

BENTHAM NEWS



BENTHAM LOSES WELL RESPECTED "OFF COMER"

Many Benthamers were saddened by the news of the death of Brian Ireland. An obituary, written by Len Moody, appears on page 4.

IT'S GALA TIME AGAIN!

This years Gala will be held on Bank Holiday Monday 27th May at the Playing Fields, Station Road. The procession of floats will start from the car park near the Health Centre at 13.00 hours as has become

the norm. This year **THE BLACK KNIGHTS PARACHUTE DISPLAY TEAM** will be dropping out of the sky from 5000 feet. There is no set theme as such but in these days when there is a trend to modernise our traditional cartoon characters the likes of Dennis the Menace and Minnie The Minx ought to have a chance for their last airing The duck race will return this year, so be prepared to find suitable names for your entry in the only competition wetter than the Bentham Fell Race! There will be a variety of attractions including a large 00 gauge railway layout and other railway paraphernalia, craft stalls, the McDonald's Large orange **BOUNCY CASTLE**, Aerobic Display by Peak Condition and Junior display team, Punch and Judy and a wide variety of side stalls and things to look at. Keep your eyes open for posters on display soon for the final list of events, get your fancy dress made and **DON'T FORGET to BUY YOUR DUCK!**

Hire your FANCY DRESS costumes from Bentham Panto Group's vast selection built up over 11 years of Panto-ing Tel Bentham 62688.

Remember those wonderful horses in ROBIN HOOD? They're chomping at the bit for another outing - any takers?

MAY 1991

ISSUE 55

ST. MARGARET'S MOTHERS' UNION.

The enrolling member welcomed Mrs Hibbert from near Shipley to the April meeting. The speaker gave a short history of the Scottish border towns and showed slides of the beautiful lochs and mountains to be seen in various parts of the country.

Mrs Duckworth extended the vote of thanks.

LOW BENTHAM GALA COMMITTEE

A rounders match and barbecue will be held on Bank Field, Low Bentham on MAY 24th at 6pm. Names for the Gala Queen and attendants to Mrs H. Carter Tel Bentham 61949.

Gala Queen girls	aged 11 to 15 years
Middle attendants	aged 6 to 10 years
Small attendants	aged 3 to 5 years
Page boy	aged 3 to 5 years

Names to be given before 24th May. Children's Gala Day poster competition, details from Mrs Johnson, Harley Bank, Low Bentham.

SUPPORT FOR ARC RESEARCH

Arthritis Research will benefit by the sum of £290 which was raised at the well attended Easter week coffee morning held in the Town Hall by the local branch of the Arthritis and Rheumatism Council. The ARC Regional Secretary, Mrs Anne Davies, spoke briefly on the work of the Council and thanked the branch committee and all who supported this and other branch activities. Mrs Davies expressed her sympathy to Mrs Mary Ireland and paid tribute to the work of her husband Brian, who, as a founder member of the Bentham branch had been a tireless worker and a very loyal supporter over the years.

A raffle was won by M. Leeming, M. Barwise, H. LLOYD, M. Hunt, M. Cowgill, B. Foster. Other competitions were won by M. Leeming and M. Errington.

GREEN FAIR

The Ingleton "Green Fair" will be held on JULY 6th at the Community Centre and NOT the 4th MAY as reported in the GREEN COLUMN in last months BN. For further details please ring Ruth Ive on Ingleton 41997.

BENTHAM CARES DAY JUNE 15th

Full details in the April edition of BN
Would you like to help me raise funds for your local newspaper THE BENTHAM NEWS. I am organising a Children's Tombola. Have you any unwanted presents. Can you make toys or clothes etc etc. Do you want to donate anything to make BENTHAM CARES DAY a success.

If so please phone JEAN 62258.

Also if you have any plants, cuttings or seedlings you can spare. Please bring any unwanted plant pots to the plant stall on JUNE 15th. I will swap plants for them!

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TOWN COUNCIL

Councillors present were: Bateson, Bloxham, Cowling, Davies, Hewitt, Hurtley, Joel, Marshall, Preston, Telford, plus District Councillors Atkinson and Pilkington. 18 members of the public were present, including P.C. Kaye.

IT'S A BLOODY BUSINESS, BUT SOMEBODY'S GOT TO DO IT. It was hardly surprising that the main item of discussion was the proposed abattoir on Wenning Avenue. It has been one of the topics of conversation in Bentham during the past few weeks and Craven District Council have received numerous letters of objection from local residents. What were the views of the Town Council on this important topic? - several members of the public had turned up to the meeting to find out. And yet when 'Planning Applications' was finally taken it was passed over with a cursory 'dealt with at last meeting'. Had I dropped off for a second and missed the whole thing?

It turns out that some Councillors had got together after the Parish Meeting (at which no planning applications were tabled) and convened what was described as an 'emergency meeting'. How many Councillors were present? We don't know, but no members of the public were there. Because there was some danger of the abattoir application going before Craven's Planning Committee (and thereby being decided) before the next scheduled Town Council meeting, Councillors decided to send a response to Craven outlining their serious concerns.

In terms of Council procedure it was nothing short of a shambles. No-one round the table (and there was much frantic muttering and puzzled glances) seemed to know what was going on. Only after persistent heckling from the public gallery, did Councillors (some with apparent reluctance) agree to make public their views on the subject. Members of the public were invited to voice their opinions and these were duly noted. In the end Councillors even recorded it as a proper vote - unanimous objection to the proposal.

3

So in this instance the impromptu response of the Council was in accord with the apparent views of many local residents and could be ratified publicly. Given another situation, it could easily be different. It is up to the Council to make sure that this sort of constitutional mess doesn't happen again.

AND NOW FOR THE REST OF THE NEWS The Lower Hall was stifflingly hot - is this the reason why the meeting was such a bumbling affair? One proposal was made and not seconded. Votes were taken (grudgingly, it seemed) and it was impossible to tell who was voting for what. Decisions were made without the public being aware of what they were. Even the Town Clerk, usually a model of efficiency and diplomacy, seemed close to losing his rag at times. However ...

Councillors Bloxham, Telford, Cowling and Preston want a telephone in the Town Hall. Councillors Joel, Hurtley, Hewitt and Davies do not. Councillor Marshall (in a rare show of indecisiveness) abstained and Councillor Bateson declined to use his casting vote. The outcome? - don't know.

There was another 4-4 split on the topic of a plaque to record past Mayors of Bentham. The outcome? - don't know.

Will the new Council Constitution be available to members of the public? Will the Town Hall have a new sign erected? Will the Wenningdale Room be comfortably warm without melt-down in the main Hall? - don't know.

If this report seems confusing then I will at least have succeeded in making it a true record of proceedings.



The next Town Council meeting is on Monday 13th May.

Kate Steele

BRIAN
IRELAND



by Len Moody

4 standards.

Bentham and neighbouring districts have been mourning the loss of a well-known local figure, Brian H de C Ireland, who died peacefully in hospital on 2nd April, a few months short of his eightieth birthday.

Brian Ireland was born in India and spent most of his early years there, returning to England for secondary education, at Haileybury, and university, at Merton College, Oxford. For some years he was on the editorial staff of the Oxford Times, and on the outbreak of the Second World War joined the Royal Institute of International Affairs (Chatham House), and subsequently the Political Intelligence Department of the Foreign Office. At the end of the war, in 1945, he was awarded the MBE. He then joined the staff of the Manchester Guardian, as leader-writer, and later as Editor, of the widely-read Guardian Weekly. At a later stage he transferred to Geigy(UK) Ltd, as editor and translator of technical information, and continued as Head of the Information Services in the Publicity Department of that company until his retirement.

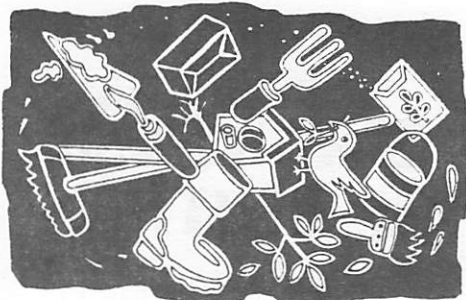
In 1976, after the unfortunate onset of angina pectoris, he came with his wife Mary, to live in Bentham. Brian and Mary have provided an almost ideal demonstration of the way that "off-comers" can, and perhaps should, integrate into local communities. Their strongest interest was evidently in the Arts, both practical and fine, especially music and painting. In the earlier years they moved freely around the district, gaining many friends, supporting many enterprises, recitals, concerts and exhibitions. Their experience, knowledge and judgement were of great value in the establishment and maintenance of

Most notable, however, was their readiness to serve the local community they had adopted, and which quickly came to adopt them. Their involvement in various charities was exemplary. It was the work of the ARC which claimed their major efforts, both in fund-raising and administration, and Brian's newsletters were models of graceful English prose. Nor were they interested in this just as an abstract cause, but took a close personal interest in all who suffered from these complaints in the locality. Likewise their key participation in the local Meals on Wheels service revealed their ability to relate sensitivity to "all sorts and conditions of men." It is significant that Christian Aid gained their regular support, and it was typical that Brian personally baked a generous proportion of the bread rolls for the annual Lent "hunger lunch" in Bentham.

