strawberries & cream and olives stuffed with cheese.

We had the same watering stops on the way back and then Bentham travellers were moved forward on the train to enable us to get out onto the platform. A steam train enthusiast with his head out of the window was using a stopwatch to record speeds as we passed each station and he said "we were doing 61 m.p.h. there". Unfortunately "there" was Bentham - the driver had forgotten to stop! The train organisers were very good and phoned ahead so that at Carnforth there was a luxury coach waiting to take us home where we arrived tired but happy at 11 p.m.



Paul Morphet

Mob 07969 904809 Tel 01524 37907

**House Builder - Extensions - Renovations
Stonework - Roofing - Landscaping**

DECEMBER'S TOWN COUNCIL

By David Johnson

All the Cllrs were present except Cllrs Barnes, Barrington and Marshall.

The New School

Negotiations are ongoing with landowners. Because these are taking longer than expected a decision from the County Council has been delayed until January. It appears there is now progress but it is frustratingly slow!

Planning

An application has been made to submit the Sedbergh Junior School site for the Local Development Framework document. County Cllr Ireton pointed out there are really two sites. One is a brown field site that has a grade 2 listed building, a sports hall, classrooms etc and the other is the playing field that is a greenfield site. The Cllrs were opposed to the idea of developing the sports-field but recognised that the buildings may have to be developed. Craven District Council asked about the community use of the sports facilities. A member of the public had written pointing out that a covenant was agreed in the 1940s stating that the site could only be used as a residence or a school.

Highways

The Council has made its objections known to the developer who stopped up Hillside Road. They were notified about a programme to slurry seal some footpaths and discussed a problem raised by blocked drains on Springfield which had caused flooding.

JANUARY SALE

at

TEMPTATIONS

31 Main Street, Bentham 015242 61868

Large reductions on many items including

Knitting yarn

Craft items

Underwear and Nightwear

Codes of Conduct

A new code of conduct is on its way for Cllrs and possibly for many other LEA employees. It is called 'Communities in Control'. The Cllrs thought it an oppressive measure, not appropriate for part-time employees such as caretakers and cleaners and not really appropriate at parish level. The Cllrs also agreed to adopt a new Model Publication Scheme that comes into operation on 1st January 2009.

Bentham Common Lands Charity

The charity has agreed that the Town Council's nominee will be confirmed at its December meeting. Cllr Wills, who is the nominee, was asked to ensure that the Town Council received minutes of the meetings so that they could keep in touch with developments.

Cemetery Memorials

Cllr Adams has completed a survey of the memorials and found that 20 required attention. Nineteen have problems because the upright is not fully secured to the base, the other one needs more radical attention. They decided to find out about repair costs and then to contact the relatives about having them repaired.

Playing Field

The Cllrs agreed to support the next Playing Field grant application to Sport England. If successful the funding would secure netball and basketball courts, tennis courts and a skateboard park.

Parish Caretakers Scheme

The Cllrs decided to make an application for inclusion in this scheme. Only 40 out of 200 eligible parishes would be selected initially and 75% funding would be available to pay a self-employed person to carry out minor work throughout the parish. The funding would be tapered and last for 5 years. It means that many small but important jobs could be carried out quickly when needed.

Dog Dirt

Cllrs Faichney and Stannard complained about dog dirt and dog waste bags left at the top of Cross Lane and on the bank of Mill Lane, Low Bentham. The Cllrs decided to ask for dog bins at these sites.

GARDENING PAGE

By Joyce Knapp

As I sit writing this, in mid-December, the ground is frozen solid and has been for some days now, so the idea of venturing out into the garden is not a very appealing one. Unless, that is, you are in the habit of providing a wide variety of garden birds with food and drink, whilst both commodities are in short supply. Incidentally, the other day I noticed a pool of water covering the surface of the soil in a terracotta pot containing a dwarf conifer. I assumed that there must be a solid layer of ice/frozen soil under the water and was just about to go out to drain off the 'offending' water when along came a small bird which used the water to drink from! At this point, I decided to leave Mother Nature to look after her own and continued with my indoor activities.

Once there is a break from frosty conditions, we will be able to get back outside to make a start on clearing away all the debris from last season and carry out an early 'Spring Clean' in all the beds and borders. The first move is usually to rake away all the fallen leaves that have accumulated and I have noticed there are rather more than usual for the time of year, perhaps due to the excessively long and harsh frosts we suffered late last year. If you are able to store these leaves, as opposed to putting them in your brown bin, you can make a very useful soil conditioner within a year or two. The leaves (they need to be moist, but that won't be a problem this year)

can be stored either in a purpose built wire netting bin or in black polythene bin bags, with holes punched in the sides for aeration, until they are well rotted. The resulting leaf mould is very beneficial when added to vegetable beds where root crops are to be grown as it helps to open up the soil without adding excessive amounts of nitrogen, as would happen if we added well rotted farmyard manure. It can also be spread around plants that like acid soils such as heathers, rhododendrons, camellias and azaleas where we may have been tempted to use peat in the past. Once the leaves have been cleared, all that remains is to remove any weeds that are visible, before they have time to put on more root growth that would make them more difficult to dig up later in the year.



INTERCOUNTY DRIVING SCHOOL VAL KAY

THEORY TRAINING
AVAILABLE
015242 62794

e-mail:

val@bentham999.wanadoo.co.uk

COLIN WOOF GARDEN SERVICES

- Rotovating
- Grasscutting
- Hedgetrimming etc.



"Mr Kirby's Carpet Cleaning Service!"

Tel: 015242 61387

Document Scanning onto disc

Reduce paper filing and storage

Prices vary according to quantity and type of documents

Minimum charge £20

Call at Independent Financial Choices,
43 Main Street, Bentham
or phone 62616

Dear Sirs,

(letter to the Town Council, copied to the BN for publication)



Whilst walking through Low Bentham this week, via the river and out by the Trout Farm, large quantities of graffiti have again begun to appear in the access/alley leading to the river and covering the telephone box next to the Victoria Institute. This has been reported to the Police, who have assured us that it will be looked into, especially as the names of the culprits concerned, all female, have been left behind. However, we wish to bring this to the attention of the Bentham Town Council for further consideration.

Having walked through the High and Low Bentham area for many years and on a very regular basis, it cannot go unnoticed that young girls, we are told by local people, who are from the Everglades home, are frequently congregated in and around the telephone box/Victoria Institute and the alley/access path to the Trout Farm. Can a perfectly reasonable link be made to the sudden appearance and increase in graffiti in this area, and the teenage residents of the girls' home?

I understand from local police that a substantial amount of police time is engaged in activities relating to Everglades, especially looking for girls who have absconded from the home, along with various other disturbances.

It seems that our policing resources are being unequally spent on this amount of activity, leaving the people of Low and High Bentham with less police cover. In addition, the crime rate of the area has increased significantly; again can this be linked with the opening of two homes for young people in the area?

Could the Town Councillors provide us and the people of Low and High Bentham with crime/policing statistics relating to both of these homes in the last 12 months? Are the Town Councillors aware that our local police resources are being used in this way? Also, is the graffiti going to be cleaned off in order that our lovely area does not resemble a run down inner city?

When planning permission was granted

for either of these two homes, were there any stipulations or guarantees given by the management of these homes that their residents would be satisfactorily supervised? Was planning permission granted under guarantees, for example, that the residents were to be low risk and fully supervised on a one to one basis? Is this actually the case, or not?

The onus of the management of both these homes is that their residents do not cause disruption, upset or criminal damage in the communities in which they are placed.

Your comments on the above would be appreciated.

Yours faithfully (name and address supplied).

Dear BN

I came home the other day with dog poo all over my shoes, and this isn't the first time it's happened. One of the problems at the moment is that the dog mess is hidden under the leaves, but owners shouldn't be letting their dogs poo on the footpaths anyway.

The path alongside Butts Lane is particularly bad. Apart from the fact that the mess smells awful, I have a child and am worried about disease being spread if it gets on his toys and his hands. I have a friend with a pushchair who's stopped using this narrow footpath because of the mess that gets on the wheels and is then carried into her garden.

If I knew who the dog owners are who aren't clearing up after their dogs I would have a word with them, and I would be quite happy to report them to the dog warden. People shouldn't have dogs if they can't look after them properly.

Name and address withheld by request.

Dear Bentham News.

On several occasions recently we have found large amounts of dog muck under our window and near our door in the Main Street. We are both in our 80s and can't get our mobility scooter out without having to remove it or get someone else to do it for us.

Please can the culprits spare a thought and pick it up! Would they like it at their house?

Name and address have been supplied but because of the fear of retaliation, these details are being withheld.

Letters continued on pages 6 & 7.

LETTERS (continued from page 5)

Dear Bentham News,

I can't have been the only person to see the article on the front of the Lancaster Guardian asking for more stallholders to attend the Farmers' Market on the first Saturday of every month. It stated that the market was extremely popular, very often selling out before lunchtime. The people of Bentham should be proud of the support they give our Farmers' Market.

Imagine my surprise when having spoken to local farmers, who want to have stalls at this market, that they have been told a resounding "NO". The reason is that the market already has stalls selling their type of produce. So what? Isn't the whole idea of democracy, that we have a choice? These farmers are people that live locally, use local services and shop locally. And, just to add insult to injury, they have also been informed, by other Farmers' Markets; they can't attend because they aren't local enough! I am not suggesting that we should ban stallholders who are not local; I am just suggesting that we should support our local producers. With the current global financial crisis, we need to support these farmers; they are the backbone of our local economy. We shouldn't be turning them away because of some ill-conceived bureaucratic nonsense. Give the choice back to the customers, let them decide whom they are going to spend their money with. I sincerely hope that there will be a change of policy in the near future.

Yours faithfully, Viki Hindle.

Dear Bentham News,

Every Wednesday morning promptly the "Little Red Bus" arrives to take me and five other pensioners to shop and chat in Bentham. During the bad weather at the beginning of December we were all telephoned and told it was too bad to walk on the pavements and that the drivers would get us what we needed. This shopping was duly delivered to our doors. Thank you, "Little Red Bus", you should be called "Angels on Wheels".

D. Park, B. Dodgson, G. Jones, M. Williams, R. Brayshaw and M. Rowcroft.



Dear Reader,

Is anybody out there related to the Cumberland family? You may recall that we hope to extend the facilities at Low Bentham church to include a disabled toilet and a small meeting room. This will be built over the site of the old boiler house at the south west corner of the church. There is a headstone dedicated to the Cumberland family on this site set against the church wall concerning members of the family who died between 1788 and 1795.

There cannot be a grave beneath because it stands over the boiler house but it probably marks the location of a grave which was there prior to either the 1822 or 1876 rebuilds.

