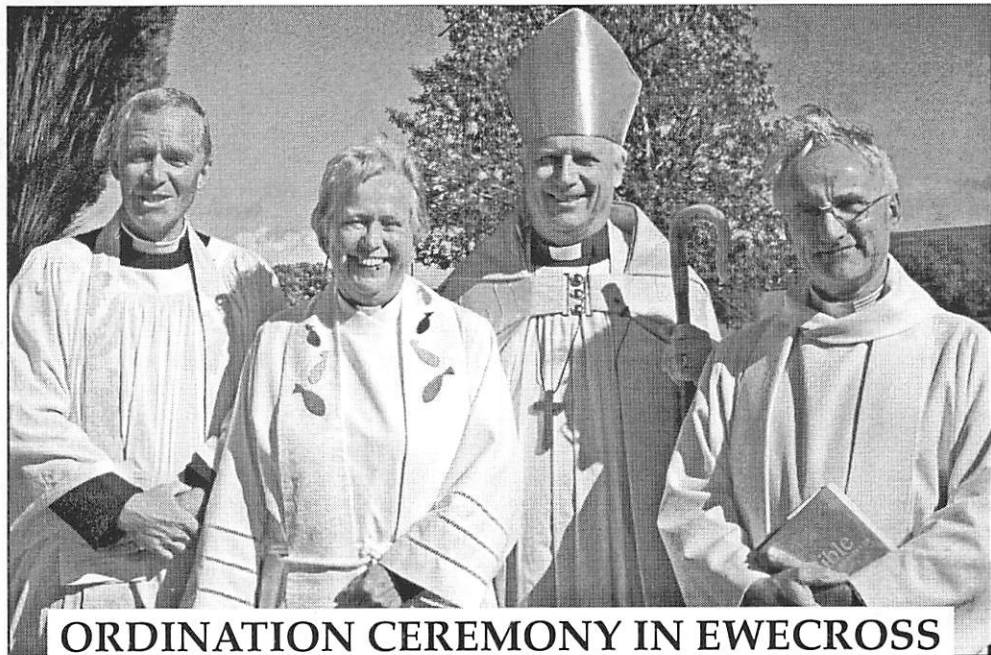


BENTHAM NEWS



ORDINATION CEREMONY IN EWECROSS

Most churches ordain new deacons in a cathedral and the Diocese of Bradford is no exception. After a year's "probation" deacons are ordained priest and Bradford moves this special ceremony to the relevant parish church. At St. Margaret's preparations began in April and new flower-arrangers, car park stewards and sidespeople were discovered. Chairs and chalices were borrowed from St. John's. 29 ministers wanted to join the procession and be part of the historic ceremony, and space had to be found in the chancel for 25 singers and instrumentalists from Bentham's ecumenical music group.

People began to arrive more than an hour before the service, always an indication of a large congregation. Would there be enough service-sheets? Deacons Mabel Parr and Vic Hopkins arrived holding tightly to their own copies. 240 squeezed into church as the colourful procession began outside. Anglican priests wore their white and gold robes normally kept for great festivals. They matched the arrangements of white lilies and gold altar cover inside.

The service was dignified but joyful and applause and laughter broke out at times. Sam Randall's talk on serving others was memorable as was Bishop David's invitation to receive bread and wine, the most generous welcome I can recall. However the choir's descants to the hymns and its plainsong as the bishop moved slowly to lay hands on the kneeling deacons signified great mystery. Most churches believe that a bishop's authority stretches back to St. Peter himself. Bishop David was about to play what one Christian called "holy tag" with Mabel and Vic. They stood to change their stoles as new priests. The priest's stole, or scarf, symbolises the towel worn by a slave of the Roman empire and used for washing the feet of others. The priest who forgets that is in the wrong job.

Stephen Dawson

AUGUST 2008

ISSUE 262

REG AND MARGARET POINTON'S DIAMOND ANNIVERSARY

By Shirley Brown

On 31st July 1948, 25 year olds Reg Pointon and Margaret Fawcett were married at Manchester Cathedral. The ravages and hardships of the war were still in evidence; Margaret was wearing a wedding dress borrowed from her sister-in-law, Reg's best man was Cosmo Heumann, a refugee from East Germany, and scaffolding surrounded the bomb-damaged cathedral. Their first date had been arranged from a bus platform with Reg on the bus and Margaret, on her way home from working on a farm as her service in the Land Army, pedalling furiously to stay in its slipstream! The wedding followed a four-year courtship, which included cycling, rambling, playing tennis and golf and going to the cinema, but strictly *"no sleepovers...it was a different world."*

Early on in their marriage they bought a tobacconists in Beswick, a tough area of Manchester. They lived above the shop where Margaret worked and did well despite sweets being on coupons and tobacco being rationed. They couldn't understand why there were iron bars on the windows, so took them off. Soon after that they were robbed! When they sold the business they felt they'd done pretty well, and remember counting the £2,000, which had been paid in large white £5 notes.

They moved to Disley, near Chapel-en-le-Frith, where Reg continued his career as a research engineer. They had a daughter Hilary, *"we only had one, but she was the best"*, and moved to Bentham in 1959 when Reg got a job with Anguses. The thing that clinched their move though was finding out that Bentham had a 9-hole golf course. Both Reg



and Margaret loved the sport; both have been captains here in their time. They have lived happily in Bentham for 49 years and have never wanted to leave the area. Among other contributions that they have made to the life of the town, Margaret was housemother at Ford House for the Senior Girls at Bentham Grammar School for many years, and Reg was Bentham Town Clerk for 22 years.

They have both enjoyed good health, although the damage done to Reg's hearing by contracting scarlet fever as a child was worsened when he was testing jet engines in his twenties. *"Today Health and Safety people would have had a fit, we had no earplugs and were standing right by the engines".*

Politics has been an abiding interest for Reg and Margaret, and, although both come from conservative backgrounds they have held left-wing views since their youth. They think the NHS is a *"brilliant thing"* and have been Guardian readers for 65 years. Spending an hour or so with Reg and Margaret often has all three of us laughing, and humour is an important ingredient of their happy marriage, along with *"being the best of friends and enjoying sharing and doing things together."*

Reg has been saying Robert Browning's words, *"Grow old along with me, the best is yet to be"* to Margaret now for 60 years, and it sums up the positive outlook on life that has carried them so happily through their many years together. May they have many more.

JULY'S TOWN COUNCIL

By David Johnson

All the Cllrs attended except Cllrs Barrington, Hurtle, District Cllr Camacho and County Cllr Ireton. The Gideon Society presented the Mayor (Cllr Adams) with a bible. Two members of the public made points concerning Hillside Road, Low Bentham.

Planning

Two retrospective applications provoked discussion. The Cllrs recommended that the District Council should only approve the erection of a summerhouse and garden shed at 4 Collingwood Drive if they are in line with the original planning permission. They viewed the application to extend the permission for the temporary site at Clay Barn, Burton in Lonsdale as unacceptable. They considered it to be a prime example of 'creeping development'. Apparently this is the 3rd or 4th retrospective application to be made for this site and the Cllrs asked the planning authority to see if evidence was available to show that the applicant had made serious efforts to find an alternative site. It was decided to ask for a site meeting.

Highways

Despite extensive work at the weekend to alter the camber of the road, Barclay's Bank was struck again on Monday morning! The Cllrs were surprised that the levels had not been raised more. They are to ask for a meeting with North Yorkshire Highways to discuss parking in Main Street.

Hillside Road

Building work at the turning area has led to severe congestion and parked vehicles are blocking access for emergency vehicles. It was confirmed that Hillside Road was adopted on 1st December 1998 and therefore it is a public highway and parking cannot be restricted to residents only. It was suggested that a photographic record should be made of the problems and a recent incident where the ambulance could not reach a house should be investigated further. The residents were encouraged to report persistent speeding offenders to the police. The Cllrs

were annoyed that building was proceeding despite all the objections of the Council that appear to have been ignored. They saw it as officialdom riding roughshod over local opinion. They resolved to seek a meeting with Yorkshire Housing and the Highways Department to discuss the problems.

Low Bentham Playing Field

The Cllrs decided to press ahead and try to level the site before winter. Cllr Faichney will try to carry out the work voluntarily at weekends. If the weather makes this impossible the Council may have to employ a contractor.

