

# BENTHAM NEWS



Photo by Keith Hartley. Read his article about "Sheep farming's silent assassin" on page 23.

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**JUNE 2008**

**ISSUE 260**

## INTRODUCING COUTURE CANINE

*By Jo Booth*

On Sunday the 4th of May I met Pauline Birkett, the proprietor of Couture Canine – one of the latest additions to businesses in Benthams. She, her husband, three dogs, and a cat live at Goodenbergh Caravan Park, which has recently become their permanent home. Pauline is a dog groomer with over 22 years experience, specialising in small breeds.

Pauline will come to your home to groom your dog making it convenient to the owner and, as she explains, “reducing stress in your dog as they will be more relaxed and comfortable in their own home”. Prices vary from £25.00 – £30.00 for a full groom, which includes the bathing, blow-drying, clipping/trimming of your dog's coat, cleaning of ears, nail clipping and the cleaning of anal glands (if required). To get her business started she is offering a 10% discount on your pet's first groom (07962290950). Equipment is provided so all you need is your dog and a towel!

During my time with Pauline I was struck by what a friendly woman she is, and also the fact that she is clearly an animal lover and enthusiastic about her work. I wish her the best of luck for the future, and I am looking forward to seeing plenty of pampered pooches in and around Benthams!

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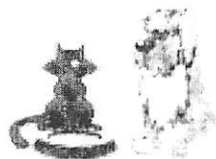
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## BENTHAM AND DISTRICT PET RESCUE UPDATE



*By Sue Arnott*



After more than eleven years at the helm, Val Marshall has handed over some of her many tasks for B & D Pet Rescue – including her Benthams News column (so please have patience with the new girl!). We presented her with a bouquet of flowers at the annual meeting to say a big thank you though she's not retiring altogether – at least not yet!

Over at the sanctuary we have four adult cats looking for homes. People often overlook older cats in favour of kittens but each one of our present contingent (three boys and a girl) would make a loving companion, especially for someone living alone. If you could offer a home to Sheba, Jazz, Bracken or Patch, please give Pat a call on 63048.

Look out for our second-hand books on sale at the High Benthams Community Centre. Donations of books are welcome here too. All the proceeds will help needy pets in the area. And please keep bringing your used stamps to our collecting box (which will move with the Development Trust). Every little helps!

*The picture shows Val Marshall, with a bouquet presented to her in farewell.*

# MAY'S TOWN COUNCIL

*By David Johnson*

All the Cllrs attended except Cllrs Faichney, Sannard and County Cllr Ireton.

The first part of the meeting was taken up with the appointment of a new Mayor. Gareth Adams was appointed to the position and Thomas Marshall was appointed Deputy Mayor. The Council then went through the procedure of reviewing and approving the appointment of committee members and council representatives.

The Council agreed to try out a new system that should help reduce the length of the meetings. The clerk now provides a report for the Cllrs that serves to remove minor points from the agenda. The Cllrs can discuss these items if they wish and this report is displayed on the Town Hall notice board prior to the meeting. The format seemed to work on this occasion and the meeting finished a full hour earlier than the April meeting!

There was no police presence this month but DCllr Camacho said that vandalism in the Goodenber Road area is a major problem with damage to property; children running along bungalow roofs, intimidation of some residents and a major outbreak of graffiti. He said that the public toilets had been redecorated at a cost of £2,000 only to be covered with graffiti within two days. As a consequence he has arranged for a meeting of various interested parties to try to find a solution. He said that United Utilities has now agreed to a flood assessment for the new development on Wesley Close so presumably there will be progress with more affordable housing for Bentham.

## Planning

DCllr Camacho thought the planning meeting about the proposed stone processing plant would be held in June. An application was received to convert the old Looking Well buildings at King Street into three dwellings. The Cllrs objected to the proposal because it deprived Bentham of valuable potential retail outlets and also on the grounds that there is no parking for these properties.

## Highways

The clerk was asked to enquire into the mysterious appearance of cones on the A65 blocking lay-bys. Cllr Heigh commented on the damage being caused to the verge around Dumb Toms triangle by heavy lorries and asked if something could be done to prevent it. The Cllrs noted the deterioration of road signs and decided to see if they could have the Egerton Lodge sign repaired themselves. The B6480 will be closed at Ridding Lodge for 2 weeks commencing 23<sup>rd</sup> June.

## Dalesview Development

It looks as if both parties are nudging towards an agreement over the amenity land but before any agreement is reached the Cllrs are adamant that the trees must be made safe and that the funds are adequate to cover all long-term maintenance. They decided to ask the arboriculturist at Craven District Council to examine the site.

## Other Items

In response to a request to consider the Children's and Young People's Plan the Cllrs thought we should receive more support and reliable long-term funding for the projects already underway in Bentham. Many Cllrs expressed worries about drugs and their effect on the locality.

Cllr Adams attended the scouts St. George's Day Parade at St. Margaret's. It had been well attended. There is hope that we may again have a scout group in Bentham. The Cllrs agreed that the grass cutting has been better this year. There is a dog-fouling problem on Springfield around Pye Park. Work is about to start on phase 3 of the playing field improvements that will include a small skateboard park.

## TEMPTATIONS

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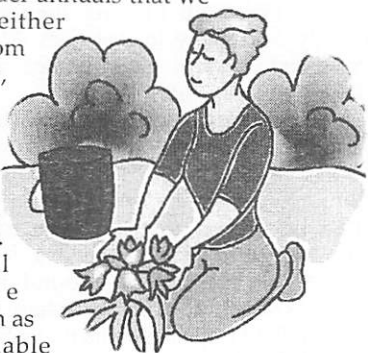
## GARDEN COLUMN

By Joyce Knapp



By the start of this month we should be able to plant out any frost tender plants, safe in the knowledge that the risk of late frosts is over. This will involve plants raised under cover that have been hardened off (placed outdoors during the day but put back under cover each night) for a period of approximately a week. In the vegetable garden this covers plants such as courgettes and both French and runner beans. Whilst the beans can be planted in rows with an appropriate means of support, it is best to plant the courgettes a good distance (at least two feet) apart, placing each plant on a mound of garden compost as they are hungry feeders. Both courgettes and runner beans will need watering well in long dry spells, the French beans requiring slightly less water as they prefer hot, dry conditions.

Moving into the ornamental part of the garden, we can now plant out any half hardy/tender annuals that we have either raised from seed or, perhaps, bought in from any of the local suppliers. This will include plants such as the reliable



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Pelargonium/Geranium, the highly scented Nicotiana and very brightly coloured Impatiens/Busy Lizzie. It is advisable to prepare the ground well before planting out summer bedding plants because we expect them to perform well, growing from seed to flowering within such a short time. To do this we first need to remove all traces of weeds, especially the deep rooted ones such as dandelions and then we can add some garden compost or well rotted manure. On planting, it is important to give each young plant plenty of water to enable it to get established and to firm the soil around its root to prevent any air getting to the roots of the plant.

Having completed all the planting necessary at this time of year, we can now take a look at some shrubs that may need pruning. The first of these that springs to mind is the lilac which is done by removing the dead heads, cutting back each stem to a strong, new shoot that will flower next year. We may also need to take a look at cotoneasters, cutting off any protruding shoots only after tying in any long, new shoots to its support.

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# CRAVEN CONCERNS

By DCllr Manuel Camacho 015242 62074

## Council Elections

As I am sure you are all aware, local elections took place in Craven last Thursday. Whilst only one seat changed hands in terms of political balance (Skipton East elected a Conservative councillor, Cllr Pam Heseltine, to replace Cllr Eric Jacquin) this means that it is likely that control of the Council will change to the Conservatives. Although nothing official happens until the annual council meeting on the 20<sup>th</sup> of May, due to one Independent councillor aligning himself with the Conservative group, it is pretty much certain.

## Unruly Youths

There has been an uncharacteristic increase in the amount of vandalism and general bad behaviour of some Bentham youths recently. An example would be the graffiti in the public toilets leading to a refurbishment cost of £2,000 to CDC ratepayers.

More disturbing are cases of threatening behaviour towards some of our Senior citizens, given that many of these good people had their own youth spoilt by WW2 or the Korean conflict, surely they should be able to enjoy their retirement in peace and dignity. A joint action is planned between the local authorities, which may help.

However YOU can do your bit by reporting incidents immediately to the police on 0845 6060247 or 999 (in extreme cases).

