

BENTHAM NEWS

MAKING BENTHAM SAFER

Great news! At last after many months of negotiation and representation, North Yorkshire County Council is working in conjunction with Bentham Town Council, Barclays Bank and the Coach House to reduce the incidence of turning vehicles hitting the Barclays Bank building.

BN has been told by Martin Garner, Project Manager for North Yorkshire Highways, that during the weekend of 5th-6th July, Balfour Beatty will re-lay the northern kerb line, resurface the northern half of the road and the full width of the footpath outside Barclays Bank and the adjacent premises. Some drainage work will also be done before this other work starts. Main Street will be closed in front of the Bank, the Pub and the adjacent Estate Agents, although pedestrian access will be possible along the south footpath at all times. There will be two-way traffic lights at the top of Station Road and traffic will be able to turn from Mount Pleasant into Station Road. A local diversion will be signed along Mount Pleasant, Robin Lane, and Dumb Toms Lane, through Four Lane Ends to Wennington. When the work is completed, Robinsons will re-lay the cobbles in front of The Coach House.

Our Town Council should be congratulated for keeping up the pressure to get something done about vehicles hitting the Bank, and everyone concerned hopes that these major works will make the centre of Bentham safer.

HELEN HOWARD SCHOOL OF DANCE GROUP AT THE ROYAL ALBERT HALL - SEE REPORT ON PAGE 8



JULY 2008

ISSUE 261

BENTHAM IMAGING OPENS ITS NEW STUDIO AND GALLERY

By Trevor Blackwell

Over the past couple of months Jon and Janet Brook have transformed the sports shop into an elegant photographic gallery and studio. I went to ask them how it had all happened.

Jon: We moved to Bentham from Bolton ten years ago. We came to visit some friends in Low Bentham, and went to the 'Off The Wall' nightclub in the Town Hall. It was great! We just thought Bentham was fantastic, and had a real community, so we moved here.

When I was 21 one of my friends bought himself an SLR camera and took some pictures, and I thought, 'I can do as well as that, I'm sure!' So I bought one, and he showed me how to use it, and then I joined a camera club. When digital came along my interest in photography dovetailed beautifully with my computer programming. Then the chance to share a two-year lease on the shop in Station Road with Chris Humphreys came up, and that was really a toe in the water to see if my landscape work was saleable. And that did well enough to convince us to take the risk of investing in this. Here it's fantastic.

Janet: The business is growing, and we feel confident. Jon did six weddings last year, and he's got twenty-one this year! And Jon's montages are growing too. These are one-off celebration photographs. They started with the Auction Mart asking for a montage to celebrate their 200 years, so Jon combined their historical photos with his new photos, moving from black and white out to colour. I think it's fantastic. It was sold at a charity auction for £1,200! And besides weddings and montages we're offering portraits, landscapes, printing people's digital images, passport photos, and restoring old photographs. We can take an old photograph and add colour to it. We

did it for my dad on his eightieth birthday. He burst into tears when he saw it, because that's how it was - that was the colour of his shirt, the colour of his flying jacket!

Jon: About opening times. We're open Wednesday and Friday 10.30 till 6.00, and Saturday 10.00 till 4.00. The rest of the time is by appointment - or if you see the lights on and I'm here, we're open!

Janet: I'd personally like to thank Dennis O'Hagan and his team of builders who transformed this place in four weeks - that's both floors! We couldn't have done it without them. It was a fantastic team effort!

Bentham is a special place for both of us. Even in the harshest winter up on Burn Moor, when the rain is horizontal, I've never for a minute regretted moving here.

Jon: On Burn Moor the curlews come in March and stay till June, and you know when they're back - they have a very plaintive cry, very distinctive. I sometimes think people in Bentham don't realise what they have. Not everybody sees curlews. We didn't see them when we lived in Bolton, that's for sure."

Evocative photographs of curlews, salt marsh cattle, glowing sheep and a majestic Big Stone - some familiar from the Bentham Calendar - shine from the walls of this gallery at the creative heart of Bentham. Come and see.



'Jon and Janet thank Dennis O'Hagen's team, and also Glen and Luke who couldn't make this photo shoot'.

JUNE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

By Bill Kennedy

Councillors Adams, Marshall, Heigh, Stannard, Barnes, Burton, Wills and Faichney were present, as were District Councillor Camacho and County Councillor Ireton.

The Police did not attend so there was no police report.

District & County Council Reports

D. Cllr. Camacho reported that the planning application for a stone processing plant at Fourlands had been turned down by the Planning Committee on the following grounds: that it was contrary to ENVI which limits business proliferation in rural areas, the size and bulk of the proposed building and the noise, although it was considered that the Craven noise survey was as flawed as the original one. When asked, D. Cllr Camacho said that he thought Fairhursts would not appeal the decision, but would re-apply.

He also added that the open meeting for the Station Road car park had gone well and the feedback had been positive.

County Councillor Ireton had no new information regarding County but thanked the council for its support during his year as Chair of Craven District Council. He announced that the Chairman's Charity had raised over £13,000 over the year, which would go to Bentham First Responders and Yorkshire Air Ambulance. He admitted that there was no further progress on the school.

Highway Matters

There had been a very positive meeting between NYCC Highways, the council and Robinson's Brewery. The proposed works will raise the pavement outside Barclays by 4" which will allow the camber of the road to be altered. The work is provisionally scheduled for 5th July, during the Kidde shutdown. This will mean that the road will be closed.

The problem of traffic exiting Kidde as shifts finished, was discussed at length. Often there is a steady stream of cars going up Station Road from Kidde's, stopping

traffic from moving down Station Road and causing serious congestion on Main Street. The council agreed to write to Kidde's, requesting that they ask employees to be sensitive to other users of Station Road.

Council Standing Orders

There was some discussion on the length of time the Chairman can hold office. Cllr. Stannard proposed that the Chairman be elected annually. This means that there is no restriction on the length of time he/she can serve. The reviewed standing orders are to be adopted at the July meeting, provided that the Legal Department at Craven are happy with the changes.

Low Bentham Playing Field Project

Cllr. Faichney said that he is still trying to get quotes for fencing of the area, but that he had volunteers and promises of equipment to level the site. Current funds are sufficient to start the project but substantially more funding will be needed to complete the work. A site meeting, to agree on a course of action, was arranged for 30th June.

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GARDEN COLUMN

By Joyce Knapp

By the month of July we will have completed the sowing of most annual vegetable crops and can move on to the next stage; that of thinning out the seedlings to allow for strong future growth of the remaining plants. It is usual to wait until the first 'true leaves' appear as this makes it easier identifying plants to be left in the ground from any surrounding weed seedlings.

The spacing of plants varies greatly, according to their eventual size on maturity and in some cases can be adapted to individual preference. For instance, the books may suggest you thin carrot seedlings to four inches apart, but you can initially leave them at a distance of only two inches. This allows you to lift alternate plants when they reach 'baby carrot' size, thus providing you with an extra, delicious crop (this technique can also be applied to beetroot).

If you have grown leeks in trays of compost under cover, they will be ready to plant out into the ground by early July. To do this we make holes approximately eight inches apart, using a long dibber if you have one (the handle of a discarded wooden spoon would suffice if not) and dropping a young leek plant, roots first, into each hole. By adding water to the hole, using a watering can without its rose, we can encourage the roots to drop and the surrounding soil to settle around them. Leeks are quite easy to grow and can be used in a wide range of recipes in the depths of winter when other



vegetables are both scarce and relatively expensive.