Brian and Mary were concerned about the problems of the "environment" in various forms. They were enthusiastic members of the North Craven Heritage Trust, of which Brian was, for many years a committee member and representative for Bentham. The Ewecross Historical Society also benefitted from their practical interest, and Bentham Footpath Group appreciated their support also. Their most notable effort for the environment was surely the inauguration in 1988 (and note may be taken of their age at the time!) of the collection for recycling of waste paper from Bentham and neighbourhood: this has been readily supported by local populations, and earned useful funds for several charities.

Brian came to be known, not only as a "caring" person, but in his quiet and firm way as a man of principle, especially the kind of liberal principles which may be inferred from his long association with the Manchester Guardian. It was typical that in January this year, with Mary, he took part in the by-no-means- popular vigil in Bentham, organized by CND, warning against what they saw as the precipitate use of physical force in the Gulf.

continued on page 5



GERTIE GREENFINGERS

Why not make a water garden this year?

The smallest pool will act as home for a few fish and a fascinating assortment of wildlife. It really is simply a matter of choosing a sunny site sheltered from east winds, away from trees so as to avoid falling leaves which can poison the water.

Size is a matter of choice but unless you intend to use one of those pre-shaped pools, keep the design simple. The sides of your excavation should slope gently and all sharp stones removed to avoid puncturing the lining; provide a smooth foundation with about 2" of sand then stretch your liner across and gently fill with water. Trim round the edges and pleat if necessary, hide the edges under crazy paving or smooth cobbles.

Wait at least ten days before introducing plants or fish, this allows any harmful chemicals in the water to disperse naturally. Remember, if you intend to introduce fish, the pool should have a minimum depth of 2 feet at one end otherwise the fish will perish in the first heavy frost. A ledge 6 to 8 inches deep around the edges will accomodate pots of marginal plants to encourage oxygenation and shelter for your fish.

If you are really ambitious, fountains, waterfalls and pool lights can be added, but do get a qualified electrician to do the wiring.



TIP OF THE MONTH

Long winter frosts causing thick ice to form on your pond can cause problems. Fish are easily traumatised and if you crack the ice the shock can kill them, so buy a good sized air filled rubber ball and put it on the pond before the severe weather starts. Even the hardest frost, the gentle oscillation of the ball will prevent a total freeze up and allow the fish to obtain oxygen.

continued from page 4.

Brian was essentially a "man of letters". He claimed his deepest interest to be in paleography (the study of ancient scripts), but he was always happy to put his knowledge and skills at the disposal of the community. So, the locally produced Bentham Guide 1990, would not have achieved the high degree of accuracy it did if "Brian Ireland" had not "carefully proofread all the copy for consistency and remaining errors" (p 64). Bentham News also benefitted from his expert proof reading on many occasions.

Mary is still with us, and we offer her our deepest sympathies, and also very best wishes for the task of adapting to a new way of life. For Brian, what can we say except, as so many have done, that "it was a privilege to have known him" and that "he will be sadly missed".

"Thy soul was like a Star, and dwelt apart;
Pure as the naked heavens, majestic, free,
So didst thou travel on life's common way
In cheerful godliness; and yet thy heart
The lowliest duties on herself did lay".



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BENTHAM TRADERS ASSOCIATION



The AGM of the Bentham Traders Association was held on the 15th April and 25 trades were represented.

The new officers for 1991 were elected as follows:-

Chairman - Russell Jackson.
Vice Chairman - John Barwise.
Secretary - Margaret Hayton.
Treasurer - Jan Langdale.
Publicity Officer - Pam Woof.

It was decided that the committee should include six other members in addition to the above officers and that this committee should meet at least every two months. The members elected to serve were:- Bernard O'Hagan, Thomas Marshall, Alan Coates, Sheila Ward, Kim Capstick and Colin Buckley who was the SOLE representative from Low Bentham at the meeting. It was hoped that more people would come from Low Bentham next time.

Open meetings will be held at least six times a year and guest speakers will be invited. It is hoped that the Environmental Health officer Mr Crabtree will explain the new regulations for the sale of foodstuffs (see page for further details on this). The Water Authority will also be approached regarding the laying of the new sewers this summer.

Tourism, security, window dressing and marketing will also be topics for coming meetings.

The next committee meeting to begin arrangements will be at the end of April.

One further item to be discussed will be Saturday afternoon trading. Will people use the shops all day if they know they will all be open or is the Saturday PM closing to remain a tradition in Bentham?

Readers comments would be welcomed on this matter!!

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DISTRICT AFFAIRS



Ralph Atkinson, one of our two Liberal Democrat District Councillors, reports from Craven District Council.

POLL TAX

I must apologise to my readers for misleading them last month, but copy for the Bentham News has to be in on the 15th and Government's announcement that they were getting rid of this iniquitous tax didn't come out until the 18th. Pity they didn't learn from the Scottish experience - it would've saved us all a lot of money if they had! - and they talk about accountability!

Now that the tax has changed you have cause to thank your councillors at Craven for not landing you with endless charges for the extra staff we had to hire as we insisted that most of them were hired on short term contracts. Unfortunately the same is not true for buildings and equipment but we propose to hang on to them for the time being until the dust clears.

As for the new proposals again I can't really comment 'cos they aren't out at the time of writing. Be that as it may, any tax which is not based on ability to pay (and property taxes aren't) will need endless amendments, exceptions and reliefs. Also proposals aren't yet clear on business rates - still based on the old rates system! At the moment there are so many appeals in against last year's rates that it'll take at least another year or more to clear them. Meanwhile the poor shop keepers, etc. have to pay at the higher rate!

LOCAL GOVERNMENT REORGANISATION

At the same time we are told that all this chopping and changing must now apply to local government organisation. The fact is that we haven't yet recovered from the last reorganisation in 1974 - we in Craven are still paying £129,000 a year (£3.40 per taxpayer!) in pensions deriving from that upset. And now we are threatened with another! We will be debating this issue at

7 both County and District levels in the near future. Fortunately at the moment it appears most councillors here favour the present system, at least for our rural area. I certainly do - provided there's some adjustment of duties - social services could be more localised for instance - and more responsibility is given to parish and town councils.

HIPPIES ON LAIRGILL

These have now left us - leaving a mess of broken bottles, rusty cans, ash, rotting carpets and mattresses behind - which I managed to get cleared just in time for the first funeral in the town burial ground. Of course people have a right to live as they wish but not - I would contest - to completely selfish, impose on others and break the laws which make decent life possible for all of us.



THE ENVIRONMENT

When you read this Spring Clean Day will have again come and gone. Hopefully this will be the last, for now - under the Environment Protection Act - tidy minded citizens will be able to take councils British Rail and other statutory bodies to court if they fail to keep their areas clean and tidy.



SAFE & SOUND

PHONES! ALARMS!

*cordless for the

*car *home

*answer *car

*extra-sockets *business

*** PABX and Intercoms***

STANNARD 61690



JOHNNY ONE-NOTE is taking a well-earned rest this month, & has asked me to point out that last month's guest reviewer was NOT DR. MELL-O, but was in fact SHERIFF FATMAN. So now you know! (but does anyone know who the elusive Sheriff Fatman really is? Answers on a postcard etc etc.....)



TASTE OF SUCCESS

Believed to be the first achievement of its kind in Bentham, hygiene conscious, forward thinking local food business proprietors and their staff successfully completed a Basic Food Hygiene Course held at the Punch Bowl, Low Bentham on Tuesday evening the 16th April. All the candidates who took the course passed the Institution of Environmental Health Officers Examination and will be receiving their basic food hygiene certificates, which satisfy the Food Safety Act 1990 training requirements which came into operation on the 1st January this year and are expected to be made compulsory in the near future.