Bentham Common Land Charity

Cllr Wills has been appointed as the Town Council representative. Cllrs are concerned that the land may be sold. In view of this they have asked the secretary for a report and if this is not forthcoming they will invite him to a meeting to discuss the situation.

Market Day Parking On Cleveland Square

It appears that some motorists are flagrantly ignoring parking restrictions on market day. For Health and Safety reasons Cllrs want to keep the square for pedestrian use on Wednesdays. Cllrs will consider the possibility of employing a firm to clamp offenders and may display notices to this effect.

Castleberg Hospital

Cllr Barnes has been appointed to the North Craven Health Liaison Group that will work to try to keep the Harden Ward open.

Market Arch Mural Project

By a majority of 6 to 3 the Cllrs decided not to support 'Bloomin' Bentham' in its quest to create a mural in the archway between Main Street and Cleveland Square.

Sedbergh Junior School

The Cllrs decided there was little they could do about the sports hall at SJS until the views of the Governors about the future of the site become known.

Youth Café

Cllr Burton said that a manageress and a volunteer or youth worker will operate the café for 3 nights a week.

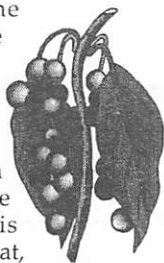
GARDENING COLUMN

By Joyce Knapp

Hopefully by August we will have had some summer sunshine to help our fruits and vegetables to mature and ripen and some, if not all of them, will be ready for harvesting. Some of the more popular crops such as beetroot can be lifted from the ground and left to dry in the sun for just a few hours before being taken into storage for use later in the year. Others, like ordinary onions, need a little help to mature before being lifted and this is achieved by simply bending down the leafy tops of each plant and leaving them in situ for several days. The bulbs will then visibly turn a deeper shade of brown as they ripen and this will help the onion to keep in storage without rotting.

This year, due to the hot, dry spell after planting, I have noticed that many of the onions have developed 'bull neck' i.e. a broad neck and small bulb. Unfortunately, these bulbs will not keep well in storage, but they can still be used to make batches of delicious home made soups and stews that can be frozen for winter use.

Having looked at the harvesting of produce, we can now turn to providing care for the fruit bushes and canes. Once the last of our summer fruiting raspberries has been picked, we can remove all the canes that have fruited this year. This is achieved by cutting them off at,



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or just above, ground level and removing them, thereby exposing all the new, young shoots that will be tied in to the frame at a later date and will provide next year's crop. It is perhaps advisable to remove the weakest new shoots, to avoid overcrowding, aiming to leave approximately three shoots per root, before applying a slow release feed in the form of either well rotted farmyard manure or garden compost to the area.

Blackcurrant bushes can also be pruned in August and this is done simply by removing several of the old stems that have just borne fruit to allow space for the new wood to ripen as this will carry next season's crop. They too will benefit from a mulch similar to that provided for the raspberry canes; this will not only help feed the bushes, but will also help reduce the incidence of weeds surrounding the plants.



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CRAVEN CONCERNS

(Royal edition)

By Cllr Manuel Camacho 015242 62074

Royal Garden Party

If I sometimes give the impression that being a councillor is just a round of Parish problems, dreary committees and heated planning meetings then I would be exaggerating (but not much!).

However there are occasional high spots and Tuesday the 8th of July was the highest one possible. I had the honour of attending a garden party at Buckingham Palace and as your representative I was truly delighted. It is held as you would expect in the garden behind the palace. Given that there are 8,000 people (roughly the population of North Craven) invited to this event, this is really more of a park than a garden but totally private. Tea and sandwiches were served in a marquee the size of two football pitches, we missed out a bit there, preferring to jostle for a prime position to watch the Queen and Prince Phillip meeting a selection of folk on their walkabout. The organisation was impeccable and the garden groomed to perfection. Two military bands played medleys of popular music, the setting was of course stunning and unbelievably the weather was fine. Sue and I will remember that afternoon for the rest of our lives.

Charity Golf Day, a huge success

Over £8,000 was raised at a golf tournament organised by former Chairman, Councillor David Ireton, in aid of Yorkshire Air Ambulance and Bentham First Responders. Nineteen teams took part in the event (two from Bentham), which was held at Skipton Golf Club. In his retiring speech, Councillor Ireton expressed his gratitude to all the Council's employees for their dedication to the Council's work over the last year.

New Free Home Insulation for the over seventies

A new scheme, funded by energy companies, has recently made loft and/or cavity wall insulation free to anyone aged over 70 who owns or privately rents their home. Provided

the depth of your loft insulation is 100mm or 4" or less, installers will top this up to the recommended amount of 270mm or 11", free of charge. Insulating your walls and roof space are two of the best ways of cutting your fuel bills, and making sure you can afford to keep warm. You could save up to £200 a year by installing these measures.

If you are over 70 and would like to discuss having free loft and or cavity wall insulation installed, or if you have any questions about energy efficiency matters, please call the Energy Efficiency Advice Centre (EEAC) on 0800 512 012.

Chief Executive CDC

Gill Dixon, our former chief executive, chose the period after the last local election to announce her resignation, this being a convenient point in her career to change direction. Colin Walker, Director for Environment and Planning, has held the fort in the short term, but, as he already has plenty to do, we have appointed an interim Chief Exec during the recruiting process. His name is Brian Dinsdale.

CDC Telephone Numbers

I have probably mentioned before that we now operate a single contact number for CDC, however we have previously published direct numbers of individual departments. It is now better to just use 01756 700600. This has become even more important as departments are being moved around to accommodate Skipton Development activities and in preparation for the move to new offices. Work has started on the new offices but it will probably be at least two years before they are ready.

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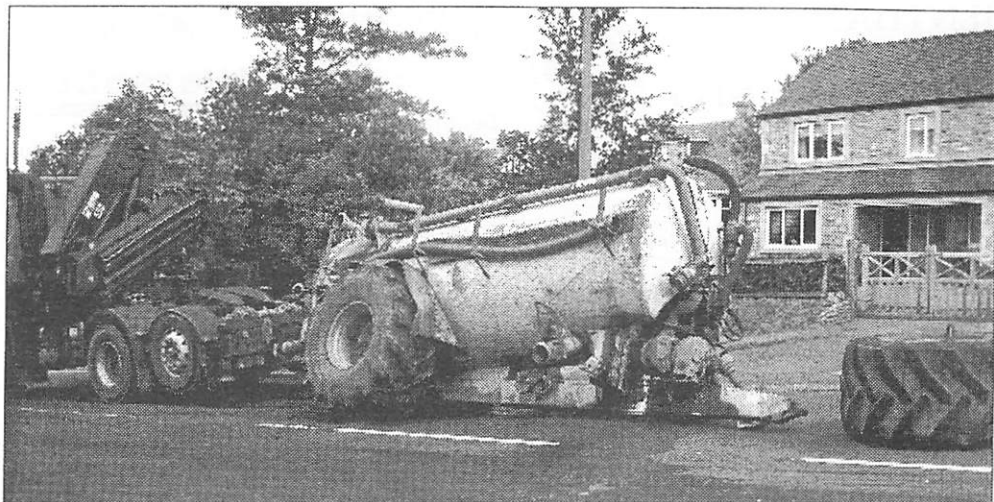
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SLURRY SPILL AS TANKER AXLE BREAKS AT SPRINGFIELD

On Thursday 10th July an axle broke on a slurry tanker being towed by a tractor on the road at Springfield. Slurry spilled onto the road and a large wheel snapped off and added to the hazardous situation. Fortunately, this potential danger did not result in any further accidents and members of the local fire brigade turned out and cleared away the slurry spill.

The photograph was taken by local man, Ricky Cooper.

tim wheildon

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BENTHAM LITTLE RED BUS/COMMUNITY TRANSPORT



By Anne Yaman

Trips in August

Monday 11th August - World of James Herriot and Thirsk Market - £9.50

Passengers pay their own admission fee: Adult £5.50, Child £3.90, Senior Citizen £4.30. The James Herriot website advises at least a 90 minute visit, the rest of the time can be spent at the market.

Thursday 21st August - Barton Grange Garden Centre with Garstang Market - £6.50

Thursday 28th August - South Lakes Wild Animal Park - £6.50

Arriving at the park in time for the feeding of the giraffes at 11.30am, staying until the feeding of the lions at 4.25pm. Passengers pay their own admission fee: £10.50 for adults, £7.00 for children. Under 16s must be accompanied by an adult, (park rules). Please phone us on 015242 62753 if you wish to book seats.