Anyone growing strawberries will now have finished picking the fruit from all main crop plants and may have become aware of a multitude of long, straggly runners protruding from each plant. These will eventually produce new baby plants along their length and, if left in situ, will lead to mass overcrowding. To avoid this happening, and to generate new stock plants, we can remove all but the best runners, leaving just a few strong plants to produce roots and grow on. These can be used the following year to replace any older, less productive plants.

BENTHAM SHOW

By Val Lawson

The full schedules for the Show, to be held on Saturday 6th September, will be available from local shops or the secretary (015242) 61606, after the 15th July. Further details regarding the show will be published in the August Bentham News.

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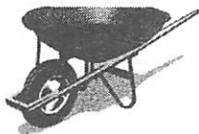
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CRAVEN CONCERNS

By Cllr Manuel Camacho 015242 62074

The Stone Processing planning application

Normally I would reply to correspondence very quickly but in this case it became difficult for two reasons. Firstly the sheer volume and secondly I was advised that I should not enter into detailed discussion prior to the planning meeting. Please accept my apologies and be assured that I read all the letters and emails thoroughly. In the end I decided to support the application primarily because of its positive impact on the local economy. The committee refused the application mainly on the grounds of the suitability of the site.

Planning Workshops to be held at Settle Town Hall

In order to improve accessibility to planning and building control services for residents in north and mid west Craven, a Planning Officer and a Building Control Officer are now available at Settle Town Hall every Monday from 10am to 12 noon to give advice and assistance on development proposals. The aims of the workshops are to provide a more integrated service, increase awareness of the changes to building and planning regulations and how to comply with them, encourage early submission of detailed plans and promote the use of fully approved drawings when working with builders. To make an appointment to join a workshop, call or email Michael Nuttall (building control) on 01756 706451 or mnuttall@cravencd.gov.uk or James Ellis (planning) on 01756 706259 or jellis@cravencd.gov.uk.

Area forum

Thank you to those who attended. The main theme was around social behaviour and it became obvious that there is something of a problem in Bentham at the moment. The police were present and although aware of the situation were a little taken aback at the scale. This is not normal for Bentham and the situation is being addressed by the Police, Bentham Town Council, the Housing

Associations concerned and CDC. Meetings have taken place to resolve the situation and positive actions have resulted.

I would like to repeat my message of last month. If you see something going on that you are unhappy about, phone the police on 0845 6060247 (999 in extreme cases) immediately. This will help the Police enormously as they can only act on events they know about.

Skipton Developments

Yorkshire based The Accent Group has been selected as the Council's strategic partner to deliver Skipton Developments. The announcement marks the end of an extensive period of consultation and evaluation. "This is an historic moment for the council and a milestone for the future prosperity and success of Skipton. Over the past four years, we have listened long and hard to what Craven residents have had to say about the development. Their comments and opinions have played a significant part in determining how we go forward", said Cllr Carl Lis, Leader of Craven District Council. "The proposals put forward by The Accent Group provided the closest match for our requirements and will help transform Skipton into a 21st century market town". Over the next five years some £70 million will be invested in Skipton through the provision of new housing, retail outlets and the restoration and revitalisation of Skipton's historic Town Hall. Further details of the four schemes making up the Skipton Development Program can be found on the CDC website.

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POLICE REPORT ON ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR

By P.C. Andy McClurg

There has been a noticeable increase in reports of Anti Social behaviour around the area of Banks Way recently. This has resulted in residents making complaints to the Police and other agencies who have an interest in the area.

Youths have been reported climbing over garage roofs and running through gardens. When challenged they have ignored the residents' requests and been verbally abusive. This is clearly not acceptable! Not only could this be a criminal offence but it could also result in injury to your child should they fall through a garage roof or over a garden wall.

Several options are open to the Police. We can reassure residents and offer advice to those 'caught' acting in a manner believed to be Anti-Social in a hope that they will consider the consequences of their actions in future. Alternatively we can opt for an 'Acceptable Behaviour Contract' and if necessary an Anti Social Behaviour Order.

Young and elderly residents should not live in fear of going out during the evening because of groups of youths. Do you know where your son or daughter is tonight? Are they with friends and are you aware of what they are doing? Please can you speak with your son / daughter and make them aware of these complaints. This is a social problem no doubt caused by a few but which affects many. Hopefully we can all do our little bit to address this situation and improve the quality of life for those residents concerned.

COOKERY COLUMN

Edited by Patsy Henderson

Balsamic Peppered Pork Chops

Serves 4.

Recipe

4 pork chops, 2.5cm thick
4 cloves garlic
2tbsp whole black peppercorns
1 tbsp dried thyme
¼ tsp crushed chilli flakes
1 tbsp balsamic vinegar & some for basting
3 tbsp olive oil

Method

Trim off excess fat from the chops and snip through the remaining fat at 3cm intervals. Place garlic, peppercorns, thyme, chilli flakes, vinegar and oil in a food processor and blitz to a coarse paste. Rub the paste over the chops. Grill as below.

Outdoors. Grill over medium heat, basting with the extra balsamic vinegar until there is no pink meat near the bone, keeping the pork juicy.

Indoors. Preheat a grill pan over high heat and grill the chops, basting, as above.

Apricot Mousse

Serves 4-6.

Recipe

1 sachet of gelatine
120ml water
1 tin of apricots, pureed
2 eggs, separated
150ml Greek no fat yoghurt

Sauce

120ml apricot jam and juice of 1 orange.

Method

Sprinkle the gelatine on the water in a saucepan and leave until swollen. Heat until the gelatine dissolves completely, then remove from heat and set aside. Combine the apricot puree with the egg yolks, yoghurt and dissolved gelatine, mix well. Whisk the egg whites until they form stiff peaks and fold lightly into the apricot mixture. Pour the mousse into a wetted jelly mould or bowl and chill until set. Turn the mousse out onto a serving plate. Just before serving, heat the jam and orange juice together, strain and pour over the mousse.

ART EXHIBITION

By Pauline Gee

30th June to 2nd August
at BENTHAM GALLERY

An exhibition of Water Colours
and Photos of local scenes.

A "MUST SEE"

HELEN HOWARD'S STUDENTS LIVE AT THE ROYAL ALBERT HALL

By Georgina Milligan

The smell of the greaspaint and the roar of the crowd saw the Bank Holiday weekend entice an excited group of dance students on their latest adventure to London. After months of rehearsals and preparation, sixty one students from the Helen Howard School of Theatre Dance, based in Low Bentham and Settle, headed for the bright lights to perform in an invitation-only showcase at The Royal Albert Hall. After a gruelling 9½ hour coach journey to their hotel it was dinner and an early night ready for the big day ahead.

There followed a long and exciting day of rehearsals with twenty-one other performing arts schools from across the country and a chance to meet George Maguire, the original West End Billy Elliot. Time was at a premium so there was only one chance to rehearse individual dances and there were two new routines to learn involving the whole cast.

As curtain-up approached there was no time for nerves. From the moment the lights came up the students danced as only polished professionals can. Visually stunning, Helen Howard's students, dancing to Bombay Dreams, rose to the occasion, making their complicated routine look effortless. Dazzling in their colourful sequinned Indian costumes, sixty-one students moved in perfect time using every inch of the stage. It was a magical routine which showcased the sheer quality and high standards attained by the dancers. If anyone had any doubts about their abilities this accomplished performance alongside schools that had performed in Paris and on Broadway should have laid them to rest. The audience showed their appreciation and raised the roof with applause.

This was a weekend that dreams are made of. Helen Howard's dancers bring back to Yorkshire memories of an experience that will stay with them for a lifetime.