Congratulations are extended to local butchers Alan Coates, Audrey Coates and Edwin Coates, owners and staff of the Stonegate House restaurant Michael Wardlow, Anne Wardlow and Diane Taylor, butcher Christopher Fleming, and publican Caroline Briggs, all of whom passed with flying colours.

Course tutor an independent Environmental Health Officer, John Croft of Morecambe, operating as a private consultant throughout the North West, was delighted with the 100% success and intends holding further courses during May and June. Anyone interested in attending should ring 0524 418924.

8 BRIGHT HOUR Olive Calverly.

The 1990/91 session of Bentham Methodist Bright Hour has now finished. The new session will begin on Tuesday October 1st 1991 and fortnightly, thereafter. May I take this opportunity to thank the committee and members of our meeting for their faithful support and willing help. God bless and keep you until we meet again.



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FROM COUNTY HALL



Our County Councillor Ralph Atkinson reports:

COUNTY CONSERVATION STRATEGY

A new 'green' initiative for North Yorkshire which promotes priorities for countryside conservation outside the National Parks has been launched by County Councillors. The idea is for County authorities to work closely with conservation bodies to protect and enhance our landscape. Important wildlife sites will be identified as County Heritage sites and given sympathetic management in conjunction with their owners and the wildlife organisations.

FEES FOR ADULT EDUCATION RAISED

The County Education Officer has recommended an increase in the fees for vocational courses from 52p an hour to 62p for the academic year 1991/92. This reflects about 50% of the actual teaching costs - overheads such as administration being responsible for the rest.

HOME TO SCHOOL/COLLEGE TRANSPORT POLICY

This policy has been slightly amended to allow for full assistance to be given in cases where courses which are an essential requirement for a pupil's chosen career, provided that they are an essential requirement for that career or denial would cause an 'unreasonable restriction' in choice of either career or college.

CITIZENS ADVICE BUREAU

The Bureau (on which I am a County representative) has had another good (or should I say 'bad') year. Cases dealt with were up by 31% to 5,637 - a measure of the success of our society? In addition we were consulted in 94 cases of debt, ranging from £135 to over £200,000 a total of over £1 million. £135 may not mean very much to

9 the more affluent among us but I can assure you that to the old person concerned it was a very real cause of distress.

ANNUAL POLICE REPORT

It is sad to report that in 1990 crimes known to the police increased by an unprecedented 29% from 35,000 to 45,000. What is comforting (for us!) is that 65% of these crimes occurred in York and Harrogate. As was reflected in national figures most (25%) of these crimes were thefts of and from cars. What is still unsatisfactory is the detection rate which only improved slightly (from 35% to 39%). The Chief Constable admits that "in many areas of the County the demand for Police Services frequently exceeds available resources" and I suspect this is one of those areas. Overall, I know that in the two years I have been on the Council repeated requests for increases in police officers have only been met in tiny part. This highlights the need for good relations between the police and public. More emphasis is given to crime prevention and the role of local government in that. On the lighter side you may have noticed the new lightweight waterproof coats which won't need expensive dry cleaning which most of our officers are now wearing.

RESTRICTIONS IN THE NATIONAL

Park Proposals to minimise over-use of the National Park during the winter have met with criticism from Craven District Council. The Park has recently put out a discussion paper on Tourism in which they highlight the problems posed by over-use of the Park especially in 'honey pots' such as Malham and Aysgarth and on footpaths in the Three Peaks area. Whilst not wishing to discourage visitors the Park sees no need to encourage them, particularly during the winter when vegetation, in particular, needs time to recover. There is also fear that increasing commercialism is altering the character and appearance of too many of our villages. Craven rightly fears loss of tourist revenue and jobs and further discussion will be necessary to draw this extremely delicate line.

If you have any problems related to County Council Work please phone:- Bentham 61834.

The Hornby Drama Festival of one-act plays will be taking place in the Hornby Institute 7.30pm on the 9th, 10th and 11th May. There will be a variety of plays presented by local groups, and on the Saturday evening the Hornby Drama Group will be presenting W.W. Jacobs' chilling play 'The Monkey's Paw' as part of the programme. Tickets (£2 adults £1 children or £4 for an adult 'season ticket' for the three evenings) will be available at Lamb's Garage, Hornby and at the door.

BENTHAM PANTO GROUP'S ENTRY IS "THE LITTLE MAN" BY JOHN GALSWORTHY.

It will be performed on **FRIDAY 10 MAY** at 7.30pm (there are 3 one-act plays each evening of the Drama Festival.)

Come and support your local cast, which includes Linda Burns, Jane Callus, Margaret Cowling, Stephen Harford, Paul Morphet, Sue Morphet, Graham Pritchard, Chris Ratcliffe, Chris Rosier & Stephen Smith.

The play is directed by Kevin McSherry & the set designer is Prue Glossop.

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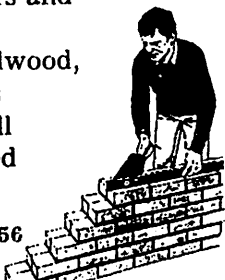
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BONANZA FOR PTA

High Bentham C.P. School P.T.A., raised over £500 at their Auction of Promises held in the school hall on Saturday 20th. This money will be of direct benefit to the children through providing much needed equipment, books etc. There were nearly 60 varied "promises" made by parents, friends and local businesses ranging from babysitting, to taking someone water ski-ing; from making a cake, to arrange a party for up to 15 children, painting a picture of your house, to making a knitted garment; providing 2 bags of wood, and giving one dozen duck eggs; etc., etc. Michael Horton, a first time auctioneer, who works at Barclays Bank in Bentham, conducted proceedings with skill and wit.

The "bidders" enjoyed a glass of wine and some cheese, sitting at tables delightfully decorated with flowers provided by the PTA and parents.



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COMPETITION TIME!

We would like to thank the 10 people who entered our APRIL competition, as they have enabled us to add £5 to our funds. The £5 cash prize was won by EMMA RAMSAY of Mount Pleasant, High Bentham.

The correct answers were: 1. MacFarlane & Co in Ingleton, 2. Borage & 3. Young men on motor cycles.

This month's competition is being run especially for children, aged 13 and under & there are generous prizes because £5 has been donated by Linda Tooby, & we also have 3 cartoon videos to give away.

Children in HIGH BENTHAM should answer the following questions (the answers can be found between the Black Bull Hotel and the Spar Shop.)

- 1, What bank is open 9.30am - 4.30pm Monday to Friday?
- 2, What follows (0468), They sell plugs here?
- 3, What initials are on the Red Box?
- 4, Where does the pig live?
- 5, Who sells McEwans?
- 6, Who is the family butcher?

Children in LOW BENTHAM should answer the following questions:-

- 1, When was Stonegate House built?
- 2, What are the names of two of the trees that border the lane to Ellergill?
- 3, How many places can you post a letter in Low Bentham?
- 4, Why is Mill Lane so called?
- 5, What has the plant growing on the wall fronting the play ground got to do with toads?
- 6, What does the Cross at Greenfoot commemorate?

Answers should be put on a piece of paper together with your name, address & age. Sellotape your 10p entry fee to it & hand it in at Tim Churchill's shop in Station Road. Closing date for entries is midday on SATURDAY 18 MAY.

The winner of the PRIZE DRAW MYSTERY PRIZE was HELEN LINKLATER of "Riversdale" Wenning Bridge. She claims that her favourite part of BN "is the competition page"! We are always pleased to try to respond to what our readers say, & are happy to continue with the competitions. We are considering changing the format of these as we have now been running our present "3 questions" competition for a year, and would be interested to receive your comments.



You have your say

Would you like crosswords? Should competitions be more difficult/easier? Are prizes important? Give us your views either in writing (via Tim Churchill's or 7 Jubilee Buildings) or by phone (Shirley on 61608, or Lesley on 62040).

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LETTER FROM SOUTH KOREA

BN have been given permission to print some interesting extracts from a letter written by FRANCIS HARDY-BIRT to his mother a few months ago. Francis used to live at Burton House, Main Street, Burton-in-Lonsdale with his parents, his brother Roger & sister Susan. Mrs. Meg Hardy-Birt now lives in Wimbourne, Dorset & enjoys good health. When living in this area she was an active member of Bentham Golf Club, & also enjoyed many pleasant evenings with the Ladies' Bridge Circle. Her late husband, Ernest, was for many years in Senior Management at Angus Fire Armour Ltd. and was a former colleague of Reg Pointon's. He was also an intrepid angler. His daughter, Susan, still practices dentistry near Wimbourne.