It goes without saying that this behaviour is neither brave nor clever and the guilty should feel ashamed of themselves.

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## Three Peaks Race

The District welcomed over 750 international athletes from 21 different countries as they arrived to take part in the annual Three Peaks Race, which this year was being run as the World Long Distance Mountain Running Challenge; the first time the event had been hosted in Britain. Our Economic Development unit worked closely with the Three Peaks Race Committee to make sure the District got maximum benefit from the event and highlighted the region as a tourist destination. They helped plan the event, producing a race programme showcasing the region and taking part in a pre and post race media campaign which generated a lot of coverage in the North of England regional press.

Due to illness, I had to cover for the CDC chairman and had the honour of handing out the prizes to the winners, I must say I felt a little guilty when presenting the over 60s award!

For more information about the Three Peaks Race including the results of this year's event visit [www.threepeaksrace.org.uk](http://www.threepeaksrace.org.uk)



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# LOOKING WELL NEWS

*By Clare Hucknall*

## A Breath of Fresh Air !

I am the new Looking Well Project Manager funded by a grant from the BIG lottery to organise arts-based activities, courses and groups at Looking Well to promote wellbeing.

Our new project is called "A Breath of Fresh Air". We have a range of activities on offer, including a painting class, walking groups, gentle movement exercise class, creative writing and summer lunches. These are open to anyone (all levels of ability catered for) and a warm, sociable welcome awaits. We are also planning new activities and would like to know what you would like to do (so far suggestions include stress-busting courses, gardening, cooking courses, pottery, internet café, computer courses) so keep an eye open for details, or contact me with your ideas, interests or if you want more details ([clare@pioneerprojects.org.uk](mailto:clare@pioneerprojects.org.uk)) or telephone 015242 62672) and let us bring a breath of fresh air into your life!

## Open Day Celebrations

We invite you and your family to come and have a look round Looking Well, including viewing an exhibition of paintings inside and in our garden, the wonderful life-size wooden horse, at our Open Day on 7<sup>th</sup> June. You can have a go at something different (eg kite making and pottery painting to name but two) or just enjoy meeting up with friends at our Open Day café for some tasty home-made cakes and soup. Whatever the weather's doing - we look forward to welcoming you between 10am and 4pm!

## Cancer Support Group

The Cancer Support Group are holding a coffee morning in the Town Hall on Saturday June 21<sup>st</sup>. Funds raised will help the group to continue to offer therapies at a discounted price by providing vouchers towards the cost. Kate Lewis, Bowen Therapist, has now joined the team as well

as Wanda Lewcun (Aromatherapy massage), and Alessandra Toft (Reflexology & Indian Head Massage). The group provide vouchers for people with cancer or other chronic illness and their carers. For more information call in to the weekly drop in on Thursdays from 11:00am -1:30pm.

On Tuesday June 10<sup>th</sup>, the group is going on a tour of the Cheese Factory in Hawes followed by lunch in the restaurant. In the afternoon they will visit the Chocolate factory in Leyburn. It will also be market day in Hawes. Any one is welcome to join them, contact Margaret Hayton on 61900 for details. Anyone interested in joining the committee as either treasurer or secretary can also contact Margaret.

## AVOID A FINE!

*Press release*

It is important that users of Class 3 powered wheelchairs and scooters register their vehicle with the Drive and Licensing Agency (DVLA) and display the free tax disc in order to avoid a fine.

Class 3 "invalid carriages" (those that have a maximum speed of between 4mph and 8mph) have to be registered with the DVLA and display a current free tax disc if they are used on any part of the public highway. Once this has been done, the DVLA will issue a renewal notice each year to the registered keeper. Renewal can easily be completed at a Post Office, over a phone or through the internet without payment.

If the vehicle is no longer in use it is essential that either a Statutory Off Road Notification (SORN) declaration is made or the registration cancelled if the vehicle has been scrapped or exported. See [www.tinyurl.com/26argb](http://www.tinyurl.com/26argb) for more information on SORN.

If you don't tax or SORN your vehicle you will get an automatic penalty of £80. Remember too that failing to notify a change of address is an offence and will result in not receiving the renewal reminder, which in turn will lead to a penalty for non-renewal.

To find your nearest DVLA office, please call 0870 2430444.

## 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.*

**June 1988**

For the second consecutive month, Bentham's major industrial employer, Angus Fire Armour, made front page headlines. Last month it was to report that the Company had been the subject of a successful take-over bid by British Belting and Asbestos. This month it was to announce that the Company was celebrating its 200<sup>th</sup> birthday.

Founded in Newcastle in 1788 the House of Angus was engaged in the manufacture of leather goods for industry. It was not, however until 1904 that Angus acquired the manufacturing facility in Bentham, which in fact had been operating for considerably longer than its new parent company.

Among its many pioneering achievements, local tradition has it that the Bentham factory actually produced the sails for Nelson's *Victory*, no mean feat given that *Victory* was launched in 1765, some 20 years before Cartwright's power loom appeared.

*Bentham Pantomime Group* gave a performance of "After Magritte" at the Hornby Drama Festival, which was reported to have been well received by the adjudicators, although unfortunately not amongst the winners.

*Bentham Youth Club* team scored a victory over Austwick in their latest Indoor League Tournament match, which left them unbeaten in the league. Unfortunately, BN didn't record the full names of the Bentham "stars," but presumably there will be lots of BN readers who can still put a face to "Craig," who could not be beaten at dominoes, and "Smalley" who scored 180 with his first three darts.

Members of High Bentham WI were warned of the possible dangers of lead poisoning from the metal caps on the corks of some wine bottles. It was announced at the same meeting that the subject for next month's competition was to be "An edible necklace or earrings."

*Hey Ho! Anyone for carat cake?*

*Bentham Football Club* held a presentation disco at the Sports Club at which awards were made to: **Rod Lister** (First team awards for both Player of the Year and Players' Player). **Martin Cowgill** (Second team Player of the Year). **Paul Morphet** (Second team Players' Player). **John Sedgwick** (Loyalty Award). **Walter Emmott** (Club Man of the Year).

*Wenning Wanderers* netball team was launched as Bentham's representative in the Craven League and played its first game against Barclays Bank in Skipton, winning by 8 goals to 7.

True to form, the advertisement for Churchill's of Station Road spent a full paragraph (over 250 words) discussing the virtues of their 300ml tubes of building mastic, when used with the special applicator that they were prepared to hire out for "just a few pence."

*Bentham must have been thankful that whoever wrote the Churchill ads didn't also do the Council reports!*

## LOW BENTHAM COMMUNITY PRIMARY SCHOOL OPEN DAY ON 18th JULY

*By Vivienne Ayre, staff and pupils.*

Have you ever been part of Low Bentham Primary School – as a parent, pupil, member of staff or volunteer? If so, please could you:

- Send us a message (phone 015242 61416, email [admin@low-bentham.n-yorks.sch.uk](mailto:admin@low-bentham.n-yorks.sch.uk)
- Saying when you were here, in what capacity and what you're doing now!
- Come to our open day on July 18<sup>th</sup> – school is open all day for anyone to drop in and browse our photographic exhibition of our history;

➤ Come to our celebration party on July 18<sup>th</sup> at 8.15p.m. – admission by free ticket, available from the school office.

*We hope to hear from you!*

Dear Editor,

I wondered if you could please appeal to your readers for anyone with the knowledge of P.L.U.T.O. I was told the story by a lady, Margaret Sadler. She would have been Edmondson from Burton. She worked at Angus Fire Armour and it was there where this P.L.U.T.O. originated. P.L.U.T.O. stands for Pipe Line Under The Ocean. She, along with others, worked extra hours to make the pipe line, to reach from, I think, the Isle of Wight across to France, to take fuel for the army tanks during the war. Churchill ordered this to be done. There is a plaque somewhere telling of this, but as far as I know, not a lot of people know about it. I would like to know more and I think Angus Fire Armour, Bentham and around, should be proud to have helped win the war. The school children should know about this. I was very thrilled to hear the story. I learned about it around the Jubilee time. The lady named quite a few people, but they may not be living now.

I would like to know if anyone could throw any more light on this subject. Thank you kindly.

*Yours sincerely,*

*Beryl Morphet. Ingleton 015242 41414.*

Dear Bentham News,

High Bentham School are collecting old mobile phones for recycling. If you can help, please give phones with sim card removed to school and help us raise some money. Thank you very much.