None of this would have been possible without the unfailing support of many local people, businesses, Rotary Clubs and

Masonic Lodges, from the Bentham and Settle area. SBC provided funds for all the dancers to have Helen Howard 'hoodies', and Rosie Jackson spent hours costume making. Thank you to everyone who helped raise funds or made donations – because of your generosity sixty one young dancers lived the dream.

IN PRAISE OF DANCE

By Shirley Brown

On Saturday 14th June friends, family and supporters had the opportunity to watch the Helen Howard School of Dance perform the fabulous Asian-inspired dance routine that they had taken to the Royal Albert Hall earlier this year.

How wonderful to see what is possible when you take a dedicated, inspirational teacher, more than 60 children of all ages and talents, a creative, hard-working costume maker, and a year of practice and discipline.

What you get is a fantastic display of dance. Lots of smiling faces, pride and enjoyment in abundance and an experience that none of the performers or audience will ever forget.

INGLETON FARMERS' MARKET

By Alison Hack, Parish Clerk for Ingleton

Ingleton is having a six-month trial of a farmers' market at the Community Centre car park. It will take place every 4th Sunday in the month thereafter, so the next one will be on 27th July. And don't forget Bentham's very successful Farmers' Market in the Lower Town Hall on Saturday 5th July, 9.30am-1.30pm.

TEMPTATIONS

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Dear Bentham News,

Thank goodness Craven District Council took notice of the two hundred plus Bentham residents who objected to the proposed development of an entirely inappropriate stone processing plant at Fourlands.



The objections raised ranged from the massive increase in H.G.V. traffic through Bentham on narrow country lanes, with the danger (especially to children going to school at the bottom of Robin Lane), pollution and noise that would cause, to concern for the environment we all share.

The argument that the stone processing plant may at sometime in the future provide up to half a dozen jobs is entirely spurious. We have already had a potentially lethal accident at the bottom of Robin Lane, involving an H.G.V. and school transport. To support a development that would increase this risk is, at best, irresponsible.

We do need some more employment in Bentham. Perhaps it may be preferable to encourage the inauguration of something along the lines of the businesses that operate from Broughton Hall, near Skipton. Five hundred people have employment arising from those businesses. The environment has not been ruined and the jobs are perhaps more congenial and offer more prospects and better working conditions for young people.

I was saddened to hear that the three district councillors who so strongly supported the development of the plant, chose to ignore the wishes and concerns of the electorate and the very obvious dangers and disadvantages to our community.

Yours faithfully, Margaret Ellis.

Dear Bentham News

PERMISSION REFUSED FOR STONE PROCESSING YARD

The planning proposal to change the use of Ingleborough Nurseries and to incorporate a new stone processing factory and stone storage yard was refused by Craven District Planning Committee on 2nd June 2008.

The Planning Officer presented his report, at which time he identified that he had received 186 letters of objection, 13 letters of support and petitions, against the

development from residents in Wennington, Bentham and Burton-in-Lonsdale, amounting to over 350 signatures. Representatives for the objectors, Bentham Town Council and the applicant spoke for 5 minutes each. The planning committee councillors debated many issues that were identified in the Planning Officer's report and concluded that they saw no reason to go against the Planning Officer's recommendation to refuse the application.

Briefly, the reasons for refusal were:

1. The application proposes a major new employment development in an isolated rural location, which is contrary to planning policies that seek to protect the open countryside from sporadic new development and to direct such employment development to more sustainable locations in or near to local service centres.
2. The proposed new building is considered to have an unacceptable impact on the character and appearance of the open countryside, due to its size and bulk. It is envisaged that further unacceptable harm would result to the character and appearance of the countryside through the introduction of floodlighting that would be necessary to allow the site to operate effectively during reduced winter daylight hours.
3. The Council's background noise readings at the application site indicate that the area is currently an exceptionally quiet rural location. The anticipated noise that will be generated through the stone processing operations, both from activities within the proposed new stone processing building and from associated noise from machinery moving the stone on site and the loading and unloading of materials, will unacceptably impact on the amenities of residents in the local area and on the quiet enjoyment of this open countryside location by others.
4. The Local Planning Authority was not satisfied that the Flood Risk Assessment met the necessary planning requirements. For full details of the Planning Committee decision, please contact Craven District Council or go to www.planning.cravendc.gov.uk and look up application number 08/2008/8513.

Yours sincerely,

Christopher Pink, Burton Road, Low Bentham.

Letters continued on page 10.

LETTERS

(Continued from Page 9)

Dear Bentham News,
I wish Chris Field success in his newsagent business but unfortunately it's not "business as usual" as reported in June's Bentham News. Very shortly after taking over Chris increased delivery charges and within weeks he had axed Saturday deliveries. We have had papers delivered for seventeen years and not having our Saturday paper delivered is a far cry from "business as usual".

We have had the opportunity to buy papers more cheaply but have chosen to have them delivered to support a local business but have now cancelled them all as Chris will not deliver on Saturdays. When we approached him about reinstatement he quite categorically said that they will not be reinstated. So if anybody out there wants to fill a gap in the market, we are ready made customers.

Julie Bridgeman.

Low Bentham.



leads me to think that rather than Manuel and I sitting in a hall on our own waiting to see if anyone comes to see us, we would do better to join in with things that are already going on.

I'd be interested to know if Bentham News readers have any suggestions of events we could attend, at which we could pinch a corner to talk to people (that's if they want to talk to us of course!)

Best wishes

Lin Barrington

SWF

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YOUR STREET MAP

From the Bentham News

Over the past ten years Bentham has grown and developed a lot, and we've often thought how useful an up-to-date street map of the town would be. So with this month's Bentham News we are enclosing our own street map of Low and High Bentham. We hope it will be useful and interesting to people living in and visiting our market town.

It is the way of things that as soon as something is printed it starts to become out-of-date, but here you have a map of Bentham at this point in its rich and varied history. Whatever the future brings for Bentham we hope you'll see it mapped in our pages.

CLARIFICATION

Following an article in the June BN about "Couture Canine", Goodenbergh Caravan Park wish us to clarify that (1) there are no permanent residents, and (2) no one is permitted to run a business, at the Park.

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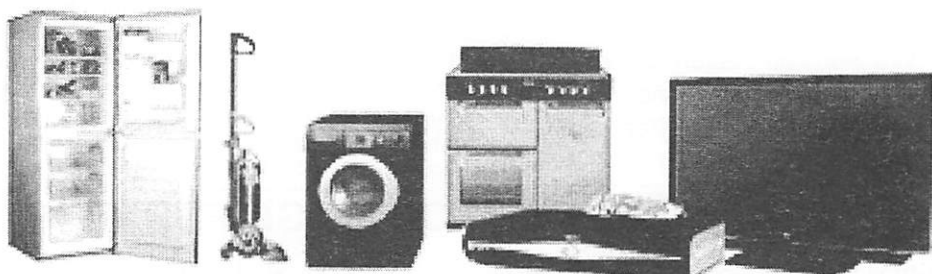
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PARENTS PLEASE NOTE - SCHOOL UNIFORM CHANGES

By Pam Woof

Uniform changes for this September

Parents may be aware that the new intake this September at Settle College is to wear shirts, ties and blazers together with a new PE kit. Existing pupils do not have to buy the new uniform so years 10 and 11 can continue with their existing clothing.

The old style uniform is still available. Trousers and shirts can be bought from Pigtails and sweatshirts and polo shirts with the embroidered badge are still available from Bentham Sports (9 to 4.30 weekdays, except Thursday).

