

BENTHAM NEWS

N.S.P.C.C. & CHRISTIAN AID OPEN GARDENS

Sat. 5th & Sun. 6th July

By Susan Adams

The following gardens will be open during the open garden weekend. As in the past, some are open on both days and some are open only on one. Please check your tickets before venturing out. Refreshments this year will be served in Low Bentham.

Entrance is by universal ticket costing £2.50. These are available at various outlets in the area, Hash Browns, Toobys Electrical Bentham, Bentham Sports Shop, Tourist Information Office, Low Bentham Post Office, and in Ingleton. They will also be available at the participating gardens on the days when they are open. We thank all those people who have agreed to let us share their gardens for this one weekend. There will be a rough (not to scale) map on the inside of the tickets, to aid with locations. Gardens open from 1.00-6.00pm unless otherwise stated. Thank you to all who are taking part in this scheme.

Mr. & Mrs. W. Joel, 24 Station Road, High Bentham

Mr. & Mrs. W. Harrison, 24 Pyc Busk Close, High Bentham

Marie Jackson & David St. Pierre, Tennant House, Clapham Road

Mr. & Mrs. D. Johnson, Holly Gill, Doctors Hill, Low Bentham

Mr. & Mrs. Sid Hogg, Yew Tree Drive, Doctors Hill, Low Bentham

Mr. & Mrs. Gilroy, Braeside, Cross Lane, Low Bentham

Mr. & Mrs. R. Whitfield, Highfield, Lakeber Ave, High Bentham

Mr. & Mrs. P. Cressey, Elm House, Low Bentham

Mr. & Mrs. W. Foster, Hazelwood, Summer Hill, High Bentham

Mr. & Mrs. P. Wright, Staddlestones, Low Bentham Rd, Low Bentham

Jo Warin & Pete Johnson, Ellergill Lodge, Low Bentham

Mr. & Mrs. H. Neill, Ashfield House, 66 Main Street, High Bentham

Mr. & Mrs. L. Ely, 16 Lakeber Drive, High Bentham

Mr. & Mrs. R. Colyer, Robin Hill, 17 Mount Pleasant, High Bentham

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Saturday only

Sunday only

Saturday only

Sunday only

Sunday only



Another fund-raising event planned for the summer is our Craft Fair, to be held in the Town Hall, Bentham, on 2nd August. If anyone is interested in having a craft stall then please contact Carolyn Woof as soon as possible on 015242 62254, for more details.

The recent House to House collection for N.S.P.C.C. in High and Low Bentham, Burton-in-Lonsdale and Wray, netted £1253.24. Thank you to all who gave so generously.



JULY 2003

ISSUE 201

WOMEN'S INSTITUTES

High Bentham

By Sue Caniacho

Do any of you remember the aqua show at the salt water pool in Morecambe during the 50s with the exciting 20 metre dive of death and the aqua lovelies? We were entertained at our June meeting by Liz O'Neil who was an aqua lovely for six years. Her behind the scenes memories and photos struck a chord with quite a few of our members.

The competition for a photo of a bathing beauty of the 50s and 60s was won by Ruth Wylie and the raffle was won by Pat Atkinson.

Creative cards, by Sue Martin will be the topic at the July meeting and the competition is for a decorated thimble. If you would like to come along to the meeting on 3rd July at the Town Hall, please do, you will be most welcome.

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Low Bentham

By Jennifer Watkinson

At the monthly meeting the guest speaker, Mrs. Rachel Clay, distributed a questionnaire to everyone entitled "Do I care enough about myself to take good care of myself?" Under the headings of Drinking, Eating, Smoking, Checking, Exercise and Time out and Tenderness, she expanded on these and gave an interesting and informative talk. Mrs. Christine Jennings, the president, gave the vote of thanks. Competition winners were Mrs. Mabel Easterby, Mrs. Carolyn Woof and Mrs. Barbara Mason.

Mrs. Sylvia Brennand was our delegate at the I.G.M at the Albert Hall, London, where all three resolutions were passed. Two members had a lovely evening when they attended Burton-in-Lonsdale's birthday party. They were entertained by Mrs. Dale's dance group and other musicians. They joined in dancing and enjoyed the supper.

The group rally this year was organised by Ingleborough, who provided an excellent buffet supper. The guest speaker was Gabriella, who gave an amusing account of her Polish relatives and her long standing boyfriend, who cannot be persuaded to marry her. Afterwards she sent a petition round for members ordering him to do so!

The beautifully quiet village of Clapham was the venue for this year's treasure hunt. It was a lovely warm evening and the team, who came third, really appreciated exploring the delightful village. Afterwards they returned to the village school where a very welcome supper was served.

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JUNE'S TOWN COUNCIL

By Bill Kennedy

Apologies were received from Cllr. Barnes. Police. P. C. McClure reported on criminal activity in the area, and a road accident at the junction of Tatterthorn Road/Clapham Road, in which a police vehicle was involved. There were no injuries. Speeding endorsements had been issued to 21 people, mainly on the Low Bentham Road and at Mount Pleasant. The police were advised about complaints relating to Wesley Close problems and a police presence was requested at a THYNC meeting on 13th June regarding this.

Highway matters. Mr. Marshall reported on a site meeting with NYCC Environmental Services and confirmed that rumble strips could not be placed within 30mph areas, so these could not be sited at Station Road or Robin Lane. Replacement of the faded and worn yellow lines, particularly in Main Street, is to be undertaken soon and it was also agreed that strategically placed "Free Car Parking" signs to Grasmere Car Park, are to be installed.

Grasmere Car Park Complaints. Craven District Council has agreed to erect signs within the car park indicating a limit of 23 hours in any 24 hour period. The drainage problem in the residents' car park is now the responsibility of Craven Housing Association and they will be asked to deal with it.

Local flooding. Following the flash flooding of several areas in Bentham on 25th May, Craven District Council has been notified and it was agreed to contact Mr. R. Turner/Network Rail to ensure that culverts within their land are free from obstruction. It was reported that more sand bags are required for Wenning Avenue and Hillcroft.

Noise complaint. A copy of the complaint letter, about noise from the fish farm at Low Bentham, had been forwarded to Craven District Council Environment Department and the police had also been advised.

County & District Council. Mr. Hurtley reported on the appointment of a new Chief Executive, Ms G. Davidson, who would take up her post in two months' time. Local Licensing has now been taken over by CDC and a planning application relating to housing development at Bridge House had been turned down by the Planning Dept.

Mr Pilkington reported that the Mobile Collection and Information Service would be withdrawn at the end of June this year, and that the location of an information service was under review. He drew the attention of the council members to the "Shaping our Future" Conference in Bentham on the 13th to 15th June and stressed the importance of this event.