New buses

You may have seen our buses are slowly changing their appearance – some now have 'Little Red Bus' branding on them. We have received delivery of some new Renault 12-seater minibuses with wheelchair access, and some 16-seaters are due to be delivered later this year.

The opening of the building

The official opening of our new offices and the Youth Café took place, together with the

Fun Day held on the Playing Fields at Wenning Avenue.

On behalf of

Bentham Little Red



Bus and the Youth Café we would like to thank everyone who has worked very hard to get us up and running in a lovely remodelled building. Special mention must be made of Yorkshire Forward and North Yorkshire County Council for the funding, Wayne Dixon and Pat Cox of Northern Rail and Liam Diviney of Network Rail who have devoted so much time and resources to improve the look of the station, Dave Riley and his team from Contact One for the wonderful building and ancillary works, Tom Lawson for the external joinery and Rob Park, Andy and Harry from Park & Whiteley for the electrical work.

We also must not forget our Little Red Bus partners in Harrogate and Ryedale who have given us tremendous support and encouragement. If you have not been down to visit us yet, please do so – the office is normally open from 8-4 Monday to Friday.

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BENTHAM FOOTPATH GROUP

By Maureen Ellis



seeing beautiful views of the length of the Lune Valley from the coast as far as Kirkby Stephen. Lunch will be in the church at Killington. What a programme!

In praise of the leaders

The leaders of the Bentham Group are amazing; when they are phoned to give information for this column without exception they are either able to conjure up the walk immediately in their heads or they must have a library of maps by the telephone and just read it off. Incredible. Details of the starting places and times for walks can be found on the "events pages".

The first August walk is in the area of Ribbleshead on the Sunday 3rd. If people want to go to the second meeting place, phone the leaders at 015242 42129 as there are various places to park and there is room for confusion. The route will be Thorns Gill, Thorns and then Nether Lodge and Ings, Ling Gill, Cam End and back to the start.

On Thursday 7th the Silverdale walk has a second meeting place in the car park area near Yealand Storrs, marked on the map as 'Yealand Hall Allotments'; from there it will go to a small lake known perhaps confusingly as Hawes water (not the one in the Lake District) and then through woodland towards Silverdale and onwards towards Jenny Brown's Point and then heading off in the direction of Wharton Crag and back through woodland; in effect it will mean the area of Leighton Moss will have been circumnavigated, on reasonably level ground.

Sunday 17th brings the 'Sedbergh and Sedgewick Trail'. It is a reasonably easy walk devised by the leader, including the Sedgewick Trail, which as might be guessed is to do with geology - it is about a mile stretch of river bed of various rock formations with eight significant points along its way. The walk is a wide circle round Sedbergh and will take 5 hours.

By popular request the Killington walk on Sunday 31st is a repeat of the wonderful 6.5 miles one of the winter. The walk starts from the layby on the Old Scotch road by Killington reservoir. It's an easy one with few stiles and goes first down towards Kirkby Lonsdale and across fields while

Dear Bentham News,

On Wednesday 9th July I took some prime lambs to be sold at Bentham Auction Mart. After unloading them I went off round the town to do some shopping. I noticed in the Co-op that a rather curious commodity can be bought: New Zealand lamb. There was no British lamb on sale.

How bizarre it seems that thousands of prime lambs are sold each week, not much more than 100 yards from the Co-op front door, yet the shop only sells lamb reared on the other side of the world!

If the Co-op management has good reasons for this state of affairs, perhaps it would like to share them with Bentham sheep farmers and other interested parties.

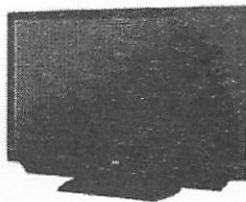
Yours sincerely,

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COOKERY PAGE

Edited by Pat Henderson

Baked Halibut in Cider

Recipe - Serves 4

1 onion, finely chopped
125g chopped mushrooms
4 halibut steaks
1 egg, beaten
3 tbsp dry breadcrumbs
2 tsp lemon juice
salt and pepper
4 tbsp cider
25g butter
chopped parsley for garnish

Method

Heat the oven to 160C, gas 3. Place the onion and mushrooms in an ovenproof dish. Dip the fish steaks into the egg and coat with breadcrumbs. Arrange the fish on top of the onion and mushrooms and sprinkle with lemon juice. Add salt and pepper to taste. Spoon the cider over the fish. Dot with pieces of butter and bake in the oven for about 40 minutes until tender. Garnish with parsley.

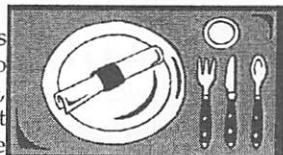
Chicken and Shrimp Noodles

Recipe - Serves 4

250g dried egg noodles
2 tbsp walnut oil
175g cooked minced chicken
110g prawns
2 tsp garam masala
2 fresh red chillies, chopped
1 tbsp each of fresh coriander and mint, chopped
¼ tsp salt and ¼ tsp Chinese five spice

Method

Boil the noodles until cooked to desired taste, drain and set aside. Heat the oil in a wok. Stir fry the chicken and prawns for about two minutes. Add the drained noodles, garam masala, chillies, coriander and mint and stir fry until all are hot throughout. Add salt to taste and transfer to a serving bowl.



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VICTORIA INSTITUTE LOW BENTHAM

By Sharon Haslam

The Community Garden is starting to take shape. The Community Garden workday was a big success, 11 people turned out to help. There was a great community atmosphere and everyone worked hard. The allotment area now has three large raised beds ready for planting; we have two large water butts, a community composter and large flower beds for the plants that were donated. The base for the gazebo has been laid but we need to do some fundraising to complete this. Some members of the community have requested a memory section of the garden so they can plant a shrub or tree in memory of a loved one.

Watch out for a production of Alice in Wonderland by Rough Magic Theatre, on 11th August at 1pm.

Also look out for a Professional Wrestling Show, in September. More details in next month's Bentham News.

BENTHAM COMMUNITY CENTRE

By Sharon Haslam

At the recent AGM new committee members were appointed: - Brain Cowling - Chairman. Margaret Kay - Vice Chair. Lesley Barker - Treasurer. Linda Kellaway - Secretary. Other committee members include Sharon Haslam, Iain Henshaw, Margaret Cowling, Ruth Wiley, Father Tony Boylan and Margaret Hayton.

The coffee morning held at the Town Hall made £232.00 and the Jumble Sale made £197.06. Thank you to everyone who supported the events, helping to raise much needed funds for the Community Centre.

The Centre is in need of a make over so if you are interested in volunteering or/and joining the committee please let me know.

Don't forget to recycle your mobile phones, batteries, computer ink cartridges, spectacles, stamps and foreign coins. A computer with internet access is ready for anyone to use Monday - Friday 10 -12.

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THE PERILS OF THE CHARITY SHOP

By Dorothy Pidgeon

I parked the car as the clock struck ten,
All ready to start my day,
When I saw the shop was in darkness still.

Was the manageress away?

I crossed the road to the baker's shop
Where they keep for us a spare key,
But as I began to open our door
I felt something stabbing me!

I quickly looked down and there on the
step

Was a bag with a "fork" sticking out.
It had pierced my pants and stuck in my
leg –

No wonder it caused me to shout.

Just at that moment our "boss" arrived
And gave me all that she could
To cleanse and sterilise the wound
And stem the flow of blood.

I'm glad to say I was soon O.K.
Though my leg is still rather sore,
So I ask all donors, please take care
Over what you leave at our door.

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BENTHAM AND DISTRICT PET RESCUE



By Sue Arnott

The two tiny kittens found by the roadside last month, Tom and Jerry, are bouncing back to health thanks to a lot of care and attention. What a lucky pair! They're acting like normal kittens now – wrecking their cosy bed, scattering litter everywhere and jumping in their water bowl! Soon they won't be content with the pen they're living in at our sanctuary and will want more space to explore.

It's often difficult to ensure that the cats that come to us are not shut into cages for long periods, especially those that are with us for many weeks (sometimes months) before finding a home. The sanctuary does have an outside run but this can only be used by one cat at a time (or more if they get on!) So the run is being divided into three, then more of our residents can have access to the outdoors at the same time.

The work will cost us about £250 - even with a volunteer making the alterations – but the cats will appreciate it, for sure. That is unless you'd like to offer one a permanent home? Bracken, Jazz, Blue, Nibbles and Mitten are always hopeful!