Ingleton Middle School P.E. kit will change slightly for the new intake. The school itself will be selling a badged P.E. shirt and sweatshirt for both boys and girls as well as the navy school uniform sweatshirt as usual. The rest of the P.E. clothing and aprons are now available from Pigtails. Bentham Sports will still hold stock of shin pads and mouth guards for the time being.

The new P.E. kit scheduled for QES will initially be available for new starters only. The old style kit is still available through the school uniform shop and from Bentham Sports while stocks last. Older pupils may purchase this new kit if they wish when it becomes available later in the autumn term.

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LITTLE RED BUS TRIPS IN JULY AND AUGUST



By Lin Barrington

Trips for July are:

- Saturday 26th
Clapham Street Market
- Thursday 31st
Boundary Mill

If you would like to come with us, phone us on 015242 62753, or call in at the Station Building.

During August, we don't have any school transport runs, so we are able to do more trips; we want to know where you would like to go. We will try to do trips which appeal to families and young people as well. So far, we have been asked about Richmond, the Herriott Museum in Thirsk and East Riddlestone Hall at



Anne Yaman, photographed at her desk in the new Community Transport office at the station.

Keighley. If you have any ideas, please get in touch with us by phoning 015242 62753 or e-mailing lin@benthamct.co.uk

During the summer holidays, don't forget you can book the taxibus to take you to Ingleton (or Hornby) to the swimming pool! Just give us a ring.

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YESTERDAY IN BENTHAM

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

July 1988

The front page covered the 40th anniversary of the Low Bentham Gala, which apparently began life in 1948 as a sports day for Low Bentham children organised by the British Legion. The article included a photograph from the 1953 (Coronation Year) Gala showing the town's Coronation Queen, Barbara Smith and her attendants, including a very angelic-looking Alan Coates.

Builder and developer Brian Dodgson was inviting suggestions for a name for a property he was building in High Bentham. The building was to become Bentham's tallest and would contain the town's only lift. No prizes for guessing the name that was eventually chosen in preference to other suggestions, which included its original name of The Old Corn Mill.

Tom Cahill's report from the Town Council meeting included an observation that councillors were outnumbered by members of the public. This seemed strange until it became clear that most of them were licensees and their supporters from Bentham pubs who had turned out to protest against an application by the Horse and Farrier to provide bar facilities for the refurbished Town Hall (yes, it has been refurbished before!) They claimed it was unfair for one licensee to have exclusive right to that provision, and the Town Council must have shared their view because a joint arrangement was eventually agreed.

Any Council can usually be relied upon to churn out a whole raft of statistical information on any subject under discussion. A DC report by Ralph Atkinson showed that Craven's Environment Committee was no exception to this. A working party from the Community Environment Programme spent a full session discussing the eternal problem of dog fouling, and from this a number of interesting (?) facts emerged. Did

you know (or even want to) that based on an average of one dog per 10 people, with a 'production' rate of 0.373kg, the 270 dogs of High and Low Bentham produce a staggering 36 tons of dirt per year? As Ralph observed, with that much around it's no wonder we have difficulty avoiding some of it! *My deepest sympathy goes to he (or she) who feels moved or has the inclination to measure and produce statistics such as these!*

Finally, it was a pity that Bentham Homing Society members hadn't been able to equip their pigeons with compasses for two of their cross-channel return journeys in June. Of 34 birds released in *Sartilly* only 7 made it safely back to Bentham. Even worse, in a subsequent race from *Rennes* only one bird returned from 30 released. Perhaps it was from this occurrence that the famous Wenningdale folk ditty was born:

*Bentham's demon barber, known as Sweeney
Guy,*

Had four and twenty pigeons baked in a pie.

*When the pie was opened the birds all did a
dance;*

*Three times round the barber's chair and b*****
off to France!*

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TOWN HALL COFFEE MORNING BOOKINGS

By Jo Burton (Town Clerk)

Organisations are reminded that if they wish to have coffee mornings at the Town Hall in 2009 they need to get them booked by the end of July. After this the dates will be open to other organisations which have already made bookings.

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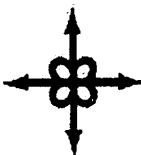
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BENTHAM FOOTPATH GROUP



By Maureen Ellis

Just as the hedgerows are bursting with leaves, blossom and birds the July programme is full of promise.

Tuesday 1st brings the Lowgill walk of 6-7 miles starting at Lairgill at 9.30. It will go up the valley of the Hindburn in a westerly direction and go through Lowgill and past Swans (farm), which is for sale and then cross the Hindburn at Botton bridge and return in the opposite direction. It is quite steep in places as it's up and down to the river.

Wednesday 9th is the Burton/Masongill walk of 5.5 miles, setting off at 6.15p.m from Lairgill and 6.30pm from the Punch Bowl at Burton. From there it goes off across the fields and up to Ireby and then Masongill and returns to Burton. Please note this lovely evening walk has plenty of stiles!

Sunday 13th is the Feizor tea walk of 4 miles, starting at 1.30 at Lairgill and then from Town End lane, Austwick. It will then cross the Clapper bridge and follow the Pennine Bridleway to Feizor where we will stop at the Feizor tea rooms. It's then up through Oxenber wood and a short climb and back to Austwick.

Saturday 19th is the 8.5 miles walk from Ravonstenedale meeting at 9.30 at Lairgill. The walk crosses Smardale fell to Smardale and then back via the Smardale Gill nature reserve, following the old railway line and then on to Newbiggin.

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Thursday 24th is the 'Leck Beck' of 5 miles starting at Lairgill at 1.30 p.m. The walk goes from Leck Village Hall along the beck and then climbs up to the fells alongside and returns on the same side coming back parallel to the beck.

REPORTING FOOTPATH FAULTS

*By Joint Access and Rights of Way Committee
for Ingleton, Bentham, Thornton and Burton*

Anyone wishing to report problems regarding footpaths in the area, should please contact David Gibson on 015242 61942 or by email on cdgibson@talktalk.net

It would be appreciated if as complete details as possible could be supplied regarding location and the nature of the problem. A map reference and footpath number would also be helpful.

The August edition of Bentham News will be published on Friday 1st August.

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- Free trial available.

We will be having refreshments on Thursday 10th July from 11.30am to celebrate the end of our 1st year.

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www.shapelydoesitbentham.co.uk

CHURCHES TOGETHER

By Father Tony Boylan St. Boniface

I write this on 5th June, feastday of St Boniface. He was one of the most important English saints. His own name was Wynfrith. He came from Crediton in Devon, born about 675. As a young man he joined a monastery in Exeter. The Christian Church in England then had an amazing missionary zeal, and at the age of 45 or so Wynfrith was asked to go abroad as a missionary. He went first to Frisia (the Netherlands), but didn't achieve much, so he went to Rome and received a new mission directly from Pope Gregory II to take the gospel to the pagan tribes of Germany. He was extraordinarily successful. For the next 30 years or so he preached and evangelised, established monasteries and dioceses, and organised the Church there. It was the pope who gave him the name Boniface – it is thought because he was very handsome. Untrue – it was because he did so many great deeds: *Bona feci* in Latin. Towards the end of his 81 years he returned to his missionary work in Frisia to try again, but along with his companions was put to death there by a band of pagans in 754. He was buried at one of the monasteries he founded in Fulda in Germany, and is regarded now as Germany's great apostle. Some historians think that no other Englishman had a greater influence on the history of Europe. We are proud to have him as the patron of our parish.