We would like to relocate the memorial as near as possible to its current location and we would be happy to consult with any descendents of the family about our proposals. Please contact the churchwardens Judith Johnson (61905) or Dave Lewis (63386) as soon as possible if you think you can help. *David Johnson (Secretary to St. John's PCC). (Letters continued on page 7).*

**Pick up your euros
and US dollars at
Bentham Post Office
015242 61650.**

**No commission to pay
No need to pre-order**

**Travellers cheques available
Plus 70 currencies available
through our pre-order service.
Travel insurance on demand.**



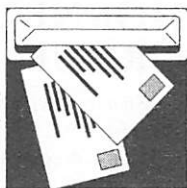
www.postoffice.co.uk

LETTERS (continued from page 6)

Dear Bentham News,
After reading the comments about the possible closure of St. Margaret's Church I would like to share my thoughts, as a Christian who worships at the church. Delia Smith once asked the fans of her beloved football club "where are you, we need you?" I could ask the same question to all those who used to worship at St. Margaret's. I would like to invite you back. Also, to all the new families in Bentham, I welcome you to our church.

I have faith in God and in the people of Bentham, that we can work together to keep our church where it should be, as part of our community.

*Yours sincerely,
Nora Armstrong.*



Dear Bentham News,
I would like to send my sincere wishes of gratitude to everyone who has shown care and concern for me throughout my recent little incidents. I have had some beautiful flowers and cards from everyone and have felt very pampered by all your kind wishes.

I do have a little way to go to make a full recovery and thank you for your patience in the change of the shop hours. My house - that's another story, but thanks to the swift and brave action of our local fire service (and my husband), things could have been a lot worse.

A big thank you to the paramedics who thought they were suffering from déjàvu when they picked me up twice in such a short time. However, their reliable, efficient and careful handling soon put my mind to rest.

I feel that I have had an eventful start to Nuffin2wear; from external financial factors to personal happenings, life hasn't been dull. But I've no regrets. Bentham has been very supportive and that "Community Atmosphere" has been very, very evident. Thank you to all and best wishes for the new year.

Brenda Everson.

Dear Bentham News

Can anyone help me cure my grumpiness? When I first came to Bentham 3 years ago shopping was a total delight. I was suddenly able to find almost everything I needed instead of trailing into a city centre. Everywhere I found the friendly service that is such daily joy.

Until the Co-op refit. Every time I go in there I come out with a new grump. On the one hand they are selling all sort of things that I can perfectly well find elsewhere - first the newspapers, then the chemists goods, and acres of alcohol.

So of course they don't have room for the sorts of things I used to be able to rely on finding at the Co-op - so far cinnamon and spices, wholemeal flour, fair-trade honey, frozen vegetables. I'm sure you can add to the list. What's more, they are able to keep so little of some basic stock, like fats and butters, that they have often run out when I go in.

What a missed opportunity! If the Co-op had lived up to their 'Local' slogan, their refit might have meant we could start buying locally produced milk, lamb and beef, cheeses, honey. They would have cut down on the fuel-wasteful hauling here of goods that farmers are producing locally - and in turn supported those farmers, their own customers.

The staff are just as friendly of course - but they can't do anything about it except be patient with our complaints.

But maybe *we* can. After all, the Co-op belongs to us. How about we get together as Co-op members and ask to meet with Customer Services and talk through our concerns. I'm happy to arrange a meeting but would like to know if others would join me. Could you give me a ring if you would be interested in coming along telephone 64886.

In the meantime, if the Coop has stopped stocking something you want, ask one of the staff to make a note in their book behind the counter and we will be able to use that list to inform what we say at a meeting.

Happy shopping in Bentham!

Annie Neligan

LOGS LOGS LOGS

Firewood, Kindling Bags or Loads,
Seasoned Logs,
Free Local Delivery

Quality Farm Assured Frozen Lamb

for sale, whole or half lamb packs available

Bentham Road, Ingleton.

Call David on Tel: 015242 41521 Mobile
07713 055404

J. L. ARMSTRONG Builder

New Builds, Extensions,
Conversions, Stonework.
City & Guilds Qualified.
Telephone 015242 63011
Mobile 07729558475

tim wheildon

HEATING AND PLUMBING

GAS & OIL SERVICING
SERVICE, REPAIR &
INSTALLATION
CARAVANS & LPG
ALL MAKES & TYPES
MAINTAINED
LANDLORDS & OFTEC
CERTS
GENERAL PLUMBING
CORGI REGISTERED

TEL/FAX 01524262257
MOB 07801819482

HORNBY DRAMA GROUP

By Richard Hopkins

The Hornby Drama Group will be holding its
AGM on Wednesday 21st January at 8pm in
the Carnegie Room at the Hornby Institute.
Everyone is welcome. If you are interested
in joining the group in any capacity, please
join us as we are planning the programme
for the year.

Hatha Yoga

Yoga & relaxation
in the Town Hall, High Bentham
Everyone welcome. Drop in classes
suitable for all abilities and cost £4
Tuesday 11am-12noon & 6pm-7pm
New class starts Friday 9 January
6.30-7.30pm For more information
please contact Sandra on 62248.

TRADITIONAL CHINESE ACUPUNCTURE

and associated therapies

at clinics across Craven



contact:
Paul Underhill 07876 740611

Wenning Surfacing

TARMACADAM CONTRACTORS

RICHARD BRADSHAW
015242 72189



Free Advice &
Estimates,
Professional,
Commercial &
Domestic Surfacing.

YESTERDAY IN BENTHAM

Keith Hartley takes a light-hearted look at Bentham and its people, as first seen through the pages of the Bentham News edition of twenty years ago.

January 1989

I'll hazard a guess that Wendy Dowbiggin doesn't realise it's forty two years since she started working with the town's young people, or that it's twenty years this month since she retired as Bentham Youth Club's Leader in Charge. The latest group of youngsters she worked with will now be at least in their mid thirties, whilst some of the first could well be approaching their sixtieth birthday. It's thanks to Wendy and those who worked with her over the years that Bentham today has such an upright and industrious adult population.

Of course it has! And she's still nobbut a young 'un!

Wendy's retirement shared this month's front page with a report and photograph of the town's annual *wheelbarrow race*, a sponsored event organised by the Panto Group, which sounded like a lot of fun. Reported as the "athletic event of the year," the race raised £75 for the Goodenber Play Area and was won for the second year in succession by Paul Morphet and Stephen Harford.

I can't help thinking that Bentham has lost at least some of its social soul with the disappearance of events such as the wheelbarrow race. Any offers for a revival?

Concerns were being expressed about the future of Bentham's railway line amid speculation about a national strategy for bus substitution. The train drivers' union ASLEF had gained access to a British Rail study which appeared to be recommending the closure of some 30 provincial lines, one of which was the line from Skipton to Morecambe. The concerns were strengthened by reports of a government proposal to build motorways from Leeds to Kendal (following the A65 route) and from

Preston to Catterick via Ribbleshead.

I find it comforting to know that speculation can be fruitless, at least some of the time. If there's anything worse than the thought of losing our railway line it's the vision of a motorway carving up the dale around Ribbleshead!

Doreen Park had been cleaning her cupboards out and had come across an old (1951) edition of *The Dalesman* which contained some fascinating snippets of historical fact about Bentham. I know they're old hat to dale-bred Benthamites, but us *offcumduns* are always interested to learn more about our adopted community, so here are a few of them:

◆ Bentham (then spelt *Benetain*) was mentioned in the Domesday Book of 1086 and acquired its market charter in 1306.

◆ The town's name is derived from the old English words *beonet* and *ham*, meaning "homestead in the open grassland."

◆ In 1951 the Bentham District had no fewer than 17 licensed houses.

◆ The Town Hall was erected in 1877, with the clock tower added in 1902 for the coronation of Edward VII. It was rebuilt in 1940 and was said to have the best ballroom in the district. *I'll bet it still has!*

◆ Whilst having an abundance of inns and ale houses, until the Wesleyan Chapel was built in 1820 the town had neither church nor chapel. The foundations for St Margaret's were laid in 1835 and St Boniface's Church was built in 1866.

In closing, I'd like to wish everyone a very happy and successful 2009.

TAYLORS
OPHTHALMIC OPTICIANS
G.N. Theobald F.C.Optom
Mount Pleasant House
High Bentham
OPEN WEDNESDAY
9.00am - 5.00pm
Tel 01524 32915
for an appointment

FLYING HIGH FOR THE BOWLING CLUB

By Keith Hartley

One Sunday afternoon last summer Bradford pilot Keith Pell and his son flew over Benthams and took a set of aerial photographs of the area. Keith very kindly allowed me to download the photographs from his camera to my computer and has agreed to their being reproduced.

It is no secret that Springfield Bowling Club has hit a very difficult patch in the funding of its new pavilion. A couple of months ago there was a great deal of optimism that the beginning of next season would see the Club re-housed in premises that would meet its needs for many seasons to come. The fund-raising target had been met, and work began as soon as the season ended. However, demands from the builder for additional funds have left a considerable shortfall in the money available, and this has put the ability to complete the project in the foreseeable future in some doubt.

This is where Keith Pell's photographs could help. With the generous co-operation of Chris Humphreys at The Gallery (Station Road) prints of Keith's photographs, beautifully framed by Chris, will be on sale towards the end of January. They will be very reasonably priced at just £15, of which £5 will go to the Bowling Club. Watch out for the display at The Gallery later in January and choose from 9 or 10 different views of High and Low Benthams.

The Bowling Club will greatly appreciate your support.

Independent Financial Choices

General Insurance now available

through our partnership with Higos Insurance Services

Fully independent and providing a wide range of Personal and Commercial cover including household, travel, motor, pet, caravan, wedding, redundancy, shop business, office, pubs, legal expenses, group health and much more

Call at 43 Main Street, Benthams or phone 62616

Independent Financial Choices is a trading name of Mortgage and Life Ltd. Mortgage & Life Ltd is authorised and regulated by the Financial Services Authority

WHY THE THIRTEENTH?

By Shirley Brown

In case anyone is wondering why the Bloomin' Benthams volunteers meet on the 13th each month, the reason is that it's a memorable date, and it falls on different days each month so that no one is excluded from joining in because they have an alternative commitment on the Bloomin' Benthams day. As a matter of interest, during 2008 the 13th fell on a Monday, Tuesday and Friday once, twice on a Wednesday, Thursday and Saturday, and three times on a Sunday.

Our December 13th gathering was rained off, and the next opportunity to help with a bit of gentle clearing up around Benthams is on Tuesday 13th January, meeting in the painted bus shelter at 1pm. We would be delighted to welcome some new members! So if you'd like to join us or for more information ring 61608.

THE HORSE AND FARRIER

MAIN STREET HIGH BENTHAM



Tel: 015242 61381

www.horseandfarrier.org.uk

FOOD SERVED

Mon to Fri, 12 noon - 2.00pm
& 6.00 to 9.00pm

Sat & Sun 12 noon to 9.00pm

PIZZA

To eat in or take away
TELEPHONE ORDERS TAKEN

QUIZ NIGHT

Every Wednesday
9.00pm start (Approx)

ENTERTAINMENT FOR JANUARY

Sat 10th Dave Carling

Sat 17th Jodie Ross

Margaret & Jeff would like to thank customers for their support during the last year and would like to wish them all the very best for 2009.