Reports from other organisations. Mr. Pengelly, the council representative on the Board of the Development Trust, reported on the appointment of a community gardener, and mentioned the areas which would be the focus of his attention. Mrs. Heigh and Mr. Marshall commented on the fund-raising events on behalf of the Playing Fields Association development fund, which had raised about £750.00.

A request from relatives of the late Mr. & Mrs Lough, to site a seat in the cemetery in their memory, was approved.

AGE CONCERN

Age Concern (Bentham) recently held a very successful coffee morning at the Town Hall. Over £450 was raised for Day Centre funds. Grateful thanks from the Committee are due to all who helped in any way, and most importantly the people of Bentham who so generously supported this event.

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PUPPY POINT - MEETING PEOPLE AND ANIMALS

By Sue Whiteley (Veterinary Nurse)

We all want our pet dogs to be friendly towards people and other animals. The best time to work on what is known as "socialisation" is when the pup is between 3 and 12 weeks of old. During this period the fear response is not yet fully developed so your puppy is more likely to approach new things with interest rather than being fearful. Later, new experiences are more likely to trigger a fear response, if not managed correctly. So it is vital to get out and about with young puppies to experience as much as possible in these first few weeks (taking necessary precautions until vaccination cover is provided). Breeders can do a lot to help socialisation of their litters of puppies. It is important for puppies to experience and meet a wide variety of people, e.g. men with beards, women, children, babies, cyclists, people carrying things. Meeting a wide variety of dogs of different types, sizes and colours is also important. Before vaccination cover, meet dogs belonging to family and friends, in homes or gardens, provided that their dogs are well and vaccinated. Also, try to take your puppy to see a variety of other animals that it is likely to meet in the future. It may seem like a lot to do but it is only for a short period and never again will your puppy be so amenable to taking all its new experiences in its stride, and helping to avoid behaviour problems associated with fear and aggression. For more information contact me on 015396 21946.

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CRAVEN DISTRICT COUNCIL MATTERS

By John Pilkington

Goodbye to the Mobile Information Unit

The Mobile Information Unit has now been withdrawn. In the last two weeks all residents who made payments to the District Council at the Mobile Unit should have received a 'Smart' Card. This card can be used to make payments to the District Council at a local Post Office. If you have not received your card please contact one of your District Councillors or telephone Linda Bradley at the Council on 01756 706411. Some of the leaflets that used to be on display in the Mobile Unit will be available in the Mobile Library Van. Discussions are continuing to find other ways of distributing rail cards and collecting information for bus passes and car park permits.

Regional Assembly Referendum

The Deputy Prime Minister, John Prescott, has just announced that a referendum about setting up a Regional Assembly for Yorkshire and the Humber will be held. However, before the referendum can take place the Boundary Committee for England must carry out a local government review. This review will recommend options for unitary local government in those areas of the Region that currently have two tiers of the local authority - this includes Craven. The review is expected to take up to a year to complete. Therefore the earliest a referendum could be ordered is summer 2004 which would allow the first

referendum to take place in autumn 2004. In the last Boundary Committee review, several years ago, a number of weird proposals were considered such as setting up a new district combining Craven with Selby and Goole!

Recent Planning Applications

08/2003/3198 John Fletcher RIBA, Branstone Beck Cottage, Mewith, Bentham, Lancaster, LA2 7LX.

Construction of new dwelling house and garage extension to existing house at 1 & 4 Lake House, Burton Road, Low Bentham, Lancaster

08/2003/3207 D H Design North West Ltd., Pells Byre, Hophouse Lane, Kirkby Lonsdale, Carnforth, Lancashire, LA6 2EH. Erection of new terraced house on the end of existing terrace block on land adjacent to 6 Victoria Buildings, Low Bentham, Lancaster.

08/2003/3230 J Blackmore-Tucker, 4 Ivy Mount, Ingleton, Carnforth, LA6 3HG.

Conversion of existing garage into dwelling space at 8 Greenfoot Lane, Low Bentham, Lancaster.

08/2003/3256 John Fletcher RIBA, Branstone Beck Cottage, Mewith, Bentham, Lancaster, LA2 7LX.

Rear extension at Moorside, Cottage, Lane Head, Mewith, Bentham, Lancaster.

08/2003/3268 Ian Godfrey Developments, Harpers House, Harpers Lane, Fence, Burnley, BB12 9PF.

Reserved matters - design of plots 46-51 at Dales View, Butts Lane, High Bentham, Lancaster. Note: Planning permission has already been given for these dwellings - this application is for the details of the design.

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BENTHAM & DISTRICT PET RESCUE



By Val Marshall

June has been a very busy month for our activities. Another successful Book Sale was held at Watershed Mill, on the same day as our Sponsored Walk. Unfortunately for these events the weather was extremely hot and many missed out due to the heat. However, those who completed the walk enjoyed it very much and raised useful funds for our cause. Emma from Dalehead Vets was our star - she ran up the steep hills and down the dales on the 9 mile route, which she finished in not much over 2 hours. What it is to be young!

Our Quiz for this year has now been launched and is on sale at the Post Offices in High and Low Bentham and at the local Galas that we attend. The subject this year is "Colours" - do have a go, the prizes are £20, £10 and £5, and, even if you do not complete

it, there is a lucky draw for £5.

Our next event is our summer Coffee Morning in Bentham Town Hall on 19th July, when we hope to see all our supporters once again. August sees our next Book Sale, which will be held for much longer than usual, starting on 9th August and not finishing until the 17th.

The sanctuary has been very quiet recently, which is good as it shows that people in this area are being more careful with their pets. Also our neutering programme is at last saving all those unwanted kittens, which are so often dumped to fend for themselves, or worse still, pregnant cats are thrown out before their babies are born. Do please let us have any unwanted kittens as we can find good homes rather than just being passing them on willy nilly. Kittens are so sweet, but they do grow into cats!

THREE PEAKS SPONSORED WALK

By Paul Cusack

The Coach House is hoping that on the 19th July, it will hold a sponsored walk taking in the Three Peaks, to raise money for the N.S.P.C.C. and the R.S.P.C.A.

We hope to be setting off at around 6.30-7.00am, depending on weather conditions. Sponsorship forms are available from Adrian Leigh, or from me at the Coach House. Volunteers are very welcome to join us, Adrian Leigh, Dave Bargh, Chris Hall and myself. There will be a free hot pot supper at the Coach House afterwards.

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METHODIST CHURCH GARDEN PARTY

By Gwen Whitfield

Glorious weather on Saturday 14th June helped to make a day to remember for the garden party held at The Grange, by kind permission of Dorothy Stubbs, organised by the Centenary Committee of the Church. Mr. W. J. Joel opened the proceedings and visitors enjoyed sitting in the garden having tea, scones and strawberries, or browsing round the plant, cake, book and bric-a-brac stalls, then sampling a cooling

ice-cream. Memorabilia, especially made for the Centenary, was on sale with colourful china mugs, tea towels and notelets depicting life around Bentham. It was a pleasure to welcome so many villagers and people from every denomination to this event. A big thank you to all.