"After less than 2 months in South Korea I am living up a steep hill which overlooks the main tourist area. At night we get rather a nice view of the bright lights, but during the day the air is not very clear and you generally cannot see very far, which is a shame as Seoul appears to be surrounded by rugged mountains.

THE AIR POLLUTION HERE IS PRETTY BAD.

Because it's been so hot and humid I've had the air-conditioning on 24 hours a day. Perhaps it's because I keep going between these 2 extremes of climate that I now have a severe sore throat, but I believe it could also be caused by the muck in the air...in the last 8 weeks we've probably only had about 2 clear days.

WE HAVE DECIDED NOT TO BOTHER WITH A CAR AS DRIVING HERE IS FRAUGHT WITH DANGER.

Basically, if one has an accident, being a foreigner one is deemed to be at fault, and this can be quite expensive. The opposite parties are liable to take one look at you and think "he looks worth so-many dollars". They then demand such monies, and unless you pay up you could end up languishing in jail.

ONE PECULIAR THING THEY HAVE HERE IS THE SYSTEM FOR NUMBERING HOUSES.

Most streets do NOT have names. This makes house-numbering schemes impossible, & what they do is number the houses in an area according to the order in which they are built! However, the people here are very helpful. I only have to stand still for about 2 minutes with a map in my hand for someone to come up & ask if they can help me. Of course, being Caucasian, we find that many people stare at us & often the little children are fascinated.

THE MARKETS ARE INTERESTING AREAS TO VISIT as each street or area seems to specialise in something. In one I noticed a number of shops with fairly large gas burners outside. As many of the people cook their meals at the side of the road I thought these burners were for that, but in fact they belonged to the proprietor of a business who was making buttons match material by boiling a packet of plain white plastic buttons in a dye over the burners. As the boiling progressed he would add a little more of this or that colour until he had just the right shade. Result - satisfied customers!

In the **ELECTRONIC MARKET** you can see a transformer actually being made. Someone is winding the coils by hand & nearby they are re-assembling the soft-iron cores, also by hand. Further down the street they fabricate the case from spot-welded sheet metal hammered into shape & then spray painted. All this activity is taking place at the kerb-side & every few minutes someone comes along the pavement on a bike piled high & wide with goods. It's all pretty exciting.

IT DOES SEEM TO BE A RECYCLE SOCIETY HERE. Not so much the token recycling that we do in the West, but here they recycle **EVERYTHING**. There are shops down the road from where we live where they are repairing fridges, freezers & air-conditioners at the roadside. They clean the inside of the cabinet & respray the outside & sell it again with a new lease of life. Next door to this business someone else is scrubbing the upholstery of a 3-piece suite

& tomorrow you will see this on sale in pristine condition.

FOOD! The Koreans seem to love dried fish, from what looks like Krill to dried Squid. When we went to the cinema they were selling dried squid as we might sell popcorn!

MEDICINAL SNAKES! Walking back from the shops the other day I saw a group of men squatting on their haunches at the roadside. Being nosy I went and looked over their shoulders to find one man had half a dozen writhing sacks. He was poking the contents of a seventh sack which he tipped out onto a piece of newspaper -snakes! They were only small ones about half an inch diameter and maybe 2 feet long. It seems they are eaten as a medicinal tonic, and taste awful!

DOING A FAVOUR! Whilst visiting a Folk Village, I was asked by a Korean family if I would take their photo using their camera. Naturally I agreed, & discarding my camera I knelt at the side of a bridge to frame the picture. The bridge was built in the typical old style which means it had no sides. It is at this point that my memory fails me..my next feeling was of falling backwards & landing some 3 metres below. Lying flat on my face in a couple of inches of murky water I cried out, and as Mr. Jung (the subject of the photo) tried to sit me up I realised how much my arms hurt. Mr. Jung organised a taxi to take us the 30 km's back to a hospital in Seoul. On arrival it was discovered that not only was my left wrist broken, but also my right elbow in 2 places. The nurse smiled when I told her I'd fallen off a bridge while taking a photo. My left wrist was set in plaster from the knuckle to above the elbow, & my right arm was put in a temporary splint as an operation was necessary.

It's times like these, when you need to go to the toilet, that you find out who your friends are!

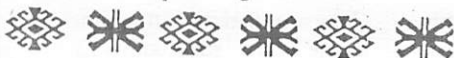
THE HOSPITAL SYSTEM HERE is that the nursing staff only deal with medical matters, & **EVERYTHING ELSE** has to be done by someone else, who is normally a

13

family member. The family have to make sure the patient has food & drink, and clean clothes & bedding. The Korean system puts a tremendous pressure on the family.

On the day that I was scheduled for operation I was already in the theatre before it was cancelled due to my atrocious "Seoul air pollution" cough. It was decided that the risk of the cough, my chest and a full anaesthetic was too great. 3 days later I eventually had the operation: not only had the humerus and radius bones been broken, but the joint itself was in 5 fragments, & it had been necessary to insert 8 screws & a plate to hold all the bits together!

Incidentally; no, the photo wasn't a success as I fell before pressing the button!"



SUNNY BANK

The sound of the cuckoo
comes loud and clear.
The rook and the blackbird
magpie and thrush
in unison cheer.

The view down the valley
is bliss to behold
as far as one can see
childrens voices as they play.

The train rushes by
its destination Morecambe bay
to the sands and sea
to finish the day.



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LOCAL EVENTS IN MAY

CHRISTIAN AID WEEK - House to House collection - 13th - 18th May. Envelopes will be distributed and collected during these dates.

Wed 1st Cheese and Wine evening at Lingfield, Robin Lane at 7.30 - 9.30pm, in aid of N.S.P.C.C..

Bentham Footpath Group's guided walk to Greystonegill (a four square mile alternative), 4 miles with Charlie Proctor (61654). Meet at Lairgill at 6.30pm.

Sat 4th Cubs and Scouts coffee morning in the Town Hall 10am - 12 noon.

John Verity at the Horse & Farrier.

Mon 6th **TOURIST INFORMATION CENTRE** opens for the summer season. Monday to Saturday from 10am - 4pm.

Tues 7th Bentham Methodist Church 7.30pm 'Music with a Message' with George Murray & singers from Skipton. Gift Day for kitchen renovation fund.

Bentham & District Camera Club AGM & presentation of Annual Reports.

Listing for Local Events

Day.....

Date.....

Event.....

.....

Venue.....

Please complete and return to Lesley Barker or hand in at Churchill's

Wed 8th Bentham Playing Field Association meeting at the Sports Pavilion at 7.30pm.

Thurs 9th Ascension Day 08.00. Holy Communion at St. John's, Low Bentham.

HORNBY DRAMA FESTIVAL 9th, 10th and 11th at 7.30pm.

Fri 10th Bentham Panto Group perform "The Little Man" at **HORNBY DRAMA FESTIVAL**, 7.30pm.

Sat 11th Bentham Footpath Group's guided walk to Hutton Roof Craggs (8 miles) with Frank Royston (41725). Meet at Lairgill at 9.30am.

'Afterhours' a Yorkshire Blues Band at the Horse & Farrier.

Lowgill School coffee morning in the **UPSTAIRS** room at the Town Hall 10am - 12 noon.

Sun 12th Ewecross Historical Society expedition to Muncaster Castle & West Cumberlad cross sites & churches, led by Miss Brenda Capstick. Meet at High Bentham 10am. Names to Mrs Mason on Bentham 61382.

Mon 13th **TOWN COUNCIL MEETING** in the Lower Town Hall at 7.30pm.

Wed 15th 'JUST BRIAN' at the Coach House.

YOUTH CLUB'S Rounders Tournament on the playing field

Fri 17th **WASTE PAPER COLLECTION** at the Legion Hall 8.30am - 11am. Proceeds to N.S.P.C.C..

'Built for Comfort' the popular Blues Band at the Horse & Farrier.

Bentham Men's tennis match against Kendal 'A' Team at the **NEWLY SURFACED** tennis courts High Bentham.

