

BENTHAM NEWS

ANGUS FIRE – PROTECTING LIFE AND PROPERTY ACROSS THE GLOBE

By Brian Keeble

Angus Fire has been at the heart of High Bentham for more than 100 years, providing employment opportunities and an on-going contribution to the local economy. The company has evolved over the years, from its origins as George Angus and Co, originally based in Newcastle upon Tyne, manufacturers of leather belting and riveted fire hose. The company has attracted several changes of ownership over the years and is now part of US-based United Technologies; more specifically the UTC Fire & Security division. Other well-known UTC companies include Otis Elevators, Pratt & Whitney Aircraft engines and Sikorsky Helicopters.

Angus Fire's product range is extensive and includes the world-renowned Duraline Fire Hose, and numerous types of fire-fighting foams which have outstanding performance in fighting fires involving flammable liquids and chemicals. A comprehensive range of portable, mobile and fixed foam production and deployment equipment is designed to deliver the foam onto a fire in any situation, from a self-contained mobile unit designed to deal with small spill fires, to a completely "plumbed in" system for a massive oil storage tank. With over 70% of the Bentham plant's output being destined for the export market, the company's customers are located throughout the world, from Europe, to the Middle East, Far East and South America and an extensive network of distributors provides local representation of Angus Fire products. Key market areas are industrial and municipal fire brigades, airports, oil and gas installations and military bases. Angus Fire frequently hosts customers from the UK and worldwide, who are able to view the production facilities and witness fire tests, as well as receiving the latest product presentations from the company's sales teams.

The Angus Fire Engineering division provides tailored solutions for protecting critical installations such as on and off-shore petrochemical plant. In these systems a packaged self-contained "skid" is designed, manufactured commissioned on site by a specialist team of engineers. The Angus Flexible Pipelines division manufactures a large range of synthetic thermoplastic hose for water transfer, borehole water extraction, irrigation, chemicals and fuels.

Angus Fire's head office is located in Thame, Oxfordshire, shared with sister company Kidde Fire Protection, manufacturers of fire detection and gaseous fire suppression equipment. Kidde suppression equipment is also assembled and filled at Bentham. Angus Fire provides products which are essential for the safety of professional fire-fighters globally in

(continued on page 2)



Paul Williams, Managing Director

ANGUS FIRE

(continued from front page)

the protection of vital national assets against the ravages of fire, and one of the company's services provides emergency stocks of fire fighting foam to deal with major incidents anywhere in the world. A 24-hour, 7 days a week hotline allows customers to request foam at any time, and a dedicated team at Bentham, supported by the shipping department at Thame, either supplies the foam from stock or steps up production to meet the demand. In recent years, the team has supplied foam for major incidents in Japan, Spain, Turkey, and for the fire in 2005 at the Buncefield storage terminal in Hertfordshire.

This was the largest fire in Europe since the Second World War and Angus Fire supplied more than 500,000 litres of foam concentrate, following an urgent request from the fire services on site, as their own stocks were rapidly being depleted. The first supplies of foam were leaving Bentham just a few hours after the outbreak of fire. The foam was supplied in bulk containers and via road tankers, with a police escort during its journey along the M6 and M1.

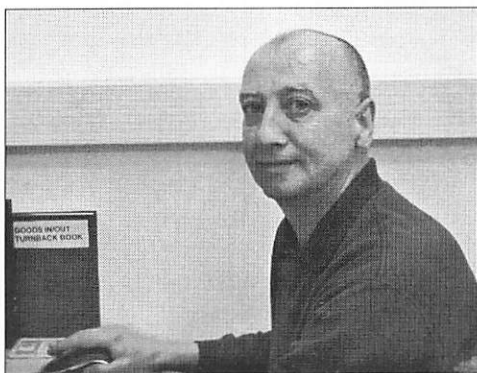
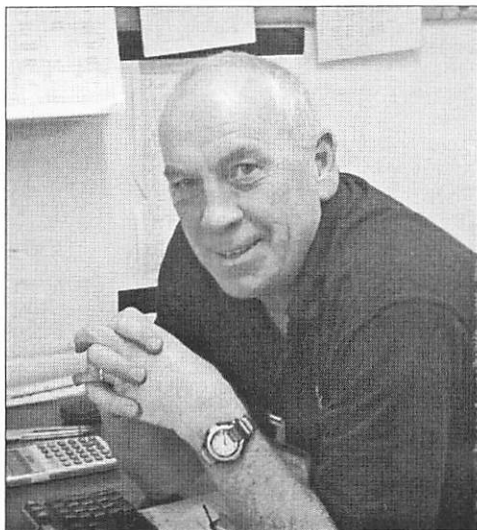
For overseas emergencies, specially chartered large cargo aircraft have been used on several occasions, departing from Manchester Airport.

Angus to invest £5 million in the Bentham Site in the next 3 years

The company is justifiably proud of its long heritage and connections with the Bentham area. The influence of the plant stretches across the globe, as well as throughout the UK, providing essential protection for life and property. The new signs outside the main gate provide welcome evidence of a planned investment of £5million for the Bentham plant over the next 3 years, and demonstrate our confidence in the site as a centre of excellence for fire fighting products.

Pictured right are three of the local Angus employees, top - Geoff Blackwell, middle - Celia Wilcock and bottom - Tommy Chappell.

(This is the first of three articles from Angus Fire)



OCTOBER'S TOWN COUNCIL

By David Johnson

Only six Cllrs attended. Cllrs Adams, Barnes, Faichney, Hurtle and Webster were missing together with District Cllrs Barrington and Brockbank and County Cllr Ireton.

A member of the public raised the subject of the tree planted outside the Community Centre in memory of Pauline Hill. Cllr Marshall explained that the structural engineers had recommended that it be felled because of the damage it could cause to the foundations of the building and to surrounding properties. The Council is looking to find an alternative site for a suitable tree. They explained that they had written to the donor in advance of the felling operation but as yet there had been no response.

Police

The police listed the five crimes that had been committed during September and went on to stress the low crime rate in our area. They explained that legislation limits their power to investigate crimes in the way they would wish but went on to stress the importance of gathering information from the public. They explained at length the need for complainants to identify themselves and that the identity of people passing on information would be protected. They said there is a 'firewall' protecting people and that the identity of those wishing to inform is always rigorously protected.

Planning

The plans were available for the proposed alterations to the old Sedbergh Junior School site but the Cllrs decided as most of the alterations were internal that they did not need to consider the application further.

Highways

Cllr Brayshaw said some of the paths around the Grasmere Drive bungalows were in a poor state of repair. The clerk informed the council that Craven Housing will repair the paths adjacent to the properties it owns but will not repair paths belonging to privately owned properties.

King Street

A member of the public wrote protesting at the way the water company had dealt with

the residents during the recent building work. The correspondent claimed that they had not been forewarned and that they had been 'marooned' far longer than the two days initially estimated.

The white line issue on the B6480 between Low Bentham and the county boundary raised a lot of steam. In a high-handed letter Highways claimed that the road is less than 5.5m wide and therefore a central white line would contravene highway regulations. Cllr Wills said he had been to measure the width and he found many sections wider than the 5.5m average. The Cllrs decided to press for a site meeting armed with tape measures! The Cllrs commented on the disintegration of some of the patched areas. They thought it was probably down to faulty workmanship or poor materials.

Community Governance Review

The Cllrs favoured the recommendation of the consultation process for a rebalancing of the Cllr numbers for the two Bentham wards. The aim is to try to even out the representation. If approved Low Bentham will have three representatives rather than the current four. They also approved some slight amendments to the boundaries.

Proposal to Close the Middle School

After a prolonged discussion it was decided to seek assurances that the proposed new school would have sufficient capacity to accommodate year six and that those children would not lose out compared with the opportunities some Cllrs said were offered by the Middle School. They also considered the proposal was divisive for the school system and more concerned with finance than education.

The Town Hall

The Council is to look at the possibility of obtaining a full alcohol license to enable local landlords to sell alcohol at all Town Hall events when needed. At the moment the limit is 12 occasions per year but as the venue becomes more popular a more permanent and flexible solution is to be sought.

Dog Waste Bins

The Cllrs are to try to ensure that there is a dog waste bin in the proximity of the cemetery entrance and another on Streakber Lane.

GARDENING PAGE



By Joyce Knapp

November may at first seem a rather quiet month in the garden, but there are always jobs that can be done if the weather is not too severe. The first of these is to check that all vegetables that need to be kept in frost free conditions have been taken indoors. I have found, to my cost, that leaving the likes of beetroot and onions in the ground for too long can cost us dearly as these vegetables tend to become inedible if touched by frost. It used to be the custom to store root vegetables such as carrots and beetroot in boxes or buckets, covered with peat, but now we are encouraged not to use peat, so we can substitute this with sand, or even spent compost.

Although most crops need to be lifted before winter sets in, there are some that can be left in the ground whatever the weather, and these include parsnips, brussel sprouts and leeks. The parsnip is said to improve in flavour after having survived a spell of frost and most varieties of sprouts will survive quite harsh conditions as they continue to swell in size ready for our Christmas dinner.