Praise at Riverside

Churches Together enjoyed Songs of Praise at Riverside on the Spring Bank Holiday. There was a good congregation from all the churches and visitors from the caravan site. We are grateful to Mary Longton for providing the music and Thomas and Jane Marshall for this popular annual event.

Family Fun Day

We are hoping that the weather is fine on 31st August for our Family Fun Day with games and free ice cream and sweets for children. Bring your own picnic for 1pm on High Bentham School playing field or the Methodist Church rooms if wet. There will

be a bouncy castle and games starting at 1.30pm.

St. John's

By Mary Taylor

Confirmation

On Trinity Sunday, 18th May Bishop Rt. Revd. David James confirmed four young people from Low Bentham; Helen Close, Charlotte Taylor, Emily Wheildon and Daniel Wheildon. He also confirmed two adults from Earby; David Elms and Joanne Pfau who he also baptized. The church was filled for this beautiful, happy service when the Bishop was aided by Revd. Frank Parr, Revd. Hugh Fielden and Revd. Mabel Parr.

Summer Concert

Seventy music lovers congregated in St. John's on 7th June to listen to Kirkby Lonsdale Brass Band. The concert was a resounding success with the twentyfive musicians with conductors Mark Buchannon and Allan Greenwood playing foot tapping favourites as well as their magnificent test piece and local pieces written for the band.

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LOCAL EVENTS IN JULY

Tue 1st Bentham Footpath Group walk, Lowgill, 6-7 miles leader M. Taylor 61672. Meet at Lairgill 9.30am.

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

Playgroup at Wenningdale Room, Town Hall, 1.00-3.00pm, and every Tuesday.

Looking Well, Tuesday Strolls - very gentle walks 2.00-3.00pm. and every Tuesday.

Wed 2nd Coffee morning, Methodist Church, 10.00-11.30am, and every Wednesday. Proceeds to local charities.

Summer lunch, Looking Well, 12.30pm, and every Wednesday.

Looking Well gardening workshop, 1.30-3.00pm and Wednesdays 9th and 16th.

Looking Well, Art for All, 2.00-4.00pm and every Wednesday.

Community Centre, Keep Moving Well, 2.00-3.00pm and Wednesdays 9th and 16th.

Girls Fizzical Club, Town Hall, 6.00-7.00pm and every Wednesday.

Basketball Club for 14 years+, HB Primary all weather pitch, 7.30-8.45pm and every Wednesday.

Playgroup at Wenningdale Room, Town Hall, 1.00-3.00pm, and every Wednesday.

Thu 3rd

Swimming at Hornby for over 50s. Cost £1.60. Tel Barbara Shuttleworth 62873 to arrange transport, and every Thursday.

Looking Well Cancer Support Group Drop-in, art sessions, therapies and lunch, and every Thursday.

High Bentham W.I., 7.30pm at the Town Hall. Chris Lewis - "The holiday of a lifetime".

Fri 4th

Age Concern at the Masonic Hall, 10.00am-2.30pm. Annual General Meeting.

GFI 7.00-8.00pm for school years 6,7 & 8 and 8.15-9.15pm for school years 9+, Methodist Church Hall and every Friday in term time.

Sat 5th

Lancaster & Skipton Rail Users Group coffee morning, Town Hall, 10.00am-12.00noon. 

Bentham Farmers' Market at the Lower Town Hall, 9.30am-1.30pm.

Summer Song and Strawberries. Bentham Praise and Champagne Flutes concert, 7.30pm at Kirkby Lonsdale Methodist Church Hall. Entry free but there will be a collection for local branch of Motor Neurone Disease.

Mon 7th

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

Bentham Traders Association Extraordinary General Meeting at the Town Hall, 7.30pm. Members and prospective members should attend.

Town Council meeting at the Town Hall, 7.30pm.

Gentle walks for women, leaving from Lairgill, 9.30am-12.00noon, and every Monday.

Methodist Church Hall, 10.00-11.30am, Toddle-in for parents/carers and babies and toddlers.

4.30-5.30pm, Adventurers Group for 4-6 year olds.

6.15-7.30pm. Springboard for 7-10 year olds, all in Methodist Church Hall, and every Monday in term.

LISTING FOR LOCAL EVENTS

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

Event.....

Venue.....

Contact Tel:.....

Name.....

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

- Tue 8th** Bentham Toy Library, 9.30-11.00am at the Community Centre.
- Wed 9th** Bentham Footpath Group walk, Burton/Masongill, 5½ miles, leader C. Randall 62619. Meet at Lairgill/Punch Bowl Burton 6.15/6.30pm.
Burton Under Fives health visitor drop in.
- Thu 10th** Welcome-in, dominoes for all ages, Methodist Church Hall 2.00-4.00pm. For transport contact Nigel or Kath on 62272. Bat and Chat, 10.00am-12.00 noon, Victoria Institute, Low Bentham.
- Fri 11th** Age Concern, Masonic Hall, 10.00am-2.30pm. Extend Exercise - Colin Etherington.
- Sat 12th** Thornton-in-Lonsdale WI will be holding a Coffee Morning in the Bentham Town Hall on Saturday 12th July. Plant and produce stall, raffle and tombola. 10am to 12 noon.
Book Swap at the Victoria Institute, Low Bentham, 10.00am-12.00noon.
- Sun 13th** Older Persons Tea Party at the Looking Well, 3.00-5.00pm.
Bentham Footpath Group Feizor Tea walk, 4 miles, leaders K. & M. Hartley 62373. Meet at Lairgill 1.30pm.
Bloomin' Bentham meet at Painted Bus Shelter, 1.00pm. See page 29.
- Tue 15th** Copy deadline for August edition of Bentham News.
Bentham Child Health Clinic at the Surgery, 2.00-4.00pm.
Bentham Environmentally Sustainable Town (BEST) meeting at Looking Well, 7.30pm.
- Thu 17th** Lancaster and Skipton Rail Users Group meeting at the Town Hall, 7.30pm.
- Fri 18th** Waste paper collection at Lairgill Car Park 8.30-11.00am. Proceeds to NSPCC.
Low Bentham Primary School Open day.
- Fri 18th** Age Concern at the Masonic Hall, 10.00am-2.30pm. David Briggs "Solitude on the Hebrides".
- Sat 19th** Goodenber Play Area coffee morning in the Town Hall, 10.00am-12.00noon.
Bentham Footpath Group walk, Ravenstonedale/Smardale, 8½ miles, leaders E. & S. Badley 62502. Meet at Lairgill 9.30am.
- Wed 23rd** Tatham Fells Primary School special farewell event at 6.30pm, dedicated to Ms Jacquie Van Ryssel and Mrs. Sue Wilcock who are leaving the school. Parents, pupils and friends are invited. For more details phone 07811 174192.
- Thu 24th** Bentham Footpath Group walk, Leck Beck, 5 miles, leaders A. Robertson and V. Mulligan 61285. Meet at Lairgill 1.30pm.
Welcome-in, dominoes for all ages, Methodist Church Hall 2.00-4.00pm. For transport contact Nigel or Kath on 62272.
- Fri 25th** Age Concern at the Masonic Hall, 10.00am-2.30pm. Summer Tea Party.
- Sat 26th** Burton Mothers' Union coffee morning at the Town Hall, 10.00am-12.00noon.
Sheepdog Trials at High Park House, Wray. All welcome.
- Sun 27th** Simply Connect - debate on sustainability, Looking Well 3.00-5.00pm.
- Tue 29th** Bentham Child Health Clinic at the Surgery, 2.00-4.00pm.