Further events are planned for the Centenary and if you have any connection at all with the church; christening, marriage, Sunday School etc, we would love to hear from you. Please contact either Ruth Sephton, 61046, or Gwen Whitfield, 61643.

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SURGERY NEWS JULY

By Rachel Clay

1/ What percentage of the adult population don't do enough exercise to maintain good health?

25% 50% 75%

2/ Perrier water was taken off the market for a while due to a health scare. It was found to contain 4.7 micrograms of Benzene per litre. How much Benzene can be found in 1 cigarette?

3/ What is the recommended limit of salt intake for an adult per day?

4/ How much salt is there in an average serving of baked beans?

5/ How much water should we drink each day?

6/ How much water does a mug hold?

7/ One in three people in Britain over the age of 65 has heart disease.

True or False?

8/ Overweight people are more likely to develop diabetes.

True or False?

9/ What is the recommended limit of alcohol for an adult per week?

1 unit = glass of wine / 1 short / 1/2 lager or beer.

a) Men 11units 21units 31units

b) Women 14units 24units 34units

10/ How much do you drink?

ANSWERS 1)75% 2)190mcg 3)6g 4)6g 5)2 litres/4 pints

6)300mls or 1/2 pint

7)True 8)True 9a)21 9b)14 10)Too much?

Last month 69 people did not turn up for appointments with nurses and doctors. That's about 3 a day!

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Dear Editor,
Sincere congratulations to you and your very, very competent staff and helpers in the success of the 200th edition of the Bentham News. I have followed the progress of the BN from its first edition and it has grown from strength to strength in interest, variety, coverage of public affairs and details of local incidents. Especially it has promoted and encouraged activities which will be of lasting value to the community.



Leaving Bentham after almost 30 years, to be near to my daughter, was a big decision. Saffron Walden is a pleasant and interesting market town with a long history. My many friends and especially my former pupils from Ingleton School will be pleased to know that I keep reasonably well for my age, enjoying the independence of a buggy instead of a car. I have a flat in a residential complex with a manager, which makes for a very friendly community. I am organising a party for the Over Nineties Group (of which I am the eldest!). I am happy to have found a welcoming church (with a professional organist and choir) and have joined a number of local societies with varied interests, so keep busy. I still miss the Dales and hills, and my friends. If anyone is coming south to London or the coast, I would be pleased if they come and call. We even have a guest suite which I can book.

All good wishes from Ruth Parkinson, 120 Audley Court, Saffron Walden, CB11 3 HX.

Dear Bentham News,
I was more than surprised and even very upset to read in the June issue the report on Bentham Golf Club, which stated that "this was the first time there has been a professional at the club".



In 1924, my father, Jack Richardson, came to Bentham Golf Club as the Golf Professional and Green Keeper. He had just completed a seven years apprenticeship at Lancaster Golf Club where his time was equally divided between the Professional and the Green Keeper. At this time BGC needed a qualified man. One of his first tasks was to make greens with bunkers. He held this position until 1939.

Quite apart from giving lessons, he had his own workshop/shop in a wooden building adjacent to what was known then as the "Pavilion", where he made woods to customers individual needs. He did repairs to clubs and sold golf bags, clubs, balls, shoes and jackets. On the course he was expected to keep the tractor and mower maintained.

The fact that his memory at BGC has been completely overlooked, or indeed forgotten, is very distressing to myself and other family members. He did a lot for BGC.

If any reader has an old golf club in their attic or garage with "J. Richardson" stamped on it, the family would like to buy it.

Winifred Thwaite.

PS. I am enclosing a bill head, for information.

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LETTERS (Continued from page 9)

Dear Bentham News,

It is with great excitement that we write this letter to all of you who know us. Richard and I have decided to take some time out and travel. Both of us, like lots of other people, have worked hard for years and spent much less time together than we would have liked. We have both worked long and unsociable hours. We have also had our share of sadness, losing three parents in three years, the stress of moving and renovating three homes in three years and spent all our spare cash in a happy way by bringing up two lovely kids.

So we decided, while we are still young enough (ha ha) and in sane mind (well, Richard claims he is), we should throw caution to the wind and set off and see where we end up. We are keeping our apartment in Bentham to maintain our roots and we will be organising Bentham Ski Trips, returning to Avoriaz in 2004. If people want to keep in touch we will be available.

Hopefully, on our return, we will be browner, fitter and less stressed, with lots of new experiences. So, armed with our state of the art, winterised camper van, rough guide, skis and flippers, we are off in August.

So in the words of Bilbo Baggins "I've put this off for far too long. I am now going. I bid you all a fond farewell. Goodbye". And in the words of Arnold Swarzenegger "But we'll be back".

Heather and Richard Knowles

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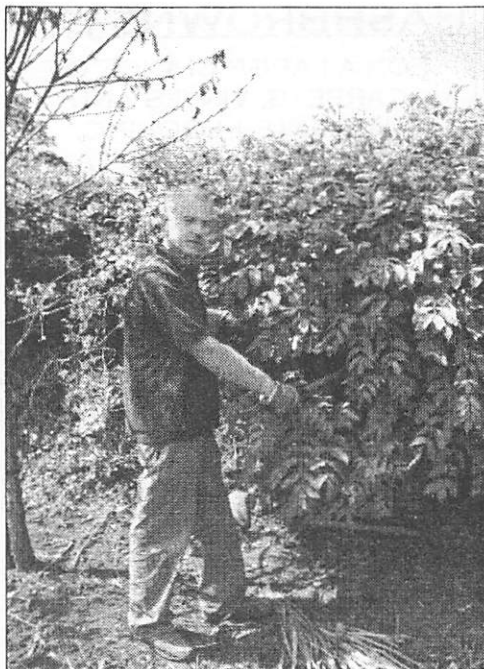
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OUR COMMUNITY GARDENER

By Bill Kennedy

Pictured on the right is our new community gardener, Charlie Robin, at work at the Cemetery approach at Butts Lane. The project, environmental enhancement in Bentham, is funded by the Countryside Agency and Craven District Council, and is part of the Market Towns Initiative.

The priorities for Charlie, who works on average 7 hours a week, are work at the Cemetery approach, the station garden, the Millennium Corner garden and the gateway sign areas. Initially these will be dug over and weeded, followed by planting with appropriate flowers or shrubs. If you have any spare bedding plants or perennials, and would be prepared to donate them for this community enhancement, please contact me on 62343 or 61030. And if you see Charlie at work, why not stop and say "Hello" and give him some encouragement.