CHURCHES TOGETHER



How have you begun this new year? Are you feeling weighed down by a sense of hopelessness and futility, or uplifted by the possibilities that lie ahead. Do the years seem to come around faster than once they did? Once the future seemed to stretch out indefinitely, suddenly it appears all too short, the time left to fulfil our dreams far less than we thought. In the context of Christian faith, the passage of time should not be seen as the years running out so much as life moving on; one more step along an unfolding journey in which there is always more to be discovered and new joys to be experienced. Of course, we will sometimes remember the past with a tinge of regret, and look to the future with a degree of anxiety, but we should recognise each day as God's gift, and live each one of them in the assurance that nothing will ever separate us from His love made known in Jesus. Do you begin 2009 brooding over the past or trusting in God's future? During this New Year may you discover the fulfilment God longs to give you both in this life and the next.

Most Bentham folk are aware of "Churches Together in Bentham" on account of its presence at and support of many of the important Bentham activities. Carols at the Auction Mart on a Wednesday afternoon close to Christmas Day are led by Churches Together. Outdoor services in the week leading up to Easter, and sponsorship of the annual Community Service for the new

Mayor and Town Council are other events at which the Christian people of the town show that we are working together.

In the month of January each year Christians of many denominations join in eight days (an "octave") of prayer for the Unity of Christians. We pray that we may genuinely strive to work together, and grow to understand each other better so that the differences between us can eventually be resolved. The octave of prayer runs each year from the 18th to 25th January, the feast of the Conversion of St Paul.

Churches Together in Bentham always marks this "octave" by holding a joint service of prayer – usually at High Bentham Methodist Church, as it is a large one and is in the centre of Bentham. This year it is on Sunday, 18th January. Everyone is welcome to the 6.30pm Service. The theme is "Reconcile Your People". The text is from Ezekiel Chapter 7 verses 15-28 and focuses on the country of Korea as an example of a country of racial divisions and conflict. Leaflets will be available from individual churches for those wishing to follow the prayers from day to day.

AIRE VALLEY

Glass



A Family Business

Established For Over 25 Years

Tel. 015242 51705 Fax. 015242 51832

- Windows • Doors • Conservatories
- Fascias & Bargeboards • Glass Cut-to-Size
- Replacement Double Glazed Units

Bridge Road, Sutton-in-Craven, Keighley,
West Yorkshire BD20 7ES

Dalesview, Old Road, Clapham,
North Yorkshire LA2 8JH

www.airevalleyglass.co.uk

Bowland Fells Heating and Son

Guy Downing



Domestic Servicing and Maintenance of
Oil Fired Boilers and Cookers
(AGA/Rayburn etc.)

Phone 015242 41833 Mobile 07780708589

9 New Road, Ingleton, Carnforth, LA6 3HL

WOMEN'S INSTITUTES

Low Bentham

By Jennifer Watkinson

Mr. Malcolm Culshaw gave an interesting, informative and enjoyable talk about Ingleton in the last century. Using his own and Muriel and Clifford Humphries slides, he spoke about buildings, many of which had been demolished or changed their use; events such as building the bonfire on the top of Ingleborough to celebrate the Silver Jubilee and beautiful scenes like the frozen waterfalls. He was thanked for coming at short notice by president, Mrs Ruth Sephton. Competition winner were Sue Cooper, Isabel Carr and Sylvia Brennand.

Several members attended the Ingleborough Group's fashion show at the Community Centre, Ingleton. Mrs June Harrison was one of the models.

New Butts was the venue for our festive meal. After a lovely dinner everyone received a present out of Santa's sack and then competed in a difficult quiz set by Mrs Kitty Ellershaw. Mrs Pam Warbrick was the winner.

The Ingleborough Group's annual carol service was organised by Giggleswick W.I. and held in St Alkeda's Church. Mrs Joan Gilroy read "Advent" (1955) by John Betjeman. Afterwards coffee and mince pies were served with brandy butter. The AGM will be on 15th January followed by supper and games.

C.J. GROUNDWORKS

Diggers, Micro -13 tons,
Roads, Driveways, Cattle Grids,
Walling, Fencing, Flagging, Turfing,
Landscaping - Land Drainage

40 years experience

No job too big or too small.

Call Ced or Jean

on 015242 74309 - 07845415885

High Bentham

By Ann Yaman

The December meeting which was party time at the Town Hall was very well attended. The hall was beautifully decorated by the Town Council, we had a wonderful meal prepared by Philippa from the Nosebag and entertainment by Lindsay from Lancaster. Father Christmas arrived despite the freezing weather and dispensed presents to everyone. In return he received several hearty kisses!!

The voucher for the most number of competition points accrued during the year went to Joanie Weekley and everyone agreed that it was a wonderful evening.

President, Miss Wendy Dowbiggin hoped everyone had enjoyed themselves and looked forward to an exciting and eventful WI year in 2009. The next meeting will be on Thursday 8th January in the Town Hall where Ian Minton will explain to us the work of Derian House. All visitors will be most welcome.

Barbara Rothwell Painter & Decorator

Est. 1988

Prompt, reliable service.

10% discount for OAPs

A very Happy Christmas
and a Peaceful New Year to
all my customers

Tel 015242 61268

Mob 07980760472



REDHEADS COAL AND GAS

5 grades, 5 sizes of coal

16 types of smokeless fuel

All sizes of bottled gas delivered

Kindling - logs - prepacked fuel

Compost and Gro-Bags

We won't be beaten on Price

Quality and Service

Regular deliveries to Bentham

015242 41626.

NEPAL: LAND OF BEAUTY AND POVERTY

By Annie Neligan

Have you seen this exhibition yet, the mountains and people of Nepal alive and vibrant right here in Bentham? I've just been and left stunned not just by the photos of those spectacular mountains but by Jane's personal engagement with the people who live such hard lives amongst them. Jane Chilton, who visited Nepal in 2008 has decided to go back in May 2009 as part of a UNICEF sponsored climb to raise money for their programme of bringing education and health to the remote villages.

I asked Jane why she had been so affected by her visit....

"I was born the same year that Hillary got to the top of Everest. I grew up in Britain where so many people expect to be able to go and climb in the Himalayas, or to enjoy the adventurous stories of those who do. Many Sherpas have lost their lives taking climbers into the mountains; many Gurkhas (a British regiment of soldiers from Nepal) were killed fighting the World Wars. So it's a pleasure and a joy to think of how to do something about their plight when they are so hard pressed. They are blessed and cursed with their beautiful country where it is so hard to make a living – and we expect to go for recreation.

In the houses of the Tamang friends (one of the Nepalese ethnic groups) we visited there was no furniture, but pens where goats spent the night. They ate mostly maize porridge, collected their water and the one child who went to secondary school had a 12 hour day because of the distance he had to walk – across one of the valleys we found so spectacular.

Their future is bound up with ours: if the frozen lake above the villages we visited were to overflow as the climate warms, and it may well do with melting glaciers above, then people there and in the valleys below will be swept away without warning.

The UNICEF programme is about education: education to bring girls into

school, to train volunteers to make childbirth less dangerous for women and babies, to teach people enough about health that they want to build latrines, find clean water sources, protect themselves from HIV/AIDS."

Going back in May!

Jane will be going back to Nepal and climbing Pike Peak in May 2009. At 4,000 metres high it is 5½ times higher than Ingleborough – so a group of us are going to keep her company by climbing Ingleborough 5½ time in January – starting on Jan 9th from the Hill Inn. If you'd like to join us, ring Jane on 41518 or Annie on 64886.

And if getting up a flight of stairs is more your idea of a challenge, go along to see the exhibition on the first floor at Looking Well in King Street (tho' you can use the lift!). And show your support by putting something into one of the collecting boxes there or in the post office.

TOOBY'S ELECTRICAL

Ingleton 41224 Bentham 61259

See the latest
MAGICAL SAVINGS
From your local Euronics Agent

Come to your local Euronics store
and you'll find big discounts
on all sorts of electrical goods.
You'll find a commitment to
delivering your goods on time
together with a quick, no fuss
Installation.

There's only one difficult bit -
deciding what to buy from all the
tasty top brand appliances.

Plug into Service & Price

Oak Royd

BAKERY

*High quality
hand made cakes,
puddings and breads.*

*Consistent quality at value for
money prices,
treat yourself to one of our
award winning pudds!*

Open Mon-Sat

17 Station Rd, High Bentham LA2 7LH

015242 61219

www.oakroydbakery.co.uk

LAND FOR ALLOTMENTS

Bentham Town Council
is seeking to rent land close to the
residential areas of Bentham
which can be used
to provide allotments.

A water supply is essential.

Please contact the Clerk
Jo Burton on 62587.

GREENGAGES OF INGLETON

Award Winning Greengrocer

Quality Local Produce,
Wholefoods, Baking, Dairy,
Special Diets.

NEW! NEW! NEW!

Organic Box Scheme

Boxes from £9.95 Delivered

6 Main Street, Tel 015242 42404

Christmas & New Year orders welcome

HIGH BENTHAM CP SCHOOL

By Catherine Boocock, Head Teacher

A huge thank you to Mr Joe Prendergast and all the staff and students from Wennington Hall who helped organise and support Santa's sleigh this year. As usual, we had a super evening and it was magical to see the excitement on the children's faces as they heard and saw the sleigh on its travels around High Bentham! Our Santa, as always, did a fabulous job, even with ice in his beard. We raised an amazing £360 thanks to the generosity of everyone in the community who donated money.

The PTFA supported many of our Christmas events and so thank you to them as well for making Christmas a special time in school. The Horse and Farrier also helped to make Christmas extra special with a generous contribution toward buying more Christmas decorations for school, so thank you to everyone.

Extended School Provision

We are pleased to offer some excellent extended school facilities to our children. Breakfast Club runs every day from 8.00am offering a nutritious breakfast and play facilities. At a cost of £3.50 per session it offers incredibly good value. After School Club operates on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays, with food and refreshments available. Flexible sessions and payments are available. £7.50 for a full session, £6.50 for siblings and only £5.50 for an early bird session (3.30-4.45pm). Children need to be registered to attend and places booked.

B. MARSHALL

**AGRICULTURAL &
GENERAL BUILDER**

FREE ESTIMATES

Tel: 015242 62117

Mob: 07900198400

THE BENTHAM NEWS STORY (Part 3)

By Gill Warren

Last month's article finished with a brief mention of the distribution process. This is the important part of the BN story, as far as you, our readers, are concerned. When the members of the collation team have counted out and bagged the copies of the BN, a small group from the committee, Peter Phillips, Shirley Brown, Trevor Blackwell and Bill Kennedy, take these bags to the distributors. This is on the Friday of publication.

