

BENTHAM NEWS

WHEN IS A CRIME NOT A CRIME?

After the Bentham News received reports about some residents of Tweed Street being very concerned at several anti social incidents, we asked the police at Ingleton if we could meet them to discuss the worries and fears of these residents.

We understood that one of the things causing some concern was an alleged theft, which had been witnessed by one of the residents. When we asked the police what was being done about this, we were advised that the complainant had not wanted to press charges, so the theft was treated as an incident, not a crime.

Sgt Angela Moorhouse explained "When an incident is reported to the Police it is graded by the control room and a decision is made by them whether a visit by an Officer is necessary. On this occasion Police were required to attend to a report of a possible criminal damage. The Officers who attended the incident spoke at length to the reportee (and owner) of the property concerned who decided upon reflection that she did not wish for the incident to be recorded as a crime but for it to remain on police records as a general incident for information only.

A witness was traced who was more than willing to give a statement to Police, however, this was deemed unnecessary as the reportee did not wish for the Police to pursue the matter. Before converting a general incident into a crime and in accordance with Home Office guidelines, the Police must take into consideration the wishes of the victim/complainant. The incident reported to North Yorkshire Police (at Tweed Street) has not been recorded as a crime and there is insufficient evidence at present to substantiate a crime."

It is important that the people of Bentham should be aware of the importance of reporting incidents to the police. Sgt. Moorhouse explained that the records of incidents maintained by the police may be useful for them or other agencies, in future situations. So we would urge people to continue to be vigilant and to keep the police informed of anything suspicious. But remember that, except in emergencies, the 999 number should not be used. However, you can contact them on 0845 60 60 247 or email angelamoorhouse@northyorkshire.pnn.police.uk

POSSIBLY ONE OF THE MOST IMPORTANT EVENTS YOU WILL EVER ATTEND

By Bob Lister, Paramedic

On Tuesday 2nd December, at 7.30pm, local paramedics from the Yorkshire Ambulance Service, in association with The British Heart Foundation and the Stroke Association, will be holding an awareness event at Bentham Town Hall. There will be talks and presentations based around what to do in the event that someone suffers a heart attack or stroke. Our aim is to help people recognise the signs and symptoms, and get the appropriate help quickly. In the case of heart attack and stroke, time really is critical! Once you dial 999, the Ambulance Service will do its best to get a response to you quickly. However, all too often we find that patients have had their symptoms for a long time and done nothing about it. It is vital to reduce any delay. Paramedics are trained to diagnose when you are having a heart attack or stroke and will initiate treatment on the spot and get you to where you need to be. This event is about you getting the best possible care in the least possible time. It could help save a life - maybe yours. Isn't that important? The event is free and everyone is welcome.

THE MARKET FISH MAN

By Shirley Brown

How many outdoor markets do you think Steve Kellett's fish van visits each week? The answer is one, and that is Benthams market on Wednesdays.

Steve Kellett's fish van has been coming to our market since the early 1970s. Steve used to bring it, but 14 years ago he asked Kevin Thompson to be the man in the van for him, and that he has been, rain or shine, ever since. In fact he told me that he has only missed two Wednesdays, one because of snow and one when the van broke down. When Kevin goes on holiday Steve covers for him, and I told him how much this reliability is appreciated, we know that whatever else happens on market day, the fish van will be there.

Kevin has worked in the fish trade for 28 years, starting as soon as he left school, aged 16. Steve Kellett has a stall in Preston covered market 6 days a week. Each working day starts at 7.30am with a visit to the fish auction on Fleetwood Dock. Kevin knows that nowadays people want to know where their fish comes from, so he told me that the fish they sell comes either from boats operating out of Fleetwood, or overland from the east coast or more often from Scotland. Having bought the fish they then prepare them to supply wholesalers in Birmingham and chip shops and restaurants in Blackpool.

"I love it!"

"So do you like coming to Benthams market?" I asked. "I love it" was Kevin's enthusiastic reply. "It's like a day out. The people are friendly, and I'm on first name terms with lots of my customers. The market could do with more support, but trade is good, thanks to our loyal, local customers. I've only had one complaint in 14 years, which isn't bad. I sometimes think now the market's got so few stalls we'd do better on the Main Street, like we used to be, rather than in the square, and it'd help with the parking too."

"I hate fishing!"

When I asked Kevin what he did when he's not working, I discovered that our fish man



"hates fishing, tried it as a lad and never took to it." Instead for relaxation he manages the 'Fleetwood Cricket Club Football Team', a Sunday league team. His two sons aged 22 and 17, play for the team, and Kevin only stopped playing a few years ago to move into management. He describes himself as quite a laid-back manager, not too serious, although his team do play to win. Last week they won 14 nil. In the summer, when the football season's over, he plays golf.

I, for one, am delighted that our fish man supports our market. It's great fish, mine's a fillet of haddock please, boned and skinned! And just a few prawns, and Morecambe Bay shrimps, maybe some mussels, fish cakes would be handy and that tuna looks good...

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OCTOBER'S TOWN COUNCIL

By David Johnson

All the Cllrs were present except Cllrs Barrington, Faichney and Heigh.

Before the meeting Cllrs heard an address by John Sutcliffe, CDC waste minimalisation and recycling officer. Not surprisingly he talked about recycling and waste management! He said that 31.5% of the 26,000 tons of waste was recycled last year and predictions show that this will be exceeded this year. CDC is looking at methods of dealing with food waste, cutting down on junk mail and ways of recycling household batteries. Our nearest landfill site is near Skipton.

The Police. WPC Barbara Yule gave a summary of a surprising number of incidents during September. They show a 33% increase over reported crime in September 2007. Theft and burglary featured as did damage to vehicles, money laundering and assault. She said that Ingleton police were more or less up to strength and then told Cllrs about the way the police are deployed throughout the area. The Cllrs brought to her attention concerns about 4 horses on the moor and the possibility that they could cause a road traffic accident, especially at night. Some Cllrs wondered if they should have some form of reflective coat to make them more visible. The police response was that such an incident would be a civil matter and the owner had indicated that he was not concerned.

County Cllr Ireton said that the future of the new CDC is uncertain and that North Yorkshire is working with CDC to achieve a solution. Cllr Ireton and all the Cllrs present were concerned about the state of blocked gullies that turn our roads into lakes during heavy rain. It was agreed that the problem gullies should be identified and reported. Cllr Adams agreed to try to attend the planning meeting on 20th October when the stone yard proposals are to be discussed.

Highways. The Cllrs discussed an alternative parking arrangement for Station Road. Plans had been prepared which looked at the impact of parking on the west side of the

road. They thought the proposals were unsatisfactory and sent them back for reassessment. They are trying to keep the road junction clear at the cross.

Hillside Road. It was confirmed that the inquiry into the stopping up of the turning area would be held at Bentham Town Hall on Tuesday 18th November at 10am.

Cleveland Square. The Cllrs refused to sign the lease for Cleveland Square unless issues about boundary ownership, the state of the walls and the general condition of the square are dealt with satisfactorily.

Town Hall. It was agreed to leave the hiring fees for 2009 unchanged for coffee mornings, but other hiring fees will be increased by 2.5%. The Cllrs are looking at making some improvements, notably tamper proof thermostats, motion sensors on the stairs that will operate the lights automatically and methods of promoting the building. They also considered measures they could take to make the building more user-friendly and safer for the hirers.

Allotments. Kiddes gave a negative response to the Cllrs' request for the use of some of their land behind the Horse and Farrier for allotments. They thought it would be too close to the factory for safety reasons and that they may want to develop the area themselves sometime in the future. They thought about a plot near the cemetery or wondered about advertising for a site in the Bentham News.