REGULAR EVENTS

- Sat 18th Celebration at St Mary's, Ingleton at 7.30pm.
Springfield Bowling Club coffee morning in the Town Hall 10am - 12 noon.
- Sun 19th Songs of Praise at St John's, Low Bentham at 6.30pm
- 17th - 19th **WALK OF 1,000 MEN** visitors in Low Bentham, sharing in Sunday Service, 10.30am and 6.30pm on the 19th at St John's.
- Mon 20th St John's Womens' Fellowship outing to Whalley Abbey. Contact Tel 61422 or 62152.
- Tues 21st Bentham & District Camera Club's Annual Dinner.
Youth Club AGM at 8pm. All those interested in young people are very welcome.
- Fri 24th Bentham men's tennis match against 'Wanderers' at Bentham.
- Sat 25th North Craven Labour Party coffee morning in the Town Hall 10am - 12noon.
'Cuckoos' from Kendal at the Horse & Farrier.
- Sun 26th Bentham Footpath Group's guided walk (in conjunction with Forest of Bowland AONB) from Wray via Furnessford Bridge (6-7 miles), with Peter Edge (21626). Meet at Hindburn Bridge (east of Wray) at 2pm.
- Mon 27th **HIGH BENTHAM GALA.**
CLAPHAM ART GROUP ANNUAL EXHIBITION, at the Old Manor House, Clapham. Opens Saturday May 25th until Saturday June 1st. Open daily 2 - 4pm and 6 - 8pm.

AGE CONCERN DAY CENTRE Fridays in the Lower Town Hall from 10am.

HIGH BENTHAM PLAYGROUP at the Town Hall 9.30am - 11.30am. Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday. Telephone 62077 (Mrs D. Taylor) for further details

LOW BENTHAM PLAYGROUP at the Victoria Institute 9.30am-11.30am on Tuesday & Thursday. All children from babies to school age welcome.

EWECROSS HISTORICAL SOCIETY in the Town Hall last Monday each month.

TUESDAY CLUB in the Lower Town Hall First Tuesday each month 1.30-4pm.

TUESDAY CLUB in the Lower Town Hall 2nd Monday in the month 7-10pm.

MOTHERS UNION 2nd Tuesday in the Month in the Lower Town Hall 1.30pm

INDOOR BOWLS Every Monday 1.30pm.

KARATE Tuesdays and Thursdays 6-9pm in the Lower Town Hall.

WEIGHT WATCHERS every Wednesday 6-9pm in the Lower Town Hall.

ANGUS FIRE ARMOUR OAP's 3rd Tuesday each month 1-4pm in the Lower Town Hall.

BEAVER SCOUTS Thursday 5-6pm.

CUB SCOUTS Thursday 6-7.15pm.

BURTON IN LONSDALE W.I. 1st Thursday in the month. Phone 61544 (Mrs Burke) for details.

ORGANIC GARDENING Every Tuesday at 7.15pm in the Town Hall.

NORTH CRAVEN LABOUR PARTY Meetings on 2nd Wednesday each month at 7.45pm. (tel 61402 for details)

NETBALL practice Monday evenings at 6.30pm.

LOCAL EVENTS IN JUNE

- Sat 1st 'Do it' a Rock Band at the Horse & Farrier.
St Margaret's coffee morning in the UPSTAIRS room at the Town Hall 10am - 12 noon

STOP PRESS : ABATTOIR REFUSED

The application to convert one of the industrial units on Wenning Avenue to an abattoir was refused at Craven's Planning Committee meeting on Monday 29th April.

The Planning Officer had advised the committee that there were more negative than positive aspects to the proposal. All members of the committee had received copies of objections from local residents and the Town Council. They also received reports from statutory bodies like the Highways and North West Water and a letter from the applicant giving details of the proposed development.

Although there was no formal objection from Highways, they were concerned about the possible movements of lorries at night. North West Water were of the opinion that even the new sewage system proposed for Benthams would not be able to cope with the additional load from an abattoir, although this in itself was not a reason for refusal of the application.

The main concern of the Planning Officer and the committee was the loss of residential amenity likely to be caused by the development and it was for this reason that the application was refused.

A vigorous local campaign against the proposal culminated in an open meeting on Thursday 25th April and several Benthams residents attended the Planning meeting.

Kate Steele

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GREEN COLUMN

The focus for this month is tuna. How and why do greens think about tuna?

I love eating tuna, from a tin, raw like the Japanese or grilled (usually on holiday). Years ago, I came across the *first* problem, a big scare about mercury residues in tuna. It seems that the heavy metals pollution in some tuna fishing areas were concentrated up the food chain, until the biggest fish (the tuna is very big indeed) had dangerous quantities of it. So I stopped eating tuna for years, until I supposed that it was safe.

Then came the *dolphin problem*. I like dolphins lots more than tuna. A recent survey suggested that the dolphin has overtaken the dog as Britain's most popular animal (*New Consumer*, Winter 1991). For many years, the most common way to catch yellowfin tuna was to watch for leaping dolphins. Although no one quite knows why, yellowfin tuna swim beneath dolphins. So the fishermen set their nets to catch tuna and dolphins got snared as well. We're talking helicopters, explosives and high speed boats, so drop your idyllic images of fisherfolk! Dolphins are actually mammals, and need to breathe the air continually. Caught underwater, in the nets, they drown in large or small numbers (depending on whether you listen to dolphin lovers or tuna canneries/fisherfolk).

Green Fair

Changed to 6 July. Help still needed,
ring Ruth Ive 41997

Environmental groups, especially in America, have put pressure on tuna makers to use dolphin-friendly fishing methods. They did this by targetting one company (the biggest, Heinz) for a consumer boycott. Eventually changes occurred. Lord Sainsbury found out about this problem, and being a typical dolphin lover, ordered that all Sainsbury's tuna must be caught by pole and line. Unless you like your tuna mixed with mayo, there is only one shop in Benthams that sells tins labelled "dolphin friendly" (the Co-op, although they only have the tiny size). The average consumer can't tell anything from

the country of origin because the UK has rather slack labelling conventions. The pressure from environmental groups is slowly leading to changes.

All seems well, but then the problem of "high seas drift nets" emerges. This method is a way of catching *everything*. Huge (they can be 50 kilometres long and 10 metres deep) nets span vast sections of the ocean. Sometimes they sink to the bottom and drown all dolphins and waste all the fish. There are serious concerns that parts of the Pacific Ocean (in spite of its utterly unimaginable size) are seriously depleted of fish of all sorts by these drift nets. A great deal of the tuna consumed in Britain is caught in drift nets. The environmental groups still working on that one!

- The Waste Management Authority of New South Wales is studying a scheme to weigh household rubbish and give monetary bonuses to houses with less than average household waste. *Green Line*, (Nov/Dec 1990) p23

What to do? Look for tuna labelled "dolphin-friendly" or urge Benthams shops to stock it. Give up eating it. Write letters. Eat it only when you actually see the fisherfolk who caught it and how. Support campaigners. Sorry not to have easy answers, but the problems of trying to live green in a grey world are hard to solve. The commitment of most greens is to be seriously thinking about these problems in every aspect of life.

Tom Cahill (guest columnists are always welcome - write!)

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RESISTANCE TO RAILWAY RUN-DOWN GROWS

The declining service on our railway line, cut for the fourth consecutive season, is finally provoking organised opposition from parish councils along the line. Keith Cowling reports...

On January 29th. representatives from village Councils along the Skipton to Lancaster railway line met in Bentham Town Hall to co-ordinate their opposition to British Rail's disastrous management of our local transport artery. The meeting, which was organised on the initiative of Ralph Atkinson, our local District and County Councillor, was inspired by the efforts of the Joint Council's Consultative Committee on the Settle - Carlisle line, which was so influential in opposing closure plans before.

Although that organisation is now defunct, a clear demand for a similar body to protect the future of our line was voiced at recent public meetings.

British Rail's proposed spring timetable (unlikely now to come into operation before July) shows four weekday trains from Bentham to Lancaster, but since the earliest will be at approximately 6 am, for most practical purposes travellers will be restricted to a choice of three. Although BR has given assurances that no long term closure plans exist, they have announced the likelihood of 'singling' the line (reducing it to one track only) and moving towards a service based only on one passenger train west of Skipton at any one time.

Despite strong representations from Lancashire County Council and North East and North West regions of the Transport Users Consultative Committee, Mr Cobb, BR's Regional Manager in Leeds, has refused to offer any prospect of a re-think of their plans for the line. This seems particularly short sighted when a major study of trans-Pennine transportation routes is due to be published in the summer, and in the light of a number of proposed new tourist attractions in the area including their

own development of the nearby Settle - Carlisle and restoration of the station at Hellifield (where the two lines join). Much criticism has also been levelled at BR's methods of collecting information on the financial performance of the line, which seems to rely entirely on counting the amount of tickets sold on the line itself and takes no account of the many users and tourists who buy through-tickets further afield. Certainly the present experience of travellers is often that trains are packed. All in all another story of dismal management of regional resources and deteriorating services for local people!