The team of thirty six volunteers who month after month, irrespective of the weather, deliver the BN to you at your home or workplace in Bentham, do a wonderful job. Occasionally, members of the committee, or other friends provide cover for distributors when they are ill or away on holiday, so it is important that an up to date record of each "round" is maintained. These distributors are an invaluable part of the overall team. Many have been delivering the Bentham News for nearly 20 years! There is often, due to age, infirmity, moving etc, a need for new volunteer distributors, so if you would like to help in this way, tell any member of the committee and then when a replacement is needed, you will be contacted. If you would like more details about this please speak to Shirley on 61608.

The distribution area of the BN is quite wide. Copies are taken to Clapham, Austwick, Ingleton, Burton-in-Lonsdale and Wray Post Offices, where the residents of those villages can collect a copy. We ask for a payment of 30p a copy to help defray the costs. Copies are also supplied to the caravan parks during the season.

When the distribution has been completed, the next task is the preparation of the accounts and the banking of cheques etc. When this has been done the next stage is the monthly meeting of the full editorial committee, normally on the Wednesday after publication. The meeting is chaired by Shirley Brown and the minutes faithfully recorded by Peter Phillips. The normal



Ken Robertson, treasurer, handing out copies of his report at a committee meeting.

business at a meeting includes the treasurer's report, a discussion about the last edition and a review of the next edition. This involves identifying any special topics to be covered, often of a seasonal nature, such as "the pantomime" or "The Agricultural Show". The dates for the next proof reading and full editorial committee meetings are then agreed, and so the cycle ends, and the next one begins!

J W Garnett Electrical Ltd
The Market Place, Settle
01729 823558

**Don't Miss
Our
January
Sale**
**Massive
Savings
In Store**

For all Digital and Electrical Appliances

HOUSING RELATED ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE

There are various types of assistance available for vulnerable people such as the elderly, disabled, those on benefits, people with young children etc:

➤ **Repairs Assistance Scheme** - an interest free loan of up to £6,000 for repairs to your home.

➤ **Home Appreciation Loan** - a secured loan of up to £30,000 for major repairs and improvements to your home.

NB: Both of the above are repayable on the future sale or transfer of your property.

➤ **Home Maintenance Support Scheme** (for over 60s/disabled living in Craven) including:

- Home Repair Advice
- Handy Person Scheme
- Technical Support
- Security Advice.

Disabled Facilities Grant - for adaptations to your home.

Energy Efficiency Grants

If you are interested in finding out more about any of the above schemes or know someone who would then please let the Strategic Housing team know.

For leaflets and general information:

Tel: 01756 706293

Email: housing@cravendc.gov.uk

To arrange a presentation on the above schemes to a specific group.

Tel: 01756 706481 Email:

housing@cravendc.gov.uk

CARPET CLEANER

Well respected local man will clean your carpets as thoroughly as the pros.

But for less money!

Give me a call for a free quote on 015242 61599

Peter Allen

FLOOR COVERINGS

UNIT 2, SOWARTH IND EST, **SETTLE** (Opposite TIMBERWORKS)

LARGE CARPET SHOWROOM

JANUARY SALE

20% OFF MADE TO MEASURE BLINDS

10% OFF FLOOR COVERING

10% OFF BEDS

10% OFF FURNITURE

"QUALITY CARPETS WITH QUALITY FITTING"

TEL: (SETTLE) 01729 825122

OPEN: MON, TUES, THURS, FRI: 10am-4pm. SAT & WED: 10am-12.30pm



CONNECTING LOCAL CONSUMERS WITH LOCAL FOOD PRODUCERS

By Richard Wilson

What is a carbon footprint? How big is yours? Does it matter? Can you change sizes? What has it got to do with Bentham? If you know the answers, skip the next two paragraphs.

Think of the planet as a big white carpet, and each of us as a muddy boot. The more carbon (oil, gas, coal) we use, the bigger our boot size, and the dirtier the carpet when we finally shuffle out of the back door, leaving future generations to face a big, maybe impossible, cleaning bill, the moment they arrive in our rapidly warming world.

"Too bad," you might say, "Can't make an omelette without breaking eggs". But you *could* cook it using renewable energy.....

On average, FOOD is the third-biggest component of a Briton's carbon footprint, after recreation and heating. Fossil fuels go into fertilisers, processing, packaging, and, most importantly, transport. So it makes environmental sense to grow your own, or - next best thing - buy local produce. You'll also be helping to keep money and jobs in the Bentham area.

But where do you get local produce? Go into a supermarket and you're more likely to find apples from Africa, than yogurt from

SPEED FUEL OILS

FOR DOMESTIC, AGRICULTURAL AND INDUSTRIAL USE

COMPETITIVE LOCAL
SUPPLIER OF DERV,
GAS, OIL, KEROSENE &
PETROL



Tel: (015242) 42048, Thornton Station
Yard, Ingleton via Carnforth, Lanes.

Yorkshire or lamb from Lancashire.

Well, BEST is determined to track it down. But we need all you local producers to help us. If you grow or make something that you'd like to see being enjoyed by Bentham folk, sooner than freighted up and down the country and ending up on a shelf in Stornoway or Swansea, please tell us about yourself and your product, and how we can get our hands on it. Email BEST@tathamfells.me.uk or phone 63399. We'll be publishing a list!

BEST stands for Bentham Environmentally Sustainable Town. The next BEST meeting is on Monday 2nd February at 7.30pm in Looking Well, King Street. All our meetings are open to everyone; do come along and help make Bentham a greener town.



**THE NEXT FARMERS' MARKET WILL BE
ON SATURDAY 7TH FEBRUARY
9.30am AT THE TOWN HALL**

**COOKSHOP
SALE**

UP TO 50% OFF

**ALSO EX-DISPLAY
KITCHENS & APPLIANCES**

**AND 10% OFF ALL FULL PRICE
ITEMS IN THE COOKSHOP**

STARTS MON 29 DEC 10am

H & M CRAFTSMEN LTD
INDUSTRIAL ESTATE, INGLETON
BETWEEN TOOBY'S AND PETROL STATION
015242 41535

LOCAL EVENTS IN JANUARY

Fri 2nd Age Concern at the Masonic Hall, 10.00am-2.30pm. Video.

Sat 3rd Cricket Club coffee morning at the Town Hall, 10.00am-12.00noon. 

Bentham Footpath Group walk, Tatham Fells, 5 miles, leader D. Fisher 61449. Meet at Lairgill 9.30am.

Mon 5th Craven Customer Services at the Town Hall, 10.00am-12.30pm and every Monday.

Indoor Bowls at the Town Hall, 1.30-3.30pm and every Monday.

Town Council meeting at the Town Hall, 7.30pm.

Toddle-in for parents/carers and Toddlers, Methodist Church Hall, 10.00-11.30am and every Monday.

Gentle walks for women, leave Lairgill 9.30am and every Monday.

Tue 6th Yoga classes at the Town Hall, 11.00am-12.00noon and 6.00-7.00pm and every Tuesday.

Tai Chi enrolment, Looking Well, 10.00am-12.00noon.

Tuesday Strolls, leaving Looking Well 2.00pm, return 3.00pm. and every Tuesday.

Settle College parents meeting Town Hall 1.00-3.30pm.

Wed 7th Citizens Advice Bureau, at the Health Centre, 1.30-3.30pm. Also on 21st January.

Coffee morning at Methodist Church Hall, 10.00-11.30am, and every Wednesday. Donations to local charities.

Wed 7th Looking Well, Café IN, 11.00am-1.30pm and every Wednesday.

Thu 8th Swimming at Hornby for over 50s (men and women). Cost £1.60. Tel Barbara Shuttleworth 62873 or Carol Elsworth 61233 to arrange transport. Every Thursday.

Looking Well 11.00am-1.30pm. Cancer Support Group Drop in. Art Session, Lunch and Therapies. Every Thursday.

Indoor Bowls at the Town Hall, 1.30-3.30pm. and every Monday.

Friendly Hour at Low Bentham Methodist Church, 2.30pm. Everyone welcome.

High Bentham W.I. at Town Hall, 7.30pm. See page 12.

Bentham Footpath Group open business meeting, Wenningdale Room, Town Hall, 7.00pm.

Fri 9th Age Concern at the Masonic Hall, 10.00am-2.30pm. Extend Exercise with Colin Etherington. Tai Chi enrolment, Looking Well, 10.00am-12.00noon.

Yoga at the Town Hall, 6.30-7.30pm and every Friday.

Sat 10th Churches Together in Bentham coffee morning on behalf of CSW, at the Town Hall, 10.00am-12.00noon. 

Panto prop and costume making workshop at Looking Well, 11.00am-1.00pm and for the next five Saturdays.

Bentham Film Group film "St. Trinian's" at the Victoria Institute, Low Bentham, 7.30pm. See page 31.

Sun 11th Bentham Footpath Group walk, Settle Loop, 9½ miles, leader M. Burnett 64800. Meet at Lairgill 9.30am.

Looking Well 3.00-5.00pm, older person's tea party.

Mon 12th Precept meeting at the Town Hall, 7.30pm.

Adventurers group for 4-6 year olds, 4.30-5.30pm. Springboard for 7-10 year olds 6.15-7.15pm. Both in Methodist Church Hall and every Monday in term time.

LISTING FOR LOCAL EVENTS

Date.....Time.....

Event.....

Venue.....

Contact Tel:.....

Name.....

Please return this entry to the Bentham Gallery, Station Road, High Bentham, by the 15th of the month for the following month's edition.

- Tue 13th** Bloomin' Bentham volunteers gather in painted bus shelter 1.00pm. More information from 61608.
Songs to Remember at Looking Well, 2.30-4.00pm.
Bentham Child Health Clinic at the Surgery, 2.00-4.00pm.
Bright Hour, 2.15pm at Methodist Church. Speaker Diane Hunter.
- Wed 14th** Moving Well, gentle exercise to music, Community Centre, 2.00-3.00pm and every Wednesday.
Art for beginners, Looking Well 2.00-4.00pm and every week.
- Thu 15th** Copy deadline for February edition Bentham News.
Welcome-In, dominoes for all ages, Methodist Church Hall, 2.30pm. For transport call Nigel or Kath 62272.
LASRUG meeting at Wenningdale Room, 7.30pm.
Low Bentham W.I. Annual General Meeting at the Victoria Institute, 7.30pm.
- Fri 16th** Waste paper collection at Lairgill car park, 8.30-11.00am. Proceeds to NSPCC.
Age Concern at the Masonic Hall, 10.00am-2.30pm. Peru (slides) by Derek Cressey.
7.00-8.00pm, GFI for school years 6, 7 & 8. 8.15-9.15pm for school years 9+, Methodist Church Hall, and every Friday in term time.
- Sat 17th** Youth Cafe coffee morning at the Town Hall, 10.00am-12.00noon. 
- Tue 20th** Mothers Union Annual General Meeting, the church room, Burton-in-Lonsdale 2.00pm.
Bentham Footpath Group walk, Green Lanes of Crummackdale, 6½ miles, leader A. Neligan 64886. Meet at Lairgill 9.30am.
- Fri 23rd** Age Concern at the Masonic Hall, 10.00am-2.30pm. Meet Rev Clive Burgess.
- Sat 24th** LASRUG coffee morning at the Town Hall, 10.00am-12.00noon. 
- Mon 26th** Ewecross Historical Society at the Town Hall, 7.30pm. Adrian Braddon "The Northern Rebellion of 1536".
- Tue 27th** Bright Hour at 2.15pm, Methodist Church, speaker Joy Bell.
- Wed 28th** Bentham Footpath Group Ride and Walk, Clapham to Bentham, 7 miles, leaders J & S Pilkington 61757. Meet at Bentham Station 11.20am.
- Thu 29th** Welcome-In, dominoes for all ages, Methodist Church Hall, 2.30pm. For transport call Nigel or Kath 62272.
- Fri 30th** Age Concern at the Masonic Hall, 10.00am-12.00noon.
Country & Western sing-a-long, Stan Gray.
Bentham News published.
- Sat 31st** Wesley Guild at Methodist Schoolroom, 7.30pm. Sedbergh Singers.
Community Transport coffee morning at the Town Hall, 10.00am-12.00noon. 