Having worked out which vegetables to bring in and which to leave in the ground, we can turn our attention to preparing the way for next year's crops. If we have space, it is advisable to rotate crops around the growing area, whether this be a small back garden or a larger area such as an allotment. With this in mind, we can start to prepare the ground that has been vacated by this year's crops. If we have made our own garden compost, this can be spread liberally over the surface of the soil and, during the coming months, the earth worms will begin to incorporate it into the soil below. It is worth noting that, as a general rule, root crops thrive better when grown in ground that has had leaf mould applied instead of compost as the compost can be a bit too rich a mixture.

Leading on from this, November is the month when leaves will be falling with great abandon and can be gathered up, put in black plastic bags or a purpose built leaf bin and left to rot down for one or two years before being used as a mulch for root crops, conifers and heathers.

NATURE NOTES

By David Fisher

Given the surrounding countryside, I have been surveying for years the local places for catching moths. When dark approaches I venture out into my back garden and sometimes to my delight a moth comes to the light. Using a battery torch I look out for and follow moths around at night. Swallow tail moths are yellow and quite big and can be seen flying as they come in over our hedges from the fields to our flowers. They tend to fly low and don't come in large numbers.

Elephant Hawk moths seem fairly common but Humming Bird Hawks are seldom seen. They are very different and make a sound when feeding (on nectar) and hover fast over our flowers. The most common moth I know around Bentham is the Yellow Underwing, inundating the trap on most nights. Moths can be trapped using wine ropes which moths get drunk on and are very easy to handle.

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CRAVEN CONCERNS

By Cllr Linda Brockbank , Tel: 015242 61598

E mail: lidabrockbank@tiscali.co.uk

Bentham Retail Seminar Success

On the 11th October over twenty retailers from Bentham and the surrounding areas took part in a seminar focusing on how they can market their business more effectively.

The seminar, organised by Craven District Council and run by retail consultants Thirdwave, included tips on how to present your retail business; presenting stock and how to maximise spend from customers. During the evening attendees shared ideas and discussed what had worked for their business. Further seminars will be held across the District in the New Year.

The event was the last in a series of workshops held around Craven, designed to provide practical advice and support to help local retail businesses grow and boost their sales.

The project culminated in an evening seminar, held in Skipton, featuring presentations on 'The Future Face of Retailing', a presentation from the 'Mary Portas Guide to Successful Retailing' and 'How I Reinvigorated My Business', presented by two local retail businesses.

Buses from Lancaster

A request was made to NYCC for them to approach Stagecoach to ask if the mid afternoon bus from Lancaster, which terminates at Wennington, could continue on to Bentham. Unfortunately their reply was

not what we wanted to hear. Apparently the bus has to be somewhere else after Wennington and there is not enough time in the timetable for it to go via Bentham. We are continuing to liaise with NYCC about the lack of buses and their times.

Wenning Avenue - Stop Press - Latest News

Following on from Lin Barrington's very successful meeting with United Utilities, Lin has just received this update. 'A drainage survey has been carried out by United Utilities'.

Getting In Touch with Craven District Council

Customer Services sessions: Every Monday 10am-12:30pm at Bentham Town Hall.
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email contactus@cravencdc.gov.uk
Telephone - see the telephone directory for various departments.

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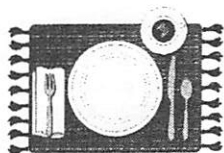
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COOKERY PAGE

By Patsy Henderson



Boston-style baked beans with Polenta cake

Recipe

350g dried mixed beans, eg chickpeas, cannelloni, haricot etc
1 large onion, peeled and finely chopped
125g black treacle
2 tbsp Dijon mustard
2 tbsp soft brown sugar
125g plain flour

For the Polenta cake

150g fine cornmeal
2 tbsp caster sugar
2 tbsp baking powder
salt to taste
2 tbsp fresh chopped thyme
2 medium eggs
200 ml milk
2 tbsp melted butter
seasoning and parsley for garnish

Method

Preheat the oven to 130C, gas 4. Place the pulses in a large saucepan, cover with twice their volume of water, bring to the boil, allow to simmer for 2 minutes then allow to stand for 1 hour. Return to the boil for about 2 minutes, drain and reserve. Mix the onion, treacle, mustard and sugar in the pan with the beans. Add 300 ml water, stir well and bring to the boil. Transfer the mixture to an oven proof dish and place in the oven for about 4 hours. Stir gently every hour, adding water if necessary. When cooked, remove from the oven and keep warm.

Polenta cake

Set oven to 200C, gas 6. In a bowl, mix together the plain flour, cornmeal, caster sugar, baking powder, salt and most of the thyme (reserve the remainder for garnish). In another bowl beat the eggs and then stir in the milk and butter. Pour the wet ingredients into the dry ingredients and stir together to just combine. Grease an 18cm square cake tin and pour in the mixture. Sprinkle the remaining thyme and bake in the oven for about 30 minutes until the cake

is golden. Cut into squares. Reheat the beans, season to taste and serve immediately, garnished with the parsley.

Beetroot Cake

Tried and tested on the craft club ladies

Recipe

150g raw beetroot, grated
200 ml groundnut oil or similar
250g golden caster sugar
3 medium eggs, separated
3 tbsp milk
100g hazelnuts, roasted and chopped
200g plain flour
2 tsp baking powder
½ tsp each of ground ginger, cinnamon and nutmeg

Topping

180g unsalted butter, softened
150 icing sugar, sifted
450g low-fat cream or curd cheese
1 tsp vanilla extract

Method

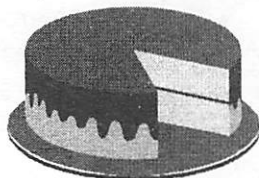
Preheat the oven to 170C, gas 5. Butter two 20cm cake tins with removable bases. Line the base with buttered baking paper. Put about 1tsp of grated beetroot into a small bowl, cover with boiling water and set aside for the frosting colour.

In a large bowl whisk the egg whites until stiff, then fold into the cake mixture. Divide this between the tins, smoothing the surface and cook for about 30-35 minutes until a skewer comes out clean. Run a knife round the edges of the cakes and leave to cool.

For the frosting

Cream the butter and icing sugar in a food processor. Transfer to a bowl and blend in the cream cheese until smooth, then the vanilla extract and enough of the beetroot liquid to tint it a pale pink.

Turn the cakes out onto a board and remove the baking paper. Spread about half of the frosting over one of the cakes, sandwich with the other cake and coat the top with the frosting.



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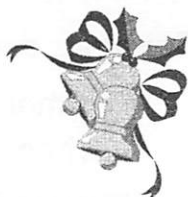
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VICTORIA INSTITUTE LOW BENTHAM



By Joanne

Ho! Ho! Ho!

Once again Christmas is just around the corner and the Victoria Institute would like to invite you to come and be part of our Christmas Fayre.

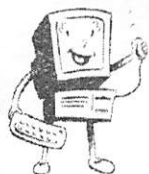
The Christmas Fayre is to be held at the Victoria Institute on Sunday 21st November 11am - 3pm. Tables can be hired for £6 (Please contact Joanne at 63162 or Sharon 62018).

Payment for stalls to be given before the 10th of November.

So please come and buy your Christmas cards, gifts and goodies, meet your friends and enjoy some delicious refreshments. The more the merrier!

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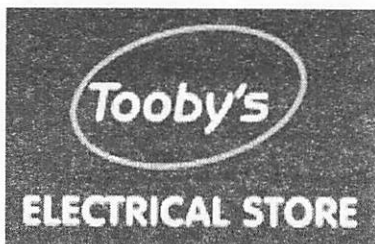
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ON THE SUNDAY TIMES SHORTLIST

By Bill Kennedy

Local photographer Jon Brook has been shortlisted for the Sunday Times Landscape Photographer of the year with his award winning photograph of heather burning on Burn Moor featured on the front cover of the April BN. The photograph has been recognised in the "Working in the Landscape" category.

Jon has been busy during the year taking more photographs of the stunning scenery that surrounds Bentham and these will shortly be making an appearance in the Bentham Imaging Studio and Gallery on the Main Street and the 2011 Bentham Calendar.

As well as his landscape work Jon's wedding photography has been featured in the Society of Wedding and Portrait Photographers magazine, and he is now working with a personal stylist to expand his portfolio to lifestyle photography. Something that normally you would need to travel to Manchester or even London for.

FOOTPATH FAULTS

For anyone wishing to report problems regarding footpaths in the area contact details are as follows: David Gibson, tel. 015242 61942, email: cdgibson@talktalk.net. It would be appreciated if as complete details as possible could be supplied regarding location and the nature of the problem. A map reference and footpath number would also be helpful. Joint Access and Rights of Way Committee.

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BENTHAM NEEDS YOU AND YOUR VOTE FOR FASTER BROADBAND!