Archives. A member of the public asked about the possibility of a section 106 application on any large-scale building project to create an archive for the area. It was explained that the closure of Sedburgh Junior School (which houses the Bentham Grammar School archive) and the existence of a lot of other archive material in Bentham means that there is sufficient material to warrant such a facility. The Cllrs said they would consider the request.

Bentham Common Land Trust has yet to accept the council nominees as members despite the Cllrs appointing their representatives. In the meantime the Trust is considering turning the land adjacent to the river at Burton over to allotments. The Cllrs thought it would be illegal to enclose common land and rent it out as allotments.

GARDENING COLUMN

By Joyce Knapp



November is a good month to consider making changes in the garden, now that the busy summer months have passed. If we need to replace/renew any shrubs in our gardens, autumn is a particularly good time because the soil will still be relatively warm and moist, providing the best possible growing conditions. This will allow the roots of any newly planted shrubs to become well established through the coming winter months so the plants will be ready to grow away quickly as soon as the weather warms up the following spring.

When it comes to choosing shrubs there are many factors to consider like how much space is available (remember to note the eventual size of any shrub you purchase and allow room for it to spread) and what your other priorities are. You may select a plant for its architectural qualities e.g. Mahonia or for seasonal interest e.g. Callicarpa bodinieri (beauty berry) as this plant not only produces clusters of violet berries but also gives a dash of autumn colour just before leaf-fall. If you prefer an evergreen, there are lots to choose from, ranging from the more compact conifers such as the dwarf Thuja plicata 'Stoneham Gold' (Western red cedar) to a more spreading plant e.g. Euonymus fortunei 'Emerald 'n' gold' that has beautifully golden variegated leaves.

Once any shrubs have been planted, we can begin to fill the space around and between them with a range of other plants. Many varieties of bulbs are particularly well

suited to growing in amongst shrubs as they naturally grow wild in woodland areas. Daffodils are a good, easy to grow bulb and serve a dual purpose, as they are not only beautiful left in situ, but can also be used as cut flowers for the house (combined with a few stems of yellow-flowering Forsythia they make a bright and cheerful display). The small blue spires of flowers on Grape Hyacinth are very decorative and these bulbs are reputed to deter mice, so they can be planted near stone walls, where mice are known to live.

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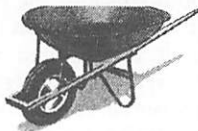
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CRAVEN CONCERNS

By Cllr Manuel Camacho 015242 62074

National Fraud Initiative

In October 2008 the Council will be taking part in the National Fraud Initiative. Personal data relating to employees; insurance claimants, applicants for concessionary travel, residents' parking permits, market trader, taxi and personal licences and benefit claimants will be supplied to the Audit Commission for matching with other data to prevent and detect fraud and error in public finance expenditure.

Highlights (or low lights !) of last year's national results.

- 157 public sector staff ineligible to work in the UK were dismissed or resigned;
- 69 council properties were recovered as a result of detected tenancy fraud;
- 2,819 cases were identified where an occupational pension continued to be paid after the death of the pensioner with associated overpayments of £6.4 million;
- 16,102 deceased persons' blue badges were cancelled;
- £1.75 million of duplicate payments to suppliers were detected; and in excess of £24 million housing benefit overpayments were detected.

Development off Station Road

Craven District Council is inviting developers to express an interest in the development of Council-owned land off Station Road in High Bentham.

Members of the Council's Policy Committee last week (24 September) approved a proposal to develop the land for general industrial, office and business use, subject to planning permission being granted. The land will provide long-stay car parking for Bentham, helping to relieve pressure on the existing car park in the town centre. Proposals include public toilets, a picnic area and a pedestrian link to the station platform.

Councillor David Crawford, Lead Member for Building a Prosperous District, said: "Bentham is traditionally a working

town centred on agriculture and manufacturing and this potential development marries nicely with that ethos. The town also needs to attract more visitors by providing more amenities. This prime land offers a wealth of opportunities, not only for the right developer, but also for future job prospects and economic prosperity of Bentham."

The development is being carried out as part of the Bentham Gateway to the Forest of Bowland Project, which is a multi-agency partnership set up by the Council to reflect the economic, social and environmental interests of Bentham as a high quality visitor destination and business centre.

A public consultation about the proposals was held in April 2008, followed by a meeting with Councillors from Bentham Town Council. Developers wishing to express an interest in the site should contact Sharon Sunter, Principal Economic Development Officer on 01756 747627.

CDC Finances

Following a recent audit it has been confirmed that the budget for this year was drastically amiss. As I said before nothing has gone missing but changes in auditing practice have made the picture appear bleaker than it is. The current financial climate has affected council income adversely as have rising fuel costs.

Clearly it has been necessary to take stock and review expenditure particularly in areas where we had hoped to expand services. With prudent management core services will not be affected.

I will report back as the year progresses, hopefully with better news.

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TOURIST INFORMATION UPDATE

By Jo Burton

By the time you read this, the Tourist Information Point will have closed for the winter, having served getting on for 2,500 visitors this summer. Our thanks go to all the volunteers and our coordinators, Paul Howard and Wendy Dowbiggin, without whom the place would not function.

During the winter the leaflet racks will remain in the Town Hall foyer, and a supply of dog bags will be left out and topped up at regular intervals as well. Please think of others, and take only one pack at a time.

Although the TIP is closed, we will be working to ensure that everything is in place for the re-opening at the end of March next year. One thing that is a frequent request is a list of what is on in Bentham during a specific time when the visitor will be here. So we would like to make a plea to all event

organisers to add the TIP to your circulation list, and let us know when and where your event will be as soon as it is organised. In this way we hope to build a diary that can be sent to enquirers to publicise what goes on in our town.

Please send notice of your event to Bentham Tourist Information c/o Bentham Town Hall, or you can email to tip@benthamtowncouncil.co.uk or fax 015242 62587.

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COPS ON THE SPOT

By Sgt. Angela Moorhouse

There has been very little criminal activity or incidents of note in Bentham itself recently, however, local Police have noticed a slight rise in crime in the surrounding area. Overnight on the 27th September the White Scar Caves was broken into and a safe containing a small amount of cash was taken as well as some confectionary items. Similarly, overnight on the 8th October the shop at Ingleborough cave was broken into and a till containing a small amount of cash was stolen along with some cartons of orange juice. The till was found the following day nearby. Also that night St. James Church in Clapham was broken into as well as the snack van at Harden Bridge. The offenders appear to be targeting vulnerable, isolated premises and as well as stealing cash are also helping themselves to confectionary and drinks. What may seem like a minor, petty crime to those responsible has a profound effect on the community and I would urge anyone with any information to contact Ingleton Police or indeed "Crimestoppers" if they wish to remain anonymous.

Your local neighbourhood policing team put the right people in the right places in the right numbers - working with you to be safe and feel safe. Call 0845 60 60 247 or email angelamoorhouse@northyorkshire.pnn.police.uk if you have any information which you feel could assist the Police.

And by PC Adrian Hayes

Firstly I would like to apologise for the lack of police articles over the last few months, the reason being I forget to sit down and write one before the copy deadline.

The perennial problems in relation to vehicles and parking still continue. Poorly parked cars are a particular concern around Main Street, Robin Lane and Mount Pleasant at school times. Please do not park near the junction or pull up on the double yellow lines to drop off your children. This causes an obstruction of the junction and blocks the view of both pedestrians and car drivers alike. This is particularly dangerous as there is currently no crossing patrol to escort

children across the road. I will be monitoring the situation and if necessary fixed penalty notices will be issued to offending drivers.

Noise and anti-social behaviour by those leaving the pubs into the early hours causes distress to nearby residents. Please behave in a responsible manner and keep the noise down when going home. I particularly ask those who visit The Byres and sit in the car park while they have are enjoying a cigarette to have some consideration for the elderly residents who live at Collingwood Terrace. How would you like to have large numbers of noisy people sat outside your home for the majority of the evening? I have discussed this issue with the management at The Byres and advised them that officers will be monitoring the situation and any inappropriate behaviour will be positively dealt with. I'm sure you would much rather spend your money on having a good time, than paying an £80 penalty notice to the Police for being Drunk and Disorderly.