On April 11th the Lancaster and Skipton Railway Joint Action Committee held its second meeting at Bentham Town Hall, attended by representatives of most parish councils and all district and county councils along the line. Officers and a committee were elected and Craven District Council has offered the organisation secretarial support for the time being (until the county council's have a chance to get the matter onto their agendas!).

There was also a discussion about strategy for the forthcoming campaign to restore adequate levels of service on the line, and the committee agreed to consider various options for publicising the state of the line and for collecting statistical information to refute BR's claims that trains are 'underused'.

British Rail's Timetable Proposals for May 1991

Leeds 08.33 08.33 12.33 16.33

Skipton 05.35 09.20 09.20 13.16 17.16

Lancaster 06.45 10.35 10.35 14.30 18.30

Morecambe 10.50

SX SO

Morecambe 11.28 Lancaster 07.25 10.50
11.50 15.25 18.45

Skipton 08.40 12.08 13.08 16.40 20.00

Leeds 09.24 12.52 13.52 17.25 20.41

SX SO

PLANNING AND RUNNING VILLAGE PROJECTS

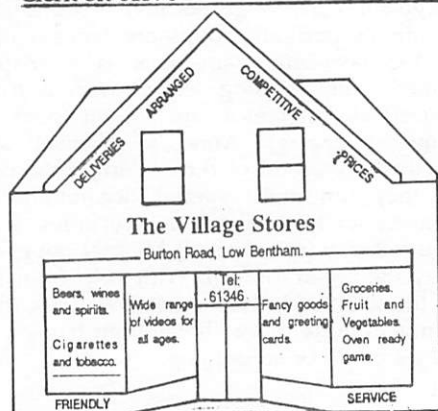
This month, the Yorkshire Rural Community Council is offering a free course at Hellifield Institute about organising and running community-based projects in villages. It is aimed at all members of active voluntary organisations who run events, festivals, local celebrations, village services or entertainments to raise money.

The course will deal with fund raising, organisation, use of professional helpers and advisors, and getting information and support from local authorities and other bodies, as well as giving advice and guidance on your own particular project. It takes place on four evenings, 22nd and 29th May and 5th and 12th June at Hellifield Institute, and although it is free, anyone interested is advised to book by contacting Gail Ferrin at the YRCC, tel: 0904 610941



TREE WARDEN REQUIRED

Bentham Town Council is looking for enthusiastic tree-lovers interested in serving as Tree Wardens, to work with them to encourage tree planting and help protect and maintain existing trees in the parishes of High and Low Bentham. The job is not paid but Wardens will be given an information pack and training will be available through the British Trust for Conservation Volunteers. Anyone interested should contact the Town Clerk on 61596



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SURVEY OF LOCAL CAFE & RESTAURANT FOOD

by Shirley Brown

Following last month's "Survey Of Local Pub Grub" this month I have contacted the other cafe or restaurant businesses in Bentham to find out what they provide. Again it has been a pleasure talking to each of them - they are all enthusiastic about the food they cook & the way that they present it, & the following are edited highlights of our conversations.

THE WHITE ROSE RESTAURANT - HIGH BENTHAM - 61696

The Jackson family (mum, dad, brother & sister) run this pleasant, centrally-placed, small licensed restaurant. They say, modestly, that they don't like to "blow their own trumpet", but that they are proud of what they have to offer. They are open all day for morning coffee, breakfast, lunch, snacks & afternoon teas (tea with home-baked scones & cakes £3). On Market Day there are "Specials" like chicken pie, & traditional sponge puddings, baked on the premises by Betty & Angela. Evening meals are served every evening (except Mondays) from 6.30pm-9.00pm, & booking is advisable. In the evenings the mood changes with candles on the tables & a quieter atmosphere in which to enjoy such dishes as plaice stuffed with prawns or turkey with asparagus and ham. Sweets are served with lashings of cream, & there's a fine selection of wines, lagers, beers & spirits to accompany the meal. Customers, old & new, can be assured of a warm welcome here.

TAYLOR'S FISH & CHIP CAFE - HIGH BENTHAM - 61317

Again, this is a family-run business, in fact this is the Taylor's 19th year in Bentham. Food can be eaten in the cafe or taken away, & there's a wide range of deep-fried & other food available, all, naturally, served with lots of chips! Apart from the traditional "fish & chips", there's also Southern Fried Chicken, pizza, donner kebab, beefburger, chop suey rolls, turkey nuggets, pies, curry & peas. Opening hours are Tuesday night, Wednesday lunch & night, Thursday tea, Friday & Saturday lunch & night('til midnight). The cafe is closed on Sundays & Mondays.

20 THE AUCTION CAFE - HIGH BENTHAM

This is a little gem of a cafe which not everyone in Bentham knows about, or if they did they assumed it was just for those using the Auction. In fact everybody is welcome, & it is popular with tourists & locals alike. Jeannie Stainton runs the cafe from 9 'til 3 every Wednesday, & on other sale days (as for store cattle on the first Saturday of the month). She prepares all the food herself, & her "good-sized beaker" of tea with scones for 65p is popular. The "favourite" meal is home-made steak pie, followed by pudding & a cup of tea or coffee for £3.65. There's usually roast beef & yorkshire on offer too, & "specials" might include liver & onions. If you add to this Jeannie's own freshly-made cakes, a friendly atmosphere & the chance of a chat with a local farmer, "The Auction Cafe" is definitely worth a visit.

STONEGATE HOUSE RESTAURANT - LOW BENTHAM - 61362

Last, but no means least, there is the "Stonegate". Built in 1609 this has claims to be the oldest building in the area. Michael & Anne are in their 4th year of running the restaurant & clearly enjoy the job. There is a car park for over 20 cars, & bar snacks are served from 12 'til 2 from Tuesday-Saturday. A typical snack would be jacket potato with any filling you like, or a giant yorkshire pudding. For an a la carte lunch or evening meal in the "No Smoking" restaurant it is best to book. Food is fresh & cooked to order, the menu is changed weekly & there is a vegetarian menu (vegetables are bought locally, at Bruns'!) & children's portions. Soups are home-made, & the favourite main meal is a crispy, boned, half duckling served with a fruit sauce (fruits in season are chosen, such as lime or cherry). Anne & Michael are particularly proud of their "Party Specials" as they can make special decorations & banners for birthdays & anniversaries, & if you're lucky (or unlucky!) Michael can even play the organ for you. With help from Di in the kitchen & Sue as head waitress, the aim is to make this a "home from home", & they seem to be succeeding.

BENTHAM PEOPLE

PERSONAL THANKS

It is difficult to find adequate words with which to thank Bentham people for the heart-warming kindness shown to us in our sadness. Beautiful cards and letters about Brian, flowers and loving thoughts have helped so much to give us the comfort and strength we need just now. Thank you all. Mary Ireland, Helen, Cathy, Jane.

Keith Dixon and Vi Christensen wish to express their sincere thanks to all who, either by their gifts of time and effort or by their presence or both, helped to make their wedding celebrations in Bentham Town Hall on 30th March the experience of a lifetime.

To all relations, friends and neighbours our most sincere thanks and appreciation for your valuable help and kindness whilst I was in hospital. We are so grateful to you all for the lovely gifts and many, many, greetings cards. Our warmest regards to you all, special thanks to Doctors Nightingale and Walker. Marian and Brian Parker.

Janet and Michael Collins would like to express their sincere thanks to all the many folk who have sent their good wishes and get well cards, whilst Michael was in hospital undergoing major surgery.

The Bentham Doctors would like to express their sincere gratitude to the relatives of Mr. Morris Ibbetson of Barkingate, Roeburndale, who collected the sum of £256.35, in lieu of flowers, to be used for the provision of nebulizers, for the treatment of asthmatics and people with breathing difficulties in our Practice. Such donations enable us to provide extra equipment, and therefore

improve the standard of our care to our patients, which would not be otherwise available outside hospital. We are most grateful.

Drs Story, Walker, Sullivan and Nightingale.

CONGRATULATIONS

Russell and Helen Jackson wish to thank everyone for their kindness and good wishes on the birth of their daughter Vanessa Grace.



BIRTHDAYS

Happy first birthday to AMBER JAY HARRISON on the 9th May.
Love from Mummy, Daddy and brother Ian.

Happy 18th Birthday Tracey,
Best wishes Michelle and Steven.



ENGAGEMENTS

CONGRATULATIONS Tracey and David on your engagement, 6th May

SMALL ADS

CHILDMINDER - Registered childminder has a vacancy for 1 or 2 children, full or part-time. Robin Lane area, Tel Bentham 62612.