A & S PLUMBING SERVICES

"Friendly, local reliable plumbing service"

From tap washers to bathroom suites,
blocked drains to kitchen installation.

All aspects of domestic plumbing and tiling
work undertaken.

Fast reliable call out service.

Tel: 015242 21916. Mobile: 07825 707643.

Email: andnewport@hotmail.co.uk

PIGTAILS

Childrens Wear
High Bentham 015242 62417

SALE

starts Friday 2nd Jan
Lots of Bargains

Wishing you all a Happy New Year

SCOURGE OF DOG POO AND IRRESPONSIBLE DOG OWNERS

There are several letters in this issue from local people about the hazards of dog poo. So the following information may be appropriate. Britain is well known for being a nation of dog-lovers. Dogs have had a role in society for centuries. Dogs can be workers or faithful family pets, but all dogs have something in common that makes them the scourge of humans; they produce dog poo.

However, it is unfair to blame the canine population; it is the responsibility of the dog owner to ensure that the dog's mess is cleaned up. Although most owners do clear it up, there are still some people who feel it is unhygienic. However, it is even more of a health hazard to leave it where it lies - on pavements, in parks and playgrounds, or even on the beach. It is also against the law.

Dog fouling is covered by several Acts which require the owner to clear up immediately after his or her dog, should it foul 'designated land'. Local authorities use them as a basis to create bylaws (which allow for instant fixed-penalty fines) and nominate the designated areas in the appropriate borough. **The fines start at around £40, rising to £1,000** - the maximum amount that can be issued in a courtroom. Designated areas are usually places where dog faeces is likely to cause a health hazard to people. These include children's play parks, public greens and parks, residential areas, footpaths and cycle areas.



THE BAY BLIND COMPANY

PLEATED ROLLER ROMAN
VENETIAN VERTICAL
VELUX

Each blind is
measured and manufactured individually,
and fitted personally.

Commercial and Domestic, Evenings and Weekends.
David or Sandra
Phone/Fax 01524 781149 Mobile 07957 343071

BRIAN MARCHMENT
Tiling & Laminate Flooring
Bathrooms, Kitchens,
Conservatories etc.
No Job Too Small
Phone: 015242 62525
Mobile: 07973 800121

STEVEN FOSTER
LANDSCAPE CONSTRUCTION

All Excavation Work Undertaken
Stone Walling, Retaining Walls, Flagging, Concreting,
Gravel Gardens, Site & Garden Clearance, Turfing,
Drainage & Ground Works
CITB Registered

Mob: 07803 628196
Tel: 015242 62599



Bentham Imaging
Weddings, Portraits, Restorations
General & Commercial Photography

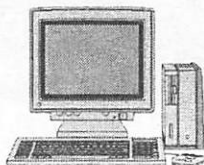
Main Street, Bentham,
tel 015242 63405
or 07976 255991
www.benthamimaging.co.uk



SWPP
Professional Services Ltd

WHAT SEX IS YOUR COMPUTER?

By a friend from New Zealand



A teacher was explaining to her class that in Spanish, unlike as in English, nouns are designated as either masculine or feminine.

'House' for instance, is feminine: 'la casa.' 'Pencil,' however, is masculine: 'el lapiz.'

A student asked, 'What gender is 'computer'?

Instead of giving the answer, the teacher split the class into two groups, male and female, and asked them to decide for themselves whether "computer" should be a masculine or a feminine noun. Each group was asked to give four reasons for its recommendation.

The men's group decided that 'computer' should definitely be of the feminine gender ('la computadora'), because:

1. No one but their creator understands their internal logic;
2. The native language they use to communicate with other computers is incomprehensible to everyone else;
3. Even the smallest mistakes are stored in long term memory for possible later retrieval; and
4. As soon as you make a commitment to one, you find yourself spending half your 'pay cheque' on accessories for it.

THIS GETS BETTER!

The women's group, however, concluded that computers should be Masculine ('el computador'), because:

1. In order to do anything with them, you have to turn them on;
2. They have a lot of data but still can't think for themselves;
3. They are supposed to help you solve problems, but half the time they ARE the problem; and
4. As soon as you commit to one, you realise that if you had waited a little longer, you could have got a better model.

The women won!



24/7

Locksmiths
Mark Ferguson
Locksmith

- All locks opened
- Insurance work undertaken
- Lock upgrades
- New House - New Locks
- Commercial work
- UPVC door specialist
- Keyed alike
- Car opening



Free Security/Lock Review To Comply With
The New Insurance Regulations.
Fast Friendly Prompt Service

2 Greta Bridge Cottages, Tunstall,
Nr Lancaster, LA6 2QU

Tel 015242 73988 Mob: 07801 438638
email mark970@mac.com



Millwood, Fourlands, Bentham,
Lancaster LA2 7EX Tel/Fax 015242
63349

Richard Slinger Mobile
07730 948741

S & W Fabrications Ltd
Steel Fabrications.
Mobile Welding.
Security Bars & Railings.
Industrial &
Agricultural Buildings.

INTERESTED IN DOING A BASIC ADULT TEACHING QUALIFICATION?

By Rosie Jackson

Would you like to be able to run courses but need some teaching skills? Are you training people already but would like to have a formal qualification? Preparing to Teach in the Lifelong Learning Sector (PTLLS) could be just what you're looking for. NYCC Adult Learning Services is planning to run this City & Guilds course at Looking Well, enrolling in January to start February/March.

The course provides a basic introduction to teaching for anyone who wants to learn how to train or teach and is aimed at equipping a wide range of trainers and facilitators to work with and support adult learners.

The course is suitable for those who work, or want to work as tutors, teachers, trainers or support staff to non accredited courses in the Lifelong Learning Sector and Adult/Community Education and will give you a recognised qualification.

The course runs for 30 hours and will be held at Looking Well over twelve weeks. It is assessed by written assignments and practical assessment of teaching. Please contact me, Rosie Jackson on 07890 011298 if you are interested.

Bentham Community Centre

Thinking of having a child's/adult party, meeting or training then come at look at the space in Bentham Community Centre.

Room Hire Rates :- Top room, which includes small kitchen £8.00 per hour. Sports Hall £6.00 per hour. Front Room includes kitchenette £7.00 per hour. Whole building £20.00 per hour.

If you want to start a new group and book a room on a regular basis these rates can be negotiated.

Please contact Sharon Haslam on
015242 61800

Independent Financial Choices

43 Main Street, Bentham LA2 7HJ

Tel: 015242 62616

Email: tcb@mortgageandlife.com

Free financial review with an independent financial adviser

Independent Financial Choices is a trading name of Mortgage & Life Ltd. Mortgage & Life is authorised and regulated by the Financial Services Authority

HORNBY DAY NURSERY

- Fully qualified staff
- 7.30am to 6.30pm
- Pre-school Nursery Education Grant
- Dedicated Baby & Toddler facilities
- Secure outdoor play area

1 Station Road, Hornby.

Tel: 015242 22288

E:info@hornbydaynursery.co.uk

FRANK PICKERING

Painting, decorating, tiling.

Also man and van for
light removals, etc.

Tel: 015242 61461

Mob: 07866051491

G M SOAR CHIMNEY SWEEP & VAC



20 Years Experience
Fully Insured

Tel: 01524 770194

84 Sycamore Road,
Brookhouse, Caton,
Near Lancaster,
LA2 9PE.

LOOKING WELL NEWS

By Clare Hucknall

We have two Tai Chi classes starting in January with Tony Bennett on Thursday evenings (6.30-8pm starting 15th January) and Friday afternoons (1.30-3pm starting 16th January). Tai Chi is for anyone - regardless of age and physical ability - who is interested in improving flexibility, posture, coordination, balance, breathing, strength, energy levels, concentration and sense of peace. It can help with general wellbeing and relaxation as well as alleviate symptoms of a variety of conditions e.g. ME, MS, stroke recovery, breathing problems such as asthma. To book a place on the Tai Chi classes phone Rosie on 07890 011298 or enrol at Looking Well on Tues 6th Jan 10am to 12noon or Friday 9th Jan 1 to 3pm.

Café IN on Wednesday mornings from 11-1.30 is the place to come if you want to find out more, or let have us your e-mail address and we can inform you electronically of new classes/sessions (office@pioneerprojects.org.uk) We have a number of regular activities (walks, art class, gentle movement, support groups, swimming) so if you want to find out more, please get in touch or pop into Café IN.

We warmly welcome Julie Vass to our staff team who will be here 5 days a week and will be the main contact person in Looking Well. We also look forward to welcoming Ali and David Clough back from their trip to Australia.

M. J. & Y. FAICHNEY

Building and Roofing Contractors

New Builds

Barn Conversions, Extensions

**Full Building programme
from start to finish**

Tel: 015242 62805

07720542088

Computer Showroom & Repair Workshop



New WinXP & used computers
Printers, scanners, monitors
Software for home & office
Computer repairs & rebuilds
Data saved from dead computers
Data moved to new computers
Difficult problems resolved
Home & Office visits

BROADBAND

Top quality broadband with speeds up to 8 Mbps, local support & installation and NO MINIMUM CONTRACT! Fed-up with your existing supplier? - we can help you transfer to a better experience. Over 120 subscribers in the local area now enjoy a more reliable internet

REMOTE SUPPORT

As well as home and office visits we now offer remote support - we can operate your PC from our workshop to diagnose and repair your problems. Installing software, removing viruses, setting up email can all be done while you watch

Top Floor - Conservative Club, 18 Station Road, Settle
tel: 01524-888391, mob: 07790-735822
steve@pcs-settle.co.uk
www.tbsu.co.uk

Lengthorn Builders

**GENERAL BUILDING
PAINTING AND
DECORATING
SECURITY SYSTEMS
PLUMBING AND
HEATING
ELECTRICS
TILING**



Tel: 015242 61016
Mob: 07906502999

email: lengthorn@btinternet.com

JANUARY SALE NOW ON

AT

B. & C.E. ARMSTRONG

17 Main Street, Bentham 64871.

**CALOR GAS, COAL, LOGS
& KINDLING
Free Local Delivery**

PET RESCUE

By Sue Arnott

We're always careful not to re-home the cats in our care just before Christmas – not least because all the fuss and excitement of the festive season doesn't help the cats themselves to settle into their new environment. (Lucky little Tom & Jerry found the loving home they deserve in November.) Now Christmas is over, Maggie, Toffee, Mittens & Nibbles, Bramble & Pip, Bracken ... they're all looking for a new life in the new year! Perhaps you can help? If you'd like to come along to see them, ring Pat on 63048.