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QES SUMMER FAIR

By Sue Dudman

The fabulous Summer Fair at Queen Elizabeth School, Kirkby Lonsdale will be held on Sunday 6th July from 11.30am - 4.00pm. Admission is £1 with children free and great lunches from £3.50 served from midday. There will be a bar, tea, coffee and refreshments and a BBQ. We keep the show rolling, rain or shine, and as ever promise a happy and entertaining afternoon. Homemade cakes & goodies, oodles of craft stalls, games, raffle prizes, bric-a-brac, music and dancing. This popular annual event is made possible by your valuable support, so please come along, enjoy and contribute to the fair.

Donations of cakes, raffle prizes, and items for stalls will be very much appreciated and should be brought into school just prior to the fair or on the day. Any enquiries or offers of help should be made to Hilary Durie on 01524 761184.

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FOOD FOR THOUGHT



By Shirley Brown

This month we are featuring not just food that is available locally, but very fine local food. We are extremely fortunate to have outlets in our small market town which supply high-class, locally produced meat, bread, fruit and vegetables. These outlets are independent of control by big business, and are responsive to local

demand and local conditions. They bring employment to the area and enhance our lives by enabling us to eat high quality produce at affordable prices.

We are what we eat, we deserve the best, and that can be found right here in Bentham.

Growing with Grace

Since 2000 "Growing with Grace", a small organic food co-op just outside Clapham, has augmented the local supply of organic and fairly traded produce. "Growing with Grace" was formed by a group of local people, mainly Quakers, with a vision of an alternative way of business based on sustainability, equitable employment, workplace spirituality and fair trade.

Community Composting

The business has three interdependent components, a greenhouse vegetable growing operation, an Organic Shop and a bag-delivery scheme. Soon a fourth component will be added, the Community Composting Scheme. Some of the waste collected in our brown bins will be processed in Clapham: a unique opportunity for local people to contribute to the production of local organic produce. So keep filling those brown bins and look out for details of an open day that is planned for later this summer, to give people the chance to come and see the site in action.

THE OAKROYD BAKERY

Tel 61219



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FOOD FOR THOUGHT



WHAT ABOUT EATING OUT?

On these two pages we have included advertisements for some of our finest local food suppliers. In a few months time we would also like to feature how well you can eat out in the Benthams area.

We already know that we have excellent Chinese and Indian restaurants and take-aways, a market day cafe, a fish

and chip restaurant, good British pub menus and a Bistro style cafe where high quality meals are prepared to suit every taste. We hear of farms where there is catering for special occasions, with excellent meals. We applaud all these initiatives and would encourage locals and visitors to savour and make full use of these opportunities for eating out.

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LOCAL EVENTS IN JULY

Tue 1st Looking Well, 2.00-3.00pm, Women's Support Group, and every Tuesday.

High Bentham Playgroup for children from 2½, 1.00-3.00pm, and every Tuesday and Wednesday at the Town Hall.

Wed 2nd NSPCC monthly meeting at Lingfield, Robin Lane, 7.30pm.

Looking Well, 1.30-3.00pm, Mucky Buckets, parents and under 3s play session. 7.30-9.30 pm singing workshop, and both every Wednesday.

Thu 3rd High Bentham W.I. at the Town Hall, 7.30pm. "Creative Cards" with Sue Martin. Competition - decorated thimble. See page 2.

Looking Well, 10.00-11.00am Ball play for toddlers at the Community Centre, and every Thursday.

Bentham Footpath Group walk, Wrayton, Gressingham, 8 miles, leader N. Dove 21157. Please meet at Lairgill 9.30am.

Bentham Arts Forum, 7.30pm 1st Thursday every month at the Byres. New, exciting group of creative people.

Thu 3rd Dance at Clapham Village Hall, 7.30-10.00pm and every Thursday.

Fri 4th Age Concern at the Town Hall- "The Role of Social Services".

Looking Well, 6.00-9.00pm, Black Library Wargaming Club, over 11s, and every Friday.

Sat 5th Open Gardens weekend, see front page for details.

Settle Blind Association coffee morning at the Town Hall, 10.00am-12.00noon. 

Friends of Tatham Fells School Jumble Sale at the Lower Town Hall, High Bentham, from 2.00-4.00pm.

Sun 6th Open Gardens weekend, see front page for details.

Ewecross Historical Society, walk around the village of Long Preston with local historian, Mr. Philip Johnstone. Meet by the Maypole Hotel at 2.00pm.

Mon 7th Town Council meeting at the Town Hall, 7.30pm.

Looking Well, 10.30am-12.00 noon, Baby Buddies, parents and babies group. 1.00-3.00pm Cancer Support Group - Nick Gomersal, MacMillan Nurse - talk and update on his post. Both every Monday.

Tue 8th Bentham Child Health Clinic at the Surgery, 2.00-4.00pm.

High Bentham Toy Library at the Community Centre, 8.30-11.30am.

Wed 9th Citizens Advice Bureau at the Surgery, 1.30-3.30pm.

Looking Well, 7.30-9.00pm, Alzheimer's Carer Support Group - Talk on "Age Concern North Craven" by the Chief Officer Christine Broadhead.

LISTING FOR LOCAL EVENTS

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

Event.....

.....

.....

Venue.....

Contact Tel. Number.....

Name.....

Please complete and return to the Sports Shop, Main Street, High Bentham.

Wed 9th Bentham Farmers Market and the weekly market at Cleveland Square, 8.30am-2.30pm.

Thu 10th Bentham Footpath Group quarterly meeting at the Wenningdale Room, Town Hall, 7.00pm.

Kirkby Lonsdale and District Embroidery Guild at Westhouse Village Hall, from 2.00pm. Members meeting. For details contact Tracey on 01539 741869.

Fri 11th Age Concern at the Town Hall. Card Bingo.

Bentham Theatre Group present "When we are Married", at the Town Hall 7.30pm. See back page.

Sat 12th Tatham Village Committee coffee morning at the Town Hall, 9.45-11.45am. 

Bentham Theatre Group present "When we are Married", at the Town Hall 7.30pm. See back page.

Sun 13th Bentham Footpath Group walk, Ribbleshead to Hawes, 10 miles, leader B. Ellershaw, 62078. Please meet at Lairgill 9.30am.

Tue 15th Copy deadline for August edition of the Bentham News.

Thu 17th Bentham Footpath Group walk, Clifford Hall Circular, 4 miles, leader K. Piper 61977. Please meet at Low Bentham Car Park at 6.00pm.

Fri 18th Waste paper collection at Lairgill Car Park 8.30-11.00am. Proceeds to NSPCC.

Age Concern at the Town Hall. Dorothy Jobling - "How far can one go in a day?"

Sat 19th Bentham & District Pet Rescue coffee morning at the Lower Town Hall, from 10.00-11.45am. 