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BENTHAM AND DISTRICT PET RESCUE



By Sue Arnott

We never fail to appreciate how generous people can be! We were delighted that several Bentham residents made the journey over to Langcliffe in the community transport minibus, arranged by Lin Barrington (who is a Trustee of Bentham & District Pet Rescue) to support our annual garden party. Organiser June Parrington (who has also recently joined us as a Trustee) managed to pick another brilliantly sunny day for the event. Not only was the afternoon enjoyed by all - including our many canine friends who took part in the fun dog show - but it also raised £625 for the charity. Thank you everyone who helped to achieve such a fantastic result.

Thanks too to everyone who supported the plant sale over the bank holiday week-

end organised by Carol & Patrick Priestley of Robin Lane, helping to raise almost £300.

On the other side of the coin, it's amazing how heartless some people can be. Two tiny kittens were recently found dumped in a hedge. They came to us thanks to a kind passer-by and thankfully, despite being in a desperate condition, both cats have improved with some TLC at our sanctuary. Hopefully these two (now named Tom & Jerry) will have a good life ahead of them. That's what makes all our fundraising worthwhile!

Which reminds me - we're having a coffee morning and book sale at The Institute in Kirkby Lonsdale on Saturday 12th July. Everyone welcome!

For general queries about B&D Pet Rescue please contact Patrick Priestley on 61127.

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KIRKBY LONSDALE EMBROIDERERS

By Ann Hunter

The group continues to enjoy a full and varied programme of events. One of our members, Jenny Burn, gave us a very clear insight into Hardanger embroidery and we enjoyed a workshop proving that we can sometimes finish something! Our Chairman, Ann Wright, then issued us with a challenge. She produced some very exciting photographs, of tree barks, fungi, beautiful glimpses of water, etc which we, hopefully, will interpret into a form of embroidery using any medium which appeals. The results should be stunning.

Anne Burrow gave us another one of her delightful talks - helping us to get started. It can be very daunting to look at a blank 'canvas' and wonder where to put the first mark. Anne gave us some very good ideas. At our most recent meeting another one of our very talented members, Anne Read, gave us a full day's workshop on raised embroidery - otherwise known as stumpwork. What a lovely day we had and everybody went home with something near completion.

We will be exhibiting at the Lunesdale Agricultural show in August and we look forward to meeting with you. Please do come along and say hello. However, if you would like some further information about the group please ring Ann Hunter on 015242 41120. Our next meeting is scheduled for Thursday 10th July and Priscilla Jones will be giving a talk entitled 'Stitching in Nostalgia'.

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RE-CYCLING PLASTIC AND CARTONS

By Christine Hodson

Plastic bottles and cartons can now be safely re-cycled at Settle and Ingleton Community Centre car park. This is good news but it does raise the question why is this community service not available in Bentham? Travelling to Settle or Ingleton surely is wasting other precious resources namely car fuel?

However I did go to Ingleton to dispose of my plastic and paper cartons. Plastic bottles of all descriptions were in the container, so it is a useful addition to recycling facilities. In an adjoining container the notice on the container reads "Beverage Cartons - paper based food and drink cartons may be placed here", and this too was full of fruit juice cartons.

If we all saved our 'empties' for local recycling and raised this issue with our local councillors, what a reduction in the rubbish sent to land fill sites could be achieved.

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LOOKING WELL

By Sue Manson

Summer Wednesdays

Throughout July and August, we will be running a series of summer activities every Wednesday:

Cooking: From 9th July there will be cookery demonstrations from 10.45am to 12.15, covering topics such as pizza, summer salads, Italian bread or produce from the garden.

Gardening: On the 2nd, 9th and 16th, there will be gardening workshops in the Looking Well Garden, looking at wide variety of 'organics' subjects such as soil fertility and companion planting.

Family arts activities: Starting on 23rd July, and running until 20th August, NYCC will be putting on fun creative activities such as mask making and pebble painting. These are for all the family and will be suitable for accompanied children of 4 and upwards.

Summer Lunches: These start on 9th July and continue each Wednesday to the end of August. We look forward to seeing you – why not come for a morning and afternoon activity – and a lunch – and make a day of it! There will be a small charge for the cookery and gardening demonstrations, and the NYCC family arts activities. Please phone to book as places are limited: Janice or Clare 62672.

'Slow Art' Activities Coming to Looking Well

As part of the Bolton Abbey Slow Art Trail, Looking Well is delighted to be hosting two writing workshops with BBC writer Miles Salter during July. If you are interested in joining one of the sessions please phone Janice or Clare on 62672.

Cancer Support Group

The Cancer Support group thank Karen Wright for hosting the plant sale at her home in Roeburndale. Over £500 was raised and will be used to provide therapy sessions for anyone with cancer or other long term illness. Also, thank you to everyone who supported our coffee morning at the Town Hall.

FUN DAY – CAN YOU MISS IT????

By Anne Yaman

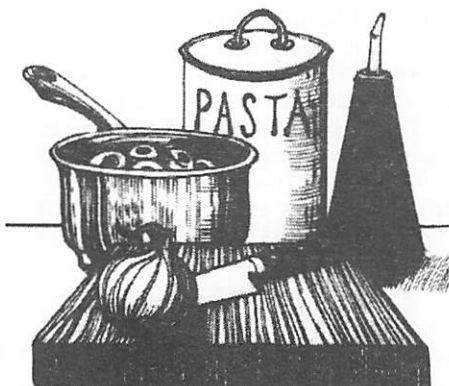
Bentham Playing Fields Committee and Bentham Little Red Bus are pleased to announce a FUN DAY to be held on Wednesday 30 July from 1 p.m. on the Playing Fields, Wenning Avenue, High Bentham to celebrate the opening of the new Station Building and to support the Playing Fields.

This will be a day to involve the whole community and so please come along and celebrate with us and support us.

Many local organisations will be there and there will be a host of mystery events – watch for posters and notices around the Town during July. Or if you want some more information about what will be going on and how your organisation might be able to participate, please contact us on 015242 62753.

We all look forward to seeing you.

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VICTORIA INSTITUTE

By Sharon Haslam

The Trash and Treasure Sale made £325.00. Thank you to everyone who helped to make this event a success.

On 12th July from 10am onwards we are having a Community Garden work day. We need lots of people to donate their time to help assemble a shed, lay the raised beds for the allotment, make a container for the community compost, paint a gate, mix concrete and plant the plants that people have kindly donated. If you are interested and need more information phone Sharon Haslam or Ann Ambrose on either 63162 or 61800. We are very grateful to Mick Armstrong for donating the patio stones, Martin Faichney who has agreed to lay them free of charge, Bob Curry for the gate and Geoff Halstead for fixing the hinges.

The Community Link Café is still a fun place to be every Monday and Wednesday. The group recently invited David Johnson and Peter Marshall as guest speakers, Bentham Praise Choir, Wendy Dowbiggin with her scrap book of Bentham over the years, participated in arm chair exercise and had lunch at the Sundial. If you are interested to coming to the Community Link Café then phone Andrea Tuohy or Margaret Hayton 63162. Dates for the dairy - 2nd July trip to Clapham Age Concern and lunch at the Horse and Farrier, High Bentham. 16th July talk and demonstration by First Responders. 30th July there will a performance by travelling Morris Dancers. The group is planning a trip in August to Fairfield Mill, Sedbergh.

The next book swap is 12th July 10 - 12, Bat and Chat is every Thursday and the Street Market Bank Holiday Monday 25th August.

Bentham Community Centre

The Community office is now up and running and has been very busy with people collecting dog poo bags, recycling batteries, spectacles, computer ink cartridges, stamps and mobile phones. The Community Centre now sells second hand books and the proceeds go to Pet Rescue. The drop-in is open every day 10am - 12pm. There will soon be a computer with internet access available for people to use.