Whilst we're always asking for help, it's nice to be always saying thank you too. And a very big "Thank You" to everyone who supported our Christmas raffle (and especially those who braved the wintry conditions at the Christmas Fair to visit our windswept stall). The winners were as follows: wine hamper: R Bates (Keasden); lady's pamper hamper: H Jarvis (Langcliffe); man's hamper: M Bargh (Bentham); gardener's hamper: R Holland (Low Bentham); Christmas hamper: N Simpson (Ingletton); cat's hamper: V Higgin (Ingletton); dog's hamper: G Cochrane (Low Bentham); bird lover's hamper: S Doran (c/o Mewith); whiskey hamper: K Hartley (Austwick); chocoholic's hamper: A Robinson (Austwick); household hamper: G Pentecost (Ingletton); small wine hamper: S Monday (Hellifield); car driver's hamper: K Joyce (Low Bentham); jammy hamper: M Miller (Long Preston).

We raised over £600 from the raffle, thanks to the generous support of everyone who donated prizes and bought tickets. Sad to say someone reminded me that this will just about keep our work going for a month. Just as well we're planning more events this year! In the mean time, don't forget to take your used stamps to our collecting box in the Community Centre. Every little helps!

For general queries about B&D Pet Rescue, or if you'd like to get involved as a volunteer, please ring 61127.



BRENDAN SPILLANE

By Mike and Anita Spillane

As many of you know, our dear little son Brendan, died unexpectedly on Sun 16th November aged one and a half.

We have been deeply shocked and devastated, and whilst nothing can alter what has happened, every message of condolence, every loving thought, kind word and helpful deed, has, in its own way, eased the pain we've felt, so thank you all dearly.

Also, we were deeply touched by all of you intrepid friends who made your way through the deep snow on Thur 4th Dec, to be with us at Brendan's funeral. It meant a great deal to us, and we felt very loved and supported. A big thanks also goes to Duncan Robinson funeral services, whose sensitivity was really appreciated.

We are planning to hold a memorial photographic exhibition at the Bentham Gallery in April 2009. This will coincide with his birthday, and give us all a chance to see the beauty that is Brendan, once more.

With Love and Thanks, Mike, Anita, Dominic, Padraig, Yarrow and Poppy

NEW HOUSES FOR BENTHAM!

Today (15th December) the planning committee at Craven District Council approved an application from Yorkshire Housing to build thirty four houses for rent. As this land was gifted to Yorkshire Housing by CDC, a condition has been attached giving priority to Bentham families.

"Shapely Does It"

Main St. Low Bentham Tel: 015242 62112
Ladies Toning Salon

We would like to thank all our members for their continued support and wish them all a very Happy New Year. We look forward to welcoming new members in 2009. Book now for a free trial in January or February and receive a free gift. Sign up for an annual membership and get a month free!

BENTHAM PEOPLE



Personal Thanks

Jill and her family wish to thank everybody for all the flowers, cards and kind messages. Thank you to all who attended Bill's funeral. Special thanks to Joe and Stephen from Brown and Whittaker's and to Rev Burgess.

Thanks

To my relations, friends and neighbours, may I say thank you so much for the lovely cards, flowers and gifts sent to me during my stay in hospital. Eunice Taylor, 1 Collingwood Terrace, Bentham.

Patsy Morphet - I would like to say a big "thank you" to all my family and friends for making my Birthday so special. For everyone who helped with the catering and for all my cards, gifts and flowers; special thank you to Kay and Bob for making it all possible. Love to you all, Patsy.

Congratulations

Fisher-Clifford and Julie. Congratulations on your Golden Wedding on 1st January 2009. With all our love, Mum and Dad, Nan and Grandad, from your three sons and families, John, Jean, Charlotte and Sarah.

Tomlinson-Phyl and Ron. Congratulations on your Diamond Wedding - now for the next one - Platinum! From Reg and Margaret.

Home Help

Occasional help needed for a disabled lady, two or three hours a fortnight. 41328.

For Sale

Horse manure, 10 bags £5. Well rotted £1 per bag. Delivered locally, 62176.

Cycling

Cycling in Corsica, France. Anyone interested in 5/6 days cycling (moderate fitness required) in northern Corsica, around the coast line, in March/April please get in touch with Kay Askew, email kay.askew@wanadoo.fr Looking for a small group of 4/6 people to join guide. Anyone interested in cycling on a regular basis or forming an informal club in the Bentham area, moderate fitness required, and cyclists of any age then please ring 015242 63427 to join other women/ couples.

Personal Assistant

A personal assistant is required by a partly disabled female in Hornby. Must be a reliable and trustworthy, sensitive person with respect for privacy. Tel: Hornby 21785.

To Rent

House for rent in High Bentham to careful tenant. One large bedroom, modern kitchen, wood-burning stove, garden, view. References and deposit required. £410 p.c.m. Call Hattie on 07788-983581.

CHARITIES THANKS

* Once again we would like to thank everyone who helped to make our coffee morning at Low Bentham Institute such a success. We raised £1,035 for St. John's Hospice.

* Springfield Bowling Club would like say a very grateful thanks to SBC for their recent donation of £200.

* Victoria Institute - On Saturday the 29th November The Victoria Institute held a Trash and Treasure and raised £450 for the Restoration Fund.

Thank you to all who donated articles to be sold and prizes to raffle. For organising the event a special thanks to Kay Piper and her team of volunteers who gave up their time over a number of days to make the event a success.

The Trustees are looking for more volunteers to join their Committee. The Committee meets 6 times a year and organises a few fund raising events. If you are interested or would like more information call 61143.

FLOWERFIELDS

Order flowers & gifts online 24 hrs a day @

www.flowerfields.co.uk

Tel: 01524 261904

Quality local fruits,
vegetables, cheeses, eggs, specialist
flours and wholefoods

Newsholme & Son

Electrical Engineers (Est. 1950)

Station Road, Clapham,
Lancaster LA2 8ER.

Write or phone 015242 51383

Domestic, Agricultural Installations. Security Lighting and Burglar Alarms Fire Alarm Systems. Additional Electrical Circuits. Faults, Breakdowns, Night Storage Heater repairs. No call-out charges. No VAT. Free estimates.



WANTED

SCRAP CARS, MOT FAILERS.
NO CHARGE TO TAKE AWAY.

Contact Carl 07919017709,
DVLA Certified.

(Donates to Bentham Fire Station for training purposes).

Timberworks Ltd

BESPOKE JOINERY MANUFACTURER AND CONTRACTOR

The Garden Office



Beautiful oak framed garden buildings to enhance and extend your living space. A light spacious, fully insulated room to use as your office, gym, garden room or children's play area. Buildings are bespoke, individually designed to meet your exact specifications.

Unit 3, Sowarth Industrial Estate, Settle BD24 9AF
Tel. 01729 825559 Fax. 01729 824826
www.timberworksltd.co.uk

Open Mon-Fri 9am-5pm / Sat 8.30am-12noon

Collinge Opticians Of Kirkby Lonsdale

Retinal Photography
Fully equipped testing
room with latest
computerised
equipment

12, Market Street
Kirkby Lonsdale
LA6 2AU



Huge range of
frames, from
designer to
affordable



Contact Lenses Supplied &
Fitted.

Sports Eyewear Specialist.

Tel: 015242 72944

Open 6 Days.

"HIGH BENTHAM COMMUNITY PLAYGROUP" UPDATE

By Jenn Hodgkinson (on behalf of the Committee High Bentham Community Playgroup)

You may or may not be aware that Bentham Playgroup/Toddlers based in the Town Hall closed last year. The group had been running for many years and provided an excellent step to pre-school. Sadly, for several reasons, the decision was made to close it.

However, with the support of High Bentham C.P. School, a new more formal setting, based in the Nursery classroom, is now being set up.

A voluntary committee of parents has been formed and we are working our way through the mountain of paperwork required to set such a group up.

Aiming to open in March 2009 we will provide a group for both parents and babies and a playgroup setting for children from 2 years. The group will be OFSTED registered and will be supervised by qualified staff. The sessions will run on Tuesday and Wednesday afternoons (1pm – 3.30pm) and the price per session will be £5. We aim to create a happy and safe environment for local children who will benefit greatly from the surroundings/resources of the school.

If you are interested in registering your child please pop along to our open day on Wednesday 14th January (3.30pm – 8pm). Visit the setting, meet the committee and have any questions answered. Please note due to OFSTED regulations playgroup places will be limited.

We are also seeking to employ a Playgroup Leader and Playgroup Assistant and are looking for two caring and committed people to provide a secure and happy environment for our children. If you are interested in either of these positions please contact the school (61412) for further information.

A TRIBUTE TO ELSIE WILSHAW

By David Johnson

Past pupils of High Bentham C.P. School will be sad to hear of the death of Miss Elsie Wilshaw. Elsie probably taught two generations of children. She taught at Dent for some time before being appointed to the school on 1st March 1944. She retired on 31st August 1979. It was a major achievement to have taught at one school for over 35 years. When she was appointed she lived at High Birks Farm Keasden and the log book for 1947 is full of references to her gallant struggles to get to school through snow drifts and floods, sometimes not arriving until late morning or early afternoon.

She was a much-loved teacher, teaching with sensitivity, care and devotion. Her classes were always full of life and she made a major contribution to developing the personality of her pupils.

Ashfield House 
Dental Practice

Mark Jonathan White
BMSc (hons), BDS (hons)

A WARM WELCOME AWAITS YOU
FROM OUR TRAINED AND
FRIENDLY STAFF. CALL IN
FOR MORE INFORMATION.

Family Dentistry, Orthodontics, Replacement of
missing teeth, Dental implants,
Cosmetic dentistry, Tooth whitening,
Orthopaedic jaw and bite problems.

Opening Hours:

Tue, Wed, Fri: 9.00am-12.30pm, 1.30pm-5.00pm
Thurs: 1.00pm-5.00pm, 6.00pm-9.00pm

66 Main Street High Bentham Tel: 015242 64813.

BENTHAM FOOTPATH GROUP

By Maureen Ellis



It's a new year and a new programme starting on Saturday 3rd January' meeting at Lairgill at 9.30am for the 5 mile Tatham walk. As the leader said when I phoned him, it's a long time since we were in that area which was a favourite of Len Moody's. There are several places to park on the Slaidburn road just above Big Stone but it's best to assemble at Lairgill.