Tue 22nd Bentham Child Health Clinic at the Surgery, 2.00-4.00pm.

High Bentham Toy Library at the Community Centre, 8.30-11.30am.

Wed 23rd Citizens Advice Bureau at the Surgery, 1.30-3.30pm.

Fri 25th Age Concern, Annual General Meeting at the Town Hall.

Sat 26th Bentham & District Bible Society coffee morning at the Town Hall, from 10.00-11.30am. All welcome. 

Bentham Footpath Group walk, Elgar Way, Settle, 8 miles, leader A. Robertson, 61285. Please meet at Lairgill at 9.30am.

Local Events in Early August

Fri 1st Bentham News published.

Age Concern at the Town Hall, "Favourite Poems".

Sat 2nd NSPCC coffee morning at the Town Hall, 10.00am - 12.00 noon. 

Sun 3rd Bentham Footpath Group walk, Sedbergh, 9 miles, leaders A. Staveley and C. Ramwell, 61682. Please meet at Lairgill at 10.00am.

Thu 7th High Bentham W.I. outing. Details from the secretary, W. Dowbiggin, 61573.



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GARDENING PAGE



By Joyce Knapp

By the beginning of July, all the main summer and autumn cropping vegetables will have been sown, but we still have time to put in seeds of late crops such as perpetual spinach, winter radish and miners lettuce. This particular form of spinach is a useful leaf vegetable as it crops over a long period and stands well through the winter months. Miners lettuce also withstands the winter weather and its' small, attractive leaves are not only delicious in winter salads they also have a relatively high vitamin C content. The winter radishes have a flavour similar to that of their summer counterparts but grow much larger and are therefore usually served sliced as opposed to whole.

Both runner and French beans will soon be ready to harvest and they are best picked whilst the pods are still young and tender. Regular picking, perhaps on alternate days, will also encourage the formation of more pods. Peas will also be ready for harvesting and, if any escape being eaten fresh from the pod, they can be blanched and frozen for winter use.

Moving on now to the fruit garden, in the second half of July apple and pear trees can have their remaining fruits thinned out. These trees will have naturally shed some of their excess fruitlets the previous month in what has become known as the 'June drop'. It is advisable, if the tree is within easy reach such as bush form, to remove any small and damaged fruitlets using a pair of scissors. The 'king' fruit, i.e. the largest one in each truss, should be removed if misshapen and by leaving only two evenly sized fruits per truss, a smaller number of larger, more evenly sized fruit should be produced.

My allotment at Ireby will be open for the Bentham Open Gardens Weekend and details of how to find it will be in the programme available from local shops. It will be open on Sunday 6th July, 1-6pm, so anyone who would like to see where the ideas for this article originate from is welcome to come along and take a look.

By Eleanor Fisher

Sitting in the garden on a warm day, summer scents can be enjoyed to the full. In winter, the foliage of aromatic plants like lavender and rosemary needs to be crushed between the fingers to get any scent, but in hot sun they give off delicious Mediterranean smells from their oily leaves. The sweet perfume of Mock orange (*Philadelphus*) or the Mexican Orange Blossom (*Choisya ternata*) almost drowns you at mid-day, while the scent of many honeysuckles is at its best in the evening after a warm day. Climbing roses on a sunny wall waft their fragrance across the garden, while bush and shrub roses are best planted where you can get up close for a deep sniff.

Few perennial flowers are as scented, although some paeonies have a heavy, fruity smell, and *Monarda*, flowering in July and August has a lemony scent. Bulbs like hyacinths and paper white narcissi are invaluable for spring, and lilies follow on for the summer with their heavy, rather cloying perfume. Some annuals follow the "day and night" pattern, for instance, the big double stocks smell strongest during the day, while the small flowered single night scented stocks outperform their more spectacular relatives in the cool of the evening - these last are very easy even in poor soil, and make great plants for children to grow for quick results. The flowering tobacco *Nicotiana* is also excellent for evening, perfect close to a patio or french window.

Different people respond to different scents in a highly individual way. To some noses elder flower smells pleasant, a bit like old-fashioned limewash, and the foliage of box hedges aromatic, while to others both smell little better than tomcats. Some people find lilac, daphnes and hyacinths strong and sweet, others think them over powering, pungent or sickly. However virtually everyone agrees that rose or honeysuckle perfume is delicious, and the scent of sweet peas, whether in the garden or cut for the house is the very essence of summer.

Quakers

By Ralph Atkinson



CHURCHES TOGETHER
IN BENTHAM

The Religious Society of Friends (Quakers) have had a regular Meeting for Worship in Bentham since 1690, although we were not very welcome in 1653 when some of us were badly beaten outside St. Johns for interrupting a service. In addition to our regular Meetings for Worship on the 2nd and 4th Sundays in the month at Calf Cop (Burton Road, Low Bentham), we now have meetings on the 5th Sunday, when there is one, at our usual time of 10.30am. Everybody welcome.

Methodist Church

By Olive Calverley

During 2003 Methodists worldwide are celebrating John Wesley's birth, 300 years ago. Church services, plays, musical evenings and picnics are being held, giving thanks for his life and work but John Wesley was only human, his influence and power came from God. That warmed heart experience in Aldersgate Street assured him that God's love was personal as well as universal. God's Holy Spirit equipped him for his task of preaching and teaching Christ Crucified, Risen, Ascended Lord. God still calls today, is He calling you?

St Margarets

By Eluned Russell

Spring unfolded as we celebrated Easter, Ascension Day and Pentecost. The return of the light, the blossoming of trees and renewal of growth are appropriate to these festivals which rejoice in the power of God's constant and creative love over darkness and death. We marvel at the beauty emerging from the seeds we planted and can appreciate St. Paul's insight into life after death; that our risen bodies will be as different from those we know now as the amazing plants are to their seeds.

St. Bonifaces

By Fr. Angelo

Pentecost Sunday Whit Walk was a joyful and happy gathering of Christians of

Bentham and area, even though the rain poured on us. We still were able to sing our hymns heartily, led by Rev. Norman Price in the Methodist Church where we shared the excellent hospitality of tea and biscuits and the delicious birthday cake provided by the Churches

Together committee. We noticed that all our Reverends enjoy a sweet tooth. It was good to see so many children. Let's hope our churches will continue to bring our community together.



BISHOP OF BRADFORD'S VISIT

By Revd. Nigel B. Thomas

On 30th May the Rt. Reverend David James, the newly enthroned Bishop of Bradford, visited Bentham. In the morning about 40 people gathered at the Big Stone for a Songs of Praise and to hear Bishop David talk to us about the importance of understanding our role in Creation. Prayers were offered for all the outlying areas and we concluded with a picnic in glorious weather. In the afternoon, after an open house at Fairfield Barn, Bishop David visited the Looking Well and then he planted a yew tree at St. Margaret's Church before a pleasant walk along the River Wenning to St. John's Church, greeting people on the way. His day here concluded with a stop at the Christian retreat house, Pilgrim's Rest.