*From Fae Donaldson*



Hello,

Recently a statue to Fred Dibnah was unveiled in Oxford Street in Bolton. It is positioned in front of the steam engine which came from Ford Ayrtons, Low Mill, Low Bentham, Bentham.

This may be of interest particularly to older residents who may have started their working lives to the beat of this gentle giant.

When the mill was closed all the machinery had been sold to the scrap merchant but the engine was rescued. The makers of the engine in 1863 were Hick Hargreaves who still operate in Bolton. They agreed to take the engine in 1969 when the mill closed and in 1973 they erected it in its present position in a glass case where it has stood for the last 25 years.

The 180hp engine along with water provided all the power to run the mill first as a flax mill and then for most of its 100 year life by Ford Ayrton spinning silk. It was ultra reliable as were mill engines. If they broke down, there was no work and all hundred plus staff could be laid off.

Fred is well positioned, he would have felt really at home if he had visited the Mill in 1969. Most of the machinery boilers and spinning frames were of almost similar vintage and technology with only the odd modern machine albeit still powered by the shaft system. The mill was almost completely self reliant in power to drive the spinning frames, generating its own electricity for lighting and for a large part of its existence it produced its own town gas.

There are some photos on the web now of the Fred Dibnah statue with the engine behind plus some of the engine itself. We would like to hear from anyone who may have photos of the engine in position at Low Bentham. [www.bolton.org.uk/oxford](http://www.bolton.org.uk/oxford) or simply google 'hick hargreaves steam engine bolton.'

*Kind regards ,*

*Robert Currie, Low Mill, Low Bentham.*

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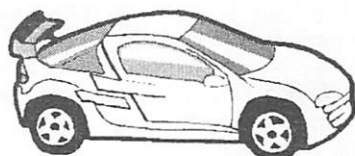
## MOTOR RALLYING SUCCESS

*By Pam Diamond*

Well done Craig Diamond and Ryan Kilburn, who got second in class A (under 1400cc) and fourteenth overall out of 65 starters in the Procure Stages rally at Three Sisters Race track in Wigan on Sunday 4th May. Craig was driving his 1.2 Vauxhall Nova and Ryan from Over-Wyre was Co-driver. Both are members of Kirkby Lonsdale Motor Club and are currently competing in the Drenth Motorsport Gearboxes Stage rally championship.

Craig and his father have spent many months building his car to rally standards which has now paid off with this incredible result. In appallingly wet conditions they expertly slid round the twisty course to beat many cars, some with 3 times more power and far more expensive, including Subaru Imprezas, Ford Escort Cosworth's and a specially prepared class 4 Ford Escort from Myerscough College which both Craig and Ryan attended on a Motorsport course.

They now have their sights set on the next rally at Greystoke Forest in July. Anyone interested in sponsoring them or being part of the service team, pay is non existent but the food's good, please contact Craig on 015242 62719.



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## COOKERY PAGE

By Patsy Henderson



### Fathers' Day Sunday 15th June

For the youngsters. A breakfast treat for Dad or someone special.

### Blueberry & Raspberry Smoothie. Serves 4. Recipe

300g blueberries, plus extra for garnish

300g raspberries, plus extra for garnish

500ml natural yoghurt

100ml semi-skimmed milk

4 tsp honey

#### Method

Put blueberries, raspberries, natural yoghurt and milk in a blender and whizz until smooth. Add the honey. Pour into 4 tall glasses. garnish with the remaining berries. Serve immediately.

### Special Crumpets - Serves 4.

#### Recipe

4 crumpets

8 eggs

smoked salmon slices, or grilled bacon as an alternative

fresh, chopped parsley

#### Method

Toast the crumpets

Beat the eggs and lightly scramble season to taste

Pile onto the toasted crumpets and top with salmon or bacon

garnish with the chopped parsley and black pepper.

Follow with a nice cup of tea or coffee.

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## RECYCLING AND HOME COMPOSTING DAY, SATURDAY 21ST JUNE

*By John Vandy*

What can you recycle? Where can you recycle? How can you recycle your kitchen scraps into valuable garden compost? Already make your own compost, but have problems?

Call in at the Looking Well garden on 21st June for free, friendly advice on recycling and composting at home.

For something that you no longer need, but think may be of use to someone else, you can advertise for free on this website: <http://www.freecycle.org/> and the new owner collects the item. No expense to you! From the homepage you can search for your local Freecycle group. There's one for Skipton and Craven, Lancaster and Carnforth.

For more information on any of the above, come along to the Looking Well on Saturday 21st June.

## BENTHAM FILM GROUP

*By Stella Hall*

We are pleased to announce that our first film will be "Rabbit Proof Fence" (Certificate PG), to be shown at the Victoria Institute, Low Bentham on Saturday 7th June at 7.30pm. Doors open at 7.00pm and themed refreshments will be available during the intermission.

A true story, set in Australia in 1931 about Molly Craig, a young Aboriginal girl who leads her younger sister and cousin in an escape from a government institute, set up to train Aboriginal children as domestic workers and integrate them into white society. Molly guides the girls on an epic journey over 1,500 miles of Australia's outback, in search of the rabbit proof fence that bisects the continent and may lead them home. The cast includes Kenneth Branagh. Tickets, £5 per person at the door, are available in advance at £4.50 at the Institute on Mondays and Wednesdays 10 till 12 and from the Community Centre at the same times on weekdays.

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Ear piercing available - see Claire



## BENTHAM LITTLE RED BUS/COMMUNITY TRANSPORT



By Anne Yaman

Well, it has finally happened. The Station Building contract was finished on 30<sup>th</sup> May and we have started the big move. There are a couple of things associated with the move that we would be grateful if you could take a note of:

1) BT are scheduled to move the phone from our Station Road office to the Station building at midday on 2 June. Please bear with us because although we don't anticipate any problems - You never know. During our moving period it will be business as usual so if you need to arrange transport and can't get through on 62753 please call mobile 0775 393 8237 or 07926283543. Our emails should be up and running, either [anne@benthamct.co.uk](mailto:anne@benthamct.co.uk) or [lin@benthamct.co.uk](mailto:lin@benthamct.co.uk) but in any event we are able to access them away from the office so will check them regularly from another PC

if we run into difficulties.

2) I'm sure most people will have noticed that for about a year now we have been running our Little Red Bus identity alongside the more familiar Bentham Community Transport. We have decided that from 1 June we will use Little Red Bus as the main identity but please be reassured that nothing else has changed apart from the name!

3) As reported last month all the ancillary services associated with the Trust such as "poo bags" recycling etc have now all moved to the front office in the Community Centre (opposite the Spar) and if you have any queries please contact Sharon Haslam on 61800.

Both the Youth Café and ourselves are very pleased with and proud of our new accommodation and to celebrate there will be our Grand Opening on Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> July which we plan to join with a gala event on the Playing Fields on Wenning Avenue. Details are in the planning stage. Please see Bentham News next month for details and remember to put the date in your diary.

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## NYCC RECYCLING CENTRES

By D. Cllr. Lin Barrington

From 1st June 2008 anyone wanting to use commercial-like vehicles, such as vans, signwritten vehicles and large vehicles to take waste to North Yorkshire County Council household waste recycling centres will first have to register their vehicles with North Yorkshire County Council.

The Council announced in April how residents wishing to use commercial vehicles can register to use household waste recycling centres and time is running out for those who haven't sent their details in.

Residents wishing to use these types of vehicles are being urged to register with the County Council within the next few days. Commercial vehicles will need to display the proof of registration to gain access to HWRCs from the 1st June. Anyone using a commercial or similar vehicle, or large vehicle, after this date without a proof of registration will be turned away.

The County Council has also introduced Guidance, on construction and demolition wastes, for commercial waste customers and waste from charities. Further details of the new guidance can be obtained from the County Council web site at [www.northyorks.gov.uk/hwrc](http://www.northyorks.gov.uk/hwrc), Customer Service Centre on 0845 8727374 or [waste.management@northyorks.gov.uk](mailto:waste.management@northyorks.gov.uk)



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## COACH HOUSE RESTAURANT

### *'Business as Usual'*

Karen and Bill are handing over to new business owners,  
Gordon and Theresa.

We wish to thank our kind patrons, our staff past and present,  
and our first class Bentham suppliers for their support during  
the last three years of upgrade.

Theresa and Gordon will be wonderful new hosts, and we trust  
they will receive all the encouragement we know they deserve.