We will go clockwise and take in several foot bridges on the way. There is a small amount of road walking and it can be quite hilly as we circuit Tatham Fell. The route passes Botton Farm and goes through Low Gill.

On Thursday 8th there is the business meeting at 7.00pm in the Wenningdale Room of the Town Hall. Apart from other important agenda items, I shall bring up a

point that I had missed and for which I give many apologies. Printed on the back of the membership card under suggestions, one is that walkers accepting lifts are asked to contribute 5p/mile towards the cost of the journey. I owe quite a lot to these generous drivers and I will try to make amends.

On Sunday 11th we have the Settle Loop of 9.5 miles. We meet at Lairgill at 9.30am. I haven't been able to contact the leader but I do know it is different in topography and length from the walk with a similar name that took place in November.

Then on Tuesday 20th, meeting at Lairgill at 9.30am, there is the 6.5 mile Crummack Dale walk. The leader is making a recce to find a non slippery route using solid footpaths and green lanes from Austwick up into Crummack Dale.

On Wednesday 28th there will be a change from driving, with the Ride and Walk, Clapham to Bentham of 7 miles. The meeting place will be Bentham Station for the 11.20am train to Clapham. Happy walking.

JENNIFER
KNOWLES

SOLICITOR



Specialist Collaborative Family Lawyer Separated or about to separate?

Want to deal with those important issues which have to be addressed - children, the home, financial provision and pensions in a dignified and positive way? With no points scoring, no apportioning blame, no conflict? Just looking forward and sorting out those issues, convinced that this approach is the way forward for separating couples. For advice on a new, non confrontational and relaxed approach to dealing with issues from family relationship breakdown, call 015242 41417 for more information.

Jennifer Knowles (L.L.B Hons) See also my website www.jklaw.co.uk

In Pain?



For Fast, Effective Treatment
with Marie Colyer,
Chartered Physiotherapist
Phone Bentham
Physiotherapy Clinic
(015242) 62216

Treatment is recognised by all major insurance companies.

THE COOKERY COLUMNS

Edited by Patsy Henderson

Winter Warmers

Chicken and Sweetcorn Stew

Recipe Serves 6

1.75 Kg chicken, chopped
paprika
30ml olive oil
25g butter
450g onions, chopped
1 green or yellow pepper, cored, seeded and chopped
400g tin chopped tomatoes
250ml white wine
475ml chicken stock
45ml fresh parsley, chopped
½ tsp tabasco sauce
15ml Worcester sauce
275g sweetcorn, drained
150g broad beans, fresh or frozen
20g plain flour
parsley sprigs for garnish
crusty bread for serving

Method

Rinse the chicken pieces in cool water and dry on kitchen paper. Sprinkle the pieces with salt and paprika. Heat the oil and butter in a large saucepan. Add the chicken pieces and fry until golden brown all over. Remove the chicken and set aside. Reduce the heat to low and cook the onions and pepper for about 8 minutes until softened. Stir in the tomatoes, wine, stock, parsley and sauces.

Turn up the heat and bring to the boil. Put the chicken into the pan and stir it into the sauce, then cover and simmer for 30 minutes with occasional stirring. Add the sweetcorn and beans and for a further 30 minutes. Skim off any surface fat.

Mix the flour with a little water to make a paste. Gradually add 175ml of the hot liquid from the pan, stirring this mixture into the stew and season to taste. Cook for another 6 minutes or more, stirring occasionally. Garnish and serve with warm crusty bread.

Steamed Ginger and Cinnamon Syrup Pudding

Recipe Serves 4

120g softened butter
45 ml golden syrup
115g caster sugar
2 eggs, lightly beaten
115g plain flour
5ml baking powder
5ml ground cinnamon
25g stem ginger, chopped finely
30ml milk

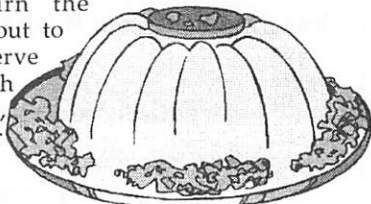
Method

Set a full steamer or saucepan of water on to boil. Lightly grease a 600ml pudding basin with butter. Put the golden syrup in the basin. In a separate bowl, cream the remaining butter and sugar together until light and fluffy. Gradually add the eggs until the mixture is glossy. Sift the flour, baking powder and cinnamon together and then fold them into the mixture with the stem ginger. Add milk to make a soft dropping consistency.

Spoon the batter into the pudding basin and smooth the top. Cover with greaseproof paper. Tie the greaseproof paper securely with string and steam for 1½ to 2 hours, ensuring that the water level is kept topped up. Turn the pudding out to serve. Serve with custard, cream or ice cream.

Sole to Soul: Chiropody plus...

9 Station Road, Bentham
Holistic Chiropody &
Therapy Practice
Closed Mondays
Marie Rayner DipPodM. MChS.
HMNFSH
Chiropodist/Podiatrist
☎ 01524263067



Station Road
Settle
N. Yorkshire
BD24 9AA



Main Street
Bentham
N. Yorkshire
LA2 7LE



Providing a 24 hour
professional and experienced
service.

Regular evening surgeries
and free nurse clinics.

Full surgical and inpatient
facilities for Equine, Companion
Animal and Farm Livestock.

In house laboratory,
ultrasonography, endoscopy,
modern anaesthetic regimes.

Compassionate,
friendly staff

01729 823 538

www.daleheadvetgroup.co.uk

info@daleheadvetgroup.co.uk

BENTHAM AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY

By Val Lawson

Thank you to everybody who supported
our coffee morning when we raised £340.

The Annual General Meeting was held in
November and the officers were elected as
follows: Chairman John Whitfield, Vice
Chairman John Dawson, Secretary Val
Lawson, Treasurer Jillian Ashton, President
for 2009 - Miss Wendy Dowbiggin.

The 10th annual quiz is to be held on 6th
February in the Town Hall. There will be
four members in each team and the entry fee
for a team of four is £24. This includes a Hot
Pot Supper. For more information about this
event please contact me, Val Lawson, on
015242 61606.

A date for your diary - the Annual Show
is to be held on Saturday 5th September
2009.

C.M. SLINGER & SONS LTD

BENTHAM (Established 1820)

BUILDING, ROOFING & JOINERY CONTRACTORS

Extensions and Alterations - Refurbishment Work - Re-roofing &
Repairs - Brickwork & Stonework - Plastering - Patios & Drainage -
Made to Measure Doors and Windows - Porches & Conservatories -
Kitchen & Bedroom Fitting - Shelving & Purpose Made Cupboards -
Fascia and Barge Boards - All General Building, Roofing & Joinery
Work Undertaken.

"Generations of experience through to the latest methods and
technology"

TELEPHONE 015242 61333

KITCHEN INSTALLATIONS

North West Ltd

Suppliers of German kitchens by "Schuller"

A local family firm with over 15 years experience and our reputation built upon recommendations.

Kitchens - Utilities - Studies

Replacement work surfaces in laminate, granite, zodiac and encore.

We provide a complete installation service which includes joinery, building, plumbing, electrics, floor and wall coverings.

Visit our showroom by appointment

Unit 3, Low Mills, Mill Lane, Low Bentham
Telephone 015242 63388/61236
or 07831 151839

BENTHAM FILM GROUP

By Stella Hall

Bentham Film Group will be starting the New Year with the comedy film 'St. Trinian's', starring Rupert Everett and Colin Firth. The infamous school for 'young ladies', St. Trinian's, is facing dire financial crisis and the responsibility for saving the school from its creditors falls to the anarchic pupils. They and their motley crew attempt to pull off the heist of the century to save their school from impending bankruptcy.

The film will be shown on Saturday 10th January at the Victoria Institute, Low Bentham, commencing at 7.30pm. During the interval there will be themed refreshments to purchase and a raffle.

Tickets are £5 on the door but may be bought in advance at the reduced rate of £4.50 from Low Bentham Victoria Institute, Monday and Wednesday 10.00am-12.00 noon and High Bentham Community Centre, Monday to Friday 10.00 am-12.00 noon.

We look forward to seeing you there!

Grove Hill Garage

Celebrating over 26 years in business!

Station Road,
High Bentham

★ **NEW AIR CONDITIONING SERVICE** ★

Make sure your air con is in maximum working condition for Summer!

★ **NEW CLASS 7 MOT:** ★

State of the art brake testing machine insuring maximum safety for our customers, diesel & catalysts.



★ **TYRES & WHEEL BALANCING** ★

WE WON'T BE BEATEN ON PRICE!



★ **ACCIDENT REPAIR CENTER** ★

All types of repair from small scratches to insurance repairs.

★ **24HOUR RECOVERY** ★

All breakdowns & accidents taken care of.

★ **SERVICING & REPAIRS** ★

Tel: 015242 61782

Fax: 015242 63278

Night: 015242 62054

WARTIME MEMORIES (1)

By Olive Calverley

Memories of living in Whitehaven and Hexham as a teenager during the Second World War.

On September 3rd, 1939, my family and I were in church in Blackpool (we always went to Blackpool for our holidays) when the service was brought to a halt and the Minister spoke these terrible words, "At 11am the Prime Minister, Mr Chamberlain, has announced that War has been declared." Prayers were said then everyone went home to a very different world.

Trenches were dug in the school playing field so that there was a safe place for pupils to go if there was an air raid. Everyone was given a gas mask to wear in case of a gas attack. These were kept in a cardboard box, which we had to carry everywhere. Windows were protected with sticky tape so that the glass would not shatter, and blackout curtains were fitted at every window so that no light would be seen from above to show the enemy bombers where we were. Air raid wardens were appointed to warn people if a light was showing. Men and women were called up into the forces and those too old to serve in this way became wardens, bus drivers, worked on the land or were trained as ambulance drivers. Everyone was issued with an identity card. My number was H.C.O.I. 2453.

Because of water shortages we were only allowed 5 inches (12 cms) of water for our baths. Food was rationed, as also were clothes. Coupons, which were like stamps but with no adhesive, were issued. My mother bought old jumpers from jumble sales, unravelled them, washed and dried the wool and then re-knitted it. Stripes were very fashionable. Clothes were worn until they were threadbare and the good bits were then made up into play clothes for children.

Serve-yourself cafes were opened in city centres where you could get a very reasonably priced meal. The Minister of Food, Lord Woolton, invented pies called Woolton Pies, which were made completely of vegetables with a stock cube added. These were very tasty.