ADMIRAL FLIGHTS - Low Cost **WORLDWIDE FLIGHTS**, all major airlines. Helen will quote you on Fax/Telephone (0756) 701546.

FOR SALE -Vauxhall Chevette (1980) TAX ands MOT £220.

1 pram and play pen - offers Phone Bentham 62037.

YOUR LETTERS and comments



Dear Editor,

May we through your newspaper say how very grateful we are to the two gentlemen who gave so much of their leisure time last year, keeping the centre green in the crescent looking so very nice.

The rose gardens were beautiful, colourful and greatly admired by many. I am sure that like us the residents have all been happy to see the transformation that has taken place.

Mr Walker and Mr Wilkinson thank you.

Yours sincerely

A Springfield Crescent resident.

Dear Bentham News,

As a senior citizen in the Burndale Residential Home I spend a lot of time enjoying and doing jig-saw puzzles, but I am running woefully short of material.

Any reader who has 1000, 750 or 500 piece jig-saws available and could lend them to me, I would be most grateful.

They could be returned in due course.

Yours sincerely

Tom White.

Burndale.

TOOBYS

6, Main Street,
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Carnforth,
Lancs.

Tel Ingletton 41224.

FAX 05242 42095

21 Main Street,
Bentham,
Lancaster,
Lancs

Tel Bentham 61259

Dear Editor

We are saddened to learn that older children have been seen destroying new trees planted by High Bentham C.P. School. to improve the grounds for the benefit of the children. They have also been entering the newly created Wildlife garden and have thrown things in the pond. This will damage the pond and prevent the establishment of life.

The Wildlife garden is a valuable educational resource for the benefit of all the children in the school. It was created through the efforts of the teachers, parents and children, in their own time. These older children, through their unthinking actions, threaten educational opportunities for those going through the school.

We would ask these children to think before they cause any further unnecessary damage. We would ask parents to discuss with their children what has been going on, the value of the trees and Wildlife garden to the children in the school and the pointlessness of this kind of "fun".

Tony and Carole Bennett

Parents of High Bentham CP School

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More letters

Dear Bentham News,

Following Cllr. Atkinson's report, "Hippies on Lairgill," in March's BN, some people might like to know what happened next. But first, some facts. Three families in buses (one a rather grand double-decker) spent a few weeks recently on the space behind the barn at the end of Lairgill. Few people noticed they were there at all, but the Lairgill residents, the only people directly affected by their presence, were friendly, or at least tolerant, as we'd expect round here. Certainly no-one went over and yelled at the buses. One bus was asked to move, once, to make room for a funeral to get through. They did so promptly, and promised they would again if the need arose, it didn't. There were no other incidents during their stay, and the atmosphere was good. Then came a sudden threat of eviction, and they left of their own accord.

To quote Cllr. Atkinson, (p7 last BN) "hopefully, by the time this appears in print, the hippies will have moved on." Hopefully?, no-one besides Ralph seems to have given a hoot. Then he says "I've had a lot of complaints about them." That's vague, how many? Who from? What about, specifically? Let's be told. Then he says he "had" to get both Craven D and NYCC to "agree to take out an injunction for trespass." In other words, most, if not all, the pressure for eviction proceedings came from the good Cllr. himself. Also, he says, the "hippies" (eh?) had "carefully not parked" on the car park itself, where there are time-limits. This implies a mind boggling degree of sinister craftiness, but perhaps they parked out of sight for a privacy and b, to keep out of every ones way?

So the "injunction" was duly taken out by a (reluctant, I gather) CDC via a private (Skipton) solicitor. It was in fact an "Order of Possession" (O.F.P.), a more low-key thing than an Injunction, which involves imprisonment of the disobedient. An O.F.P. just says, "Shift yourselves soon or we'll do it for you", and does not oblige the Council to enforce it unless they really want to.

'Would they bother? Forcible eviction is a rather ugly procedure. Truncheons and JCBs on our car-park? Really?

The O.F.P. hearing was at Preston on 12th April 10am., ensuring no bus-dwellers would be there in self-defence, even if they'd been told about it, they weren't. Preston? Why Preston? What's going on!

Under the 1968 Caravan Sites Act, it's not quite legal for Councils to shift "Gyppos" (of any breed) unless they've already provided enough "official" pitches for their local quota of Travellers. Craven hasn't but, till now, hasn't needed to, as their "Policy of Tolerance" has worked fine so far. There's plenty of space round here for all of us, and more, and Travellers do, by definition, move on eventually of their own accord. These families were long gone when the O.F.P. went through. The Court Proceedings etc cost "three figures" according to CDC's legal dept. Exactly how much? they won't tell. And the TC say we can't afford..... That cash could have been handy for something useful.

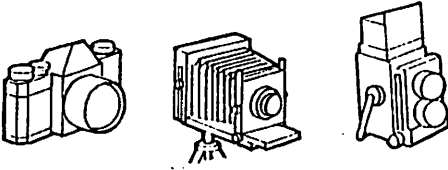
The irony is that these "travellers" came from as far away as - Skipton. Foreigners indeed! And the so-called "instigator" or "ringleader" (come off it, Ralph!) grew up in, and still lives around, Bentham. Could we not at least try to be hospitable to our own natives? How else can the younger generation afford to live round here? At least some have the wit to provide their own accommodation at no public expense. Cllr Atkinson appears to be on some private Crusade against an imaginary "Gypsy Problem". If he would just consider leaving well enough alone, and get on with his excellent and valuable real problems on our behalf, for which he is much appreciated, then perhaps Bentham could once again feel we live in a tolerant, friendly, sensible place. It's more fun that way. There aren't many Benthams left in this wound-up country, so let's preserve the good atmosphere for as long as we can.

Gill Barron,

Old Schoolhouse,

School Hill Bentham.





BENTHAM AND DISTRICT CAMERA CLUB

The first meeting of the month was the theme competition, the topics were, Faces, Footpaths and Glass with Flash. Members were allowed 5 entries, prints or slides per topic. A prize was offered for the set with the highest marks in prints and slides. Marilyn Hodgson won the prize for a set of slides of Footpaths. There were no print entries. Chris Barnes had the highest mark in the section for Glass with a Flash, and Peter Marshall in the Faces section.

The second meeting was the presentation of projects. Simone Pridmore showed an interesting set of slides which she and Denis Dafforn had prepared on the story of "Wool Through the Ages". All stages were illustrated from lambs in the field through spinning and weaving, to the finished cloth.

Peter Marshall then showed a set of slides on Inn Signs, illustrating the many different designs which could be produced for Inns with the same name.

Bill Hinde rounded off the meeting with a set of prints of local people which he had prepared, mounted and framed to be hung in the Town Hall, altogether a most interesting evening.

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ESTIMATES.

At this time of year lots of people have surplus home-grown seedlings, or larger plants they are bored with, and have dug up to make room for something else in the garden. It seems a pity to waste them, and so, if anyone would like to leave their spare plants on the concrete ramp-thing outside the Old Schoolhouse, School Hill, High B, they are most welcome to do so. Please help yourselves to anything you may find there that takes your fancy (except my bike!) It would help if plants are labelled in some fashion. I will water them, and replant as many as I can in the Library/school/public bogs area, but the main idea is to have a sort of free plant swop depot for everyone to use.

Also, if anyone would like to help dig up & manure (I have sackfuls of well rotted at the ready) the waste ground around the Conveniences, so that we can have some jolly flowers growing there this summer, it would be much appreciated. Tea and biscuits will be lavishly provided. All offers of help and further ideas will be gratefully received on Bentham 62284. Transport for larger items is available.

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MEWITH PUBLICATIONS (61128)

WILDLIFE GARDEN FLOURISHES

251



Our wildlife garden at High Bentham C.P. School is slowly beginning to take shape after the winter and things are at last starting to sprout and flower.

In the woodland area of the garden we now have several clusters of Primroses as well as Daffodils. We have planted Cowslips and Bluebells and are looking forward to seeing them bloom in the weeks to come.

Last Autumn we sowed a wildflower meadow in one corner of the garden which has just recently begun to grow very quickly. Already we can see a variety of wildflower species springing up amongst all the grass. Around the boggy areas of our pond we gave planted species such as Marsh Marigolds, Watercress and Creeping Jenny. Most exciting of all we are delighted to have tadpoles in the pond.

We would still like more species for all areas of the garden and would be very grateful for any of the following:-

POND PLANTS Starwort, Millfoil, Hornwort, Canadian Pondweed, Bogbean, Rushes, Burr Reed, Yellow Iris, Water Mint, Water Forget-me-not, White/Yellow/Fringed Waterlillies.