By Andy Ward

Broadband has become an important part of most people's lives. Whether it is about helping our local businesses reach a wider audience, helping us work more effectively from home, getting the 'silver surfers' amongst us to connect with our grandchildren or about getting our children access to educational material or allowing them to connect with their friends. We all can benefit from easy and fast access to the internet. But whilst broadband is available in our area, it will become more and more important that rural areas are not left behind as broadband speeds increase in the future.

BT has started to rollout a new type of broadband service to the UK which will increase speeds considerably, by up to 20 times compared to those typically available in our area (to around 40Mbps for those technically minded). Most urban areas are already in line for this upgrade but BT are offering an opportunity for rural broadband exchanges - like ours in Bentham - to also have access to these higher speeds.

To identify suitable exchanges they are running a competition from now until the end of the year (31st December). All you have to do is vote, for free, on BT's website (<http://www.bt.com/racetoinfinity>) for our Bentham exchange. Those exchanges with the highest proportion of votes compared to the total number of connections will win the opportunity to be upgraded.

We have a relatively small exchange, 1,984 connections, so if everybody reading this gets on the website and votes and asks just one or two friends to do the same I think we will stand a pretty good chance. As an added incentive to communities, BT are also offering £5,000 of computer equipment for a local community project. So what are you waiting for! To vote just go to <http://www.bt.com/racetoinfinity> type in your postcode, and click "Vote now" and you could help Bentham get faster broadband.

BENTHAM FILM GROUP

By Stella Hall

On Saturday 13th November Bentham Film Group will be showing 'Sherlock Holmes' (Cert 12A). This action mystery film, released in 2009, was nominated for two Academy awards and stars Robert Downey Jr., Jude Law, Rachel McAdams and Mark Strong.

Holmes investigates a series of murders, apparently connected to occult rituals. Lord Blackwood is the mysterious villain who has apparently risen from the dead after execution. The dauntless detective must unravel the clues that will lead him into a twisted web of murder, deceit and black magic.....

The film will commence at 7.30pm in the Victoria Institute, Low Bentham. In the interval refreshments will be for sale and a raffle will be drawn. Tickets cost £5 on the door. We look forward to seeing you there! If you would like further details, please see our website at www.benthamfilms.co.uk

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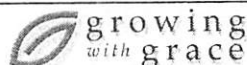
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NEW LOCAL FOOD INITIATIVE

By Tony Bennett

On the evening of Thursday 7th October people from Clapham, Bentham and Settle met in Clapham Village Hall to talk about setting up a Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) centre at Growing with Grace. CSA is a concept supported by the Soil Association and takes many forms across the globe. Its aim is to involve local communities directly in supporting local food growers, and to exchange sharing the production expense for a share in the harvest.

Growing with Grace, based in Clapham, grows vegetables, salad and fruit under glass. It is a Social Enterprise and cooperative. The economic climate is putting this business under threat. Growing with Grace wants to remain a community business and resource. They are, therefore, initiating direct involvement by the local community. The CSA concept is a model to enable this to happen. Growing with Grace is working towards becoming an Industrial and Provident Society which would lead to community ownership and provide an excellent legal structure for the community to have a real stake in the business.

The meeting was attended by about 20 people from all three communities. A core group was established and they had their first meeting on Monday 11th October to oversee and facilitate the development of this idea. If you would like more information about the CSA concept, please contact Eleanor Fairbrother at Growing with Grace

on 015242 51723 or email
info@growingwithgrace.co.uk.

POST OFFICE / ROYAL MAIL

By David Alder

Christmas - The last surface posting days for all overseas destinations except Europe has now passed. Surface items to Europe will need to be posted during the first half of November. Details about airmail posting dates will follow but items outside Europe will need to be posted in the first few days of December. Full details about Christmas arrangements next month.

Future of PO/Royal Mail - Readers will be aware that the government has published a bill to enable the privatisation of Royal Mail and to separate the Post Office from Royal Mail. The bill has been accompanied by a number of warm words about the future security of the post office network but any further speculation at this juncture on the detailed implications of this controversial measure would probably not be wise.

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BENTHAM AND DISTRICT PET RESCUE



From Peter A. Marshall

We have had - and indeed are still having - the highest number of kittens in our sanctuaries that we have ever experienced.



If you can give one, or more, a good home please let us know and if you have female cats do please arrange for them to be neutered so that the number of new kittens can be kept under control.

On a more cheerful note, we had an enjoyable Coffee Morning in Bentham Town Hall in September and wish to thank all those who came along and helped us to raise £262. Our very active team are now collecting items for their giant Christmas Raffle, so please watch out for this in December.

Meanwhile, the year has ended for our annual quiz which this time had the theme of MON or DAY in every answer. Over 700 quiz sheets were sold and well over 100 have been returned for marking, which is quite a job with 60 answers on each one! There were 12 all correct entries and, following a computerized draw, prizes have been sent to the following winners:

All correct entries:

- 1st £15 Wendy Higson, Kendal
- 2nd £10 Shirley Rothery, Ingleton
- 3rd £5 Mrs. B. Taylor, Crook
- 4th £5 Mary Hodgson, Ingleton.

Random draw:

- £5 Miss E. Halsall, Bentham
- £5 Jane Simpson, Dunoon, Argyll
- £5 Kath Hewitt, Giggleswick
- £5 Mrs. C. Thompson, Kilburn, N.Yorks.

Again many thanks to the shops and other friends who sold the quizzes and work is now starting on the clues for next year - how time flies!

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LITTERBUGS AND IRRESPONSIBLE DOG OWNERS FACE FINES

By Nick Oldham

Litterbugs and irresponsible dog owners face fines or court action under a new scheme being introduced in the Yorkshire Dales National Park. Craven District Council and the Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority (YDNPA) have launched a pilot scheme to tackle some of the anti-social behaviour that impacts on both locals and visitors to the area.

Under the scheme – believed to be the first of its kind in England – YDNPA Rangers Phil Richards and Richard Mainman will be trained to assist the Council's Environmental Protection Team in tackling some of the issues relating to those people who leave litter behind and to dog owners who fail to clean up after their pets.

Currently the Council has powers to issue fixed penalty notices of £75 to people who leave litter behind and £50 notices to dog owners who fail to clear up. And offenders face fines of up to £2,500 and £1,000 respectively if they decide to ignore the notices and are taken to court. All the money is reinvested in the fixed penalty scheme.

Phil said: "On occasions, we do experience problems with persistent dog fouling and with litter louts who leave their disposable barbecues and rubbish behind. We are hoping that having the power to issue fixed penalty notices ourselves will provide us with an additional and last-resort option for those thoughtless few who have such an impact on the National Park and spoil the enjoyment of others who love its special qualities. We think this is the first time a national park in England and a district council have joined forces to tackle these issues. We receive a number of complaints and generally we have just had to pass these on to the district councils. This gives us another option rather than just appealing to an individual's conscience. Initially we will be doing one or two patrols with the environmental protection team then we will be out on our own".

Andrew Colley, the YDNPA's Member Champion for Conservation of the Natural Environment, said: "I hope this new initiative will help to solve the problem we have with thoughtless dog owners – some of whom don't clean up after their dogs while others leave plastic bags containing dog mess on footpaths and in dry stone walls."

Councillor Paul Whitaker, Lead Member for the Environment at the District Council, said: "This is a great example of the District Council and the YDNPA working together to improve our local environment for Craven residents and visitors. Most people are very responsible and take great care with their litter and their dogs. It's only the minority who cause a problem but even so, littering and dog fouling can blight an area".

Any member of the public wishing to complain about dog fouling or littering should contact Craven District Council's Environmental Protection team on 01756 706355. Where a Fixed Penalty Notice is issued, the Council will follow up with letters and legal action as appropriate.

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BENTHAM FOOTPATH GROUP



By Maureen Ellis

The Bentham Footpath Group not only organizes an excellent selection of walks but it is a group where sound advice can be sought. Having leaky waterproofs and not wanting the outlay of replacement of gaiters and overtrousers, I asked several people about reproofing and got the same answer from all of them. 'Buy a pack of two Nikwax products and follow the instructions carefully'. I am trusting that this will have done the trick for a back packing walk along the beginning of the Camino de Santiago in northern Spain - I am however taking a light weight plastic cape just in case!

All walks in November meet at 9.30am at Lairgill unless otherwise stated and the first is on Thursday 4th - the Holme/Kendal 12 miler. Walking starts at the end of Holme (grid reference 527784) then it will be along the tow path to the centre of Kendal, which is a great route for those that don't like going uphill. The return is by bus from Kendal.

I have no details beyond what is on the programme for Saturday 13th; the Nicky Nook walk of 10 miles. Nor do I have details of the Low Bentham walk of 6 miles on Wednesday 17th except it is from Low Bentham Car Park.

On Wednesday 24th there is the Kirkby Lonsdale walk of 6 miles from the bridge at Kirkby Lonsdale via Sellet Hall to Whittington and then down to the river and back up to the bridge.