*Thank You*

## CLAPHAM FOOD CO-OPERATIVE WINS NATIONAL AWARD

*By Tony Bennett*

Growing with Grace received the Best Small Organic Shop 2008 award presented by the Soil Association at a ceremony in London recently. The Soil Association Organic Awards recognise innovation, business leadership and commitment to the organic industry.

The Soil Association citation stated: "Growing with Grace provides fresh, organic, locally produced and fairly traded food to the local community selling produce through the shop, at weekly markets and through a box scheme which delivers to 200 households. A unique aspect of Growing with Grace is their Community Composting Scheme which processes the community's green waste and completes the circle by using it to produce food for that same community. They also share information about their work through events, open days and educational work."

The co-operative has also been awarded a grant by the Plunkett Foundation to enable them to employ a Marketing Project Worker on a full-time 6 month contract. The worker will promote their enterprise in order to build their customer base and their educational role working with schools opening young minds to the concept of locally based, sustainable food production and distribution.

We are pleased that our success has been considered worthy of articles in the Westmorland Gazette, the Craven Herald and the Lancaster Guardian.

### **Clapham Bio-diesel Project Acknowledged**

The bio-diesel project based at Growing with Grace and run by a Clapham cooperative has been given glowing write-ups in three magazines recently: *New Sector—democratic enterprise and community control*, *Permaculture and Cooperatives*. Each article uses the bio-diesel project as a good example of the way that communities can set up and manage enterprises democratically and cooperatively for their benefit and result in community development.

### **Wenningdale Home Repairs**

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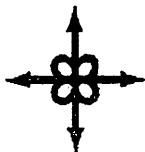
## **Hatha Yoga**

Yoga & relaxation every Tuesday in the Lower Town Hall, High Bentham 11am-12noon & 6pm-7pm.

Yoga tones and strengthens the body, removes tension and stiffness, promotes better breathing and circulation, releases the vitalising flow of energy within you and creates a natural feeling of calmness and inner peace.

For more information please contact Sandra  
on 015242 62248.

# BENTHAM FOOTPATH GROUP



*By Maureen Ellis*

June starts with the Littondale walk on Tuesday 6th, starting from Lairgill at 9.15am. Littondale is the area at the back of Pen-y-Ghent and is quite a demanding walk of 9.5 miles with a steady climb up from Litton at first. It's then along the young Pen-y-Ghent Gill and down into Foxup and back along the river to Litton. The Terrain is up and down with lots of different aspects; there are nesting birds, moorland and good flora, particularly the Bird's Eye Primrose.

On Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> June there are two walks as part of the Bowland Festival, both starting from Lairgill at 10am. The longer one, called The Red and White Roses Walk, is 8 miles but is quite easy with only one short uphill climb to Big Stone. It goes over Shakey Bridge to Branstone Beck and then crosses Mewith Lane, going on to Big Stone where it crosses the Lancashire/Yorkshire border and then down into Low Bentham and back along the river. The shorter, but no less interesting, walk is the 4.5 mile delightful Heritage Trail which goes through varied terrain, fields, farmyards and along the river. It includes the added bonus of artwork boards by Gill Barron and the carved stone bench by the River Wenning.

It is important to be part of the planning in the very democratic and well-known Bentham Footpath Group, and to do this please attend the open business meeting on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> June at 7pm in the Wenningdale Room at the Town Hall.

There is a 5 mile evening walk on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> June to the Kettlesbecks, meeting initially at 6.30pm at Lairgill and then at 6.45pm at Eldroth Village Hall. This includes wonderful views of Ingleborough and the surrounding hills in the evening light.

On Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> June, the last walk of the month, the 7 mile Ribblesdale Circular, meets at Lairgill at 9.30am. The walk starts at High Birkwith farm on the back lane from Horton-in-Ribblesdale, and then goes up to Old Ing on the

Pennine Way and then to Ling Gill Old Bridge at the head of the Nature Conservancy Area. Then it's across to Nether Lodge and Lodge Hall (Ingman Lodge) followed by a short stretch of road to Colt Park and back through the fields to Selside. Then there's a drop down to the river and the footbridge and back to High Birkwith. On the way we'll be looking at some old and interesting farmhouses and there is natural history in abundance.

Hope to see you on some of these walks!

## BREAKDANCING FOR BEGINNERS



Thursday 19th

June

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# WOMEN'S INSTITUTES

## High Bentham

*By Anne Yaman*

The May meeting celebrated our birthday when President, Wendy Dowbiggin, greeted 24 members. The business of the evening was quickly concluded and moved on to discussing the resolutions for this year. There was a lot of lively debate regarding bottom trawling by fishermen which was carried by 18 votes to 6.

The second resolution concerned the problem of mentally ill people being incarcerated in jail and the ladies agreed that this was a problem that needed to be addressed. For the party the committee ladies had prepared a variety of sandwiches and a cake which were all washed down with a glass of alcoholic or non-alcoholic wine!

The competition was for a party hat which was won by Sue Camacho with Margaret Hayton second and Joan Sharman and Janet Bargh joint third. The raffle was won by Phyllis Tomlinson.

The next meeting will be on 5<sup>th</sup> June in the Lower Town Hall at 7.30 p.m. with a talk by Winifred Dawson on "A little bit extra". The competition is for an odd shaped vegetable. All visitors will be most welcome.

## Low Bentham

*By Jennifer Watkinson*

Jen Buxton, from Ulverston, spoke enthusiastically about her life long passion for tigers. As a child she was always reading stories about them or drawing them. Many, many years later she realised her ambition to visit India. Travelling by train and jeep from Delhi she went to a reserve to study them. She gave a vivid description of the countryside and the exotic animals she encountered as she rode on an elephant following the tigers.

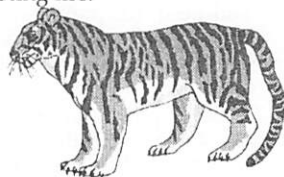
On another trip she went to a much quieter area for ten days to count deer with the hope of more elephant rides and tiger sightings. She took many photographs of these peaceful and graceful beasts. The villagers where she stayed were very

friendly, so on returning home, she decided to raise money by printing her photographs and drawings and giving talks so that she could help fund a new village school.

She has sponsored two Ulverston teachers to visit the school and each year she takes the top class into the park to view the wonderful wildlife they have on their doorstep.

This wonderful storyteller was thanked by Mrs. Ruth Sephton, vice president. Competition winners were Mabel Easterby, Pat Burns and Christine Jennings. The raffle winner was Betty Atkinson.

Three members attended the North Yorkshire West's council meeting which was held at the Rendez-vous Hotel, Skipton. The principal speaker was the international best seller, Santa Montefiore, who spoke about her interesting life.



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# LOCAL EVENTS IN JUNE

- Sun 1st** An afternoon in a Wildlife Garden in aid of Yorkshire Wildlife Trust, at the home of Liz & Roger Neale, Bankhouse, Higher Westhouse. Entrance £1.50. Light refreshments extra. Family Wildlife Trail & Plant Stall. Enquiries to 41155.
- Mon 2nd** Craven Customer Services, at the Town Hall, 10.00am-12.30pm, and every Monday.  
Town Council meeting at the Town Hall, 7.30pm.  
Gentle walks for women, leaving from Lairgill 9.30am-12.00noon, and every Monday.  
Toddle-in for parents/carers and babies and toddlers, Methodist Church Hall 10.00-11.30am and every Monday.  
4.30-5.30pm Adventurers group for 4-6 year olds. Methodist Church Hall and every Monday in term time.  
6.15-7.30pm Springboard for 7-10 year olds, Methodist Church Hall, every Monday term time.
- Tue 3rd** Bentham Playgroup at the Wenningdale Room, Town Hall, 1.00-3.00pm, and every Tuesday.  
Bentham Footpath Group walk, Littondale, 9½ miles, leaders J. Harrison and V. Smith, 61100. Meet at Lairgill 9.15am.  
Bentham Child Health Clinic at the Surgery, 2.00-4.00pm.  
Tuesday strolls, very gentle walks, Looking Well 2.00-3.00pm, and every Tuesday.  
Yoga, 11.00am-12.00noon and 6.00-7.00pm, Lower Town Hall.
- Wed 4th** Bentham Playgroup at the Wenningdale Room, Town Hall, 1.00-3.00pm, and every Wednesday  
Girls Fizzical Club, Town Hall, 6.00-7.00pm and every Wednesday.  
Art for all, 2.00-4.00pm, Looking Well, and every Wednesday.
- Wed 4th** Basketball Club for 14 years+, 7.30-8.45pm HB Primary all weather pitch, and every Wednesday.  
Community lunch, Looking Well, 12.30pm, every Wednesday.  
Keep Moving Well, Community Centre 2.00-3.00pm and every Wednesday.  
10.00-11.30am coffee served in the Methodist Church Hall, donations for local charities, and every Wednesday.  
Shooting to Printing, Digital Photography Course by Jon Brook, Looking Well, 10.00am-4.00pm.  
NSPCC monthly meeting at Lingfield, Robin Lane, 7.30pm.  
Bentham Community First Responders at the Horse and Farrier, 7.30pm. Come and talk to us about joining.
- Thu 5th** Swimming at Hornby, cost £1.60. Call Barbara Shuttleworth 62873 to arrange transport, and every Thursday.  
Cancer Support Group drop-in, art sessions, therapies and lunch, 11.00am-1.30pm and every Thursday.  
High Bentham W.I. at the Town Hall, 7.30pm. See page 17.  
Discover historical Bentham, guided walk led by David Johnson, 7.00-9.00pm. Meet at Looking Well, cost £1.
- Fri 6th** Age Concern at the Masonic Hall, 10.00am-2.30pm. Eric Stanley - "Castles of Great Britain".
- Sat 7th** St. Margaret's coffee morning at the Town Hall Ballroom, 10.00am-12.00noon.   
Farmers' Market at the Lower Town Hall, 9.30am-1.30pm.  
Bentham Footpath Group, Bowland Festival Red and White Roses walk, 8 miles, leaders A & M Speight, 62540. Meet at Lairgill 10.00am.  
Kirkby Lonsdale Brass Band concert at St. John's, 7.30pm.