Bags filled with sand were used to protect

important buildings like Town Halls and Post Offices. Church bells were no longer rung. There was a law that bells were only to be rung when there was an invasion by the enemy (so we were glad that they didn't ring). There were also air raid sirens to warn of an air raid, long wailing sounds; the all clear was a warbling note. The Government issued air raid shelters to every household. We had a Morrison Shelter, a large metal box that fitted under the dining room table. We slept there when the sirens went. Others were given Anderson Shelters. These were made of corrugated iron and were put into a big hole in the garden and covered in soil or turf. People would put bunk beds in them and stock up with food in case they had to stay there for a long time. Our school built permanent brick shelters surrounded by sand bags. Children from big cities were evacuated, sent from their homes to live in the country where it was safer. I was fortunate as I already lived in the country so didn't have to leave home. We shared our school with a boys' school - we used the building in the morning and the boys used it in the afternoon.

Troops of soldiers were living in my village. Some slept in tents at first, then nissen huts were built to make more permanent billets. Sometimes Tank Regiments were billeted in our village and the tanks would rumble along the street and we would wave to the soldiers as they went by. Our Sunday school building was taken over to make a place where soldiers could go to rest after training. My mum helped in the Women's Voluntary Service (WVS) canteen where the soldiers could buy tea and sandwiches when they were off duty.

Independent Financial Choices

43 Main Street, Bentham LA2 7HJ

Tel: 015242 62616

Email: tcb@mortgageandlife.com

Free financial review with an independent financial adviser

Independent Financial Choices is a trading name of Mortgage & Life Ltd. Mortgage & Life is authorised and regulated by the Financial Services Authority

CRAVEN CONCERNS

By Cllr Manuel Camacho 015242 62074

Andrew Triggs-Hodge, Rowing Gold Medallist

I had the pleasure of meeting Andy at an earlier reception and can confirm that he is a credit to the district. One piece of advice I can pass on to you, however, is that Olympic rowers have an exceptionally robust handshake, be warned!

Museum retains Visit Britain Award

Craven Museum and Gallery have successfully retained the Visit Britain award which it first received last year. The award is a National Code of Practice for Visitor Attractions. The logo assures visitors that the attraction has official endorsement of its standards. In their report the assessor said: This museum has improved since the last assessment. Artefacts in many areas now have room around them and everything looks more airy. The assessor who visited the museum as a mystery shopper also praised the staff who worked there saying "The staff enthusiasm and pride in their work conveys itself well to the visitor."

If you are in Skipton do drop in, the displays change quite frequently and of course it is free. The museum also sends out exhibits around the district, the last time I was in the health centre, I noticed a display in the waiting room.

Council Office Changes

Craven District Council and North Yorkshire County Council have announced today that they will be sharing new office accommodation at Belle Vue Mills, Skipton.

The decision to move to the new site was taken by Craven councillors at a full Council meeting on 9th December. This follows a similar decision by County at an earlier meeting on the 2nd December.

The move will create one point of contact for Craven residents for all their district and county services. There would be a shared reception, incorporating Contact Craven and staffed by Craven District Council and there is the potential to combine the Council Chamber and Registry suite.

It is reasonable to ask why a move to new accommodation is being planned in a time of financial difficulties.

The answer is in three parts, firstly the Granville Street offices have reached a point where to continue to use them will be extremely expensive. The design of the building was poor in the first place and there are signs of weakness in the steel frame. To remedy this, the building would have to be evacuated for at least six months, the external brick cladding removed before work could start on the frame, the exact condition of which could be anything from catastrophic to easily repairable. In addition, internally, the wiring, both mains and data will have to be replaced, and to round things off, the lift and central heating are well past their shelf life.

Secondly Granville Street has for a long time, simply not been big enough. There are staff distributed all over the place, Skipton Town Hall, old Portakabins to the rear of Granville Street, Engine Shed Lane, even some in Gargrave. With the exception of the Gargrave outpost the accommodation is very poor indeed. Even using modern computer techniques this dispersion of staff leads to inefficiency.

Thirdly, while money is tight, paradoxically, it is often a good time to seek out bargains. The opportunity to share offices with NYCC in a central location is very attractive indeed, making a one stop shop for residents more realistic and hopefully leading to greater efficiency.

Finally for those of you with good memories the site originally preferred on Gargrave road turned out to be far too expensive.

OBERAMMERGAU PASSION PLAY 2010

A 12 day coach holiday to
Austria & Bavaria
Leaving June 5th 2010
Grade 1A Play Tickets / 4* Hotel
N.S.F. overnight from Hull.
Half Board / No overnight coach travel.
(2 places available for the July trip).
For more details contact
Susan Adams 015242 61182.

LOW BENTHAM BADMINTON CLUB



By Julie Bridgeman

We are very pleased that Low Bentham Badminton Club is still going strong despite Sedbergh Junior School's closure. We have enjoyed a number of years at SJS and many thanks to them for their support.

As from 13th January 2009 we will be playing at the sports hall at QES in Kirkby Lonsdale. We will play on Tuesdays 6.30 – 8.30 until 28th April. If anyone would like to join subs will be £25.

This season we have had a team in the adult league for the first time for many years. This team is made up of youngsters (ages ranging from 13 to 17) who won division 2 of the junior league last year. They have done really well winning some and losing some. They have shown great team spirit sometimes in the face of adversity as some older players don't quite appreciate our sense of humour.

The team includes Pete Longton (Head of Fixtures), James Longton (Head of Selection), Eleanor Dawson (Head of Transport), Sarah Richardson, Laura Dawson, Ellie Parker and Arthur Bridgeman Quin. Sam Batty has been an integral part of the team until recently. They have occasionally wheeled me out of retirement when players have been unavailable.

The A and B teams have also been in action in the Junior League also winning some and losing some. For many this has been the first season of team action. The A team has been represented by Declan Murray, Joshua Whittaker, Joshua Mitton, James Longton, Becky Lloyd, Amber Harrison and Jayne Wilkinson. Sarah Richardson and Ellie Parker also featured in the A team's line up. The B team consisted of Dodge Kirkpatrick, Dan Whieldon, Ben McKenzie, Joe Lister, Emily Brownsword, Lois Parker, Podraig Harrington and Matthew Dawson.

Of course the club wouldn't function without the time that Gareth Pritchard and

Kath Dawson put in, so many thanks to them. Thanks also to Chris Brownsword, Andy Quin and Glen Parker for their support and help.

Pete Longton and Amber Harrison now also feature as drivers so thanks to them and in anticipation of Jayne also driving. I will soon be redundant!

As you can see Low Bentham Badminton Club is a real community success and here's to many more years.

CRAVEN VOICE ROADSHOW

By Ann Ambrose

Bentham Development Trust is holding an event at The Community Centre, High Bentham on Tuesday 20th January between 4pm and 8pm for members of local organisations to meet up with each other and share information.

This will also be a chance for people to learn more about the work of Bentham Development Trust and there will be an opportunity to obtain information and guidance about the new Grassroots grants scheme (grants up to £5,000) which is being administered by the Yorkshire Dales Millennium Trust and our own local Bentham Can-Do Investment Fund (grants up to £200).

If you have not received an invitation to this event and would like to attend then do please contact Ann Ambrose on 015242 63162 or e-mail annambrose1@aol.com

Wenningdale Home Repairs

We offer a good range of home improvement and maintenance jobs such as:

- *Sanding of floors*
- *Sash windows repaired*
- *Interior decorating*
- *Exterior painting*
- *And much more*

*Local, professional & very competitive
Mobile 07854 - 596391*

NEW PROFESSIONAL AT BENTHAM GOLF CLUB

By Mike Yeates

Bentham Golf Club has appointed Chris Cousins as their new professional following the departure of Alan Watson.

Chris who was originally from Bolton joins from Astley Golf Centre in Manchester where he was responsible for conducting Golf Lessons. This is Chris's first Professional post but he is no stranger to the role having also worked with his father Ceri who is the professional at Silverdale and his elder brother who is the professional at Richmond.

Chris who, with his partner Gemma is moving to Low Bentham, is looking forward to helping golfers of all standards to improve their game. He also has a well stocked shop so pop in and have a browse.

At the AGM in December new Officers of the Club were appointed for the year 2009 as follows:

President - David Crutchley. Captain - Gareth Pritchard. Vice Captain - Carl Wood. Lady Captain - Anita Brown. Lady Vice Captain - Sally Carter.

Membership

Anyone interested in joining during January will receive 15 months' golf for £450. If you are interested call 62470 for application form.



Chris Cousins, the new professional golfer at Bentham Golf Club.

PICA DESIGN & PRINT

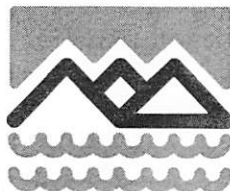
PRINTERS OF

BENTHAM NEWS

**For a local origination and
printing service CALL**

015242 61402

Email: paul@pica-designandprint.co.uk



**pennine
outdoor**

Tel: 63377 or 62001

Sealskinz waterproof hats, socks and gloves.

Bufs and Brasher socks -

**THE IDEAL CHRISTMAS PRESENTS
FOR OUTDOOR PEOPLE**

Large selection of fleece and waterproof fabrics,
zips, webbing and buckles. Christmas Fabrics

Nikwax and Grangers proofing products

OPEN 9-4pm Mon to Fri. (Half day Thurs.)

Entrance via Millers Court.



"Bentham Football club wish to thank Mr. Tony Harrison for his generosity in supplying Bentham Reserves FC with new football kit."

THE MAGICAL FROG PRINCESS IS COMING TO A TOWN HALL NEAR YOU!

By Margaret Cowling

The New Year sees the Theatre Group in full flow with *The Frog Princess*. We're busy rehearsing rigorously, sorting out stunning scenery, creating cunning costumes, producing powerful props, and facilitating a fantastic film for our brand new pantomime which will take the stage from Wednesday 18th February to Saturday 21st February.

We are delighted to welcome several new people to our production, including Adam from Wigglesworth, who will be playing Ivan, the Tsar's youngest son. We are also very grateful to Christine at Temptations who has very kindly offered to sell our tickets this year. Tickets will be available from Temptations in late January, so watch out for the posters in her window.

We will be holding the first of our six prop and costume making workshops on Saturday, 10th January, from 11.00am till 1.00pm, at the Looking Well. The Saturday workshops are free, and everyone is invited to come along and join in the fun.

The pantomime is one of the most wonderful and magical community events that take place in Bentham, but it only happens each year because so many people give it their energy and help and support. If you would like to be involved in any way please phone me on 63175, or Jane on 61362.

BENTHAM NEWS is published at "Latharna", High Bentham, by an editorial committee consisting of Trevor Blackwell, Shirley Brown, Linda Cressey, Christine Hodson, Peter Phillips, Ken Robertson, Pam Woof, and co-ordinator, Bill Kennedy, who can be contacted on telephone 015242 62492, or Shirley Brown on 015242 61608. Every effort is made to ensure that information contained in the paper is correct. However Bentham News is an open access paper and views and opinions expressed are not necessarily those of the editorial committee. The committee reserves the right to edit contributions. We are willing to withhold names on request, **but names, addresses and telephone numbers must accompany all items for publication**, which should be handed in to the Gallery, Station Road, by the copy deadline, the 15th of the month prior to publication. The BN email address is: benthamnews@lycos.com