If you are interested in renting space at a reasonable rate for children's parties, meetings or to start up a new group then contact Sharon Haslam.

BENTHAM FILM GROUP

By Stella Hall

Bentham Film Group enjoyed its first evening at the Victoria Institute, Low Bentham, on Saturday 7th June when the film "Rabbit Proof Fence" was shown. In the interval the audience participated in a free raffle for a bottle of wine, and themed refreshments - including delicious home-made carrot cake, were available to purchase. A big thank you to all our helpers.

Come and join us at our next evening on Saturday 6th September when the film "The Kite Runner" will be shown. This is a powerful story about friendship and betrayal in Afghanistan. Look out for more details in the Bentham News.

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Busy Bodies Pre School, Melling Requires an Assistant

Required from 1st September 2008 a Pre School Assistant. The suitable person must preferably be qualified NNEB / NVQ level 2 childcare OR be willing to undertake training to this standard.

Pre School sessions are currently on a Monday & Wednesday afternoon 12.30pm to 3pm. Salary is £7 per hour for Unqualified & £8 per hour for Qualified, term time only. For further details please contact the school. Applications should be made by letter enclosing a CV to: The Chairperson, Busy Bodies Management Committee, c/o St Wilfred's C of E Primary School, Lodge Lane, Melling, Carnforth, LA6 2RE 015242 21538. Closing date for applications - 11th July 2008.

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BENTHAM PEOPLE

Personal Thanks

Oldfield. Norma and family would like to thank everyone for their kind wishes, cards and flowers following the death of Clifford on the 2nd May. Special thanks to Dr. Howlett, Joe Morphet, Dawn, Tony and Rev. Wilmott.

Thanks

Bill and Jean Eglin give thanks for prayers, flowers, cards and practical help, not forgetting kindness and patience shown by Les Ely - Bibby's bus driver, and his passengers.

Brenda Everson, Nuffin2wear. A big thank you to the people and friends of Bentham who have welcomed me wholeheartedly into their community. Nuffin2wear is a new venture for me and therefore a step into the unknown. However, with all the friendly faces and support I have been given, it has made it worthwhile. I am in full support of keeping our villages alive and vibrant and I hope my services will contribute to this.

Special thanks to Neil, Sally and staff at Armstrong's, Maxine at Pigtales, Ann, Aaron and Marie at Slipped Disc, Pam Woof at Pennine Outdoor and the Ladies at Tooby's for all their encouragement and well wishes.

Ingrid. Just a big "Thank You" to all my family and friends for my lovely cards, flowers and presents, celebrating my 50th birthday. Love to you all, Ingrid.

For Sale

Bendix Washing Machine, very good condition, £60. Whirlpool Dish Washer, very good condition, £80. David Mangan 21937.

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Birthday

Moore. Congratulations Bob on your 80th birthday!! Best wishes, lots of love, Cathie, Ken, Doris and families.



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CHARITIES THANK YOU

The recent Gospel Charity Concert at High Bentham Methodist Church raised £840. This is to be divided between Cancer Care and North West Air Ambulance. Many thanks to all who contributed in any way.

Community Centre - the recent coffee morning held at the Town Hall made £232, which will go towards the upkeep of the Community Centre. Thank you once again to all those who helped especially the women from the Craft Group.

Annie Carrington wishes to thank everyone (again) for sponsoring her to run the London Marathon. The final total raised for North-West Cancer Research is £3,216!

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LAMBING TIME

By John Dawson

Well, lambing time at Bleak Bank Farm has been and gone again and we have all survived. I say this tongue in cheek because I for one rather enjoy it, although I'm not sure why.

All our sheep are lambed outside so we start the lambing as the clocks go forward at the end of March, the theory being that the extra hour of daylight in the evening gives more chance of righting some wrongs before dark. The first look in the morning, as daybreak arrives, can often be the most confusing as you find five sheep in the corner with ten lambs or a sheep thinking of lambing going around the field "pinching" a lamb off a sheep that is distracted as she has her second. Once the first sheep has lambed she no longer wants the pinched one and her real mum is none too keen either!

Occasionally casualty sheep have to be brought inside (known as jail at our house) for closer attention, this can be for a number of reasons - maybe she has had a dead lamb and is having one mothered on which involves two or three days in the adopter, a marvellous piece of equipment which holds the ewe's head whilst the lamb sucks but she can't see the lamb and after the said days the lamb has adopted the ewe's smell and the theory is she now believes it to be her own. Mind you some sheep are too clever for their own good and nothing will induce them to own a lamb they have not produced. At this point wives and children must keep out of the shepherd's way and not be tempted to offer advice regarding mothering on.

Just as capable of causing cardiac arrest in

the shepherd is a sheep which has two lambs but absolutely denies all knowledge of one of them; the above technique can just occasionally work but often the lamb is a "spare" and needs a new mum altogether.



Unlike many farm operations lambing time goes on regardless of what the weather is doing, be it snowing or sunshining (it can do either or both on the same day) the lambs keep coming out. If it's wet then they are born in the wettest corner of the field but as long as they get that first feed of colostrum from mum they rarely take harm. How that lamb knows where to find it under all that wool I will never know but find it they do. Sometimes a shearling (never lambed before) treats the lamb as an unexploded bomb and has to be persuaded that she now has parental responsibilities and after a little bonding they take it very seriously.

As lambing time goes on and the disasters are brought under some form of control we move on to marking the lambs; this involves lots of junior members of staff and some retired ones. After we have marked a field of maybe sixty lambs and thirty sheep I watch as they go out of the yard and within minutes each ewe has found her two; how do they do that?

By the end of April it's pretty much done and dusted. I start speaking in a civil tone to most people. The lack of sleep and overwork fade into the background and by next March we're ready to do it all again.

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'ROAD CLOSED' BUT NOT FOR LITTER-PICKERS

By Shirley Brown

The closure for 2 weeks in June of the B6480 between Ridding Lodge and The Punchbowl in Low Bentham, presented 5 Bloomin' Bentham volunteers with the opportunity to collect litter from the road sides and verges.

This is a road that in normal circumstances is too busy and too hazardous for such an activity. We had a pleasant walk for 2 hours, listened to the oystercatchers and collected 6 bags of litter. Our next gathering is at 1pm in the painted bus shelter on Sunday 13th July – all are welcome and if you want to find out more about what we do or suggest areas around Bentham that need clearing up, please feel free to ring Shirley on 61608.

LOST

Leki walking pole on Heritage Trail, Saturday 07/06/08. Ring Dorothy 61430.

SPRINGFIELD BOWLING CLUB

By Teresa Freeman

Bowlathon – Saturday July 12th

There will be a marathon bowling day on July 12th from 6.00am to 6.00pm. We plan to have at least one game on the green at all times throughout the day, plus other activities.

This is a major fund-raising event for our new pavilion and we hope every member will take part – also as many members of the public as possible.

Please support us by sponsoring a member (or 2) and coming to see us at Springfield Bowling Club sometime during the day. Have a go yourself (bowls provided) or ask for a Bowling Lesson at £1 a time. Or just come and watch – there will be a raffle and refreshments.

Please support us in any way you can. All your help is very much appreciated.