- Sat 7th** **Bentham Footpath Group**  
Bowland Festival Heritage Trail,  
4½ miles, leaders K & M  
Hartley, 62373. Meet at Lairgill  
10.00am.  
Looking Well Open Day - fun  
for all the family, 10.00am-  
4.00pm.  
Clapham Heritage walk, 3½  
miles, cost £2. Meet at NPA car  
park, 2.00pm.  
Stone carving course at Looking  
Well, 10.00am-12.45pm & 1.15-  
4.00pm.
- Tue 10th** **Bentham Toy Library**, 9.30-  
11.00am at the Community  
Centre.
- Wed 11th** **Bentham Footpath Group** open  
business meeting, 7.00pm,  
Wenningdale Room, Town Hall.  
Coffee morning for "Open  
Doors" (support for persecuted  
Christians), Methodist Church  
Hall, 10.00-11.30am.
- Thu 12th** **Welcome-in dominoes** for all  
ages, Methodist Church Hall,  
2.00-4.00pm. For transport  
phone Nigel or Kath 62272.
- Fri 13th** **Age Concern** at the Masonic  
Hall, 10.00am-2.30pm. Colin  
Etherington - Extend Exercise.  
Burton Under Fives health  
visitor drop-in.  
Bloomin' Bentham meet in  
painted bus shelter, see page 29.
- Sat 14th** **Methodist coffee morning**  
at the Town Hall, 10.00-  
11.45am. Cakes stall,   
plants.  
Looking Well stone carving  
course 10.00am-12.45pm and  
1.15-4.00pm.
- Sun 15th** **Copy deadline for July edition**  
of **Bentham News**.
- Tue 17th** **Bentham Child Health Clinic** at  
the Surgery, 2.00-4.00pm.
- Wed 18th** **Bentham Footpath Group** walk,  
The Kettlesbecks, 4 miles, leader  
M.Ellis 51802. Meet at  
Lairgill/Eldroth Village Hall,  
6.30/6.45pm.
- Thu 19th** **Low Bentham Women's**  
Institute at a member's garden.  
See posters for details.
- Thu 19th** **Breakdancing** for beginners at  
the Town Hall, 6.00-8.00pm. To  
book a place or for more details  
contact Jack 07756212958.
- Fri 20th** **Waste paper collection** at  
Lairgill car park, 8.30-11.00am.  
Proceeds to NSPCC.  
Age Concern at the Masonic  
Hall, 10.00am-2.30pm. Card  
Bingo.
- Sat 21st** **Cancer Support coffee**  
morning at the Town  
Hall, 10.00am-12.00noon.   
**Bentham Footpath Group** walk,  
Ribblesdale circular, 7 miles,  
leader T. Burnett, 63481. Meet at  
Lairgill at 9.30am.
- Sun 22nd** **St. John's Patronal Festival**  
service, 11.00am.  
Clearbeck Gardens open for  
visits for the National Gardens  
Scheme, 11.00am-5.00pm.  
Admission £2.50, children free.  
Plant stall, refreshments in aid  
of Tatham Fells Church, NSPCC  
& SCF. Also on 29th.
- Thu 26th** **Welcome-in dominoes** for all  
ages at the Methodist Church  
Hall. For transport call 62272.
- Fri 27th** **Bentham News** published.  
Age Concern at the Masonic  
hall, 10.00am-2.30pm. Domino  
and beetle drive.
- Sat 28th** **St. Boniface coffee**  
morning at the Town  
Hall, 10.00am-12.00noon. 
- Sun 29th** **Mabel Parr's Ordination** at  
3.30pm at St. Margaret's Church.  
National Blood Service,  
Ingleborough Community  
Centre 10.00am-12.30pm & 2.30-  
4.00pm. Blood donors wanted.

### 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.

## BURTON UNDER FIVES



By Viki Hindle

LOTTERY FUNDED

Burton Under Fives is pleased to announce that it has been awarded a grant from Awards for All, which is funded by the National Lottery. This is to fund a new computer suite and broadband connection. This equipment will make a huge difference to our pre-school; not only will we be able to introduce the children to computers, but we will have a wealth of staff resources available through our broadband connection.

We have also been awarded grants from the Can-Do Investment Fund and the Craven Trust, for pre-school equipment, HBOS and The Lunesdale Rotary Club for some new outdoor equipment and Burton-in-Lonsdale Parish Council to pay for some safety tabards. We would like to thank all those charities, trusts and funds, which have given us such fantastic support.

June is a busy month at Burton Under Fives. On Friday 13th June our health visitor, Kate Wild, is doing a drop-in session, where you can talk to her in confidence about any aspect of child health and development. Your child can play for free while you talk to Kate.

On Monday 16th, we are taking part in the Barnardo's Big Toddler. This is a national event in which toddlers take part in a sponsored half-mile walk to raise money for those children less fortunate than themselves. If you would like to join us, please make contact for further details.

From the 23rd to 27th June we will be having another of our very popular taster weeks. During this week, any child from the age of two, who is not already registered with us, can come and try our setting for free.

Why not take this opportunity to come along and see what we do? We are based in the North Classroom at Richard Thornton's Primary School in Burton-in-Lonsdale. If you require any further information please contact us on 07709 694839, during playgroup hours, (Monday, Thursday and Friday 9am-1pm, Tuesday and Wednesday 9-11.30am) and speak to a member of staff.

## Dr. JANE BURNETT RETIRES

By Sue Atkinson

After almost 30 years of working for our practice, Dr. Jane Burnett recently retired. We are all sorry to see her go, although at the same time, happy that she now has extra time to spend with her family, and pursue her many hobbies. She has always been a popular doctor, with patients of all ages, but in particular she has a special bond with children, and loved running the baby Clinic at the surgery. In the past few years, she has had additions to her own family with the arrival of three beautiful grandchildren, Matthew, Katie and William.

Dr. Jane Burnett will be remembered fondly by the staff at the surgery, as she has been more like a friend to us all, but in addition, the interests and concerns of the staff have always been a priority to her. We intend to keep in regular contact.

Some of her patients have been unaware that she was retiring, and she regrets that she did not get a chance to say goodbye to them personally. However, her thoughts are with those people and she wishes them all well.

## The Mushy Pea on Three Wheels

By Sharon Haslam

I'd like to tell you about the sadness in Crow Trees.

A car has gone that had three wheels and was the shade of mushy peas.

It was held together with sticky tape,  
This didn't bother Charlie or Wayne, his mate.

They'd screech off the lane like Starsky and Hutch,

Sometimes forgetting to use the clutch.  
Followed, we would note,  
By plumes of black smoke.

This car has gone to garage in the sky,  
But we will not cry,  
Because one was delivered by a heavenly host.

Crow Trees now has a three wheeler Silver Ghost.