Drop in surgeries are to be held at the Fire Station every Wednesday between 6.00pm and 7.00pm beginning 5th November.

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Jennifer Knowles (L.L.B Hons) See also
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BENTHAM FOOTPATH GROUP



By Maureen Ellis

On the very successful Hawes Mosaic walk this photograph of four grumpy old men was taken. During the same walk two old ladies managed to get lost (and found) - their story was that they were doing historical research.

Just as the walks are friendly as well as energetic the AGM got down to the business in hand but ended with a Jacob's Join when tasty food could be eaten while catching up with walking friends. It is unfair to pick out items but I will throw caution to the wind and mention once again the work done by the team who do such things as repair stiles, remove illegal and obstructive barbed wire and use their professional knowledge to work out the causes of standing water. This as well as many other quietly carried out volunteer duties make the BFG thrive. It's no wonder there are so many new members.

The November programme has four walks starting with the Giggleswick Scar circular of 8 miles, from Lairgill at 9a.m on Wednesday 5th. From Bucker Brow it's to Little Stainforth and then down the Ribble to Stackhouse and up to the top of Giggleswick Quarry. From here we will go along Giggleswick Scar and back to the start.

On Friday 14th at 9.30 the Burton Circular will be 6.5 miles and it is an opportunity to do the walk that had to be cancelled in the summer because of bad weather. This is a lovely walk starting from Burton through the Greta valley and up to Ireby and Masongill; it



will return by Lower Westhouse. Please note there are lots of stiles and gates. Unfortunately I've been unable to make a descriptive account of the walks on the 19th and 25th so use the Calendar in this publication or the membership card.

It's probably fair to say that carrying one's own map and keeping note of the route adds to overall interest and makes it much easier to repeat on one's own.

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HIGH BENTHAM CP SCHOOL

By Mrs. Catherine Boocock, Headteacher

Following an Art Day on Thursday 23rd October, the children's art work will be on display in Bentham Gallery, Station Road, for two weeks in November. The exhibition will include printmaking, rubbings/collage, felt, clay and weaving. We got funding for the project from the extended schools co-ordinator for the cluster. Please look out for the exhibition and go and see the artwork.

Playgroup Update

We now have a committee of parents who are keen to set up a Playgroup in our school Nursery in the afternoons, open initially from 1.00-3.30pm. They are planning to open in January 2009 and if there is a need, to extend the hours to lunchtimes as well.

A big thank you to Wennington Hall who have again this year supported our school. The Year 5 children are lucky enough to have weekly football training with coaches from Morecambe Football Club and we have a

group who are following the accelerated reading programme with a member of staff from Wennington Hall. We are very fortunate to have such good links with the school and they also support the PTFA's yearly carol singing event with Santa's sleigh, so a big thank you to all the staff involved.

Our Christmas Concert at the Methodist Chapel will be on Tuesday 16th December at 6.00pm and the dress rehearsal will be on Monday 15th December at 2.00pm, which people from the community are very welcome to attend.

BENTHAM NEWS EMAIL ADDRESS

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COLLABORATIVE FAMILY LAW – THE QUIET REVOLUTION

By Shirley Brown

Recently I have had an interesting conversation with Jennifer Knowles, a local solicitor, who has undertaken some additional training in collaborative law. I asked her to explain how this way of working differs from other legal approaches, and this is what she told me.

Collaborative law is a relatively new approach to resolving the various issues, which need to be addressed when a family relationship (whether married, cohabiting or a civil partnership) breaks down. Some of the issues, which may need to be resolved on separation, include how to deal with matters concerning the children, the finances and the family home. Traditionally the way of dealing with these issues involves the lengthy exchange of correspondence between each party's solicitors. But in collaborative law, both parties and their solicitors sit together round a table at a series of meetings. Working with, rather than through, their specially trained lawyers, the aim is to resolve these issues in a dignified way that will be best for the family as a whole. The approach is non-aggressive, non-confrontational and forward-looking. There is deliberately no "looking back" or casting blame and conflict is actively discouraged. Instead the parties are assisted by their solicitors to problem-solve and focus on reaching an outcome, which will benefit the whole family unit.

The couple decide what aspects they need to discuss and the timescale between meetings. Each meeting is flexible in length and relatively informal – breaks can be taken whenever needed and quite often catering is provided. If it is thought that a couple would benefit from expert advice, such as from an accountant, independent financial advisor or even a family coach, one can be jointly appointed on their behalf.

Jennifer also explained that the collaborative process is not for everyone, and even those who start the journey may

occasionally find they reach an impasse and have to resort to court proceedings, meaning that they will then have to be represented by newly appointed solicitors and a decision will be imposed upon them by a judge.

Jennifer is really enthusiastic about this new way of working and says that more and more solicitors now understand the real benefits that this process can bring to their clients and are actively advocating what really is a quiet revolution within family law. Anything that reduces the need for confrontation and encourages collaboration in the vital and sensitive area of family relationships makes sense to me, and I wish Jennifer well in her work with this new approach. You can find out more by ringing 015242-41417 or by checking the website www.jklaw.co.uk

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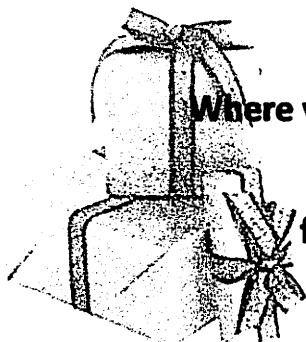
Small voluntary and community groups that make a big difference to their local communities can apply for Grassroots Grants. Groups with annual incomes of less than £20,000 can apply for grants of £250 to £5,000 between now and 2011. Eligible applicants can use their grants for a variety of different uses. This can include helping local clubs get hold of new kit or equipment, coaching new volunteers or giving the village hall a fresh lick of paint.

Contact details

If you live in Craven, Harrogate, Richmondshire or Selby District Council areas then please contact the Grassroots Grants Officer at the Yorkshire Dales Millennium Trust, Old Post Office, Main Street, Clapham, LA2 8DP. Tel: 015242 51002 or email: gillian.muir@ydmtd.org

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COOKERY PAGE

Edited by Patsy Henderson

Chicken with lemon and herbs

Serves 4

Recipe

100g butter

4 spring onions

30ml chopped fresh tarragon

30ml chopped fresh fennel

juice of 2 lemons

8 chicken thighs

salt and pepper

lemon slices and herb sprigs for garnish

Herbs can be substituted for availability or choice.

Method

Heat the oven to 200C. In a saucepan, melt the butter and then add the spring onions, herbs, lemon juice and seasoning. Place the chicken thighs in a meat dish and brush generously with the herb mixture. Cook in the oven for 20 to 30 minutes, basting frequently with the herb mixture, until the juices run clear. Serve the chicken garnished with lemon slices and herb sprigs, accompanied by sauté potatoes.

Healthy fruit bran loaf

Makes 2 loaves

Recipe

225g all-bran

250g caster sugar

225g seedless raisins

225g ready to eat dates, chopped

225g dried bananas, dark brown, chopped,
or fresh bananas, but not crystallised

500ml milk

225g self raising flour

Method

Pre-heat the oven to 180C, gas 4. Place the bran, sugar and fruit into a basin and mix well together. Stir in the milk and leave to stand for 30 minutes, or better still, overnight. Sieve in the flour, mix well and divide the mixture between two 1kg loaf tins. Bake in the oven for about 1 hour. Turn out onto a wire tray to cool. The loaf can be frozen.