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Dear Bentham News

How Important is St Margarets Church to you?

St Margaret's, "the Church on the Hill" has recently had an inspection carried out and it has been found that there are a lot of serious problems that must be addressed. The immediate concern is to the tower and other areas at an estimated cost of about £25,000 now. Over the next five years it is estimated that £130,000 will need to be spent on repairs over and above the normal expenditure. In reality this will probably end up being far more.

In plain terms the Church does not have any money to do this. Whilst we can apply for some grants the stark reality is that without community, i.e. YOUR help, the church will have to consider closing.

Recently in the newspaper it was stated that 71% of all the population are Christians, even though they may not be regular church goers so on that basis it would seem that there are a lot of people in our Community who would want the Church to survive.

Can you help, can you rally your neighbours to help, can you ask your friends to help? The church members are working hard to raise funds but it is not possible for them to do it all. If you could make a donation, however small, or arrange a fundraising event or have any ideas to help I would be happy to discuss them with you. There are church services every Sunday at 8 a.m. or 10.00 am and either myself, Mabel or Stephen would be most happy to welcome you or alternatively you can phone me at home on 62119 or email me at Revdcliveburgess@btinternet.com and I will be happy to come and talk to you or a group. Thank you for listening and I pray that as a community as a whole we can keep "the Church on the hill" to be a witness to God.

Yours in Christ, Clive Burgess, Vicar.

Dear Bentham News,

In reply to the letter in the October issue of Bentham News regarding the dog poo bin at the entrance to the golf course, this was removed when the golf club signage went up and was then put up in the wrong place. After several near misses with reversing lorries it was taken down by the council for safety reasons before someone got hurt.

I was told that it will be put up again when they have decided on a new site.

I have had dogs myself for many years and always cleared up after them. I too, had no poo bin, so took it home and placed it in my own dust bin. I am sure you could do this until a new site is found.

Yours sincerely,

Name and address withheld.

Dear Bentham News,

With the recent proposed changes to education provision in North Craven it is vital that everybody responds to NYCC's proposals to close the Middle Schools. There is a very active campaign to prevent this from happening. Whilst there is no confirmation the general feeling is that this is just the start and the primary schools could be next. What we have to be aware of is that closing the Middle schools will mean a greater divestment of money in education in this area - If the primary schools close that will mean even less money in the area. Additionally any child going through the education system during these changes will have their education severely disrupted if not destroyed. NYCC have 5 options and they are in consultation but only over **one** option. We need to stop this action. Reply by the 5th of November and have your say. Visit www.imssmsos.net for more information.

Regards,

Iain Henshaw.

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SLIPPED DISC TO CLOSE

By Shirley Brown

It all started with a holiday in Ingleton in 1990. The Robshaw family were on holiday here and fell in love with the area. After that Alan and Aaron got jobs as joiners with Brown and Whittaker and although they had to commute at first, the family soon found somewhere to live in Bentham. It had always been Alan's dream to have his own shop, and seeing an opening in the market for video rentals, he and Ann opened 'Slipped Disc' in April 2000. Sadly Alan died in February 2001 and since then Ann and Aaron have carried on the business which is to close soon.

This has been a very happy and successful enterprise. During the 10 years of running a small family business as an independent trader, the Robshaws have made many friends, been semi-adopted by some customers, have provided a space for youngsters to hang out and at times have felt more like a youth club and citizens' advice bureau than a shop. It's been "a good innings" says Ann but the rental trade has been very difficult for the last few years because of changes in the market, and the recession has made it impossible to remain commercially viable.

So, 28th November is the last day for rentals and Friday 10th December, the day of Bentham's Christmas Fair, will be the last day for trading. Between these two dates there will be a grand clearance with all the stock, fixtures and fittings being up for sale. This includes DVDs, computer games and fishing equipment such as hooks, lures and various kits (ideal Christmas presents!). The lease finally runs out on 31st December. The end of the year, the end of an era.

Ann is looking forward to her retirement and Aaron will be developing what started out as a hobby and is fast becoming a career – making costumes, armour, chain mail and arrows for Medieval Re-enactments. Trading as 'History Merchants' on e-bay, he also supplies Medieval Markets, like those in Carlisle and Tewkesbury. He remembers also making a cloak for a member of the clergy at

Lincoln Cathedral – "it was so big and needed so much material that we had to cut it out over at Looking Well".

Thankfully the Robshaws are staying in Bentham. Ann describes Bentham as home, "it's an amazing place. I've enjoyed my 20 years here, 10 of them in business, and have made many good friends. I'd particularly like to thank all our customers for their loyalty and support". I remember interviewing the Robshaws when they first opened – I wished them well then and I wish them well again now.

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By Marie Colyer

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SETTLE COLLEGE SIXTH FORM AND THE NORTH CRAVEN REVIEW

By Kay Mullet

Many in the community have asked questions about the Sixth Form at Settle College as a result of the issues raised at North Craven Review public meetings. Parents should be reassured that the future of Sixth Form provision is not in question. The Local Authority proposal makes an absolute commitment to maintaining a Sixth Form at Settle College. The only change from current provision is that the College will work in collaboration with other institutions to make sure that subjects which traditionally recruit a very small number of students can continue to be provided. Collaboration will not only ensure that these subjects will continue to be offered, it will also allow us to widen our offer of traditional A' levels and vocational courses so that students will be able to stay within North Craven for post-16 study but will have a significantly greater choice of courses to choose from.

The Sixth Form at Settle College is strong and vibrant. We currently offer 26 academic and vocational courses including AS and A2, BTEC, the AQA Baccalaureate and a wide range of enrichment activities. Students receive excellent preparation for College and university entrance. They enjoy a brand new Sixth Form Centre with its own bistro facility. Technology College status has provided excellent ICT facilities including state of the art media equipment, professional standard dance and drama studios and a new 'laptops for students' scheme.



The photograph shows (left to right) Hannah Crosdale, Eleanor Dawson and Amy Fretwell.

Each year, the Sixth Form recruits students from both within and from schools across the area. We will hold our annual Sixth Form Open Evening on Wednesday 10th November. Any student or parent who wishes to visit the College to find out more about the Sixth Form should contact Mr M Beer, Director of Sixth Form on 01729 822451 at any time.

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BENTHAM NEWS is published at "Latharna", High Bentham, by an editorial committee consisting of Trevor Blackwell, Shirley Brown, Christine Hodson, Charlotte Munday, Peter Phillips, Ken Robertson, Richard Wallace, Pam Woof- our chairman, and Bill Kennedy, co-ordinator, who can be contacted on telephone 015242 62492. 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 12th of November for the December edition. The Bentham News email address is: benthamnews@lycos.com.

LOCAL EVENTS IN NOVEMBER

Mon 1st Walks for women leave Lairgill 9.30am and every Monday.

Methodist Church Hall, 10-11.30am, Toddle-in for parents - carers and babies - toddlers, and every Monday. 3.45-4.45pm Adventurers group for 4-6 year olds. 6.15-7.30pm Springboard for 10 year olds, both every Monday in term time.

Looking Well - "A String of Pearls" exhibition, 10am-3pm Mon to Fri until 10th December. See page 27.

Town Council meeting 7.30pm at the Town Hall.

Town Hall - Craven Customer Services 10am-12.30pm. Indoor Bowls 1.00-4.00pm and both every Monday.

Victoria Institute - Drop-in 10am-12noon, Community Link Café 11.30am-2.30pm. Both also on 3rd, 8th, 10th, 15th, 17th, 22nd, 24th and 29th. Slimming Group 5.30-6.30pm and Tai Chi 6.15-7.45pm and both also on 8th, 15th, 22nd and 29th.

Tue 2nd Bentham Child Health Clinic at the Surgery, 2-4pm. Also on 16th and 30th.

Looking Well. Men's walking group, leave LW at 9.30am, return at 11.30am and on 16th.

Looking Well - Creative kitchen garden, arts & crafts, cooking ideas, 10.30am-1pm. Creative writing group 11.30am-1pm. Singing in Harmony 7.30-9.30pm. All three also on 9th, 16th, 23rd and 30th.

Town Hall - Yoga 6-7pm. Aerobics 7.30-8.30pm and both every Tuesday.

Wed 3rd NSPCC monthly meeting at Lingfield, Robin Lane, 7.30pm.

Coffee morning at Methodist Church, 10-11.30am and every Wednesday. Donations to local charities.

Victoria Institute, 2-3pm, Line Dancing, also on 10th, 17th and 24th.

Wed 3rd Looking Well - Positive Futures Project, 11am-1.30pm. Café-IN 11am-1.30pm. Art for All, beginners welcome, 2-4pm. All three on every Wednesday.

Thu 4th Town Hall - Rosemary Conley Fitness Club 6-7.30pm, and every Thursday. High Bentham W.I. 7.30pm Travels with my video camera - Chris Abram.

Victoria Institute - Bat n' Chat 10am-12noon, Gardening 1-3pm, Art classes 10am-1pm. All three every Thursday.