We're delighted that Dalehead Vets will be raising funds both for the national charity, Pet Savers, and also Bentham & District Pet Rescue when they have an open day in Settle on 17th August. Amongst many other activities, they will be having a charity dog walk starting at 2pm - although walkers without dogs are welcome too! Do go if you can. It sounds like fun – and all for a good cause too!

Don't forget our own events this month: our regular Book Sale at Watershed Mill at Settle will run from Friday 22nd to Tuesday 26th August (11am to 4pm), and our coffee morning at the Town Hall is on Saturday 23rd August. See you there!

NEW TENANTS AT TWO BENTHAM PUBS

By Shirley Brown

I recently enjoyed meeting the new tenants at the Coach House and the Punchbowl. Both couples are extremely enthusiastic and hard working and full of ideas for how to make their business ventures successful. We thought our readers would be interested to find out more about these enterprising people, so please read on.

On 29th May 2008 Gordon Reid and Theresa Haughey took over tenancy of the *'Coach House pub, with lovely restaurant'*. They are no strangers to working in the hospitality business and met when they were both working in Bermuda. When they came back from abroad they moved to Carlisle, where Theresa has strong family connections, and took over a restaurant. From there they also ran a 70 seat restaurant with 2 bars and 7 bedrooms in the Lakes, but this was all too much and their quest for a business that would also give them a decent quality of life led them here.

As soon as they walked into the Coach House, Theresa had a *"gut feeling"* that this was somewhere they could be happy. They have been made to feel very welcome, and as they plan to stay they intend giving the business all they can to make it successful. They live in the cottage next door where their 2 much-loved dogs are enjoying having their own private garden.

Gordon was born in Edinburgh and brought up in Stornoway in the Outer Hebrides. Theresa was born in Cumbria and loves this area. Both have other interests apart from working in the pub as Gordon likes to fish and play golf, and Theresa, with 12 years' experience on cruise ships, also works as a consultant, a role which will occasionally take her away from Bentham.

They have lots of ideas for how to make their business successful. and Gordon, a chef, wants to make his mark on the menu with *"no jargon"*, good food at good prices.

With a fulltime chef and 10 part-time employees, this is a local business with lots of potential. The bedrooms have been fairly fully booked since they arrived. An exciting

innovation is that the Coach House is now licensed for civil weddings. Now there's a thought, the service, reception and overnight stay all in the same place!

On 16th June 2008, new tenants Patrick Benson and Katarina Pardula opened the doors of the Punchbowl in Low Bentham to their first customers. Katarina was brought up in Bolton-le-Sands and her parents had a pub when she was a youngster. Patrick comes from Arkholme and *"has always wanted a pub"*. They both know about, and like, village life, and are touched by how very welcoming local people have been.

Previously Katarina worked for 14 years at Lancaster University in organising roles, firstly in the Sports Centre and then in the Ceremonies and Events office. She relishes the task of organising the pub and working hard, and in this will be helped by her friends and family. Patrick (or 'Pat') is the chef, helped by his sister. The decision to take over the pub had to be made very quickly, so initially he is finishing off commitments to his day job as a plasterer and builder. His work in the kitchen is helped by the fact that he has also run a bakery, so will be producing lots of homemade, simple pub food using local produce. He also likes working hard, which is just as well!

They're keen to continue popular features, such as the fishing rights on a stretch of the River Wenning, Saturday and Sunday lunches from 12noon-8pm, and providing a home for the 2 local darts and pool teams. They have plans for the beer garden and field including events such as the annual bonfire, but would also like to keep some animals as an attraction for children and to provide them with their own duck and hen eggs. They may also provide a small number of pitches for touring caravans, although at present they are not doing B&B.

It's early days and they're still finding out what people want, so are flexible and cooperative and tell their customers *"don't be afraid to ask"*. The pub has a delightfully relaxed atmosphere and Pat & Trina hope it will be seen as a *"pub for everyone"*, and certainly their *"two mad chocolate Labradors"* have already made themselves at home and help to provide a very warm welcome.



SKY DIVE FOR CHARITY

By Janet Hurtle

On Sunday 13th July, Low Bentham girl, Victoria Hurtle, did a Tandem Sky Dive to raise money for St. John's Hospice. It was an early start at Cockerham at 8.00am but she didn't fly till 3pm. Watching nervously with their feet firmly on the ground were the family and friends, to witness this event.

It was a long wait, but worth every minute. At 14,000 feet they jumped out of the plane, falling for 50 seconds and 8,000 feet, travelling at 120mph, before the parachute opened and her final descent was gentle. When asked how she enjoyed it Vicky kept saying "that was awesome".

Victoria would like to thank everyone who sponsored her. She raised around £600 for St. John's Hospice, Lancaster, in memory of her father. Well done, Victoria.

PLEA FOR BASSES BY KIRKBY LONSDALE CHORAL SOCIETY

By Christine Jenkinson

Men! Your resonance is required in the Bass section of our choir! Our basses sound so good that we have become particularly partial to their beautiful tone and are therefore seeking to increase the amplification in this department. Please phone Marjorie on 015242 72812 or Jean on 015242 76265.

Ours is a thriving, non-auditioned choir that has performed a wide and varied repertoire from Mozart to Bernstein for almost 120 years. We aspire to a high musical standard and aim to thrill our concert audiences, performing two or three times a year under our esteemed conductor and joined frequently by professional soloists in the beautiful church of St Mary's, Kirkby Lonsdale, beside the river Lune.

Our Society has been asked to perform at the Kendal Christmas Charity Concert in the Westmorland Hall in December, which honour is testimony to our recent successes. Many of our members join the Mary Wakefield Festival Chorus for the opportunity of singing the great works under famous conductors among an enormous number of voices. We also participate in a friendly annual choral evening with other choirs.

We have opportunities in all sections and all ages, women and men, and so whether or not you've sung in a choir before, come and learn it with us. Come along for a couple of rehearsals at the Institute, New Road, Kirkby Lonsdale at 7.30pm and find out about us at first hand - with no obligation. The first rehearsal for 2008-2009 is on Thursday 11th September. There exists a great camaraderie amongst our members who come in from an area covering Ingletton to Kendal and Silverdale to Sedburgh (so many of us car-share.) We offer the opportunity to create new friendships, explore your musical talents, experience the thrill of entertaining the community and participate in a rewarding activity that brings your enjoyment of music to others.

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RICHARD TURNER

1925 – 2008

By Keith Hartley

The passing of Richard Turner on 15 June meant the loss to a great many people of a presence that had brought so many rewards for so many years.

Mr Turner, or RT as he was affectionately known, was born in Bentham into a family that had already established itself as a driving force in rural commerce. His grandfather, together with Lancaster brewer William Mitchell, founded the Bentham Auction Mart in 1903, just a hundred years after the Turner family business was first started.

Educated at King William's College on the Isle of Man, Mr Turner left school in 1941 to become assistant to his father as Auctioneer and Secretary of the Auction Mart in Bentham.

During the later years of the Second World War, when normal Auction Mart activities were suspended, he acted as liaison between local farmers and the animal graders from the Ministry of Agriculture, using his position where possible to ensure that farmers were rewarded fairly for their work.

Following the death of his father in 1957, Mr Turner was appointed to the Board of Directors of the Bentham Auction Mart. By this time he had already gained considerable experience in the profession, having been in charge of the proceedings at Gisburn Auction Mart since 1952. His dedication to the development and prosperity of both these companies has been largely instrumental in ensuring that not only have they survived the vagaries of an unstable agricultural climate, but that the Auction Mart at Bentham has become one of the largest and most successful in the north of England.

In addition to his work with the Auction Mart and the "family firm," Mr Turner also ran his own dairy farm from 1957 to 1980, and had been a Committee member of the Livestock



Auctioneers Association since 1965. His knowledge of livestock, farming practice, and rural affairs in general has for decades been unequalled in the Bentham area.

Throughout the North West, few names, if any, can be more synonymous with the appraisal and marketing of property, land or livestock than that of Richard Turner. The legacy of his labours, together with the existing commitment of his son, the fifth successive Richard, should ensure that this is the case for many years to come.

Mr Turner is survived and will be greatly missed by his wife, Audrey, his four children and his grandchildren.