DON'T MISS HORNBY DRAMA GROUP'S PRESENTATION OF "COME ON, JEEVES"

By Hilary Strickett

Do you want to forget our miserable summer, the relentless rain and cold and now the long, dark winter nights? Then come and escape into a world of laughter with our production of "Come On, Jeeves" by P.G.Wodehouse and Guy Bolton.

This farcical comedy will take place at the Hornby Institute on 27th, 28th and 29th November at 7.30pm.

Tickets are £6.00 for adults and £4.00 for children under 16. They are available at the door or in advance from Hornby Institute, telephone 015242 22227.

We hope that you will support us and "Luigi", our four-legged actor, making his debut appearance.

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If you have not already booked your space, please do so no later than 7th November.

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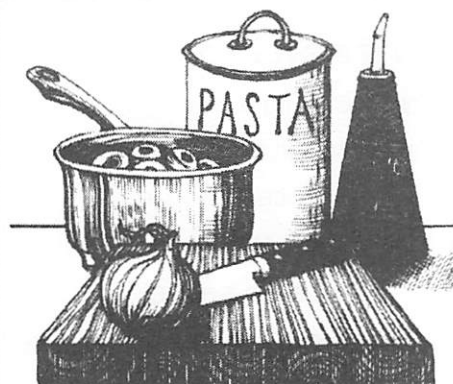
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THE BENTHAM NEWS STORY

By Gill Warren

Have you ever thought about all the processes involved in ensuring that the Bentham News arrives through your letter box each month? It occurred to me that very few people really know or understand the way in which the BN is produced, so I decided to record what happens. I also took photographs of some of the procedures which take place each month in the production process.

The Bentham News story started with you, the people of Bentham, more than twenty years ago. There was an obvious need to provide a format for communication to the local residents, by the organisations, individuals and advertisers in Bentham. As a result a small group of dedicated people, after much discussion and hard work, produced the first Bentham News. Several members of the present committee have been involved since those early days.

Technology then was not as advanced as it is now so the first productions were much more manual and fairly basic. However this community newspaper has been a real success over the years and demand for space in its pages continues to grow. The adoption of developing technologies have played a significant role in most aspects of the production. No more cutting out and physically sticking items onto the pages!

What I have tried to do is to record, in word and by photographs, the main stages of the work undertaken to bring the Bentham News to you each month and how so many people play an important role in this project.

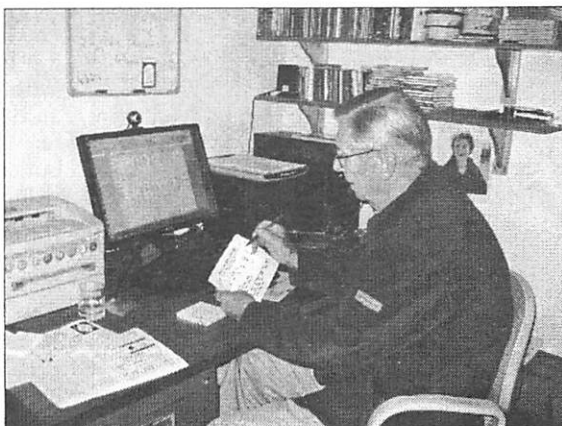
This is the first of several articles, which I hope you will find interesting and informative. The following list shows the main stages which I have identified, and which I will cover in the next few months.

- ◆ The Gallery - the collection point where items for the BN are submitted.
- ◆ The office, where articles, advertisements invoices, account details and emails are dealt with.
- ◆ The proof reading meeting.
- ◆ Reading and recording.
- ◆ The printer, Pica Design & Print.
- ◆ The collation team at work.
- ◆ The distribution - by volunteers, by post, and on audio discs.
- ◆ The editorial meeting.
- ◆ The committee.



The photograph above shows Neil Carter, of B. C. & E. Armstrong's, handing in advertisement copy to Chris Humphreys at The Gallery.

Below, Bill Kennedy at work on accounts in his office at Lakeber Avenue.



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WILL THE CHANGEOVER TO DIGITAL AFFECT YOU?

ITV is working with the other major broadcasters to help the UK switch to fully digital television by 2012. Going digital gives you more choice - and in many cases, a better quality picture too!

What is digital TV?

If you only get the five basic channels on your TV - chances are you only have analogue terrestrial TV. Digital TV uses the airwaves more efficiently - converting your TV picture into bits of information that your set top box then converts back into pictures and audio.

So instead of just five channels - the average home will be able to receive more than twenty TV channels, plus many more local and national digital radio stations and interactive services.

When is it happening?

It's happening region by region, and to find out which TV region you're in, you'll need to check which ITV local news service you receive. Once you've done that, you can check when your region switches at Digital UK's website (digitaluk.co.uk). On checking, the Bentham area is scheduled to change in late 2009.

Will I need to buy a new TV?

Not unless you want to! But if you want to carry on using your old TV, VCR or DVD-R, you'll need to put a digital convertor ("set-top box") between your aerial and your TV setup. These usually cost from around £25 and can be easily found in electronics and hi-fi stores, supermarkets and many other outlets.

If you're buying a new TV set or recorder, check to see if it carries the Digital Tick - as it will definitely work with Digital TV, and may have a digital receiver built-in!

Can I get my TV through other means?

If you have cable or satellite TV - you're probably enjoying the full benefits of digital TV already. You can also now get digital TV through a broadband Internet or ISDN connection if it's available in your area.

Dear Bentham News,

We are writing to see if any of your readers can help St. John's in Low Bentham. We are holding a presentation evening on Wednesday 12th November at 7.30pm to discuss plans for our proposed new extension. Involved in the project is the stained glass window dedicated to Jane Hogg, which will be re-located in the new meeting room. We are looking for any of the descendants of Jane Hogg.

We would welcome anyone from Bentham to come forward and help us with this exciting project.

*Yours sincerely, Churchwardens Judith Johnson
61905 and Dave Lewis 63386.*

Dear BN,

At the top of Station Road, High Bentham, it's bad for long wagons to turn and they keep knocking stones out of the bank corner trying to turn. Why don't they build a road in that starts at Butts Lane and goes across the bottom of the Auction Mart so long wagons can get in better and don't have a sharp corner to turn. They could also build a bridge that goes over the Auction Mart like the one on the motorway that goes over the Manchester Ship Canal. If they make the opening wide enough they would be able to get in and out better as they seem to get longer all the time. I was up Bentham this morning and one had a job turning. They may do something about it when someone gets killed.

Name and address withheld by request.



POST OFFICE NEWS

By David Alder

Just a reminder that the last Christmas posting dates for Surface Overseas items have passed with the exception of packets for Eastern Europe [10th November] and Western Europe [24th November].

The last dates for Air Mail Overseas items are still some way off but for convenience are listed below:

- Rest of World - Friday 5th December
- Japan/North America/ E. Europe - Wednesday 10th December
- Western Europe - Friday 12th December

Christmas stamps are on sale from Tuesday 4 November.

A fuller article on Christmas postal arrangements will follow next month. If you have any queries on any aspect of PO/Royal Mail services please ask at the counter.

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LOCAL EVENTS IN NOVEMBER

- Sat 1st** BEST coffee morning at the Town Hall Ballroom, 10.00am-12.00noon. 
Film Night, at Low Bentham Village Hall, 7.30pm. **Changed to 31st October.** See page 27.
- Sun 2nd** Panto Sign-on, 2.00-4.00pm at the Community Centre. See page 28.
- Mon 3rd** Gentle walks for women, leave Lairgill 9.30am, and every Monday.
Toddle-in for parents/carers and babies and toddlers, 10.00-11.30am, Methodist Church Hall and every Monday.
Adventurers Group for 4-6 year olds, 4.30-5.30pm, Methodist Church Hall, and every Monday.
Springboard for 7-10 year olds, 6.15-7.30pm, Methodist Church Hall, and every Monday.
- Tue 4th** Tuesday Strolls, leaving Looking Well 2.00pm, return 3.00pm and every Tuesday.
Yoga Classes at the Town Hall, 11.00am-12.00noon and 6.00-7.00pm, and every Tuesday.
Child Health Clinic at the Surgery, 2.00-4.00pm.
Looking Well, Songs to Remember, 2.30-4.00pm, and also on 18th.
- Wed 5th** NSPCC monthly meeting at Lingfield, Robin Lane at 7.30pm.
Bentham Footpath Group walk, Giggleswick Scar, 6 miles, leaders K & M Hartley, 62373. Please meet at Lairgill 9.30am.