Looking Well - 11am-1.30pm Bentham Cancer Support Group, Drop-in, art session, lunch and therapies. Leave at 8.45am for swimming at Hornby for over 50s, men and women, Tel Barbara 672873 or Carol 61233 to arrange transport. 1.30-4pm Men's Shed. All three every Thursday.

Bentham Footpath Group walk, Holme/Kendal (bus return) 12 miles, leaders Ed & Sue Badley 62502. Meet at Lairgill 9.30am.

Fri 5th Age Concern at the Masonic Hall, 10am-2.30pm. Video - Discovering England - part 2.

Methodist Church Hall, 7-8pm GFI for school years 6,7 & 8 and 8.15-9.15pm for school years 9+ and every Friday in term time.

Looking Well. Art Skills Development 10.30am-1pm and every Friday.

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

Sat 6th Farmers' Market at the Lower Town Hall, 9.30am-1.30pm.

High Bentham W.I. coffee morning at the Town Hall, 10am-12noon.

Burton-in-Lonsdale Annual Craft and Gift Fair, 10am-3pm at the Village Hall.

Tue 9th Bright Hour at the Methodist Church, 2.15pm. Speakers Thomas and Jean Fawcett.

Thu 11th Welcome-in dominoes, tea and cakes for all ages, Methodist Church Hall. For transport contact Nigel and Kath 62272. Also on 25th.

- Fri 12th** Copy deadline for December edition of Bentham News.
Age Concern at the Masonic Hall, 10am-2.30pm. Extend exercise with Colin Etherington.
- Sat 13th** NSPCC coffee morning, Town Hall Ballroom, 10am-12noon. 
Bentham Footpath Group walk, Nicky Nook, 10 miles, leaders David and Sheila Longton 61838. Meet at Lairgill 9.30am.
Victoria Institute Book Swap 10am-3pm.
Bentham Film Group "Sherlock Holmes" (Cert 12A) at the Victoria Institute 7.30pm.
Conservative Autumn Supper with Julian Smith MP, 7.30pm at the Town Hall. Tickets £15 from 61586 or 61454.
Tatham History Society, 7.30pm, Old School, Lowgill. Edward Huddleston "Local life in the 20th century from farm diaries". All welcome. Non-members £2. Contact Anne Wilson 63399.
- Tue 16th** Thornton and Burton in Lonsdale Mother's Union, 2pm in Burton Church room, speaker Mr. E Savage - on Sudan.
Free talk on Journey Therapy and Cellular Healing, 7-9pm, at Sole to Soul, Grasmere Drive (next to Health Centre).
- Wed 17th** Bentham Footpath Group walk, Low Bentham, 6 miles, leader Kay Piper 61977. Meet at Low Bentham Car park 9.30am.
Bentham First Responders monthly meeting, 7pm at the Looking Well. Come along and talk to us about joining.
- Thu 18th** Low Bentham W.I. at the Victoria Institute, 7.30pm. Talk by Danny Kaye. See page 24.
LASRUG (Lancaster and Skipton Rail Users Group) meeting at the Wenningdale Room, Town Hall, 7.30pm.
- Fri 19th** Waste paper collection at Lairgill car park, 8.30-11am. Proceeds to NSPCC.
Age Concern at the Masonic Hall, 10am-2.30pm. Making our Christmas cards.
- Sat 20th** St Boniface coffee morning at the Town Hall, 10am-12noon. 
Looking Well coffee morning, 9.45-11.45am. Meet your local MP, Julian Smith. Proceeds for Water Aid. All welcome.
Health Bonanza, Wray Institute. free admission. Demos, workshops, stalls. Drop-in 11.30am-2.30pm Tasters 3-4pm. See page 30.
- Sun 21st** Christmas Fayre at the Victoria Institute, 11am-3pm. See page 8.
- Tue 23rd** Bright Hour at the Methodist Church 2.15pm. Speaker Anne Bargh.
Bentham Agricultural Society AGM at the Wenningdale Room, Town Hall, 7.30pm.
- Wed 24th** Bentham Footpath Group walk, Kirkby Lonsdale, 6 miles, leader Joan Clapham 64906. Meet at Lairgill 9.30am.
Oxfam Christmas Gifts Day, 11am-4pm Bank House, Higher Westhouse. Liz and Roger Neale invite you to come and buy goods and cards. Refreshments available.
- Thu 25th** and 26th, 27th. Hornby Drama Group present "Night Must Fall", at the Hornby Institute, at 7.30pm. See page 37.
- Fri 26th** Bentham News published.
Age Concern at the Masonic Hall, 10am-2.30pm. "Advent Flowers" with Jean Fawcett and Ann Duncan.
Tatham Fells School Christmas Fair, 2.00pm. Christmas Crafts, stalls and refreshments.
- Sat 27th** Bentham Agricultural Society coffee morning, Town Hall, 10am-12noon. 
Tatham History Society, Old School, Lowgill. Melinda Elder "Slavery, sugar and cotton, local connections with West Indies" 7.30pm. Preceded by AGM.
Ewecross Historical Society, 7.30pm, Town Hall. John Dickinson - Are Lancaster's misericords more beautiful than Manchester's?

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LASRUG

**(Lancaster and Skipton Rail
Users Group)**

By David Alder

The annual winter special offer of flat rate day return tickets to Leeds, Bradford, Carlisle etc for holders of Dales Railcards is scheduled to start on 25th October and run through until mid - February 2011. There will be more details next month.

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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.

November 1990

For the second time in less than a year, BN's front page led with the announcement that further reductions were to be imposed in Bentham's rail service, which were likely to result in just four trains per day in each direction calling at Bentham. This in turn prompted yet another round of speculation as to whether British Rail were heading towards ending the service altogether.

With a current frequency of five trains per day we must be grateful that the article's forecast wasn't as accurate as its suggestion that the exercise was a precursor to financial independence and privatisation.

To date I have failed to mention the monthly record reviews that had been appearing faithfully in the BN pages for over a year. This is possibly because I hail from an era when a prerequisite for any popular song was the presence of a tune, so the records being reviewed month by month have largely been beyond my musical ken! An album from a band called *The Pogues* was reviewed this month, and when BN reviewer *Johnny One-Note* wrote of the lead singer, "Shane's alcoholism and his lack of teeth make it very difficult to work out exactly what he's going on about," then I realised why I've resisted any temptation to review the reviews!

Reg Suart submitted a very evocative article about the bonfire-building rituals leading up to 5th November. Reg remembered being a member of the "Main Street" gang whose bonfire rivals were Wenning Avenue and Lairgill.

Which one did you belong to?

Never very far from our town's news pages, the issue of dog fouling reared its head again this month as *Ralph Atkinson* passed on information Craven District had received from central government. Apparently during a debate in the House of

Lords on the new Environment Bill it was discovered that the provisions of the Act which relate to litter did in fact cover dog dirt, with a possible fine of up to £400 for responsible (or irresponsible) dog owners. Not only that, but it was thought that the Criminal Damage Act 1971 may also apply. Under this Act failure to take "reasonable steps" to stop your dog (or cat?) damaging someone else's property by depositing toxic waste could well be actionable, and in addition to any penalty, a criminal record for the owner would also result.

Worth remembering, if these Bills are still on the Statute Book and if you encounter a fouling problem.

Ralph also reported that the closure of another Bentham shop (*Pop and See*) with an application for "change of use" to a residence meant that five shops in the two Benthams had followed a similar path over the course of just a year. Soaring interest rates, VAT and the early effects of the Poll Tax were underlying most if not all of these closures, which were roughly in line with a national trend but of course more worrying in a rural community such as Bentham.

Today, whilst High Bentham seems to be just about holding its own, Low Bentham has now lost all the 10 shops it supported in the mid 1900s.

To relieve the boredom (?) of this month's Town Council meeting, BN's reporter Kate Steele decided to make note of the amount of time spent discussing each item on the agenda. The result is interesting and is the stuff that sends sociologists into raptures. Here are just a few of her observations:

- Planning applications (including closure of Bentham shops) - 2 mins.
- Minutes of last month's meeting, matters arising - 15 secs.
- Christmas decorations - 11 mins.
- Accounts for payment - 30 secs.
- Town Hall decoration and heating - 17 mins.

Finally, a small ad from *Dave's Turkeys* in this month's edition read as follows: "Many thanks to all our past customers and merry band of turkey pluckers. Please note there will be no turkeys this year."

Looks like the poor pluckers were in for a lean Christmas.

LOW BENTHAM WOMEN'S INSTITUTE NEWS

By Jennifer Watkinson

The surprise speaker turned out to be Jack Warbrick with his "magic box" (a portable wind up gramophone) and an enormous pile of 78rpm records. He said it was a talk about a crank by a crank which had given him the opportunity to dig into his vast collection!

He gave a brief history of the machine which began with Thomas A Edison's invention of the phonograph in 1877, which used cylinders. It did not take off until 1887 when Emile Berliner devised a disc mechanism. In 1889 the Gramophone Company was formed; this eventually became H.M.V.