RIBBLEHEAD RAILWAY TOURS

By Pete Shaw

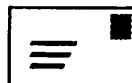
The Friends of the Settle-Carlisle Line are running guided tours of the shanty town site and surrounding area, near the Ribblehead viaduct in July and August. There will be two tours each Wednesday and they are free of charge. Participants should meet at Ribblehead Station at 10.20am for the morning tour or 13.40 for the afternoon one. It will be advisable to wear boots or strong shoes, and to carry waterproof clothing.

The tours will be conducted by an experienced guide who will describe the history of the Settle-Carlisle railway; the building of the line in the 1870s - with particular reference to Ribblehead viaduct, including the extensive repair programme of the 1990s after the line had been saved from closure; the narrow gauge railway engine house; the shanty town; site of the smallpox hospital plus the brickworks and lime kiln.

The walk around three fascinating archaeological remains is about two miles overall and takes about an hour and a half, interspersed with frequent stops at interesting points whilst the guide explains their history.

Many people have asked about the archaeological features visible near Ribblehead viaduct, so The Friends of the Railway have developed these short walks to explain what can be seen, and the guides provide an entertaining mixture of history and folklore.

PLEASE DON'T FORGET TO FILL THOSE ENVELOPES!



We have had an encouraging response to our 200th Edition appeal for the Health Centre Extra Care Unit fund.

We would like to thank those who have already made a contribution, and also realise that there may be some people who would still like to contribute who haven't yet done so.

May we encourage you to put your cash or cheque (made payable to 'Bentham Health Centre Extra Care Fund') into an envelope and hand it in to the Bentham Development Trust Office, Main Street, High Bentham by Friday 11th July.

We will be making a presentation of the total amount collected to the Health Centre later in the month, and will give details of the amount raised in our August edition.

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BENTHAM PEOPLE



Personal Thanks

Rose Atkinson and Family find it almost impossible to express their gratitude for all the kindness and support they have received following Charles' death. More than £850 has been donated to the Methodist Chapel and the Surgery Extra Care Fund in memory of Charles. Thanks to you all.

Illston. The family of the late Harold wish to thank sincerely all relatives, friends and neighbours for their kindness, sympathy cards and donations to Bentham Surgery Extra Care Fund and Carers Resource, received during their sad bereavement. They are especially grateful to Dr. Howlett, district nurses and carers for their support over the past four months, without which they could not have managed. Thanks also to Revd. Nigel B. Thomas, Joe Morphet, and Gail at the Punch Bowl, Low Bentham.

Thanks

Bernard (Armstrong) thanks everyone who sent their best wishes, cards etc, during his recent stay in hospital.

Anne Duncan would like to say thank you to her family for the wonderful surprise 50th Birthday at the Golf Club. Thanks to everyone for donations of £500 which was divided between the two charities. A night never to be forgotten.

Christian Aid House to House collection from 11th-17th May raised £1415.54. Thank you once again Bentham.

For Sale

▶ Woodburning/multi fuel stove c/w flue pipe. Very good condition £225. Phone Bentham 62230.

▶ "Newsplan" dark oak refectory-style dining table with four chairs, £100 o.n.o. 015242 63211.

▶ Small camera 35mm Olympus (mju:)-II wideangle £65. New Hunter Wellies 7s £25. Workroom to let £30pw. 62284.

For Sale

▶ J.M.B. Chest freezer as new. £120 o.n.o. Call 62528 after 2.30pm.

Birthdays

Margery Dodgson - Happy 90th Birthday - 12th July 2003 - to a very special Mum. Love, Betty, Edna, Margery and all the Family.

West, Jim - Happy 70th birthday 8th July, with much love, Jean, the lads and their lasses.

HIGH BENTHAM CP SCHOOL

Middy Supervisory Assistant required for September 2003

We require a M.S.A. to look after a child who has a statement of special educational need. The successful applicant will be required to work from 12.00noon until 1.00pm Monday to Friday. Rate of pay £5.45 per hour. For more details please contact the school. Closing date Friday 4th July 2003.

Required for September, a Supervisor for Tatham Fells After-School Club,

initially for 2 hours building up to 2½ hours for three afternoons/evenings (3.15-5.15pm). The successful applicant will have an NVQ Level Three, a BTEC in Childhood Studies or an NNEB Qualification.

Please apply directly to the school in writing, addressed to Tatham Fells After-School Club Committee, Lowgill, Lancaster, LA2 8RA.

Required for September, an Assistant Supervisor for Tatham Fells After-School Club,

initially for 2 hours building up to 2½ hours for three afternoons/evenings a week. Experience of working with children desirable. Please apply directly to the school in writing at Tatham After-School Club Committee, Lowgill, Lancaster LA2 8RA.



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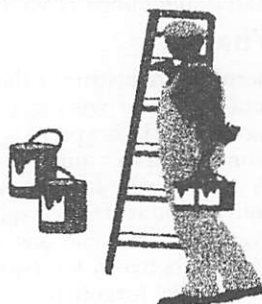
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FOOTPATH GROUP

By Maureen Ellis

It is with great pleasure that the July programme of walks can be contemplated. The current purple programme of events holds pleasure in store and Dorothy Stubbs has once again managed to arrange walks for all tastes. There is at this time of year the added bonus of long summer evenings, and Kay Piper is enthusiastically leading a circular one at 6 p.m. on 17 July taking in historic Clifford Hall. Wending up through Low Bentham and on the green lane behind the Quaker Meeting House the walk will reach the 'spider gates' at the hall - these are wrought in the image of spiders. The old mill, now apartments, will be pointed out and then on the return route the beech tree planted by Anthony Bateson of Ghyll Head farm, which replaced one felled at the end of the eighties will be seen. The plague stone on Burton road will be near the end of the summer evening walk

The lyrically named Elgar Way, led by Angela Robertson is a superbly varied one on the high ground above Giggleswick Quarry. The vitality of the area as a present day employer is reassuring in a countryside that can all too easily just become dependant on tourism for its industry. Then it will be up to the moorland beyond and down through oddly named Feizor, returning along the important Ribble waterway

Bernard Ellershaw is leading one of his popular walks, this time a linear one from



Ribbleshead to Hawes. Some cars will need to be taken to Hawes before the walk is begun and it is important to fill up cars that will be left at the start point. Unless participants are not returning eventually to Lairgill, patience and co-operation in this process will be much appreciated. It is often difficult to combine activities but if there is any chance of visiting the Hawes Museum and its extraordinarily helpful staff on this day or at a later date do so.