Wed 5th Looking Well Café IN, 11.00am-1.30pm and every Wednesday.
Community Centre, Moving Well, gentle exercise to music, 2.00-3.00pm and every Wednesday.

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

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

Thu 6th Welcome-in, dominoes for all ages, Methodist Church Hall. For transport contact Nigel or Kath 62272.

High Bentham Women's Institute meeting at the Town Hall, 7.30pm. See page 24.

Low Bentham Village Hall, 10.00am-12.00noon, Bat and Chat, and every Thursday.

Swimming at Hornby for over 50s, men and women, cost £1.60. Telephone Barbara Shuttleworth, 62873, to arrange transport - and every Thursday.

Cancer Support Group Drop-in, Art Session, lunch and therapies, Looking Well 11.00am-1.30pm, and every Thursday.

Fri 7th Age Concern at the Masonic Hall, 10.00am-2.30pm. Christmas Card making.

Sat 8th Annual Craft and Gift Fair, Burton-in-Lonsdale Village Hall, 10.00am-3.00pm. Raffle and refreshments.

Low Bentham Village Hall, 10.00am-12.00noon, Book Swap.
Wesley Guild, visit of Orton Male Voice Choir, Methodist Schoolroom 7.30pm.

Tue 11th Bentham Toy Library at the Community Centre, 9.30-11.00am.

Bright Hour at the Methodist Church Hall, 2.15pm.

Wed 12th Looking Well, "Getting the best from your camera" 1.00-3.00pm and every Wednesday for 5 weeks.

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 12th Citizens' Advice Bureau at Bentham Health Centre, 1.30-3.30pm. No appointment needed.
- Thu 13th 1.00pm Bloomin' Bentham volunteers gather at painted bus shelter, School Hill. Telephone 61608 for more details.
Creative Walks. Telephone Rosie Jackson on 07890 011298 for details or to book a place.
Friendly Hour at Low Bentham Methodist Church, speaker Olive Calverley, everyone welcome.
- Fri 14th **Copy deadline for December Bentham News.**
7.00-8.00pm GFI for school years 6, 7 & 8 and 8.15-9.15 for school years 9+, Methodist Church Hall.
Age Concern at the Masonic Hall, 10.00am-2.30pm. Extend Exercise - Colin Etherington.
W.I. Group Fashion Show, by Temptations and Pigtails, at Ingleborough Community Centre 7.30pm.
Bentham Footpath Group walk, Burton circular, 6½ miles, leader C. Randall 62619. Meet at Lairgill 9.30am.
Wray School Christmas Bingo 7.30pm. £1 per game, tip top prizes.
Bentham & District Pet Rescue quiz night at Settle. Ring 01729 822913 for details.
- Sun 16th Coffee morning in aid of St. John's Hospice at Low Bentham Institute, 10.00am-1.00pm.
- Tue 18th Child Health Clinic at the Surgery, 2.00-4.00pm.
Fashion Show presented by Nuffin 2 Wear, 7.30pm at the Horse and Farrier.
Bentham Agricultural Society AGM at Wenningdale Room, Town Hall, 7.30pm.
Thornton and Burton Mothers' Union meeting at the Church Room, 2.00pm Burton.
- Wed 19th Looking Well 11.00am-12.30pm
Craven Housing Team Financial Assistance Presentation.
- Thu 20th Low Bentham W.I. meeting at the Victoria Institute, 7.30pm. Mrs Pat Ashcroft talk entitled "Meeting a challenge". See page 24.
Welcome-in, dominoes for all ages, Methodist Church Hall. For transport contact Nigel or Kath 62272.
- Fri 21st Waste paper collection at Lairgill Car Park, 8.30-11.00am. Proceeds to NSPCC.
Age Concern at the Masonic Hall, 10.00am-2.30pm. "Christmas Flowers" - Jean Fawcett and Ann Duncan.
Body Shop Party at Village Hall, Burton-in-Lonsdale, 7.30pm. Tickets £2.50. Includes glass of wine and prize draw entry.
- Sat 22nd Bentham Agricultural Society coffee morning at the Town Hall, 10.00am-12.00noon. 
- Sun 23rd Bentham Footpath Group walk, Settle circular, 8 miles, leader M. Burnett, 64800. Meet at Lairgill 9.30am.
- Mon 24th Ewecross Historical Society meeting at the Town Hall, 7.30pm. Prof. Patricia Garside - "Burnbanks: a Cast Iron Community".
- Tue 25th Bright Hour, 2.15pm at the Methodist Church Hall.
- Wed 26th Citizens' Advice Bureau at Bentham Health Centre, 1.30-3.30pm. No appointment needed.
- Thu 27th And 28th & 29th-Hornby Institute 7.30pm "Come on Jeeves" by Hornby Drama Group. See page 13.
Healing Meditation 7.30pm, Looking Well Studios.
- Fri 28th Bentham News published.
Age Concern at the Masonic Hall, 10.00am-2.30pm. Christmas Quiz.
- Sat 29th Bentham Footpath Group walk, Aughton circular, 6½ miles, leaders C. Metcalfe & J. Hewitt 61742. Meet at Lairgill 9.30am.
Low Bentham Village Hall, 10.00am-2.00pm, Trash "n" Treasure.

LOOKING WELL

By Sue Manson

Getting the Best from your Camera: This 5-week course starts on Wednesday 12th November, 1-3pm, and is aimed at those in the early stages of getting to know their digital cameras. You will learn the basics of taking good photographs, and also how to copy them to your computer for editing. To enrol contact NYCC Adult Learning Services on 0845 300 2414, or Rosie Jackson on 07890-011298.

Creative Walks

On Thursdays 13th and 27th November you can combine healthy walks around beautiful Bentham with creative art sessions! Enjoy a walk during the morning then turn your observations and inspiration into a piece of artwork during the afternoon with all materials provided. To enrol contact Rosie Jackson as above.

The Folly Project

As part of the Archive Alive project we have access to an important archive of books from

The Folly in Settle. Focusing in dialect in North Craven, we will be working on printmaking, book making, photography and creative writing projects. If you'd like to get involved in this exciting venture, please phone Clare on 62672.

Café IN

On Wednesday 19th November Craven Council Strategic Housing Team will give a presentation on a variety of helpful schemes and grants.

T'ai Chi

Our daytime class is full but if you are interested please get in touch as we can put on an extra evening class if there is sufficient demand. In fact if there are any activities that you would like to get involved in but that we're not currently offering, please let us know and we'll see what we can do.

Songs to Remember

On alternate Tuesdays (4th and 18th November, 2nd and 16th December) come and sing songs from Shows and artists such as Bing Crosby and Frank Sinatra. We'll add more dates if there's sufficient demand.

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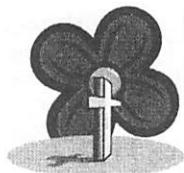
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CHURCHES TOGETHER

By Anne Beck and Sue Pilkington



'Remembrance and Peace'

November brings to mind Remembrance Day, where as a nation we remember those who gave their lives in past and present conflicts. At High Bentham Methodist Church a new banner is being made for display with the words, 'we will remember them'. This will be a focus and reminder to us to think of those who have died and been injured, those dying today, and current war casualties including innocent civilians.