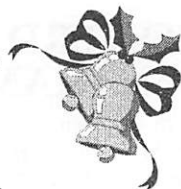
He passed an old record around which was surprisingly heavy and was recorded on one side only. He also showed us photographs of the famous artists that he had recordings of. We listened to a varied selection of words and music from opera, jazz, music hall military bands, humour and popular songs. He played records by Enrico Caruso, Florrie Ford, George Formby senior, Louis Armstrong, Bing Crosby, Flanigan and Allen, Gracie Fields and Marilyn Horn. He concluded the evening with Kathleen Ferrier's rendition of "Blow the wind southerly".

He was thanked for a lovely relaxing evening by the president, Ruth Sephton.

Low Bentham's team came second in the annual quiz which was held in the New Inn at Clapham. At the Ingleborough Show, Sylvia Brennand won the candlesticks for gaining the most points overall. She also came joint second in the handicraft section. Pam Warbrick won the Anglesey Cup for the best exhibit in the flower arranging section. Chris Jennings won the award for the best exhibit in the domestic section for her fruit cake. Betty Atkinson was the joint winner in the pot plant section.

The next meeting, on 18th November will feature a talk by Danny Kaye on explosives. The competition is "an alarm clock".

CHRISTMAS DAY CHEERY OR DREERY?

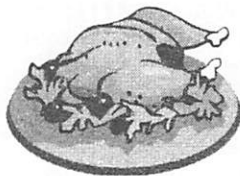


By Mary Hartley

Last year Christmas Day was a very cheery time for those who came to the Methodist Chapel for Christmas dinner. We enjoyed a lovely meal and had lots of fun, so it has been decided that we will do it again.

An invitation is extended to all who feel that they would enjoy the company of others in preference to sitting at home. So, if you live alone, are a couple, single parent, young or old, then why not come and join us?

Please let us know by 15th December to book a place, or if you want more information contact Cath Wilson on 62272 or Mary Hartley on 62373.



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BURTON UNDER FIVES

By Viki Hindle

Burton in Lonsdale Early Years Partnership aims to ensure that every child gets the best possible start in life by the provision of high quality, integrated, pre-school and primary education. Our caring community will support families in enhancing the physical, social, emotional and intellectual development of young children.

We would like to give all members of the village community, parents, friends and strangers, the opportunity to find out how our partnership is developing by inviting everyone to our Open Morning on Tuesday 16th November, starting at 9am. There will be the opportunity to look around the school and Burton Under Fives. You will be able to take an active part with lessons in the Infant and Junior classrooms and get involved with the pre-school children in the Under Fives room. You could also take a look at the brand new canopy, (funded by NYCC), outside the playgroup room. This enables our children to access the outdoors, even in

the wettest of weather. We will conclude the morning with a communal event in the school hall. If you would like further information about this, or any other aspect of school and Under Fives life, please contact Richard Thornton's Primary School on (015242) 61414 or Burton Under Fives on (015242) 62126. Meanwhile, please book the date in your diaries now and look out for further information nearer the day.

Shopping Days

Christmas is coming!!! (Like we need reminding!) Burton Under Fives is planning to run some longer sessions to enable parents to go shopping before the big day. These days will be Wednesday 1st December and Tuesday 7th December, when we will be open from 9am until 3.30pm. The sessions will be subject to a minimum number of children. Pre-booking is *essential* as places will be limited and allocated on a first come first served basis. The cost will be £17 per child; a deposit of £10 will secure a place. Children must have attained the age of two years to attend. For information call 62126.

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BLOOMIN' BENTHAM STILL BUSY

By Shirley Brown

Bloomin' Bentham volunteers have been busy in the last few months. Anyone using the trains will we hope have noticed that the tubs and flower beds looked good, and that the edible garden was also full of colour, bees and butterflies. Someone told us they'd got off a train and picked a few runner beans for their tea, and someone else picked some coriander and mint to go with their meal. That's the idea! We're continuing to plant and care for the railway station gardens, so if anyone would like to donate plants they'd be much appreciated.

We've also been working on the path alongside The Coach House, clearing it of litter, weeds and dead overhanging branches. Most people who walk past while we're working make very encouraging comments, so we feel that although the job's quite hard work it's also worthwhile. We'd really like to spread some more gravel on the

path to even it out and prevent so many puddles forming. This costs money, and we're all volunteers, so is anyone interested in making a contribution towards this community gardening project? We reckon that for £50 we could make a difference.

Suggestions or offers of help are always welcome – please just ring 61608.



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LOOKING WELL NEWS

By Julie Vass

Winter may be here but it is bright and warm at the Looking Well with something to do most days of the week.

"A String of Pearls" Exhibition

This runs from 8th October to 10th December / Monday – Friday 10.00 – 3.00pm. This intimate exhibition celebrates the art work produced during a pilot project for people with dementia and their carers.

Call in for a Programme of Activities or come to the Café IN on a Wednesday morning 11.00 – 1.30pm. It's a great place to meet people and find out what's going on. Get free help and use of computers with internet access. Stay and enjoy a delicious nutritious lunch. Or see 'Local Events in November' listed in the centre pages for our regular activities.

Positive Futures - Wednesdays 11.00 – 1.30pm

This month Wed 9th and 10th November 1.00 – 4.00pm there is a Health and Safety at Work course. If you are unemployed / work less than 8 hours p/week contact us for details.

The Tuesday Gardening and Wednesday Community Art Shed are temporarily stopped during the winter.

Other Groups that meet at the Looking Well include the Harmony Singing Group, Art for All, Bentham Buddhist Group, Cancer Support Group, Computing with Confidence, Digital Camera Course, Creative Textiles, Multi-media Art, Tai Chi.

The Bowen Technique

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Two vacancies have arisen at the above almshouses and applications are invited from people of pensionable age who are residents of High and Low Bentham or with close Bentham connections.

Application forms and further details can be obtained from the Clerk and Trustee, Mr. Ian Wood.

Please ring 015242-62656 (evenings) or 07793281156 (mobile).

EXCITING OPPORTUNITY

Sports development worker required to build clubs and user groups for Bentham Playing Fields facilities, including new tennis, netball and basketball courts and a skate park. Post funded for two years, 16 hrs per week to include some weekend and evening work.

Must have experience of community development and enjoy working with people of all ages and abilities so as to involve new people in using and sharing the facilities.

Some data collection and report writing involved. IT skills essential.

Qualifications - Further education level required.

Closing date: 15th November 2010.

Please contact Anne Yaman, Bentham Development Trust, The Station Building, Bentham Railway Station, Bentham LA2 62753 or anne@benthamct.co.uk for an application form, job description and person specification.

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BENTHAM PEOPLE



Personal Thanks

Capstick - Elsie and family of the late Dick Capstick would like to thank everyone for the cards, flowers and other expressions of sympathy received on their recent sad loss. Thanks also to the Revd Mabel Parr, the Revd Stephen Dawson and all who helped at St. Margaret's Church and to Jim Macdonald for the funeral arrangements.

Thanks

John and Lorraine Greenall wish to thank all friends and neighbours for their kind help and support during John's recent illness. Also for cards and presents for John's 65th birthday and our anniversary. A big thanks to the First Responders team, thanks to Dr. Morgan and to Mandy and all at the Black Bull. Special thanks to all who visited me in Lancaster Royal, especially my great pal and friend (Waldorf), Mr Norman Whitworth. Special big thankyou to Margaret and Andrew Weir, our brilliant neighbours. Once again thanks to you all. You really are the best. We can't thank you enough.

Lynn Shallcross - I would like to say a heartfelt Thank You to all the very kind people of Bentham who have given me so much encouragement and kindness in the years leading up to my recent transplant, especially my in-laws Peter and Audrey Shallcross and the Bentham Line Dancing group. Thanks too for the get well messages since the operation.

Thanks

The Barber's Shop - Rachel and Ali would like to thank everyone for their cards and good wishes on the opening of their new premises, and a very big thank you to all those who helped with the preparations and move.

Childcare

Help required with childcare for work at home Mum in Central Bentham. One morning a week to start with. £4.50 an hour. Call Charlotte 015242 61915.

CHARITY THANKS

Bentham Fire Station - once again everyone at Bentham Fire Station would like to thank all attendees of our Charity Carwash on Saturday 18th September. The morning was well attended and we managed to wash just over 30 cars (with the odd camper van thrown in). A massive £318.50 was raised for the Firefighters Charity. Again, a big thank you to the local community for their support.

PS. Christmas will soon be upon us - Bentham Fire Station Christmas Disco and local Female Vocalist at Bentham Golf Club, Saturday 4th December, 7.30pm till late. Come and join us for a great night out. Tickets £8 from Tracy 62774 or Mick 62574.

A cheque for £50 was donated by the Line Dancers at the Victoria Institute towards the ongoing repairs of the building. There is still room for more members who would like to learn to line dance, have a lot of laughs and then a cup of tea or coffee and a biscuit, every Wednesday at 2.00pm.