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HIGH BENTHAM WOMEN'S INSTITUTES

By Anne Yaman

The July meeting was very well attended when 31 members and 3 guests were welcomed by President, Miss Wendy Dowbiggin in the Lower Town Hall. Those members who had been on trips out had thoroughly enjoyed themselves and there is a meal planned for later in the month. Members were reminded of Bentham Show entries and several ladies volunteered to help serve refreshments at the opening of the Station Building on 30th July.

Peter Watson gave a very interesting talk on the origin of names and there was a long queue at the end of the evening to peruse his book showing derivations of individual names (there were even some foreign ones listed!) The competition for a baby picture was well supported and there were four joint winners – Wendy Dowbiggin, Margaret

Hayton, Anne Miller and Cath Dempster. Obviously the good looks of our members started at in their early years! The raffle was won by Wendy Dowbiggin. The meeting on 7th August will be at Springfield Bowling Club for an evening of bowling or at the Horse & Farrier if the weather is against playing bowls.

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LIBRARY NEWS

By John Frankland and Liz Farmer

Thanks to all who came to our special Open Day at the new look Bentham Library and Information Centre on 27th June.

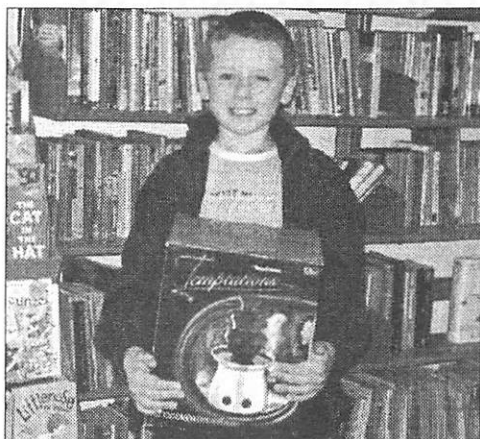
The event was a great success with lots of people taking part in our Free Prize Draw. Many thanks to Tooby's Electrical, The Nose Bag and The Punch Bowl for donating such splendid prizes. We are pleased to announce that the winner of the chocolate fountain, was Howard Hill, aged 8, of Goodenber Road and the Punch Bowl Voucher was won by Joanne Zahler. Christine Warren won The Nose Bag voucher.

Team Read

Craven Libraries are on their marks and getting set to keep young people active and keep them reading throughout the summer holiday with the hugely popular Summer Reading Challenge - Team Read.

Team Read is simple - children collect a pack from the library, and read 6 books during the summer. Along the way 'Team Readers' will receive stickers, a voucher for a free DVD or story tape and other goodies. When they've completed the challenge children will receive a certificate, a medal and have the chance to win a special family day out in our free prize draw.

On August 19th from 2pm - 3.30pm we'll be holding a special event to tie-in with Team Read at Bentham Library and on the School Sports Field. They'll be football and other sports, skills, games and stories. To book a place at this event contact the Library on 0845 034 9532.



William Hill, pictured with the chocolate fountain he won.

Children can start the Team Read challenge from 19th July.

Library opening hours

Monday: 2.00 - 4.00pm & 5.00 - 6.30pm
Wednesday: 10:00am - 12:30pm & 2.00 - 4.00pm
Friday: 2.00 - 4.00pm & 5.00 - 6.30pm
Saturday: 10:00am - 12:30pm.

BENTHAM STREET MAP

With the July edition of Bentham News we distributed street maps of High and Low Bentham. Unfortunately there was an omission and a slightly incorrect street name. Appropriate amendments have been made to the master copy. Reactions to this project have been mixed. What do you think? Should we consider an update in future?

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LOCAL EVENTS IN AUGUST

- Fri 1st** Age Concern at the Masonic Hall, 10.00am-2.30pm. Card Bingo.
- Sat 2nd** NSPCC coffee morning at the Town Hall Ballroom, 10.00am-12.00noon. 
Farmers' Market in the Lower Town Hall, 9.30am-1.30pm.
- Sun 3rd** Bentham Footpath Group walk, Ribbleshead, 8 miles, leaders T. & J. Connolly 42129. Meet at Lairgill 9.30am.
- Mon 4th** 10.00-11.30am, Toddle-in for parents/carers and babies and toddlers, Methodist Church Hall.
Gentle walks for women, meet at Lairgill, 9.30am-12.00noon and every Monday (except 25th).
Craven Customer Services, Lower Town Hall, 10.00am-12.30pm.
Town Council meeting at the Town Hall, 7.30pm.
- Tue 5th** Tuesday Strolls, very gentle walks, Looking Well 2.00-3.00pm and every Tuesday.
Bentham Playgroup at the Wenningdale Room, Town Hall, 1.00-3.00pm and every Tuesday.
Yoga class in the Town Hall, 11.00am-12.00noon and 6.00-7.00pm and every Tuesday.
- Wed 6th** Looking Well, summer lunch, suitable for vegetarians, 12.30pm and every Wednesday.
NSPCC monthly meeting at Lingfield, Robin Lane, 7.30pm.

Wed 6th Looking Well, cookery demonstration - summer food, 10.45am-12.15pm, and every Wednesday.

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

Bentham First Responders at the Horse & Farrier, 7.30pm. Come and talk to us about joining.

Thu 7th Swimming at Hornby for over 50s. Cost £1.60. Call Barbara Shuttleworth 62873 to arrange transport, leave from School Hill 8.45am, and every Thursday.

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

Bat & Chat at Victoria Institute, Low Bentham, 10.00am-12.00noon and every Thursday.

High Bentham W.I. - an evening at The Bowling Club.

Bentham Footpath Group walk, Silverdale, 7 miles, leaders S. & J. Pilkington 61757. Meet at Lairgill 9.30am.

Fri 8th Age Concern at the Masonic Hall, 10.00am-2.30pm. Extend Exercise - Colin Etherington.

Sat 9th Motor Neurone Disease coffee morning at the Town Hall, 10.00am-12.00noon. 

Book Swap at Victoria Institute, Low Bentham, 10.00am-12.00noon.

Mon 11th 10.00-11.30am, Toddle-in for parents/carers and babies and toddlers, Methodist Church Hall.

"Alice in Wonderland", 1.00pm at the Victoria Institute, Low Bentham. See page 23.

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

Tue 12th Bentham Child Health Clinic at the Surgery, 2.00-4.00pm.
Bentham Toy Library 9.30-11.30am at the Community Centre.

Wed 13th Looking Well, 1.30-3.30pm. Fun arts activities for all the family.

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.

- Wed 13th 1.00pm Bloomin' Bentham volunteers meet at painted bus shelter. Telephone Shirley 61608 for more information.
- Fri 15th Waste paper collection at Lairgill Car Park, 8.30-11.00am. Proceeds to NSPCC.
Age Concern at the Masonic Hall, 10.00am-2.30pm. John Henderson entertains.
Copy deadline for September edition Bentham News.
- Sat 16th Low Bentham Women's Institute coffee morning at the Town Hall, 10.00am-12.00noon. 
Explore Humphrey Head with Roger Neale (Cumbria Wildlife Trust & Craven Conservation Group). Telephone 41155 for details.
- Sun 17th Bentham Footpath Group walk, Sedbergh & Sedgewick Trail, 9 miles, leader C. Ramwell 41499. Meet at Lairgill 9.30am.
- Mon 18th 11.00am-1.00pm. Teddy Bears Picnic at Burton Playing Field for children up to 7 years and parents/carers.
Craven Customer Services at the Lower Town Hall, 10.00am-12.30pm.
- Wed 20th Looking Well, 1.30-3.30pm. Fun arts activities for all the family.
- Thu 21st Low Bentham W.I. at the Victoria Institute, 7.30pm. Mrs. Anne Kingston will be talking on Middle Eastern Dance.
- Fri 22nd Bentham & District Pet Rescue Book Sale at Watershed Mill, 11.00am-4.00pm, continuing until 26th.
Age Concern at the Masonic Hall, 10.00am-2.30pm. "North Carolina, USA" talk and slides by Nigel Wilson. 
- Sat 23rd Bentham & District Pet Rescue coffee morning at the Lower Town Hall, 10.00am-12.00noon. 1.00pm. 7-a-side football tournament, at Burton Playing Field, for under 11s and 11-16s. Entries to Tony Blacow, telephone 61797.
- Mon 25th Bentham Show - closing date for entries in the Cattle, Sheep, Handicraft, Photography and Stick Dressing classes.
Low Bentham Street Market, 10.00am-2.00pm. Tables £6.00. Contact to book tables Cheryl 51143.
- Tue 26th Bentham Child Health Clinic at the Surgery, 2.00-4.00pm.
- Fri 29th Bentham News published.
- Sat 30th Christian Aid coffee morning at the Lower Town Hall, 10.00am-12.00noon. 
Bentham Show, closing date for entries in the Horticulture section.
- Sun 31st Bentham Footpath Group walk, Killington, 6½ miles, leader S. Cross 62103. Meet at Lairgill 9.30am.
1.00pm Free Family Fun Day at High Bentham School Field (Methodist Schoolroom if wet), organised by Churches Together. See page 22.
- Some Events in early September**
- Mon 1st Craven Customer Services at the Town Hall, 10.00am-12.30pm.
Town Council meeting at the Town Hall, 7.30pm.
- Sat 6th 136th Bentham Show at Bullfleekers Field
Bentham Film Group "The Kite Runner" at 7.30pm at the Victoria Institute, Low Bentham.