The red poppies we buy and wear originate from the slaughter of so many on Flanders' fields in the Great War. Following this, in 1934 the white poppy came into being because many women in particular, fearful of an even worse war, used it as a symbol of peace. They were convinced that we need to settle conflicts without violence...and with justice. (To find out more - www.whitepoppy.org) Often people wear a red and a white poppy.

Many Bentham people have family or people they know serving in the forces. Wearing our poppies (with pride) helps us to remember them. When we see what is happening in conflict areas in the media we can feel angry and often helpless. There is also the effect of war on civilians to consider, the damage to the environment and the unnecessary waste of resources. As Christians this disturbs our inner peace.

Jesus asked us to be peace makers. We should remember that peace making begins with us and in us, in our homes, schools, work places and community.

"Let there be peace on earth and let it begin with me."

St. John's

There are three special services in November. Sunday 2nd is Compassion Sunday; on the 8th is our Remembrance Service and on 16th we have our Taize Service at 6.30pm, led by the Taize Group.

LIBRARY NEWS

By John Frankland and Liz Farmer

Opening Hours Consultation

Thank you to everyone who took part in our recent opening hours consultation. 98% of those who filled in one of survey forms agreed with the proposed changes. We are delighted to announce that from Monday 1st December 2008 Bentham Library's opening hours will change to those proposed in the consultation. This will allow more children to visit the library after school and standardises the hours during the week. The Library will also be open longer on Saturdays.

Current 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

New Library Opening Hours (from 1st December 2008)

Monday: 2.00pm – 6.00pm
Wednesday: 10.00am – 1.00pm
Friday: 2.00pm – 6.00pm
Saturday: 10.00am – 1.00pm

Joining the Library

If you are not already a member, do come and join! Just arrive at the Library with a document that proves your identity and address, such as a bank statement, driving licence or utility bill, and we will issue you with a membership card. For more information regarding the library please telephone us on 0845 034 9532 or e-mail bentham.library@northyorks.gov.uk

BENTHAM CALENDAR 2009 - COMPETITION

By Jo Burton

Win a bottle of Champagne!

Don't forget to enter the competition saying where the calendar images are and where they are taken from. Entries, with a name and contact number, to Bentham Imaging before 1st December.

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Bentham Community Centre

Thinking of having a child's/adult party, meeting or training then come and look at the space in Bentham Community Centre.

Room Hire Rates :- Top room, which includes small kitchen £8.00 per hour. Sports Hall £6.00 per hour. Front Room includes kitchenette £7.00 per hour. Whole building £20.00 per hour.

If you want to start a new group and book a room on a regular basis these rates can be negotiated.

Please contact Sharon Haslam on

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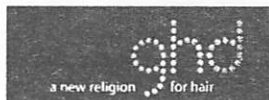
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 - ➔ Pop in and look at our hair care products, great for Christmas presents (GHD, Fudge, Goldwell, Clynol) Gift Vouchers available for Hair, Sunbed & Haircare.
- Please book early for Christmas to avoid disappointment.

WILL THE CHURCH ON THE HILL SURVIVE?

By Clive Burgess (God's servant)

It's very good to be here in Bentham working with wonderful people to glorify God (wow – at last I am sounding like a Vicar!). There are great links between all the Churches in Bentham and surrounding areas, and as a family we really feel God has called us here.

What lies ahead for our Churches of Low and High Bentham?

St John's Church faces challenges as it looks to the future with Sedbergh Junior School moving back to the Main School. It affects the local community and the Church, with opportunities to be faced and conquered. In fact St John's has a very exciting project to provide a disabled toilet and small meeting room/crèche for the Church.

However, St Margaret's Church may not be there for future weddings, funerals and baptisms. As a Church it once had good attendances. Now at 8am Service we may have a congregation of 8 on a good day or 20 at the main Service. The Church gets no financial help and it falls to those few faithful people to keep the building going. St Margaret's is beautiful and in a wonderful position, but if we cannot afford to maintain and run it, closure is an obvious possibility. I think St Margaret's deserves a chance, especially after such wonderful Services as the Farmers' Harvest and the community congregation with the School Choir and Bentham Praise, a Service for young and old alike.

That chance is dependent upon the people of Bentham who come to St Margaret's and those who have stopped coming over the years. I heard that some people do not like having a divorced Priest. It was one of the most painful times of my life and I am prepared to talk to anyone about that. We live in a broken world and there has only been one perfect person – humanity nailed Jesus Christ to a piece of wood. But it should not be about who the

Vicar is or was or what he has done or what the people have done – it should be about our relationship with God, and allowing the Holy Spirit to work. So often we get out of the habit of coming to Church – life gets busy. We are called to worship corporately. We make a promise when our children are christened to bring them up in a Christian community. When we are confirmed we make declarations before God that we are part of the Church.

I do wonder what God will say to us on the final day of judgement if we do not give back to Him when He has given so much to us. Will He have space for us in Heaven? Will He have space for you? I hope my frankness can be appreciated. God has given us a challenge and there is no quick fix! It needs all of us to pull together if the Church on the hill is going to continue to be there for us.

Now that British Summertime has officially ended, here's a poem to really cheer you up as we go into winter!

November

By Thomas Hood

No sun - no moon!
No morn - no noon -
No dawn - no dusk - no proper time of day.
No warmth, no cheerfulness, no healthful
ease,
No comfortable feel in any member -
No shade, no shine, no butterflies, no
bees,
No fruits, no flowers, no leaves, no birds!
November!

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WOMEN'S INSTITUTES

High Bentham

By Anne Yaman

High Bentham WI met on Thursday 2nd October for the AGM. There were 28 members, including new member, Mrs Carol Elsworth and 1 visitor. President, Miss Wendy Dowbiggin led the meeting with the financial report given by Treasurer, Mrs Chris Lewis and the Committee report given by Mrs Margaret Hayton. The Committee was re-elected en-bloc with the addition of Miss Anne Millar. Miss Dowbiggin was again elected President for the new year. Members were congratulated on the efforts at Bentham Show which had resulted in a good crop of prizes. They were reminded of the upcoming outings. A jacket potato supper was provided by Mrs Pat Henderson and enjoyed by all. The raffle was won by Mrs Kath Dempster and Mrs Pat Henderson won the competition for Autumn Berries with Mrs Joanie Weekley second.

Then there was a presentation by two officers from Craven District Council on what was available from the council in terms of help with regard to making homes more energy efficient which was very helpful and provided members with a lot of information. The next meeting will be on Thursday 6th October with a talk on "Gift Wrapping with a difference" – very topical with Christmas around the corner. Guests will be most welcome. We will hold our coffee morning on Saturday November 29th where, as well as the usual stalls, we will

have a craft stall so you can get some of those Xmas pressies and, of course, a good selection of home baked goodies. Please come along, and prepare to spoil yourself!

Low Bentham

By Jennifer Watkinson

Mrs Ruth Sephton, president, introduced senior radiographer, Mrs Cathi Greenbank, who gave an interesting, and helpful talk about osteoporosis. In 1990 she was responsible for setting up the first bone density unit in the area at the LRI. Serving a large area, she sees 18 patients a day. She described a typical 20-minute appointment, stressing the patient always comes first. She showed pictures of the machines she uses which build images on the screen enabling her to give an almost instant analysis of bone density. She mentioned that 1 in 2 women and 1 in 5 men over fifty would have a broken bone due to osteoporosis. She recommended everyone do 15 minutes of weight-bearing exercise a day, watching their levels of alcohol and having two alcohol-free days a week, avoiding smoking and having a healthy diet. Members participated in a quiz relating to the amount of calcium in different foods. Competition winners were (1) Barbara Mason, (2) Sylvia Brennand and (3) Mabel Easterby and Carolyn Woof.