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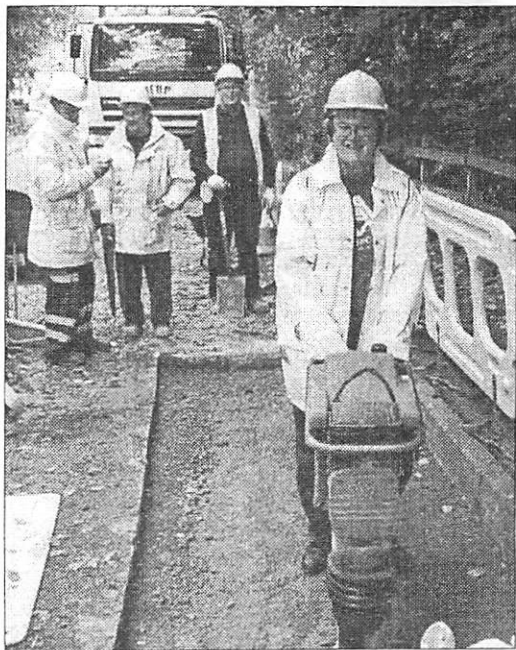
JOE AND THE WORKMEN

By Shirley Brown

Paul, one of the United Utilities workmen who did such an efficient job in Bentham recently replacing our gas mains, took this photo. He and Colin, Rob and another workman (in photo left-right) were closely watched by 27-year-old Bentham man Joe Capstick. A keen photographer, he captured their progress on camera on a daily basis wearing a fluorescent jacket belonging to his uncle, who used to work at Anguses.

Joe was occasionally asked to keep an eye on the traffic signals, often joined the men for their brew and sometimes they even let him handle some of the machinery, when it wasn't working obviously!

Joe's parents, Kim and Jimmy, would like to thank the workmen for being so kind and patient – "they were absolutely wonderful" and made one young man very happy.



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CHARITY EVENTS ALSO UNDERTAKEN

CHASING THE DREAM

By Tony Dilger

Nearing the end of their first year in business, wildlife photographers Tony and Carol Dilger are beginning to make their presence felt in the industry. Carol is a Benthams lass and many of you will know her as Carol Taylor, Anne & Ronnie Taylor's daughter. Tony is a featured photographer in next month's Outdoor Photography magazine and their 'Fleeting Glimpse' exhibition is showing throughout December at the Benthams Gallery on Station Road.

What do you do when your kids all leave home and you're lacking direction, yet too tired to have a mid-life crisis? Why, start a new business, of course! Our 'Masterplan' went along the lines of catching up with lost ambitions and doing something that involved a bit of us, a bit of passion. For Carol and I, that meant a combination of photography and nature. Five years ago, we sold our beloved Station House, downsizing to a Settle apartment overlooking the Ribble. Lucky us, we also bought a fabulous motorhome, for the considerable advantage of being in the right place at the right time for photographing nature.

The biggest step came when I took time out to study wildlife photography at Blackpool and the Fylde College which, after three years, has gained us considerable insight into the industry as well as a first-class honours degree. This first year has been one of gaining momentum, networking and making contacts. A recent trip to the

Shetland Islands provided us with essential experience, a good number of saleable photographs and a contract with Oxford Scientific Films. We now find ourselves busy writing articles, delivering lectures, teaching photography and organising field trips.

With the long-term direction always in mind, we are finding that variety is good for us, making sure the business develops in a natural and evolutionary way by making the best of markets, situations and opportunities. Oh, and trying not to forget, we're living the dream... Visit the website at: www.tonydilger.co.uk

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BEST BEST NEWS – THE FOOD CHAIN IS CIRCULAR!

By Richard Wilson

September's Local Food Week was packed with events, activities and displays around Bentham, and we know that many readers took the opportunity to learn more about Local Food - and to buy and eat it! BEST wishes to thank all the local organisations and businesses who helped to make the week a success, by displaying posters, putting on their own events and displays, and helping us with ours. You can see reports and many photos at benthamlocalfood.org.uk

At one of the events, we were reminded that 25% of food is wasted in the UK. Which doesn't sound too bad until you think - that's enough to feed 15 million people!

Fortunately not all that waste ends up in landfill. Many people with gardens make compost, and use it to help grow more food. But if you don't compost at home, what happens to all that stuff you put in your brown wheely-bin?

We found out during the Food Week visit to Growing with Grace at Clapham. GwG works in partnership with Craven District Council in running a composting scheme which takes all the brown-bin waste from North Craven (north-west of Long Preston) and in a few weeks converts it into beautiful compost - which GwG uses in its own greenhouses, and sells in bags from its organic shop.

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BEST stands for Bentham Environmentally Sustainable Town. The next BEST meeting is on Monday 6th December at 7.30pm in the Looking Well, King Street; we'll also be sharing a seasonal Jacob's Join supper - bring a plate of food. All meetings and events are open to everyone; do come along and help make Bentham a greener town. If you'd like to know more about BEST, phone 63399 or check out <http://www.bentham.net/Community/BEST.asp>

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CHURCHES TOGETHER

By Alistair Cook

In some ways it seems a bit odd to be thinking and writing about Remembrance in October - almost as if the calendar had hiccupped and landed us there early. It also seems wrong that a Quaker, nominally a pacifist, should talk about awful things like war.

Quakers are renowned for pacifism, indeed the Society of Friends was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 1947 for their work in the reconstruction of Europe after the Second World War. There are sound theological reasons for this stance but I fear that the origins of the peace testimony lie partly in 17th century politics. In an address to Charles II in 1661, Quakers made quite plain their abhorrence of war and rejected any wish to prosecute wars, covet kingdoms or power or fight with weapons for any reason whatsoever. This is covered, at least in part, by the very basic New Testament teaching to love one's enemies. The sub text, which possibly prompted the declaration, was "It is all right Charlie we're not going to hurt you - so please stop persecuting us!" You might remember that this was after a long period of religious and civil ferment and war, so penalties were barbaric and judicial deaths commonplace - freedom has evolved at a very high price.

Modern pacifists however, have also had to learn reality. It is facile to say an outright no. How do you control a genocidal mob or remain silent at the gates of Auschwitz?

This was brought home to me by some of those who won that accolade in Norway and by a younger generation who worked in former Yugoslavia. They said, collectively, that their work would not have been possible without the presence of soldiers to establish a degree of civil order. So while war remains anathema, military personnel and their sacrifices are due any honour we can contemplate - and Remembrance has no season - it is eternal. Now all we have to do is to stop politicians thinking that they can cure anything with enough force....

Forthcoming events

Taize for Christ the King, St John's, Low Bentham, 4.30pm 21st November. Service to be led by Revd Frank Parr with Bentham Taize Group.

The Ecumenical Prayer Group meets on the 3rd Tuesday of each month, 10.30-11.30am at the Methodist Church Hall. All welcome-whatever your tradition. We endeavour to vary the style/tradition of the prayer/meditation each time. Enquiries to Timothy Fox on 62575.

"Christianity Explored" is a course currently running every Tuesday night at the Methodist Church. Non church-goers are very welcome to come along and find out what Christianity really means. We serve a pudding and tea/coffee at 7pm, followed by a DVD and discussion where you can express your point of view.

Don't miss the Christingle Service at the Methodist Church at 6.30pm on Monday 29th November.

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Bentham Methodist Church **Christmas Craft & Gift Fair** on

Saturday November 20th 2-4pm

In the Church Schoolroom, with

Cakes, biscuits, jams, crafts,

Christmas gifts & children's toys.

*Admission free! You are welcome!
Homemade refreshments on sale.*

Tanks/Treatment

If your tank needs emptying, you would like us to carry out a free inspection of your tank or you just have some questions regarding particular maintenance schedules that should be followed, then please feel free to give us a call. We can provide a complete service package where we let you know what needs doing and when or if you'd prefer we can just give you a call annually.

Call Martyn at Fawcetts on 015242 42222.

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Join Bentham Golf Club until 29th February 2012 for only £500 (stage payments available).

WINTER OPEN GOLF COMPETITIONS!

Open to visitors and members. Only £8 per player for visitors including prizes; held on selected Saturdays from November until March.

DON'T LEAVE IT TOO LATE TO BOOK FOR X-MAS!

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Tickets £5.00 (inc free drink & Hotpot supper)

WHAT'S ON IN DECEMBER

CHRISTMAS MARKET Sat 11th Dec

DON your Santa hat, and get into the festive spirit - mulled wine, food and gifts

CHRISTMAS EVE Tickets £34.95

Indulge yourself this year and join us for a very special evening of fine food.

NEW YEAR'S EVE Tickets £39.95

Celebrate New Year in style with our delicious special menu. Booking essential.

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Tuesday 16 November

MUSIC IN THE FELLS

HARALD HAUGAARD QUARTET

featuring Helen Blum
(vocalist)

7.30pm at the Church of the
Good Shepherd, Tatham Fells.