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CHRISTIAN AID 2008

By Stephen Dawson

Wednesday 21st May reminded me of David Dimbleby's election special as the Christian Aid group met to count 500 envelopes. Early returns from Mewith East and Mewith West resulted in large increases on 2007. Some streets gave a few pounds, others a few hundred, but all added to a record £1,724 in High Bentham. In Clapham the school raised £63 from the sale of books and toys. Visitors to a garden party on Whitsunday left £122 on the tea table. Clapham's house-to-house collection was £670 making their total £855.

Judith Johnson, Thomas Whitfield and Neville Wyatt organised house-to-house collections in Low Bentham, Lowgill and Austwick raising £448, £242 and £560 respectively – a total of £3,829 from our cluster of five parishes. Some people collect change all year and hand it to their regular collector. Others offer their collector a glass of wine and a seat in the garden. Thanks to everyone for joining in, including those who said a polite but firm "no thanks!"

Christian Aid is asking whether collecting is the way to raise awareness of poverty. Collecting involves 50 people whether rehearsing for the Christian Aid Week service to banking the money. Would you prefer a giant teaparty or a concert instead? In Morecambe the churches held a sponsored cycle-ride on the promenade led by a rickshaw. Let me know what you think we should do next year - contact me on 62242.

This year Christian Aid received support from other faith groups. When envelopes containing £600 were stolen from St. Alban's Parish Church, the mosque donated the same amount. Applause greeted the priest's announcement of this wonderful news. Recently representatives of the Jewish movement "Liberal Judaism" joined forces with Christian Aid to campaign for a stronger Climate Change Bill. The government proposes to cut carbon emissions by 60% by 2050, excluding aviation and shipping. Faith groups want emissions cut by 90% by 2030 including transport. Thank you for supporting these campaigns to help vulnerable people in many countries.



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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.

August 1988

Reporting from the July Town Council meeting, Tom Cahill noted that, "one councillor read a very intelligent and intriguing proposal that the Town Hall be taken over by a committee composed mostly of users. This would involve a radical re-thinking of the control the Town Council has over the Town Hall (nearly all parish halls are run by committees and not the Council)."

When comparing our current facilities with, for example, those at Hornby, few can doubt that Bentham has lost out by not pursuing this proposal. That's not to say that over the years our Town Council hasn't done its best to maintain and promote the Town Hall as a valued local resource. The problem with this is that the bill for their doing so has always had to land squarely on the shoulders of Bentham Council Tax payers, whereas the formation of, say, a Community Hall Trust could attract sizeable grants from such as the Lottery or the EEC.

Is it perhaps time, 20 years on, to revisit this proposal in good time to make financial preparation for future development or refurbishment?

In a letter to the Bentham News, District Councillor Ralph Atkinson developed the above proposal (which, incidentally, he

attributed to Keith Cowling) by suggesting the formation of a development trust, not necessarily to run the Town Hall, but primarily to "draw out the whole potential of the town and its surrounding countryside." Ralph suggested that the trust, registered as a charity to attract funding, could complement and support the work of the Town Council by undertaking amenity projects the Council was unable to tackle.

These must be among the most fertile seeds ever planted in Bentham!

As she left school one afternoon, popular Low Bentham teacher Alison Hawkey (now Alison Service) was "kidnapped," blindfolded, and driven around in a balloon-covered car before being bundled into the Victoria Institute. There she encountered lots of children, parents and staff who had prepared a surprise farewell party for Alison, who was leaving Low Bentham School to take up a post in Skerton.

Poor lass! I wonder what they'd have done if she'd been unpopular?!

Bentham Golf Club's Lady Captain, Grace Jones, presented *Lady Captain's Day* prizes to (1st) Miss H Stephenson, (2nd) Mrs B Garnett and (3rd) Mrs P Duke.

Bentham Men's Tennis Team could have done with the services of a 13 year-old hot-shot, having won only one of their last six games in the Kendal League.

The BN report made reference to the results being "probably a reflection of the geriatric nature of the team!" Presumably the author of that report now lives in the Outer Hebrides!

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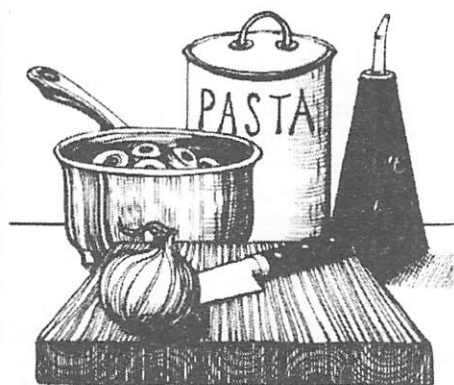
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CHURCHES TOGETHER

By Mary Taylor

St John's

On St. John the Baptist Day worshippers filled the church for the wonderful music of the Sung Eucharist played by David Johnson at the organ, the choir of Sedbergh Junior School sang a hymn of praise and Judith Johnson played the flute accompanied by her husband David. Revd. Frank and Revd. Mabel Parr led the service and the Junior Church, Eleanor and Matthew Dawson and Charlotte and Alice Taylor told of the children from around the world who are sponsored by St. John's.

Diane Chant led the Family Service on 13th July during which she presented prizes to the Junior Church members and thanked Hazel and Chris for guiding the young people. The Junior Church will reconvene in September.

A service of induction and institution for the new Rector, Revd Clive Burgess, will be held at St. John's on Monday 1st September at 7.30pm. Refreshments will be served after the service in Sedbergh Junior School dining room.

Free Family Fun Day

By Liz Whitfield

This event, is being planned by Churches Together for Sunday 31st August. Lots of sideshows are planned to test your skills, for example bat the rat, and shove h'penny, with prizes for accuracy. There will be an opportunity to have your face painted, ice biscuits or make an animal mask. A bouncy castle has been booked and a 5-a-side football competition will be organised for Key Stage 1, 2, and 3 children, entry on the day. Medals will be presented to the winners in each group. On entry each child will be given two tickets, one to claim a free ice-lolly and one for free sweets.

Weather permitting we will meet on High Bentham County Primary School field from 1.30p.m. If wet we will use High Bentham Methodist Church Hall.

The event is free, funds having been raised by the churches to cover the costs. For more details ask any church member.

RECOLLECTIONS OF BENTHAM

By Elizabeth Pafford (Mrs Pafford is the daughter of Charles Ford of the Ford-Ayrton Silk Mill).

"I was born at Sandy Croft, Low Bentham on 24th January, 1911. My mother died in 1917 and I lived at Felstead with Marjorie Warner and her son Roger (recently deceased). Marjorie's brother, George Sowerby, was for many years manager of George Angus in Bentham.

After father remarried we moved back to Sandy Croft and I attended Hill Croft School in High Bentham run by a Mrs Lamb and Miss Ralphs. We had a wonderful view of Ingleborough from Sandy Croft. We never owned a car but cycled up Kingsdale and to Dent. We climbed Ingleborough and Whernside and I did the 3 Peaks with a friend.

I have many memories of the Mill. We could walk there crossing the field opposite by permission of the farmer, I think a Mr. Marshall. There was no official footpath. Over the railway by a level crossing to join the footpath from High Bentham and on to the weir which supplied water for the cut which fed the water wheel at the Mill "The Lily of the Wenning".