The fourth walk of the month will take place in the Wrayton - Gressingham area, where during the month of June one of the artists taking part in the delightful Lunesdale Trail lives.

10 July at 7 p.m. in the Wenningdale Room behind the Town Hall will see the Quarterly Meeting when everybody is welcome. Do try and come even if you have never been you will be very welcome.

Nearby Melling has produced an attractive pamphlet which is free of the walks that go through that parish. It is obtainable from the friendly garage in Melling.



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Non-local Advertisers

Boxed advertisement one eighth page - £15

Flyers and inserts rate negotiable depending on size, design and printing etc. Normal commercial rate £100

For small advertisements or notices on the Bentham People Page, Personal Thanks, Thanks, Birthdays etc, 10p per word.

For Sale, Wanted, Situations Vacant etc. 20p per word.

All advertising must be paid for when booking, which must be by the copy deadline date, 15th of month, prior to publication.

To place an advertisement in the Bentham News contact Bill Kennedy on 62492 or leave it in at Bentham Sports on Main St. High Bentham.



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RECIPES

By Doreen Park

Sausages - always a good old standby.



Original bangers, bubble and squeak with onion gravy

For bubble and squeak

- 1½lbs potatoes peeled and cut into chunks
- ¼pt milk
- knob of butter
- 1 tablespoon Colmans mustard
- wholegrain salt and freshly ground black pepper
- 6 ozs green cabbage, finely shredded

For onion gravy

- 1 oz butter
- 1 onion peeled and thinly sliced
- 1 tablespoon flour
- 12 fl oz chicken or vegetable stock
- 1 tsp oil
- 1 tablespoon brown sugar
- 3½ fl ozs red wine (or use Bisto/ onion gravy)

Put the potato chunks into a pan of boiling, salted water and cook for about 20 minutes until tender. Drain and reserve the water for cooking the cabbage. Return the potatoes to the pan, add milk and butter and bring back to the boil. Take off the heat, add mustard and seasonings to the potatoes and then mash them and keep them warm in the oven.

Now prepare the gravy. Melt half the butter with the oil in a frying pan, add the onion and cook over medium heat for 5 minutes. Add the sugar and cook for a

further 5 minutes until the onions have browned. Stir in the flour, cook for a minute and then pour in the red wine. Let it boil and then pour in the stock. Simmer for 5 minutes and then add the rest of the butter. Heat a frying pan, add the sausages and butter and cook over a low to medium heat for 12-15 minutes until brown all over. Remove the cooked sausages from the pan and drain them on kitchen paper. Keep them warm in the oven.

Cook the cabbage in the retained water for 4-5 minutes, drain it well and stir into the mashed potatoes, to make bubble and squeak. Pile this onto warmed plates, arrange the sausage on top and then spoon over the onion gravy.

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MUSIC FROM THE SHOWS

By Judith Johnson

Do you remember "Eidelweiss" or "I'm going to wash that man right out of my hair"? If you do, or even if you don't, take a trip back in time with Settle Orchestra in their concert on Saturday 12th July at the Ingleborough Community Centre at 7.30pm.

There will be music from "South Pacific", "The Vagabond King", "My Fair Lady" and "The Sound of Music" and also vocal solos from Duncan Cliffe, Sheila Hartley, Robin Knipe and Marie Raynor. Tickets are £5 with accompanied children free and are available from Cave and Crag, the Ingleborough Centre, ArtiSan's, Bentham Post Office and Orchestra members.

WASTE PAPER COLLECTION

By Hazel Lawson

Nearly 51 tonnes of paper has been collected during the last 12 months, the proceeds going to the N.S.P.C.C.

I would like to thank everyone for their support, helpers and the organisers of Bentham Community Transport, who let us use the minibus for shelter on wet mornings. Waste paper is collected from Lairgill Car Park from 8.30 - 11.00am on the third Friday each month.

STAFF REQUIRED

Burndale House - Day & Night Staff required. For further information please contact Mrs. B. Denby, Tel: 62466.

LOW BENTHAM GALA

By Mrs. Ayre

The Friends of Low Bentham Primary School are organising this year's Low Bentham Gala, which will take place on 19th July at 2.00pm at Low Bentham Primary School. The village procession will start at 1.45pm.

We need your help, particularly in the following ways:-

- ▶ Donate a prize
- ▶ Book a spot for the table top sale
- ▶ Offer to help on the day
- ▶ Book a charity or trade stand
- ▶ Make a float to take part in the procession
- ▶ Make a costume ready to be in the Fancy Dress parade or competition
- ▶ Practise, ready to take part in "stars in their eyes".

If you would like further information on any aspect of the Gala, or to help in any way, please telephone the school on 61416.

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FARMERS MARKET STALLS ADD SPARKLE TO MARKET DAY

The picture shows the Farmers Market stalls on Wednesday 11th June. This was Bentham's first Farmers Market, and judging from the remarks of various stallholders, and many local residents, it was a real success. The next Farmers Market will be on Wednesday 9th July and there will be another on Wednesday 6th August.

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HAVE A BREAK IN ARRAN!!

By Pauline Hill, Dave & Vicki Mulligan & Jean Taylor

A yearning to tread paths of heather led to twelve members of Bentham Footpath Group, plus the Community Minibus, heading for the Isle of Arran for a four day stay in Nigel Wild's guest house, where he moved after leaving the Tatham Bridge Inn.

Our first full day started with a torrential thunderstorm. This cleared and we set off to walk from Lochranza over the hills to the north coast of the island, planning to return by the shore. We had a hard, wet underfoot, climb, looking all the while for a golden eagle, which we could hear, but could not see, and stopped for lunch part way along the headland, with a glorious view, and a wide swathe of smooth path leading to our shore walk back. This shore soon became rocky and difficult, and gradually we diverted into the woods above the beach. It became obvious that this was not the correct way and we started a muddy and overgrown descent to get on course.

We had become quite a jovial crew during the course of the day, and even clambering, slipping and sliding we were laughing and joking. This stopped within seconds when one of our party fell into danger, landing headfirst in a precarious position above a steep drop. We made sure she could not slide any further and then carefully, and agonisingly slowly, eased her back into a safer position. She was in a lot of pain around her shoulder (unknown to us it

was broken), shocked and very waffy. We couldn't retrace our steps, Lochranza was several miles away. Nor could we get her down to the beach as the path was too steep, slippery and rough. We were trapped!

Ever the cub leader, Kay Piper produced from her rucksack a bandage, 3 pans, and a concoction containing brandy. The bandage was used to secure the patient's arm to her side, the brandy seemed to disappear somewhere in the bracken, and the three pans became a standing joke once the horror was all over, though I suppose we could have tapped out a morse code message on them if anyone knew how.