Tickets £7.50 (students £5)
available from

David and Carole Butcher,
Tel: 015242 63095.

Harald is a fiddling
phenomenon from
Denmark. Do not miss this
unique opportunity
to hear him play!

HORNBY DRAMA GROUP - "NIGHT MUST FALL"

By Hilary Strickett

The group will present "Night Must Fall" by Emlyn Williams at the Hornby Institute on 25th, 26th & 27th November at 7.30pm. This play, written by the well known playwright and actor, Emlyn Williams, was first produced in London in 1935. It has always been a great favourite with both professional and amateur actors ever since it first appeared and will, undoubtedly continue to do so, its theme being endless.

It is written in the genre of a psychological thriller, albeit with a considerable touch of humour. The setting is a bungalow in Essex, the home of the rich, disagreeable and controlling Mrs Bramson. Her penniless niece, Olivia Grayne, lives with her, reduced to acting as her personal assistant and companion. Olivia's would-be suitor, the affable Hubert Laurie, visits from time to time whilst the servants, the plain spoken gossipy cook, Mrs Terence and the rather simple maid, Dora Parkoe, Nurse Libby, the no-nonsense district nurse and Inspector Belize of Scotland Yard, play a large part in the plot. Finally, but by no means least is Dan, ostensibly nothing more than a cheerful village lad, ever willing to pander to Mrs Bramson's whims, who skillfully insinuates himself into her affections with dire results.

This is a play not to be missed! Tickets - adults £6, children £4, are available in advance from Hornby Institute, 015242 22227 or at the door. There will be a raffle and bar.

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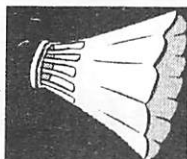
OPEN WEDNESDAY

9.00am - 5.00pm

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for an appointment

LOW BENTHAM BADMINTON CLUB



By Julie Bridgeman

Our season has started. We play at QES in Kirkby Lonsdale, on Tuesdays from 6.30 – 8.30pm. All standards and all ages are welcome.

If you fancy giving the game a go or if you've played before and want to take it up again come along. If you have any queries please contact Julie on 015242-62276.

We look forward to meeting new members.

JUNIOR GOLF

By Chris Cousins

Thanks to those who have supported the Junior section and the Junior Monday Night competitions this year. With the evenings drawing in and winter almost upon us we are moving from Monday nights to Saturday afternoons. The movement to Saturdays will see a change of format and the start of a new Junior Winter League; taking place every Saturday afternoon from 2pm. Results will be posted in the Bentham News.

Junior membership starts from £25 for 12 months membership. For any enquiries about junior golf or for more information please contact: Chris Cousins, PGA Professional, Bentham Golf Club, 015242 62455, golf@benthamgolfclub.co.uk, website www.benthamgolfclub.co.uk.

SPRINGFIELD BOWLING CLUB PRESENTATION EVENING



By Helen Cross (Club Secretary)

On Wednesday 6th October the club held its annual presentation evening at Bentham Golf Club. The members enjoyed a hot buffet meal followed by the presentation of the trophies by the president Di Rees. The awards were as follows:

Trophy	Winner(s)	Runner(s) Up
Garlick Cup	C Park, T Davies	M Hudson A Shannon
Lister Shield	R Bosworth	H Cross
Mary Johnson	M Hudson	M Lawson
Tom Davies	T Davies	R Bosworth
Butterfield Cup	H Cross	A Shannon
F'Raiser	S Bosworth	P Woof
Challenge Cup	R Bosworth	A Cross
Butterfield Cup	T Davies	R Bosworth
Jim Bush Cup	S Bosworth	H Cross
Rose Bowl	H Cross	D Chant
Cardus Cup	S Bosworth S Riley	T Davies E Bowler
Captain's Awards		
Men	T Davies	
Ladies	H Cross	

It's Here THE GRAND AUCTION OF PROMISES!

There are lots of wonderful promises waiting for your bids. Do not miss them! Catalogues are available throughout the Lune Valley. Join us at Hornby Institute at 7.30pm on Friday 12th November.

Auctioneer - John Whitfield.

Proceeds to Wray, Tatham
and Tatham Fells Churches.

Bowling Club Country and Western Night

The Bowling Club will be presenting another Country and Western Night at Bentham Town Hall with music by Stan and Jane, on Friday November 12th from 7.30pm onwards.

The price is £7.50 per ticket including pie and pea supper. For tickets please contact Tom on 61101 or Audrey on 63220.

HIGH BENTHAM CP SCHOOL

By Catherine Boocock, Head Teacher

Access to School Site

Following an escalation of incidents of trespassing on the school site after hours, we would ask all our neighbours to be aware that the site is not being officially used by any groups after six o'clock or at weekends.

The Police are now involved following up recent incidents where dangerous materials have been found on site the morning after the night before – often broken glass, aerosol cans and worse that could cause serious harm to one of our children. If you do see or hear anyone in the school grounds after 6.00pm please contact the Police on 0845 6060247.

North Craven Review

I would like to assure everyone that whatever the outcome of the NC Review we are able to meet the needs of Year 6 children. We already deliver aspects of the Y6 curriculum to meet the needs of our existing more able Year 5 children, and we have teaching staff in school with experience of working with this age group.

Tournament

Twelve pupils represented the school at the Settle Football Tournament and took on teams from neighbouring Settle and Ingleton. Our teams worked hard with Jack Titterington's team finishing victorious with a 3-1 win against Ingleton.



This photograph shows some of our young footballers.

*Back Row – Ellie Wills, Ella Neill, Mark Sawyer.
Front Row – Sam Wills, Thomas Lea, James Clapham.*

All pupils played well but special mention must go to fearless goalie Emma Collins who protected our goal brilliantly and to James Clapham for his relentless attacks on the opposition's goal. Many thanks to all parents who transported children to the event and cheered us on.

Dog fouling

Please could dog owners ensure that their pets do not foul the path up to school past the library because since the beginning of term we have had four incidents which have meant children arrive at school with dog dirt on their shoes.

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BENTHAM AUCTION'S FIRST £1,000,000 SHEEP SALE

By Stephen Dennis

Some of the Bentham News readers may have noticed that traffic jams of farmers in Land Rovers and trailers and large livestock lorries, which are normally reserved for Wednesdays, seem to have occurred more regularly in the last couple of months. The reason for that is that it is the busiest time of the Auction Mart calendar, coinciding with the seasonal migration of sheep from the hills to the lower ground at this time of year. The UK's structure of sheep farming is basically a three tier one where the top tier is hill farmers who breed and keep hardy hill going flocks as seen grazing the open moorlands and fells. In the Yorkshire Dales area such as ours, these would be horned sheep such as Swaledale or Dalesbred; in other areas of the country they may be the Herdwick (Lake District), Scotch Blackface and Cheviot (Scotland) and Welsh Mountain Ewe (Wales).

The hill farmer would normally breed these pure and keep them until about four years old when the breeding females would be purchased by farmers in the middle tier, marginal and slightly lower areas, to be crossed with a ram such as a Blue Faced Leicester, to breed a female sheep known as a Mule. These will in turn be purchased by farmers in the lowland tier areas, who would cross those females with a terminal sire such as a Suffolk or Texel to breed lambs specifically for slaughter. The busy days at Bentham Auction over the last two months have accommodated these sales, which basically take place in reverse order, i.e. lowland farms selling their butcher's lambs throughout the early summer into autumn and buying their breeding replacements at sales throughout August and September from the marginal hill farms who during October buy their own breeding replacements in the sales held for the hill farmers selling their breeding females.

Environmental schemes introduced by the government over the last ten years have paid farmers to remove substantial parts of their flocks off the higher ground and coupled with poor economic returns this has meant a huge reduction in the National Flock, thus restricting the supply of sheep, resulting in market forces now pushing up the price of these animals. Our readers may have even seen farmers with smiling faces, (if they were selling and not buying) a rare thing indeed. The uplift in sheep values, coupled with the increasingly national significance of the Bentham sales led to the market recording its first ever one million pound sale on Saturday 11th September when 11,656 Mule Gimmer Lambs (female breeding lambs) were sold through the ring to average £90 per head, a gross sales value of £1,053,000.

Throughout the busy period customers from all parts of Great Britain have travelled to Bentham to both buy and sell sheep, breeding females often being purchased by farmers throughout the Midlands and Southern Counties as far as Cornwall, Devon and the Isle of Wight. The nationally renowned Ram Sale held on 18th September saw buyers from Scotland, Northern Ireland and Wales. These sales brought much welcome business to the surrounding B & B establishments and local hostellers.

Individual prices for sheep peaked at £7,000 which was paid for a Blue Faced Leicester breeding ram bred and sold by a local breeder, Mr. Gordon Rawsthorne of Nether Kellett, the country's leading breeder of Blue Faced Leicester sheep, who sells all his progeny through the Auction at Bentham. The autumn sales have been perhaps the busiest and most successful at the Auction in recent years.



Photo shows Stephen Dennis, auctioneer, at work.