## NEW OWNER AT THE NEWSAGENTS

*By Shirley Brown*

There has been a change of ownership at the newsagents, and we wish Pete and Karen Standing all the best for the future, which apart from other prospects, involves their becoming grandparents later this year, a role they're really looking forward to.

From 28<sup>th</sup> April, Pete and Karen, who have run the newsagents so efficiently and successfully for over 7 years, handed over the business to Chris Field. Chris lives locally and hopes soon to move into the flat above the shop, which he is currently renovating. He has successfully managed a retail outlet in Preston before coming to Bentham, and is not daunted by the prospect of running such a busy, bustling, small business; in fact he relishes the challenge and says he has always wanted to be his own boss. Well now's his chance!

As far as Chris is concerned it's "business as usual" – the 30 delivery rounds, the amazing range of magazines and periodicals, the fridge housing among other drinks Sid Hogg's bottles of fresh local milk, the familiar faces of friendly staff, all will continue as before. There will be a few small changes, some additional confectionery is already appearing and a credit card machine has been installed. Chris has applied to become a lottery outlet, and is waiting to see if his application will be successful.

This is a good business, and we wish Chris success as he takes it forward.

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## SUMMER MUSIC

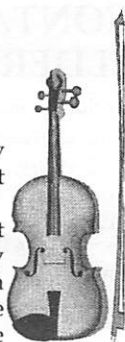
*By Judith Johnson*

Settle Orchestra is now rehearsing its Summer Concert entitled "Around Britain"

Saturday 21st June at 7.30 at Christ Church, Skipton  
Saturday June 28<sup>th</sup> 7.30 at Settle Parish Church  
The first half of the concert will be devoted to The London Symphony by Vaughan Williams

Vaughan Williams will feature again in the second half with his well-known English Folk Songs. From Wales we will play Alun Hoddinott's Folk Song suite and from Scotland the descriptive Hebrides Overture by Mendelssohn more well-known as Fingal's Cave. Two energetic pieces from Percy Grainger represent Ireland. They are Molly on the Shore and Handel in the Strand.

Tickets will be available from Bentham Post Office.



**Looking Well Studios**

**Open Day**

**Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> June**

10am - 4pm

**Fun for all the family!**

Make a kite  
Pottery Painting Café  
Stalls, displays, art exhibition



Teas, coffees and home-made cake served all day

Home-made soup lunch

**Just drop in throughout the day!**

## CONTACT THE ELDERLY TEA PARTIES

*By Sue Clements*

This successful venture has been running for 2 years. A group of single older people (not always the same people) meet monthly, on a Sunday from 3 to 5p.m. for afternoon tea. This is held in someone's home, or 2-3 times a year a larger group meets at the Looking Well. A volunteer transports people from Benthams and the surrounding villages. We occasionally visit further afield. Visits are planned to the Animal Rescue Garden Party (Langcliffe) and to the Open Gardens at Caton. If you would like to join in contact Norma Dixon on 63086.

We need to recruit more drivers and hosts (in this area). The frequency you drive or host is voluntary. Many people do this just once or twice a year. For hosts, access needs to be relatively easy (some people have difficulty managing steps) with a downstairs toilet. A large house is unnecessary, just being able to have 3-4 guests would be lovely. These afternoon teas are not, and should not, be hard work. Other volunteers can also bring plates of sandwiches, scones etc. Drivers can stay and enjoy the excellent fare or can return later to take people home. Next year we will also need a new coordinator. This is not a huge job, just a few hours monthly to organize who's going to tea, the host and drivers. It doesn't have to be done by an older person, and having younger people involved with any of the above would be brilliant (you can add this to your CV). Please contact Norma for more information.

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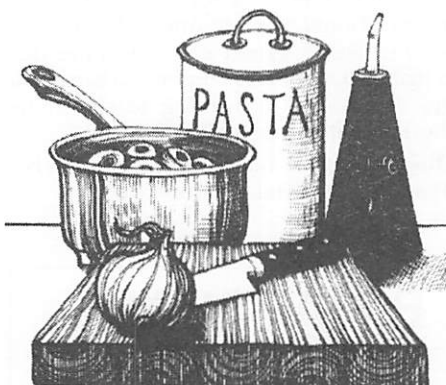
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# SHEEP FARMING'S "SILENT ASSASSIN"

By Keith Hartley

Last month I outlined the serious problems being faced by the region's dairy farmers. This month, in looking at the fortunes of our sheep farmers, I have found that many of them do not appear to be faring very much better than the dairymen.

Seven years ago the whole world witnessed the sad plight of farmers as graphic television images relayed the manner in which DEFRA addressed the infamous foot and mouth disease epidemic. Today, whilst there may be no massive funeral pyres of culled sheep to elicit public sympathy, the farmer faces issues that are, arguably, just as serious and potentially as damaging as those of 2001.

The foot and mouth "outbreak" caused by last summer's leak at Pirbright was innocuous by comparison, but its effects have been so far-reaching it has been referred to as the *silent assassin* in the farming press. It combined with the previously little-known Blue Tongue disease, a mosquito-borne infection from mainland Europe, to trigger yet another round of movement restrictions. The market value of sheep fell very sharply, to a point where it was uneconomical for many farmers to bring them to market. The result of this was that on some farms this season's new lambs arrived to find that "their" grass was still being grazed by last year's animals.

Writing in the spring edition of *Farming in Yorkshire*, editor Chris Berry explains that in normal circumstances approximately 40% of UK lambs are sold for export, but the movement restrictions that were put in place made it very difficult for export to be carried out on anything like the same scale. Consequently, the home market became overloaded with lamb, driving down its value, and whilst this may be good news for people like the supermarket buyer, it came as a cruel blow to the farmer who relies heavily on his ability to sell his stock for a reasonable profit.

At tupping time in the autumn the ewes are normally brought from the hills to more

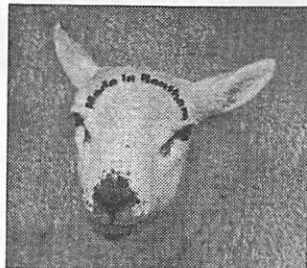
lush grazing in the fields below, because it is known that increasing the quality of her diet at this time will very often cause the ewe to

produce more eggs for fertilisation, thus resulting in multiple births in the spring.

Last year however, the "tupping grass" on many farms was eaten by the lambs that did not go to market and this meant that the ewes were unable to reach their optimum condition. Consequently, this year's lamb yield has been very much reduced, and this will carry implications for some years to come because of the reduced number of ewes that will be available for breeding.

Lambs remaining on the farm in October began to lose weight as the grass stopped growing, so it became necessary to move them and feed them indoors. The cost of doing this, when added to medication and veterinary costs, meant that in some instances the farmer has had to sell last year's lambs for negative equity, and it doesn't take the mind of a bank manager to work out that no business can survive very long in these circumstances. It does explain why some farmers have felt the need to diversify their business and why so many of their young sons are seeking employment outside farming.

Thankfully, market prices have improved considerably in recent months, but as usual it is not the farmer who will gain most from this. I have visited Bentham's Auction Mart on several occasions over the past few months, and one of the things that has struck me very forcibly at sheep sales is the apparent disparity in fortune between the buyers and the sellers. The farmers have put hard work, worry, and often their last pennies into raising their stock and bringing their animals to market. It is not they, however, who own the very expensive Mercedes and BMWs that stand in the car park!

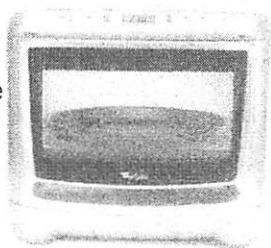


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## BENTHAM PEOPLE



### Thanks

**Rose Atkinson** would like to thank everyone for the flowers, cards and calls received after her recent accident.

**Sheila and Reg Ward** - Thank you for all your good wishes, cards, flowers and gifts on their retirement.

**Mick Beckett** would like to thank everyone for helping him celebrate his 40th and thank you for all the money and gifts. Thanks to Chris and Fiona for the entertainment.

### In Memoriam

**Preston.** Remembering Bill, a loving husband, dad and grandad, who died on 30th June 2007. "Our silent love is closer than the nearest thing we see". Joan and girls and family.

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### Lost

Digital camera, at Big Stone parking place, 13th May. 62176.