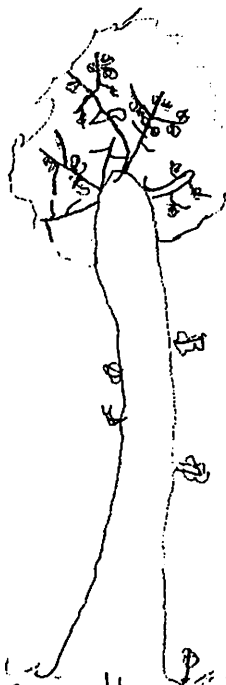
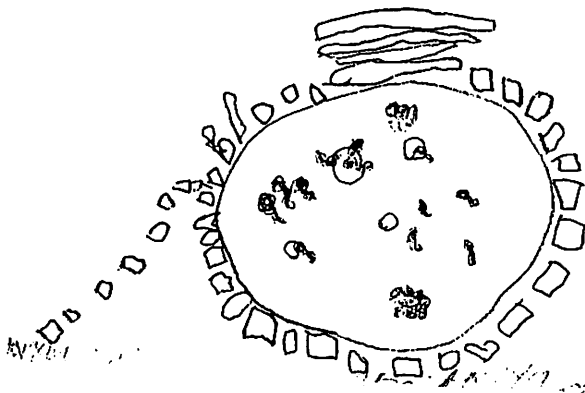
MARSH PLANTS Purple Loose-Strife, Meadowsweet, Salad Burnet, Ragged Robin, Bugle and Hairy Willowherb.

BUTTERFLY GARDEN PLANTS Buddleia, Michaelmas Daisies, Honesty, Heather, Lavender, Sweet William and Cornflowers.

The garden will soon be used by all the children in many areas of study. It will probably become one of the most precious resources available to us in enriching the learning of all the children who pass through our School. We therefore hope and trust that it will continue to flourish.

Miss E. Osborne

High Bentham C.P. School



Graham Congill Age 6.

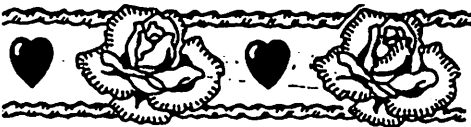
AGE Concern

AGE CONCERN

The Summer Programme has now been distributed to our members at the Town Hall, copies can be obtained from Vibeke Dixon (our Activities Organiser), or Doug Garlick. Thank you Vi for an interesting and stimulating programme! Vi is planning, along with Ruth Bridgewood's assistance, to extend the craftwork activities, and to this end we will be taking delivery of more, and varied, craft materials very soon.

The following item comes with a mixture of emotions. Sadness at the loss of Freda Coates, one of our friendliest and much loved personalities. A sadness alleviated to a large extent by the warmth, affection and understanding awaiting Albert (Freda's husband) upon his first day back at the Centre. The spirit, in spite of their frailty, of this dancing duo has been a great source of inspiration to us all, and will remain a treasured memory in the coming years.

Finally, we are delighted to wish Vibeke and Keith many years of happiness after their Easter wedding.



CITIZENS ADVICE BUREAU

If you have more time on your hands than you can usefully fill, Skipton's Citizens Advice Bureau needs you. Whether you have recently retired, or your children gone to school, leaving a gap in your life, the Bureau is urgently seeking volunteers between the ages 18 - 65 who will be willing to spend at least six hours per week to become advisors.

26. No specific qualifications are needed. What is required is an interest in people and a desire to help resolve problems.

The Bureau deals with financial troubles, welfare queries and hundreds of different questions from people from all walks of life. All volunteers receive full training and a good deal of support, the Bureau itself has a great deal of back up from professional people and organisations.

Obviously its volunteers cannot be experts on the welter of legislation on topics such as housing, debt, the law and so on but it is able to draw on specialists in various fields.

If you are interested and would like to learn more, either about being a volunteer or the service the Bureau gives, then contact Sylvia Valentine on Skipton 700210 or call at the Benthams Bureau on any Wednesday 1 - 4pm.



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RECIPES

by Doreen
Park



ONE FOR THE HEALTH ADDICTS

ORANGE, CARROT AND NUT CAKE

Ingredients

4ozs butter
6 ozs castor sugar
1 tsp ground cinnamon
1 tsp grated orange rind
2 eggs lightly beaten
3 ozs raw carrot finely grated
2 ozs walnuts finely chopped
1 tblsp orange juice
8 ozs S R flour
pinch of salt

Method

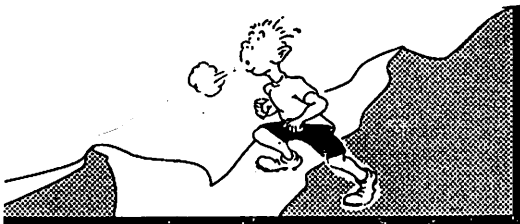
Cream the butter and sugar until pale and fluffy. Beat in the cinnamon and orange rind, beating well after each addition. Add eggs, grated carrot, chopped nuts and orange juice. Sift the flour and salt together and fold into the creamed mixture.

Turn into a greased 8" cake tin lined with greased, grease proof paper and smooth the top.

Bake in a warm oven (325F or gas 3) for 45-55 minutes or until the centre of the cake springs when lightly touched.

Turn out onto a wire cooling tray.

Can be decorated with orange glaze, Butter icing or sifted icing sugar, if liked.



27 and ONE FOR THE SWEET ADDICTS

CHOCOLATE CHEWS

Ingredients

2 ozs castor sugar
2 tblsp golden syrup
3 ozs butter
8 ozs quick cook oats
3 tblsp cocoa powder
1 tsp vanilla or rum essence
1 oz walnuts, chopped
2 ozs seedless raisins, chopped

Method

Place the syrup, butter and sugar in a pan and stir over a gentle heat until the sugar has dissolved.

Bring the mixture to the boil. Remove from the heat and stir in the oats, cocoa powder, essence, chopped walnuts and chopped raisins.

Mix very thoroughly and spread in a buttered 8" square cake tin.

Chill in the fridge until firm.

Cut into squares and remove with a palate knife.

Store in an airtight tin. Makes 16.

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EDITORIAL INFORMATION

BENTHAM NEWS is published at 7, Jubilee Buildings, Main Street, High Bentham by an editorial committee consisting of Tony Bennett, Shirley Brown, Tom Cahill, Keith Cowling, Wendy Dowbiggin, Debbie Garman, Jill Matthews, Ken Robertson, Kate Steele, Pam Woof and our co-ordinator Lesley Barker.

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Small ads and announcements: £1 for every 20 words, payment **MUST** accompany each item to ensure publication.

For all information, including advertising rates, listings and subscriptions please contact Lesley Barker on Bentham (05242) 62040. Items for publication can be left at the house or at Churchill's shop during opening hours.

THE FINAL COPY DATE FOR PUBLICATION IS THE 15TH OF EACH MONTH.

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, including letters. Please note that although we are willing to withhold names on request, names and addresses must accompany all items for publication.

28 CHURCH SERVICES.

St Margaret's C of E, High Bentham.

SUNDAY 8am Eucharist. 10am Parish Eucharist & Junior Church. **WEDNESDAY.** 9am Eucharist. Mothers Union 2nd Tuesday each month in the Legion Hall at 2pm. Enquiries Mrs Field 61084

St John the Baptist, Low Bentham.

1st Sunday 8am, Holy Communion, 10.30am Family Service. 2nd Sunday 10.30am, Holy Communion, 3pm Village Hall. 3rd Sunday 9.15am Holy Communion, 10.30am Praise Service. 4th Sunday 10.30am Holy Communion, 2pm Village Hall. 5th Sunday 10.30am Worship & Holy Communion.

St Boniface Catholic Church.

Saturday 6.30pm. Sunday 9.30am & 11.15am, Easter to September 30th. Holy Days 10am & 7.30pm. Week day services, see times in the porch.

Methodist Church. High Bentham.

Sunday Worship 10.30am & 6.30pm. Junior Church 10.30am. Fellowship Meeting Tuesday 7.30pm. Springboard 7-10 years Monday 6.15pm. Breakout 11-13 years Wednesday 7.00pm. Jam Club 14 plus Friday 7.30pm.

Methodist Church, Low Bentham.

Sunday Services & Sunday School, 10.30am. Afternoon Service 2pm.

Religious Society of Friends, Quakers.

Meeting for Worship, Sunday 10.30am.

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