Keith, our leader for the day, had a mobile phone (never knock them, it saved us) and thankfully a signal, and contacted the police, who informed the coastguard. He also had the expertise to give them an accurate map reading. Eventually they rang us back saying a helicopter and winchman was not an option, as it could not land at the island hospital and would have to take our friend to Kilmarnock on the mainland. The lifeboat on the other hand could get to a local ambulance, providing they could climb the rocky slope from the shore in their wellies & waterproof gear.

Two of us, dressed in fluorescent jackets waited further up the climb. The day was turning hot, all was quiet, just the buzzing of insects - couldn't hear any movement, or engine noise. Nor could we see the rest of our party down below, where our casualty was wrapped in an exposure blanket. In the silence, looking out at the beautiful expanse of sparkling sea I could not believe it was the Clyde, the working river I, as a child, had been brought up with. Gradually two or three people climbed up to sit quietly with us, and in this way an hour and a half went by. We were told later that the lifeboat crew all had employment on the island, and had to leave this and get to the boat.

Midges and stress began to enter the equation, solved by one of our party borrowing a cigar, to calm her nerves and to puff over the offending flies. Whilst mildly observing that the only rescue service we were not using was the fire brigade, she accidentally set fire to the bracken. Luckily

Continued on page 30



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HAVE A BREAK IN ARRAN

(Continued from page 29)

we caught it before flames burst forth. Realising that not all eleven of us, plus the patient would get in the lifeboat, seven of us made our way down to the beach to walk the 4 miles back to the minibus. We left Keith, Dave & Vicki Mulligan & Colin Clapham to guide in the boat.

At this point Dave was really getting into rescue mode, and had a driftwood fire ready with which to light flares. When the lifeboat arrived it was guided in with a fluorescent waterproof on a walking stick! The crew of four (one a lady originally from Clitheroe, and a lad for whom this was a first real rescue), managed to scramble up, examine the patient, and strap her securely onto a stretcher. Then, using ropes, they carefully lowered her inch by inch down to the shore, and carried her to the lifeboat. Her lucky attendants got a free ride, speeding across the sea to Lochranza and the waiting ambulance, passing the seven trudging along the shore on the way.

Now the seven walkers were by this

The seven walkers were by this time most unhappy. Legs were tired from scrambling over rocks, each headland was thought to be the last, but as soon as it was clambered around, there was another one, and another one! It was also very hot and with being out all this extra time, water was low. The lifeboat, on its way back after dropping off the patient, swung as near to us as it could and hailed us to see if we were alright. With typical British reserve we waved them off. BUT NO WE WERE NOT ALRIGHT! We were thirsty, tired and slowly becoming very selfish. We were down to one mouthful of water each every half-hour. Then Superman saved the day. Walking towards us was the wonderful sight of Keith with bottles of water, and the little white blob of the Bentham minibus in the distance. We want to say how thankful we are to the lifeboat crew, the coastguard, the police, the ambulance service and the staff at Lamlash hospital for the parts they all played in the rescue. Also to Joan for being so brave, and putting up with our sometimes fumbling attempts at first aid.

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For further information and an application pack, please contact
Mardy Wright 01756 701110.

HIGH BENTHAM COMMUNITY PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWS

By Catherine Boocock

Since joining the staff at High Bentham Community Primary School as the new Head Teacher I have been delighted with the welcome I have received from everyone in the community. It is lovely to be working in such a warm and friendly school. There is a super team of staff, governors, parents and volunteers at the school, who all work very hard together to make it a caring and exciting environment in which the children can learn.

We have had a very busy last few weeks with Year 5 children at the beginning of term spending four days at Humphrey Head Outdoor Centre. The children were able to experience a variety of activities including rock scrambling and climbing.

Football, Swimming & Art

We had the PFTA Spring Fair in May that was well supported and everyone had an enjoyable time. The new all weather pitch was officially opened by Mr. Jonathan Brown and the children enjoyed a football tournament. The event raised nearly £600, some of which will pay for the swimming costs for the Key Stage 2 children this half term.

Mrs. Fran Ramsay organised an exciting Art week focusing on using different materials and techniques, which was only possible due to the excellent volunteers from the area who came and worked with the children in all the classes. They helped them develop their best ideas around the theme of the seasons. The work produced was fantastic and will be displayed in school.

The children are enjoying class visits this term including trips to the Jorvik Viking Centre in York, Grisedale Forest and Skipton Castle. We are planning an Open Evening on Wednesday 2nd July, to which everyone is very welcome, so come and have a look around our school and nursery.

BENTHAM PLAYING FIELDS ASSOCIATION

By Pam Woof

The car boot sale held at Riverside Caravan Park on Sunday 25th May, £250 raised for the Playing Fields Association Development Fund. A very enjoyable sponsored walk on Bank Holiday Monday, 26th May, took us to Spens Farm where we were treated to a barbecue kindly put on by Sue and Alf Kirk. The weather was favourable and a pleasant day was had by all. The total so far raised in tickets and sponsorship is £335.30. Would those still collecting sponsorship money bring it as soon as possible to me at Bentham Sports. The total for the weekend so far is £585.30. Thank you all for your support.

Project Progress

Money has now been secured from Sport England New Opportunities and the Market Towns Initiative to refurbish the pitches, improve the drainage and clean and drain the boggy area. Work should start in July/August. Applications are also being prepared for funding for the new building and plans have been drawn up for the refurbishment of the existing sports club.

We still need to raise more money as Bentham's contribution to the project. It would be greatly appreciated if anyone would like to hold an event or take part in a sponsored activity on behalf of the Playing Field Association. This would be a great help to the project.



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TROUBLE 'N STRIFE - YORKSHIRE STYLE

By John Neale

"Well, I'll go to the top of the stairs! Three of the biggest men on t' council and at chapel celebrating their twenty-fifth wedding anniversary and not one of 'em rightly married at all! Not one of 'em properly tied up! I wouldn't 'ave missed this lot even if it means 'aving earache for a week".

You don't have to be Yorkshire born and bred to enjoy "When We Are Married", the latest offering by the Bentham Theatre Group at the Town Hall on 11th and 12th July from 7.30pm. And it doesn't take much gumption to imagine the shock of thinking you've reached your silver wedding anniversary, only to be told the parson, all those years ago, wasn't legally authorised to join anyone in holy wedlock.

That's the story, cleverly (and very funnily) told by Yorkshire's famous playwright J.B. Priestley. And with it all being set around 1900, you can imagine the pandemonium that breaks out when three couples, the husbands all pillars of society, gathered together for a celebratory "do", are forced to believe that they've been living in sin for twenty-five years.

For the price of a £5 ticket (£3.50 concessions), including refreshments, you can be a fly on the wall before it "gets in t'papers and they're done". Tickets are available from Bentham Sports. Come on - give your ears a treat!



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