## CHARITIES THANK YOU

**NSPCC.** The recent house to house collection made £1,514.30. Thank you to all who contributed.

## ABBEYFIELD COFFEE MORNING

*By Angela Robertson*

The Abbeyfield coffee morning will be held on Wednesday 18th June, from 10.00-11.30am. Admission is 50p and there will be a raffle. Everyone is welcome.

The Abbeyfield is home to 7 elderly people who live there independently, with some meals provided by the resident housekeeper. If you wish to find out more please come along to our coffee morning.

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## READING ESCAPES AT BENTHAM LIBRARY

*By John Frankland and Liz Farmer*

Bentham Library is holding an event on Friday 27<sup>th</sup> June to celebrate the completion of the library refurbishment. Join us between 2.00 pm and 4.00 pm, when there will be a free prize draw, open to everyone who borrows a book on 27<sup>th</sup> or 28<sup>th</sup> June. You could win a Chocolate Fountain, a £20 meal voucher at the Punch Bowl Hotel or a £10 voucher at the Nose Bag café. North Yorkshire County Council would like to thank Tooby's Electrical, The Punch Bowl Hotel and the staff at The Nose Bag for donating these splendid prizes. North Yorkshire County Council would also like to thank Barwise Bakery for kindly donating a cake for the event we held at the end of April.

There will be free refreshments, an under-fives storytime and displays. There will also be a drop-in computer session where library staff will be available to give library users a brief introduction to the Internet.

2.30 pm – 3.00 pm Stories and Crafts for Under-Fives

3.00 pm – 4.00 pm Internet demonstrations

The event will tie-in with the National Year of Reading monthly theme of 'Reading Escapes' so there will also be a special collection of holiday reads on show. All are welcome. We look forward to seeing you all at your newly refurbished library!

### Joining the Library

If you are not already a member, do come and join! Just arrive at the Library with a document that proves your identity and address, such as a bank statement, driving licence or utility bill, and we will make you out a membership card. This allows you to borrow up to 10 books for free. You will be charged a small fee when you take out story tapes, DVDs and for requesting books from other libraries. For more information regarding this event or any other questions you may have please telephone us on 0845 034 9532 or e-mail us at [bentham.library@northyorks.gov.uk](mailto:bentham.library@northyorks.gov.uk)

# CHURCHES TOGETHER

By Judith Johnson



CHURCHES TOGETHER  
IN BENTHAM

## Kirkby Lonsdale Brass Band

St. John's is delighted to welcome back this popular local band for a concert on Saturday June 7<sup>th</sup> at 7.30pm. Kirkby Band has recently won a place in the National Brass Band Finals at Harrogate in September and will give us a lively and varied evening's music. Tickets are £6 including wine and nibbles.

## St John's Patronal Festival

Happy birthday to St John's on their special service on June 22<sup>nd</sup> at 11a.m. We are delighted to be joined by Sedbergh Junior School Choir. Sometime ago we reported in the Bentham News that our 300-year-old sundial had been vandalised, presumably for the scrap metal, we are now able to report that it has been repaired and will be re-dedicated during the service. We are grateful to Phil Jowett for its repair and Tony Burnett for a donation in memory of his wife, June.

## Mabel Makes History

The Reverend Mabel Parr will be ordained as an honorary curate for High and Low Bentham on Sunday June 29<sup>th</sup> at 3.30pm at St Margaret's Church. Following a policy to include half the population (namely



women) in the ministry, Mabel has completed her training and will become the first woman to be ordained from the Ewecross Deanery of the Diocese of Bradford. The afternoon service will be lead by the Bishop of Bradford and accompanied by the Churches Together Music Group and the Taize Choir. Refreshments in the Methodist Schoolroom.

Iain Henshaw t/a

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## HIGH BENTHAM CP SCHOOL

*By Mrs. C. Boocock*

### Thursday Coffee Club

We are still proud to be hosting a weekly coffee club for parents, grandparents and carers of pre-school children, in association with the North Craven Children's Centre at Hellifield. Whether it's a friendly chat, some timely advice, or just a free cuppa - whatever you're after you should find it here. So pop in and do something different - every Thursday 9.00-10.00am in the School Hall.

### C.P.D.

Continuing Professional Development (CPD) is sometimes an overlooked aspect of the school's life. But, to ensure all staff stay up to date with the latest theories and practices in education, or are able to develop existing skills to benefit the school more fully, a programme of staff training is in place. To this end we should congratulate Kathy Johnson who has just completed her BA degree in Early Years. Other staff undergoing CPD include Angela Tierney and Helen Jackson who are both currently doing their Foundation degrees in Teaching and Learning. Mrs. Whitfield is working towards her Certificate in School Business Management while Mrs. Heaton and Mrs. Wheildon are both studying hard for their Masters Degree in Education! Our school is rightly proud of all its learners - both young and not so young.

### Football Tournament

On Monday 14th April two teams from High Bentham Primary School took part in the North Craven Football Tournament at Ingleton Primary School. Both competed well, and put in some great performances. The bears were knocked out in the first round but the alligators won their group with three wins. Special mention must be made of Joel Wynne who scored a hat-trick in one of the group games. After Bentham beat Settle 1-0, and Settle beat Ingleton 1-0, there followed a tense game with Ingleton. Bentham got the 1-1 draw they needed to be crowned champions. Callum Stephens, goalkeeper, was player of the tournament.

## BLOOMIN' BENTHAM - ONE YEAR OLD!

By Shirley Brown

As the hedgerows fill in and the grass grows, much of the litter gets covered up for a few months, so the Bloomin' Benthamers have turned their hands (5 pairs of them on 13<sup>th</sup> May!) to weeding and tidying up paths and verges around the town. We surprise ourselves when we realise that, when we meet again on Friday 13<sup>th</sup> June, we will have been doing what we do for a year. Most months (always 1pm on 13<sup>th</sup> of the month in the painted bus shelter) 5 or 6 people turn up, but at different times 30-40 people, including children, have been involved, just volunteering an hour or so of their time to help look after neglected areas around Bentham.

It turns out that we are not alone in our interest in community gardening, and that similar groups have sprung up all over the country. The Tidy Britain Group says that England is becoming overrun with litter, a

problem which now ranks alongside dog mess and graffiti as the worst local environmental issues in the public mind.

The ban on smoking in public places has meant increasing amounts of cigarette litter on the street, and Bentham is no exception, the pavements are full of cigarette ends. In some urban areas councils have learnt that they have to pick up litter quickly, but in rural areas it's just being neglected.

*In the countryside litter can stay in a hedge forever, and unless volunteers pick it up, no one will.*

The Yorkshire Post carried an article about volunteer litter-pickers on 26<sup>th</sup> March 2008, in which it referred to a website [www.peopleclearinglitter.co.uk](http://www.peopleclearinglitter.co.uk) and within weeks the site had 10,000 hits! You can also pick up guerrilla gardening ideas from various websites, including [telegraph.co.uk/gardening](http://telegraph.co.uk/gardening).

You are very welcome to join us, and if you want to find out more, please ring Shirley on 61608 or Margaret on 63175.

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# STONE PROCESSING YARD – YES OR NO?

*By Shirley Brown*

The proposal by E & M Fairhurst & Son of Kirkby Lonsdale, to demolish the glass houses and poly tunnels at the Ingleborough Nurseries site, and to build a stone processing building with office and staff accommodation and change the use of the site to stone storage, has caused considerable discussion around Bentham. The consultation period goes up to the date of the relevant Planning Committee, which is probably 2<sup>nd</sup> June. You can check the progress of planning applications on line via [www.planning.cravencdc.gov.uk/fastweb](http://www.planning.cravencdc.gov.uk/fastweb) and this particular planning application is 08/2008/8513. However, as a service to our readers, we attempt to outline here the main points of the arguments.

E & M Fairhurst started business at their farm in Lawkland over 10 years ago. It expanded rapidly, and in 2003 moved to premises near Kirkby Lonsdale. At that time there were 5 employees, now there are 20 full-time and 2 part-time employees. The company owns some quarries in West Yorkshire where stone is extracted. This stone is transported to the factory where it is cut or sawn to form elements, such as lintels, cills and quoins, for use in construction. The yard is also used to store stone prior to cutting and stone flags and walling stone to supply the construction industry.

The existing factory is on a small industrial estate just off the A65 near a disused railway station. The 22 staff come from Bentham, Ingleton, Burton-in-Lonsdale and Kirkby Lonsdale. Fairhursts say they have outgrown their existing site and want to relocate to the 3.4 hectare site near Bentham. They claim that within 12 months of relocating they would be able to employ 10 more full-time staff from the locality. Protesters say there is no guarantee that the business will thrive or that the extra staff will be recruited locally.