At the annual Ingleborough Group Show held in Ingleton, Pam Warbrick won two awards for having the best plant in the show and receiving the most points in the pot plant section. The next meeting is on 20th November when Mrs Pat Ashcroft will talk on "Meeting a Challenge".

Iain Henshaw t/a
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BENTHAM PEOPLE

Personal Thanks

Ken Leeming - Neil and Nancy would like to thank everyone who attended Ken's funeral and for all the flowers, cards and messages of condolence and grateful thanks to the Rev. Roger Fox and Rev. Brian Levick for conducting the service. Also, grateful thanks to The Ingleborough Nursing Home for giving the extra care that Ken needed, and also the Doctors at Bentham Health Centre. Thanks also to Ken's friends who gave of their time to visit him in the Ingleborough, and to John Eastwood for all his help, and to Joe Morphet for the final arrangements. Many thanks, you were all so wonderful at this sad time.

Metcalfe - Andrew's family would like to thank relatives and friends for their support and kindness during Andrew's illness. Many thanks for all the cards, flowers and messages of sympathy, and for all who donated so generously in Andrew's memory. Special thanks to Dr McKirdy, Dr Burnett, District Nurses, Hospital at Home team, staff at Bentham Health Centre, Jimmy Macdonald, Nick Patterson, Looking Well and the Black Bull.

Thanks

Edwin and Enid Yates would like to thank neighbours and friends around Moons Acre for the cards and gifts and making their golden wedding party a success, and many thanks to Phillippa for the lovely food.

Congratulations

Harrison, Sheree and Lee. Congratulations on the safe arrival of your beautiful girl Alexia. We are so proud of you. Lots of love, Mum, Dad and Emma Standing xxx.

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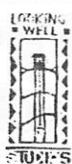
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* Ideal Christmas book to read to children. Look out for "The Edge of the Wood" by Jean Davey. To be launched at Bentham Gallery in November. Lots of illustrations and a good traditional story. Contact Jean Davey for details. 015242 51022.

CHARITIES

The latest donation of £100 by Bentham Line Dancers has gone to the Patients' Extra Care Fund at Bentham Surgery. This brings our total donations so far to £1,485. Our aim is to help local charities so if you are involved with, or know of a local charity, please let us know - Len Durrant on 62501 or Audrey Shallcross on 61411.

The Cancer Support Group would like to thank everyone who attended the coffee morning in aid of MacMillan cancer; we raised £146.



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BENTHAM FILM GROUP

By Stella Hall

The title of the next film to be shown by the Group is "Cassandra's Dream". The showing takes place on Friday 31st October to avoid a clash with Bentham Firework Display.

Set in contemporary London, "Cassandra's Dream" is a powerful and thrilling story about two brothers (Ewan McGregor and Colin Farrell) who are desperate to better their troubled lives. One is a chronic gambler, and the other is a young man in love with a beautiful actress he has recently met. Their lives gradually become entangled into a sinister situation.

The show starts at 7.30pm at the Victoria Institute, Low Bentham. There will be refreshments and a raffle. Bring a cushion to enhance your comfort! Tickets are £5 on the door but may be purchased in advance at the **reduced rate** of £4.50 from Victoria Institute on Monday and Wednesday from 10am-12noon, and from Bentham Community Centre Monday to Friday from 10am-12noon.

MUSIC AND DANCE IN MELLING

By Sue Flowers

During November there are a host of activities on offer for the local community and schools within the Lune Valley. There are dance classes on Tuesday evenings 7.30-9pm and on Sundays into 2009. You could also come and try different dance styles at Super Sunday events from 2-4pm at Melling Institute, and on Sunday 16th November you can have a go at Lindy Hop with Chris Sherlock.

On Friday 14th November at 7.30pm, Ira Bernstein and Riley Baugus perform a dynamic mix of dance, song and music from the Southern Appalachian region of the US. A few international twists like South African boot dancing and English clogging are thrown in for good measure, truly something for everyone! You can get more information about all of these activities and events by ringing 015242-21233 or by going to info@greenclose.org

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BENTHAM PANTOMIME 2009

By Margaret Cowling

Sign-on – Sunday 2nd November

By Margaret Cowling

We've completed the script for our 2009 Panto – The Frog Princess. This is a new story for Bentham, and was discovered by our last Panto Princess, Izzy Wilkinson, and her friend, Eleanor Ilston, and we are all very excited about it.

The Frog Princess is a tale found in the folklore of several countries, but we especially like the Russian version, which evokes ideas for lovely costumes, songs and dances. The plot of the story is very pantomime-like, with three princes seeking brides. The youngest prince loses his bride and sets out on a quest to find her. On the way he faces many trials and also encounters the wicked witch, Baba Yaga. We need actors, singers, dancers, musicians, sound and lighting technicians, scenery painters, costume and

prop makers and willing helpers. The script is full of character parts, songs and dances, so we are hoping for a good response to our sign-on in the Community Centre, Main Street, on Sunday 2nd November between 2pm and 4pm. If you can't make 2nd November, but are interested in being involved, please phone me on 63175 and leave your details

CHRISTMAS STREET MARKET

By Sharon Haslam (tel. 61800)

This year there will be a new look on the Main Street on Friday 12th December, as there will be a Christmas street market with stalls selling a variety of Christmas goodies and shops will be open until 7.30pm. If you would like to have a charity stall, (cost £5) contact Brenda at Nuffin 2 Wear on 62809. Come and enjoy the festive spirit and join in with carol singing if you wish. Santa will start the evening off at 4.45pm when he arrives in town. Visit him in his Grotto in the Community Centre from 5pm-7.30pm.

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YESTERDAY IN BENTHAM

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

November 1988

Front-page reference to "dastardly villain," "underhand tricks" and "bombastic speech," was not in fact referring to last month's Town Council meeting, but to a visit to Bentham Town Hall by **Giant Haystacks** and his wrestling entourage. A packed hall booed and cheered in appropriate measure as baddies and goodies (depending on your wrestling allegiance) grappled their way through a programme described by reporter Keith Cowling as "superb theatre."

We still have the hall and we still have the people, but sadly no sell-out shows these days. Pity.

Bentham Footpath Group reported that it had completed its project to walk the 48 miles, with 250 stiles, 42 bridges and 226 gates, along the 79 paths in the Bentham area. *Hope they took butties!*

Winners in a disco fancy dress competition organised by Friends of Low Bentham School were as follows:

Jody Park and Jody Illingworth (Hell's Angels)

David Wright (Dracula)

Lindsey Burrow (Hawaiian Girl)

Neil Ashton (Noddy)

John Hardiman (Indian Boy)

Concerns about Mrs Thatcher's new **Poll Tax** were growing in Bentham as it was

revealed that non-domestic rates were to be excluded from the parish precepts. This meant that the 36% of Bentham's local income normally contributed by Angus and other Bentham firms would have to be found by ordinary folk.

If only that had been the worst of it!

Craven Wanderers junior football team suffered a 6 - 0 defeat at the hands of Galgate. Player-reporter **Simon Guy** said, "We were rubbish. We missed **Chris Bibby** who was on his holidays."

That would appear to be true, as in their next game, having presumably returned refreshed and inspired from his holiday, Chris scored four of the goals in his team's 7 - 0 defeat of Nomads.

Bentham News this month recorded the deaths of local character **Peter ('Dan') O'Neill**, who died following an accident at work, and **Arthur Dodding**, who had recently retired as landlord of the Punch Bowl at Low Bentham. On a happier note, BN offered congratulations to **Minnie Taylor**, who had celebrated her 102nd birthday. Still very active, she had recently knitted a total of 65 dishcloths for family and friends.

I'll bet they really looked forward to birthdays and Christmas!