My father was a supporter of the Bentham Brass Band. At Christmas they somehow fitted themselves into Sandy Croft and played to us there. During festivities to celebrate the end of the first World War, I was sitting on a wall with Dora Whitfield, whose father farmed the land around, when the band marched by. Dora had a Union Jack which she waved vigorously. I, being a good Quaker, wasn't given a flag. After all these years I still remember my sense of deprivation and wonder whether my parents were right.

I can still picture almost every yard of our walk to the Quaker Meeting at Calf Cop starting from Burrough Barn. There was a stone stile over the Ellerbeck. It was very narrow and my father always called it 'the fat man's dread'.

I cannot end these reminiscences without

saying how happy my dear father would have been if he had known Bentham as it is now and so grateful he would have been to all who have made it like this. I share his feelings of pride and gratitude, as I hope you know, dear Benthamites"

Mrs Pafford now lives in a Quaker run Residential Home in Polegate, East Sussex.

FLOWERFIELDS

015242 61904

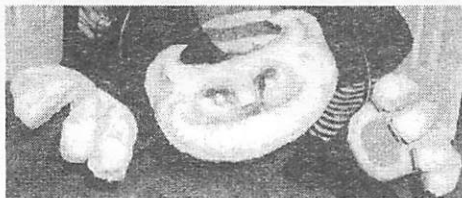
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BENTHAM SHOW

By Val Lawson

The 136th Bentham show is to be held on Saturday 6th September 2008, on Bellfleckers field, Bentham. This year's presidents are Robert & Wendy Heigh, who farm at Brookdene, Bentham. Robert and Wendy have been involved with Bentham Show for many years, showing livestock.

The usual classes are being held:- Cattle, Sheep, Horses, Shire Horses, Show Jumping, Pygmy Goats, Handicrafts, Horticulture, Photography, Stick Dressing, Poultry & Pets.

The Companion Dog show with 6 Pedigree classes and 19 Novelty classes starts at 12.00 noon with the proceeds from the dog show going to HAPPA and PDSA.

The ATV Bike competition is organised and run by R Taylor & Sons. Display of birds by Corio Raptor of Bentham. Tug of War Competition (Male & Female) Teams of 6. Parade by the Vale of Lune Harriers at 1.30pm. Grand Parade of prize winning animals is at 3pm, followed by the

presentation of Cups by our Presidents. Parade of vintage vehicles follows the grand parade.

Full schedules available from local shops or the secretary (015242) 61606. We look forward to receiving your entries; closing dates are in the diary pages. Entries taken on the day for Horses, Companion Dog Show and Pets.

Come along with your family and friends on the 6th September - you'll have a great day out, something for all the family.

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Smith (Eddie), congratulations on your 70th birthday, 3rd August. Best wishes, Happy Birthday, love from Keith and Sarah.

Uncle Eddie, Happy 70th Birthday. have a great day, love Gary, Jayne, Angela, Neil, Ellie, Harry, Lindsey and Tim.

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On behalf of N.C.H, many thanks to those who contributed to the recent collection in Springfield which totalled £63.17. - *Sue Pilkington*.

Bentham Line Dancers have recently donated £100 to MENCAP and £110 to North West Air Ambulance. - *Audrey Shallcross*.

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ADULT LEARNING COURSES

By Rosie Jackson

NYCC is pleased to be continuing to run their popular arts courses at Looking Well from September, including Creative Textiles, Mixed Media and Creative Cards.

In addition we will be offering 'Access to Working in Schools' for people who would like to work in schools. It is an introductory course for those who are interested in applying to become teaching assistants or who require an introductory course before progression onto a level 2 Teaching Assistants qualification. The course will help you develop skills and assist you to be successful in applying for work in this exciting, rewarding and growing area of work.

The full fee for the course is £165 however it is available at lower cost to people on lower incomes and nominal cost to anyone on means tested benefits. So please don't let cost be a barrier to exploring this as an opportunity.

Come and talk in confidence at any of the enrolment sessions which take place for all courses on Monday 1st September 10-12am, Mon 8th September 10-12am and Thursday 11th September 6-8pm at Looking Well Studios, Kings Street, High Bentham.

All the courses start in the week of 22nd September.

For more information, advice or guidance on any of the above courses please contact Rosie Jackson on 0789 0011298, Kathryn 0845 3002414 or Gill 0787 0918056.

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(H)AIR TRAVEL

By Amy Haslam

I recently had the opportunity to fulfil a dream and travel. On 6th May I set off on the journey which started in Singapore through Malaysia, Thailand and Bangkok. From Bangkok I flew to Australia.

I encountered different cultures and met loads a fantastic people and experienced many adventures. In one day I travelled by plane, train, automobile and ferry. It was exhausting but worth it because I eventually landed in paradise. I sat on white sands, in the shade of a palm tree, under a blue sky, looking out to sea drinking many Long Island cocktails!!!!!! Other trips included an elephant trek, off-roading in a Land Rover, boat rides, snorkelling and lots of retail therapy.

On the first leg of my journey I travelled with Trisha McGrannigan. I left Trisha in Bangkok and flew to Australia. At one point I sat alone looking at Sydney Harbour Bridge living the dream, with a drink in hand of course. My final destination was Melbourne where I stayed with Lynne Hodsons' sister June and family. I had a fantastic time with a truly wonderful family.

This trip would not have been possible if I didn't have loyal, trustworthy, dedicated staff. A huge thank you to Leanne, Sue, Christine, Maggie and Louise who kept the salon going in my absence. I would also like to thank my clients for their custom over the past seven years that I have been in the hair dressing business. A big thank you to my mum for texting me and running up a huge bill!!!!

COMMUNITY LINK CAFÉ – AT THE VICTORIA INSTITUTE, LOW BENTHAM

By Andrea Tuohy and Margaret Hayton

The Community Link Café, meets every Monday 1.30 – 3.30pm for dominoes, quiz and a chat and on Wednesdays from 11.30am – 2.30pm, which includes a light lunch.

Activities include armchair exercises, outings, guest speakers and a monthly visit to the Sun Dial who provide a light lunch. Our last trip was to visit Age Concern, Clapham.

The guest speaker brought many items from the 30s and 40s, which provoked a discussion of the 'good old days' and lots of good memories. The refreshments were enjoyed by all, especially the home made scones. On the way home we stopped at the Horse and Farrier for a lovely lunch.

Future events include: -

- > A visit from the First Responders
- > A performance by Morris Dancers.
- > A trip to Fairfield Mill, Sedbergh.
- > Armchair exercise.
- > Guest speaker, with a film show.

New members are always made very welcome. Transport can be provided. If you are interested in coming to the Community Link Café then please do phone either Andrea or Margaret 015242 63162 or 015242 61800.

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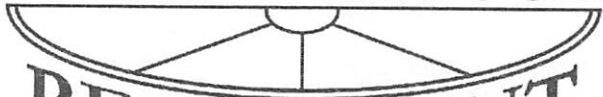
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Lots of exciting things to come - *Watch this space.*

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CANCER SUPPORT GROUP

By Margaret Hayton

'All in the Same Boat' is run by Bentham Cancer Support Group and based at Looking Well Studios. We would like to thank everyone for their help and generosity in raising £400 at our recent Coffee Morning. The money will provide vouchers for patients and carers to receive therapy sessions with Alessandra (Reflexology and Indian Head Massage), Wanda (Aromatherapy) or Kate Lewis (Bowen Therapy).

If you are a patient or carer and not yet had any vouchers, please get in touch with us on Thursdays at Looking Well from 10:30am-1:00pm or contact Margaret Hayton, tel 61900 or Barbara, tel 62873.

Some comments from those who have received therapy are:-

- "It's good to have some 'me' time".
- "I feel it helps to get rid of the toxins from chemotherapy".

➤ "The vouchers help to take away financial pressures paying for the treatment".

➤ "It has helped my mobility, I've walked up Whernside!"

➤ "I don't need to use my oxygen as much".

➤ "It's great to be able to get the therapies locally in Bentham, and not have to worry about transport".

Thank you also to The Coach House for their donation of £37 to help Cancer Patients in Bentham.

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NOT JUST A LOAD OF OLD RUBBISH

By Annie Neligan

We celebrated the windswept and rainy longest day of the year with a morning talking composting and recycling with enthusiasts from elsewhere in the county – and would like to share some of the most useful things we found out.