A planning application for this site submitted on 8<sup>th</sup> April 2004, was for 60 static caravans, and this was refused partly

because of loss of local employment. Protesters say that at appeal it was rejected specifically because of the planning restriction (Ref 6/8/556/A), which stated that if the nursery ceased to trade, all horticultural buildings should be removed and land returned to its original agricultural use. A report now says that the practical implications of achieving this would be extremely expensive and the likely value of the agricultural land would be less than the cost of its reinstatement. Protesters claim that the sale of the greenhouses could contribute significantly to the cost of the operation.

A report from Stephen Craven Building Design of Giggleswick, says that that the existing buildings are dilapidated and an eyesore, and that Fairhursts will construct good quality new buildings. They will build an earth bank and plant indigenous trees to form a natural acoustic screen, but protesters say that noise levels from this industrial unit will be far higher than from a plant nursery.

Fairhursts say they will operate from 7am-6pm from Monday to Saturday, protesters say this is an unacceptable level of activity which will transform this quiet rural setting.

Fairhursts say that 10-15 stone delivery wagons a day will visit the yard along a straight road with good access. Protesters say the Bentham site is only connected to the A65 by narrow, unclassified rural roads with soft verges. The Bentham-Ingleton road suffers from subsidence, Dumb Toms Lane is less than 4 metres wide, the road through Burton has a steep hill and use of the road from the moors into Bentham and up Robin Lane would be hazardous to the primary school. Fairhursts say they have consulted near neighbours about the proposal. Residents in the area say that some, but not all, of those affected have been consulted.

Those in favour say this is a one-off business suited to the locality, its scale and activity can be screened and with a limited impact on the environment it will provide essential jobs to a rural area. Those against say this development is inappropriate for the site, that it will damage the infrastructure and the peace and beauty of this rural area, with no guarantee of any advantage to Bentham and its disadvantages have been underestimated.

What do you think?

## BENTHAM COMMUNITY CENTRE

*By Sharon Haslam*

On Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> June 10am – 2pm there will be a Jumble Sale at the Community Centre. If you would like to donate any unwanted items, please deliver them to the Community Centre on Friday 27<sup>th</sup> June between 10am and 4pm, or phone Sharon Haslam on 015242 61800 if you need any items picking up. We are looking for volunteers to help on the day, if you are interested in helping then please give me a call.

The Drop-in is up and running and is open everyday from 10am – 12noon. We are recycling batteries, foreign coins, empty computer ink cartridges and stamps. We are also selling books for Pet Rescue. So call in to your friendly community office.

### Victoria Institute

On Friday 27<sup>th</sup> June there will be Bingo in the Victoria Institute at 7.30pm. The Community Link Café is going from strength to strength and recently had Peter Marshall and David Johnson as guest speakers which everyone enjoyed. The group has also enjoyed arm chair exercise with Sally Horn and a monthly trip to the Sundial for lunch. The Community Link Café meets every Monday 1.30–3.30pm and Wednesday 11.30am–2.30pm. Transport provided on request. If you are interested in joining this jolly group phone either Andrea Tuohy or Margaret Hayton on 015242 63162. The next book swap is Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> June 10-12 and Bat 'n' Chat every Thursday 10-12.

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# SPRINGFIELD BOWLING CLUB WILL HAVE A NEW PAVILION!

*By Ray Shannon Project Fund Raiser*

## Nearly There!

Springfield Bowling Club is delighted to announce that it has received a grant from 'Awards for All', part of Lottery Funding, of £10,000.

Coupled with other grants already received, or promised, from Bentham Town Council, NYCC Craven Area Committee and Craven District Council, we are nearly there.

Our members have been very involved both with personal donations and hard work at various events. A number of local businesses and private individuals, already acknowledged, have also donated. We are so grateful to you all.

I have received help from a number of people throughout this exercise and have personally thanked them all, but I must mention one in particular. Bruce Dinsmore, Sports Development Officer at Craven, without whose help this would have been a far more difficult journey.

As the season finishes this Autumn you will see a new pavilion, supplied by Settle Hot Tubs and Log Cabins, at Springfield Bowling Club.

Again, thanks to you all.

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Bentham, Burton-in-Lonsdale, Ingleton, Clapham - Boxed Ad one eighth of a page £12.50. Quarter page £25. Half page £60. Series rates (prepaid) for 3 or more insertions 10% discount.

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## LUNESDALE ROTARY CLUB

*By Mary Jane Peabody*

The Rotary Club of Lunesdale appreciated the generosity of residents during its annual Christmas Collection. The Collection has enabled the Rotary Club to make donations to the following local charities: First Response Teams of Bentham, Burton-in-Lonsdale, Casterton/Barbon, Holme/Burton In Kendal, Kirkby Lonsdale and Wray. In addition to the First Response donations, grants were given to the Burton-in-Lonsdale Play Group, the Bentham and District Pet Rescue and the Wray School Art Project.

The club's Youth Committee has donated Usborne Dictionaries to the following Primary Schools in our area: Holme, Arkholme, Kirkby Lonsdale, Leck, Melling, Wray, Tatham Fells, Caton, Brookhouse, Hornby, Ingleton, Burton-in-Lonsdale, High Bentham, and Low Bentham.

Other recent projects of the club members involved an event benefiting Cancer Care, and sponsorship of our local Stroke Awareness Day.

The Rotary Club of Lunesdale is an active club of people from varied professions, who meet weekly for fellowship, community service and charitable activities. Anyone interested in finding out more about Rotary Club membership in the Lune Valley may contact Steve Wilkinson, 015242 21150.



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## BOWLAND FESTIVAL ACTIVITIES

*By Sue Flowers*

The Bowland Festival is running during the first two weeks of June – it is to celebrate this Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty in all its forms, from bird-life to landscape and culture. More information can be found on the websites [www.bowlandfestival.co.uk](http://www.bowlandfestival.co.uk) or [www.bowlandarts.co.uk](http://www.bowlandarts.co.uk) but here are some headlines:

1<sup>st</sup>-15<sup>th</sup> June – 11am-5pm Fridays to Sundays – Open Studios at Green Close in Melling to see a fantastic range of artwork.

Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> June & Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> June – Middlewood Study Centre near Wray is offering two free courses learning how to transform harvested coppice by carving and making a tree into a spoon.

Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> June – 9.30am-3pm - visit Claughton Brick Works and carve your own brick before it's fired at the factory

Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> June – Make a kite at Looking Well

Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> June – 1-4pm - Introduction to felt making at Retford House, Bentham with Vicki Mulligan

Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> June – an introduction to stone carving with Steve Bentley at Looking Well.

There's lots more – so look at the websites and go along to something – you'll be surprised and delighted by what you can find in this very special environment that we live in.

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## A VERY BIG THANK YOU

*By Robert Holland*

Thanks to the fantastic generosity of so many people in the area, the Bentham First Responders have sufficient funds to continue our operation for the foreseeable future. We thought that it would be selfish and foolish to continue to raise funds for our cause. Other equally worthwhile medical or health causes in the Bentham area should be able to raise funds without any unnecessary competition from us - examples are Looking Well Cancer Support, Bentham Surgery Extra Care Fund and Bentham Age Concern.

We have now purchased our second kit and have sufficient funds to buy the necessary extras and pay our running costs. When, not if, we need further funds, we will not be backward in coming forward to ask you all to repeat your giving.

At our monthly meeting in May we were thrilled to receive a cheque for £2,000 from the Chairman of Craven District Council's Fund and David Ireton presented the cheque to Wanda Lewcun the co-ordinator of the group outside the Horse and Farrier. The picture above right, shows, left to right, Robert Holland, Sue Halsall (behind), David Ireton, Sue Arnott, Steve Arnott (behind), Jean Jones, Lynne Askew, June Hewitt, Andrew Coomber (behind), Sandra Kay, Wanda Lewcun, Wendy Thorp (behind), Sue Coomber, Jill Marshall, Manuel Camacho and Gordon Kennell. Photograph by John Henderson.

Volunteering is very worthwhile and also great fun, and won't cost a penny. If you are interested either come along to one of our monthly meetings which are held on the first Monday in every month at the Horse and Farrier or ring Wanda Lewcun (62450), Gordon Kennell (61597) or Robert Holland (63346).



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Typical Fairhurst stone carrying lorry - see article on page 31.

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