Peter Allen

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FREECYCLING AND SWAPPING ITEMS

By Sue Clements

Following our recycling / composting day at The Looking Well on June 21st - here is another way to recycle (and reduce waste). *"There's no such thing as junk, only stuff that hasn't found the right person".*

Freecycling works by using a mailing list or website to advertise offers and wants. Items offered should be either swapped, free or very cheap! Freecycling networks throughout the UK, with 1,166,182 members in 472 groups. Many people hugely enjoy recycling by using charity shops, car boots etc. However many items cannot be recycled in this way: too large, too small, too old, too new, too worn; ½ used etc.

Do you need items? Does the "credit crunch" now mean that cost is a factor? Do you want an unusual item, just a small quantity / large quantity, or are you a confirmed "non waster" and want to reuse / recycle? This is an excellent way to help

teenagers leaving home, new students and new parents, and others to get items to furnish new homes and gardens, plus lots of more unusual ideas for little or no financial outlay. Freecycleers are very creative, and the websites are Aladdin's caves! Recent wants / offers include; kitchen sink, tag along bike, nearly full tin of varnish, mattress, plastic plant pots, chairs, board games, skateboard, old carpet to suppress garden weeds, fabric for patchwork, window blind, fish tank & an unused train ticket for London.

Joining

There are 4 Freecycle groups in the area: Lancaster, Carnforth and Skipton (you could belong to all three) plus Lancaster Swapshop. You'll need to apply to each group. The addresses are: freecycle - www.freecycle.org/groups/unitedkingdom. For Lancaster and Carnforth find the North West area, for Skipton use Yorkshire and Humberside, click the join button, and ask to subscribe. *If you don't have the internet at home you can use computers at Bentham library to join Freecycle. Staff there will show you how to set up an account which is free for the first half hour each time you use it.*

Lancaster Swapshop - swapshop2008@pascal-the-rascal.co.uk To join this group, email with SUBSCRIBE in the subject line. You'll be part of the wider recycling community, meeting yours (& others') needs, helping the environment, and gaining a real sense of satisfaction. (If all else fails then visit Carnforth recycling centre!) Our next meeting is Tuesday 15th July 7.30 at the Looking Well. Please do come. We are a friendly group, always looking for inspiration and ways to sustain us all.


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LOW BENTHAM WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

By Jennifer Watkinson

Vice president, Mrs. Ruth Sephton, welcomed local historian Mr. Michael Winstanley, who gave us a very interesting and informative talk entitled "Bentham before the First World War". He used the relevant Ordnance Survey Maps and information gleaned from the New Doomsday Book to talk about the area, its buildings and the life of the inhabitants of Bentham.

In 1910, the government of the day was short of money and wanted to levy a new tax on property. In order to do this a detailed study was proposed, the first since the original in 1086. By 1914 88% had been completed. Valuers visited every property and recorded the required information in their field note books.

He showed modern photographs of buildings, many very familiar to members and then gave the recorded information about them and their occupants. It gave a clear picture of the hard life that many of the "Benthams" had to endure.

The members' night was discussed with several members offering to obtain information on suggested places to visit. The secretary, Mrs. Sue Cooper, had prepared a précis of this year's resolutions which were debated and voted on.

The competition (for a piece of war memorabilia) winners were Mrs. Faith Wilson, Mrs. Sheila Brown and Mrs. Isabel Carr.

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HIGH BENTHAM C P SCHOOL FAIR

By Fiona Ward

High Bentham C P School welcomes you to a July Jamboree Summer Fair on Saturday 5th July - starting at 2.00pm and finishing around 9.00pm - free admission.

This year we are fund raising for history resource boxes, outdoor play equipment, money towards school trips and theatre groups as well as other items and activities throughout the year. Following on from last year there will be hugely popular events in the afternoon such as: Stalls, Displays, Activities, Entertainment, Demonstrations and light refreshments.

Pitches are available for a small donation should local traders wish to sell their goods or advertise their products.

The evening event commences at 5.30pm with entertainment, hot food and refreshments. Evening meal tickets can be purchased through school.

Look out for posters for further details in school and around Bentham or on the day up to 4pm. We hope this year that we can count on your support again to continue the tradition of previous success. Please remember we are supporting our children as they are the future of the Bentham Community.

Contact Fiona Ward on behalf of High Bentham C P School PTFA on 015242 61336 for any further information. Many thanks and we look forward to seeing you on the day.

MORE HELP FOR FAMILIES

By North Yorkshire County Council

The Families Information Service is the new name for the Children's Information Service in North Yorkshire. With the change of name comes an extension of the information the service can provide to families in the County. The Families Information Service provides free and impartial information to mothers, fathers and carers of children and young people aged up to 19, including children with learning difficulties and disabilities.

Subjects covered include:

- ·Childcare
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NUFFIN 2 WEAR? COME AND HAVE A LOOK!

By Shirley Brown

This is the story of how a visit to the chiropodist led to a life-changing decision! After Brenda Everson had finished a session with Marie at Sole to Soul, she wandered down Main Street, noticed the 'To Let' sign in Ward's shop window, and took the momentous decision to go for it. And so the idea for "Nuffin 2 Wear" was born.

Brenda lives in Clapham and, after a range of jobs, which included teaching children with special needs for over 20 years, she was looking for a project she could work on with her daughter, Katie. Setting up a fresh business in the heart of Bentham seemed just what she was looking for. Living in a village herself, she is very committed to keeping communities alive through providing excellent local trading opportunities. She hopes that people will be attracted to shop in Bentham from outlying villages, and customers are already telling her how much they appreciate being able to buy clothes locally.

She felt there was a gap in the market that she could fill. In particular she's selling a wide-range of men's wear, shirts, jeans, ties, cuff links and gifts for all ages, and the attractive display of women's fashionable clothes drew a comment from one customer that these were clothes for *"those of us who don't want to be climbing mountains all the time!"* The eye-catching displays are another feature of this family business, as Brenda's sister-in-law, Lyn, is responsible for the artistic window dressing (we've all noticed the skeleton!), and some lovely summer sandals and sunglasses caught my eye. The renovation of the shop was done by her hard working husband and a friend.

Brenda's aim is to provide a range of good quality clothes at a very reasonable price. She also wants to provide a service to her customers, so is the agent for Supreme Cleaners of Lancaster who will launder or dry clean clothes and household items. Also,

she is working with Woman Zone to provide personal fittings for lingerie and swimwear for women after surgery. More details of this special service are available on request.

Brenda is looking forward to working alongside already established businesses



in the town and hopes to become well-established herself and continue the theme of longevity started by the Ward family. She already feels at home and has received a warm welcome and encouragement from other Bentham traders. Come and have a look – the shop is open 9-5 weekdays (early closing Thursdays) and until 4pm on Saturdays. We welcome this new enterprising business and hope it prospers. But beware, next time you go to have your toenails trimmed, bunions bandaged or corns cauterised, you too might end up buying a business on Main Street!

tim wheildon

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BENTHAM FOOTPATH GROUP REMEMBERS ITS FOUNDER

By Keith Hartley

Bentham Footpath Group's two walks on 7th June took a short detour to visit and "unveil" a new notice board that has been sited in the town, adjacent to the entrance to Cleveland Square, in memory of the late Len Moody who was the inspirational driving force in the creation of the Group in 1986.

Len's two daughters, Bridget and Jennifer, returned to Bentham for the occasion and expressed their gratitude to the Group for its commitment to preserving the memory of their father. Jennifer said that although he would pretend not to be, Len would probably be 'pleased as Punch' to be remembered in such a way.

Pictured are Bridget (left) and Jennifer, with Bentham Footpath Group members Carol Crellin, Bernard Ellershaw, Margaret Marshall, Verena Smith, Joan Clapham, Sue and John Pilkington. They are standing in front of the new notice board.

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