➤ Composting: the secret of a delicious compost recipe is in the mix. Most of us were surprised to be shown by Hilary, co-ordinator of North Yorkshire Rotters, how much 'brown' material (crumpled paper, egg cartons, toilet rolls, cereal packets) you need to add to your 'green' vegetable and garden waste to get a good airy structure and quick decomposing. It should be about half green and half brown by volume.

➤ Brown bins: Eddie from Growing with Grace explained that the reason we can put our perennial weeds as well as hedge clippings and twigs in the brown bins is that in the glasshouses they build such huge heaps and get really high temperatures by shredding, turning and watering. They turn our garden waste into compost in about 6 weeks and use it in the greenhouses – or you can go along and buy it back in sacks!

➤ Recycling plastic: most of us have been keen to get a bin for this in Bentham (see last Bentham News) but the district waste management officer, Paul Nightingale, explained it wouldn't be a straight forward plus for the environment. Only some plastics can at present be recycled, mostly bottles. Because Bentham is a long way from a processing plant, the collection lorries would trundle back along our roads with very light, bulky loads, but using plenty of oil. The council is considering the options – but he stressed that the best thing we can do is simply use less plastic – avoid plastic packaging of food and use paper bags, cardboard cartons and glass bottles whenever possible.

➤ If you feel inspired to start your own compost heap and make the soft crumbly potting mixture we were shown, you can get a free compost bin from the county waste management team 'while stocks last'. Simply ring 0845 077 0757 and ask for a bin. Additional bins are £17.00 each.

Amazing fact: the cost of food packaging in Britain averages £470 per household per year. Think about that when you are choosing which tomatoes to buy!

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LOW BENTHAM COMMUNITY PRIMARY TO CLOSE

*Press release from Communications Unit,
County Hall, Northallerton, North Yorkshire,
DL7 8AD. Tel: 01609 532206 Fax: 01609 777951*

North Yorkshire County Council's Executive yesterday (June 24) approved proposals to close Low Bentham Community Primary School from the end of the summer term. There are currently 9 pupils at the school, of which 5 will move to Ingleton Middle School in September.

Following the closure, the area currently served by Low Bentham Community Primary School will be served by High Bentham Community Primary School.

The County Council has been working with Low Bentham and High Bentham since August 2005 on a proposal to amalgamate the two schools. Despite considerable efforts, the County Council has been unable to purchase a site. During the negotiations, numbers at Low Bentham school have fallen more quickly than anticipated by the school or the County Council.

The Governors of Low Bentham Community Primary School wrote to the Council in January explaining that they felt it would no longer be possible to provide the full spectrum and quality of educational experience for all key stages from September 2008.

North Yorkshire County Councillor John Watson, executive member for schools, said: "North Yorkshire provides a great deal of support to its small schools, but as the governors recognised, numbers at Low Bentham would have become so low that in September it would have been extremely difficult to maintain educational and financial viability." Work to identify a suitable site for the new school is continuing. Councillors agreed that the capital receipt from the Low Bentham school site would be earmarked to fund part of the costs of either a new school for High and Low Bentham, or if that proved impractical, the refurbishment of the existing school at High Bentham.

BENTHAM YOUTH CAFÉ

By Emily Thornton

Do you want to be involved in this exciting new project?

We are working towards supporting the young people of Bentham by providing them with a safe space to hang out with mates, listen to their music, use interactive games, and also improve their skills by working together to get more funding to do things that are worth while.

This project can only run if we have volunteers who can relate to young people, to work alongside the manager and the existing volunteers. We are open three nights a week, 6.30 till 9.30.

Please get in touch if you can volunteer one night a month or more, help with fundraising, or if you have any ideas or experience to offer any new projects?

Contact Emily Thornton on 07919694167. Thank you.

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INAUGURAL PRO-AM AT BENTHAM GOLF CLUB

By Mike Yeates

Bentham Golf Club is to stage its inaugural Pro-Am on Friday August 8th. With entries from all 3 local counties Cumbria, Lancashire and North Yorkshire and further afield the amateur players will enjoy playing alongside the top professionals in the North West.

Top NW Professionals Taking Part

The professionals will be drawn from the North West's top 50 order of merit from last year. The players will face a good challenge to their skills as they tackle the 18-hole country course overlooking the Yorkshire Dales.

The 3 Amateurs and 1 Professional will play a medal round with the best 2 net scores to count on each hole. The Professionals will also be playing individually within their own tournament. With prizes for longest drive and nearest the pin it promises to be a great day.

Why not come along and see top golf professionals in action? Entry is free and there will also be an opportunity to enter a variety of golf competitions being held in and around the Clubhouse. If you are interested in trying out golf the Club is offering 2 lessons and 10 rounds of golf for £100. Contact 015242 62455 for details.



SILVER SURFERS OPPORTUNITIES AT BENTHAM LIBRARY

By Eileen Hartley

Learn to Surf the Web

Age Concern in partnership with North Yorkshire County Council Library and Community Services are pleased to announce their Free Silver Surfer Scheme in Bentham Library on Wednesday mornings 10.00 – 12.00.

You can learn how to Surf the Web, send e-mails, research your family history or word processing, the choice is yours, and if you are not the owner of your own computer, all North Yorkshire County Council Libraries have a number of computers for public use, and are free to you as library ticket holders to use for bookable sessions.

If you want to book a place on the Free Silver Surfer, telephone Age Concern on 01729 823066.

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AWARD FOR SOLE TO SOUL

By Marie Rayner

Sole to Soul, Holistic Chiropody/Podiatry and Therapy Practice on Station Road in Bentham, has been granted the prestigious award of Practice Accreditation by the Society of Chiropodists and Podiatrists. For the practice to have been accredited our standards have been reviewed to ensure that they comply with national standards and with best practice within the profession.

Amongst other things this means that :-

- All re-usable instruments are properly cleaned and sterilised before use.
- Patient confidentiality is respected and proper care is taken with patient records.
- Treatment options available at the practice and their costs are explained so that you can make an informed choice as to the treatment you receive.
- Referral to other specialists is available where appropriate.



- A programme of continuing professional development is followed to keep knowledge and skills up to date.
- Practice working methods are constantly reviewed.
- Sole to Soul is run by Marie Rayner who qualified in 1973 as a Chiropodist/Podiatrist from Salford School of Chiropody as top student of her year. She worked in the Health Service for many years for Chorley, Bury, Rossendale and Lancaster as both a Clinician and Service Manager (in Bury), as well as with her father in his Private Practice in Leyland.

In 1990 she was diagnosed as having ME and was unable to work for some years. She moved to Bentham in 1995 and nine months later was well enough to begin working again – so she was offered and accepted a job in the local Post Office! But feet have always been her first love and on 16th June 2000 she opened the doors to Sole to Soul. Now fully recovered, she has incorporated the knowledge and skills she learned during the ME time into her practice to enable others to help themselves. She is delighted that the Practice has received this award from her Professional Body.



WHO ARE THEY?

Do you know the happy couple, who are pictured here, on their wedding day more than a few years ago?

If you are not sure, you'll find another, slightly more up to date photograph of them, elsewhere in this edition!

HORSES, HORSES, HORSES

By Christine Hodson

A flourishing new riding centre business in Bentham opened at Easter 2008. The Greenhall Riding Centre is on Burn Moor, just above the Big Stone on the Slaidburn road. It is owned by a mother and daughter team, Jean and Rachael Easterby, local people who had identified a gap in the market for everything to do with



Rachael with one of the ponies

horses. Both have been riding and have had a livery yard for many years, but recently decided to expand the business to include a riding centre making full use of the 18 stables and outdoor arena at Greenhall. Rachael is a fully qualified instructor and although it is still early days business is good with the demand for lessons and riding proving popular amongst people of all ages.

A recent innovation has been the setting up of a pony club centre. This is for children aged from 4 to 16, and involves the children learning how to look after ponies, as well as developing riding skills. Children can achieve badges and certificates and the pony club is proving popular, with 24 members at present.

On offer are lessons where you can opt for either private tuition, a small group session or lessons on your own horse. You could also choose to hack through the beautiful rural countryside and moorland where local landowners have given their permission for horses to ride across their land. The centre also offers a livery service.

I visited on a beautiful sunny day and was impressed at the idyllic setting of the riding centre. It is well worth a visit – but please ring Rachael first on 61594. This is also the phone number for all enquires. You can also get information from the excellent website and see photographs and descriptions of all the horses. www.greenhallridingcentre.com

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.