Finally, Craven DC announced plans to establish 8 permanent radiation monitoring sites across the district, one of them being above Bentham at Linghaw. This was felt necessary because of the government's inefficiency in reporting the effects of the Chernobyl disaster.

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BENTHAM AND DISTRICT PET RESCUE



By Sue Arnott

A big "Thank You" to everyone who bought our quiz this summer. It was the tenth year a quiz has been deviously devised by Peter Marshall, our Treasurer, contributing a massive £6,000 to the charity's funds over those ten years. The 2008 winners were: 1st Madeline Hodgson (Ingleton), 2nd Heather Priestley (Melling), 3rd Mrs O Munro (Windermere); other prize winners were Mrs L Mercer (Skipton), Belinda Makinson (Glasson Dock) and Leonie Pearce (Bentham). Congratulations to the 26 people who got all the answers correct and well done everyone else for trying! You could wait for next year for the next brain-teaser or you might like to come along to our quiz night in Settle on 14th November. Ring Elaine on 01729 822913 for details.

With the festive season just around the corner we're starting to sell our specially printed Christmas cards. You'll find them on sale in High Bentham Post Office and in the Dalehead Vets Bentham Surgery. Every pack purchased will help to raise much needed funds. And while you're planning ahead, make sure you get your tickets for our Christmas raffle – on sale at the Vets, at the Christmas Fair on 12th December & from any Committee member. This year the prizes will be hampers of all shapes, sizes and themes: a hamper for a gardener, for a whisky drinker, a car owner, a cat-lover, a chocoholic, for a wine connoisseur, a dog-lover, a bird-watcher ... and many more!

Much as all our volunteers adore the cats and kittens in our sanctuary, there's nothing we want more for Christmas than that we can find them all loving homes to go to. Tom & Jerry, Toffee, Mittens & Nibbles, Bramble & Pip, Bracken ... they're all waiting for someone! If it's you, give Pat a call on 63048 & come along to see them all.

As always, for general queries about B&D Pet Rescue, or if you'd like to get involved as a volunteer, please ring 61127.



REAL STORIES AND REAL SAVINGS

By Tim Austin

I was speaking to a Bentham businessman recently when he came out with an interesting remark. He had been so alarmed at his recent electricity bill, an amount of £1,400 for three months, that he wanted to do something about it. And so began a regime of energy efficiency; low-energy bulbs replaced older ones, lights were turned off after leaving the room, and appliances were turned off at the socket when not in use. The question was; would these simple steps actually make much difference? What he discovered surprised him. Just doing the very basic energy saving exercises above had saved this local man a *quarter* of his electricity use! That's £30 *every week* and a grand total of £1,400 for the year! Just by switching a few lights off, changing a few bulbs and taking a little care for his energy use; he had saved enough money for a holiday abroad! How much could you save if you followed this Benthamite's example?

On the subject of saving money, Bentham resident John Pilkington, had a solar hot water panel installed on his roof in April, and he recently shared his findings with B.E.S.T. No one could deny that 2008 has been a bit of a washout and yet, even without the sunshine, John found that his hot water bills have been cut clean in half! A saving of nearly £10 per week on average. With grants available and no planning permission required, could this be something to consider if you have a south-facing roof? If you want more information you can visit www.energysavingtrust.org.uk

FARMERS' MARKET

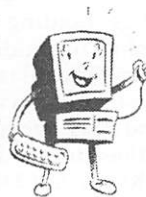
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SPRINGFIELD BOWLING CLUB



By Teresa Freeman

Springfield Bowling Club is holding a 'Country and Western' evening on Friday 14th November at 7.30pm in the Town Hall. This will feature live entertainment with 'Stan and Jayne', and a 'Pie and Peas' supper. Tickets are £7 and can be obtained from Tom on 61101, Audrey on 63220, Kevin on 62482 or Teresa on 61222. It should be a great evening, so do come and join us.

BENTHAM CHRISTMAS LIGHTS

By Dave Bedford & Iain Henshaw

Not much has happened recently; let's get this Christmas out of the way. The collection boxes are back in the shops and pubs and we managed to raise over £150.00 so thanks to everybody. It's quite amazing how it all mounts up. This year we'll have a couple more trees to put up so it will look pretty much like last year. We need people to join us to get a full committee together. If you want to join and have a few hours a month that would be great. Contact Dave via the Byres or Iain on 61010.

BENTHAM YOUTH THEATRE GROUP

Iain Henshaw

Hopefully by the time you're reading this we will have made enough money from the joint venture with Goodenber Play Area and The Community Centre at the Community Bonfire to rehearse a short play to coincide with the Christmas street market being organised by Brenda of Nuffin to Wear. Quick down to the Community Centre, Sunday evening Nov 2nd for Panto sign on. See full details on page 9. If you miss Sunday then pop into the Community Centre Wednesday between 6 and 9pm and we'll point you in the right direction. Many thanks to Goodenber Play Area for allowing us to share their pitch.

STEAM CHARTER TRAIN

By Alice Fry

A special steam charter train will go from Carnforth to York and Scarborough - and return on Saturday 29th November 2008 calling at Wennington and Bentham.

We hope to have three-four hours free time in York. Enjoy your day Christmas shopping... or just relaxing in this beautiful City with its wealth of attractions. Ticket Prices-

Standard Class	Adults £45	Children £30
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Passengers booking Premier Dining will be served Full English breakfast and a four course evening meal to their reserved seat. There will also be a buffet car selling drinks and light refreshments. Children will receive a gift from Santa during the journey!

Proceeds go towards the Mayor's Charities - Northwest Air Ambulance, Bolton-le-Sands Pre-School and Morecambe Bay Partnership. For information, fares and tickets telephone 01524 737751/737753.

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FREE BALLS AND NETS FOR BENTHAM FOOTBALL CLUB

By Barry Lister

SBC Presentation of match balls and goal nets

The photograph (right) shows Baz Lister, President of the S.B.C. Club, based at the Horse and Farrier, High Bentham, presenting new match balls and new goal nets to Gary Louth, club captain of Bentham Football Club.

Once again the S.B.C. has aided local clubs and events in Bentham and the list is getting even longer! Mr. President would like to thank all members and guests who support the S.B.C. events, giving them the opportunity to help others. The S.B.C. meets every Sunday at 2.00pm at the Horse and Farrier.



BENTHAM FIRST RESPONDERS TRAINED

By Robert Holland

Bentham First Responders have been joined by four more volunteers who have recently undertaken their two day initial training under the guidance of Dave Jones of the Yorkshire Ambulance Service.

The picture to the right shows Rachel Duncan, Eileen Stevenson, Kath Stannard and Gill Hughes with Dave Jones.



Bentham First Responders are part of the Yorkshire Ambulance Service and will be at the Heart Attack and Stroke Awareness Event, being run by them, at the Town Hall on 2nd December at 7.30pm. So why not

meet us there, or if can't make that, come to our regular monthly meeting at the Horse and Farrier at 7.30pm the following evening. We'll buy the first round!

BENCHES ON LANE FOOT

By Shirley Brown

Four Bloomin' Bentham volunteers met on 13th October and went to Lane Foot to investigate reports that two benches were so overgrown with nettles and brambles that they were unusable.

Thanks to a bit of hard work and the loan of buckets of water and spades from a neighbouring farm, we were able to uncover both benches.

The lovely wooden bench has been placed there "In Loving Memory of Bob and Irene Horner from David, Linda, Carol and George" (see the before and after photos.) Sadly the metal bench looks as if it has been struck by a large vehicle and is rather unstable, but we have informed the Town Clerk who will be asking the Council to decide what they can do about repairing or replacing it. Anyone want to donate a bench!?

In the photo Bloomin' Bentham volunteers, Anthony Smith and Kay Piper, uncover a wooden bench. Now people can sit on it again.



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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.