

BENTHAM NEWS



BENTHAM NEWS requires CO-ORDINATOR

With Lesley's departure (see Pages 4 & 5) Bentham News requires a Co-ordinator to start as soon as possible.

This is a demanding part-time job, which requires commitment, enthusiasm, energy and flexibility.

Applicants should be able to work as part of a team, and have a keen interest in the affairs of Bentham. They should have a wide range of organisational and communication skills. Ideally they should have a working knowledge of Windows-based computer applications, including DTP, and some experience of publishing processes.

The Co-ordinator is directly responsible to the Editorial Committee and is required to attend evening and weekend meetings.

The pay is negotiable, according to experience, and the hours are flexible.

Job descriptions and application forms can be collected from Bentham Sportswear.

The closing date for applications is Monday 14th March. Interviews will be held during the week beginning Monday 21st March.

TRUE GRIT?

by Pam Woof and Hilary Whalley

At 9.30 on the cold and frosty morning of Monday 21st February, we were interested to see that the roads were being gritted in Bentham. But the roads were very dry and salty already! Not being well up on road maintenance however, we assumed the Council were taking a wise precaution.

At 10.30am we couldn't believe our eyes when the road sweeper went by cleaning up all the newly spread salt and grit.

Yes, we had been right in the first place - Bentham had not needed gritting at all. Obviously, realising their mistake, the Council had decided to be super efficient and collect the grit back up again to use in a more deserving location!

CONTENTS

Goodbye, Lesley	Pages 4 & 5
Firefighters needed	Page 6
The new Spar	Page 9
Public toilet debate continues	Page 17
School news	Page 8
Interview with Mrs McGregor-Wood	Page 11

MARCH 1994

ISSUE 89

HIGH BENTHAM W.I.

by Margaret Hayton

Despite the bad weather conditions, there was a good turn out of members for our February meeting. Our speaker was Dr. P.B. Nightingale, who gave a talk and showed slides on "Health Care in Zambia". A collection was held for St. Francis's Hospital in Zambia.

The competition of a pulse picture (using dried materials) was won by Mrs Joyce Morgan.

ST MARGARET'S Mothers' Union

by Margaret Newhouse

The enrolling member welcomed Miss Judith Airy to High Bentham Mother's Union. After a short service Judith told us about her stay in a small town near Berne, Switzerland, where she studied a course in Evangelism with the teaching of children in mind. We saw slides of the beautiful scenery and of the groups of students. Mrs Field thanked the speaker.

ROOFCOAT

Industrial, Domestic, Commercial

Extend the Life of your problem roof for up to TEN Years.

FREE SURVEY/QUOTATION

TEL: (05242) 62507



THE POLY-ROOF
SPECIALIST FIBREGLASS
FLAT ROOF SYSTEMS

20 YEAR
MANUFACTURER'S
GUARANTEE

P.E. & C. THORNTON

GENERAL ROOFING AND BUILDING CONTRACTOR
• Barn Conversions • Complete Builds • General Repairs

Tunstall House, Tatham,
Nr. Lancaster LA2 6PR

(05242) 62507

B.B.A.
APPROVED
PRODUCT

BENTHAM WOMEN'S SOCIAL SERVICES

Bentham W.S.S. held their AGM at Oxenforth Green when 24 members attended. The Chair, Mrs King, welcomed all, including Val Hogg, N.S.P.C.C Appeals Organiser from York.

The secretary reported a busy year and Mrs Watkinson, the treasurer, recorded a good year with £3,214.43 having been sent to the N.S.P.C.C. and £100 donated to the doctors at Bentham Surgery, to the Extra Care Fund.

Officers elected:- Mrs Adams was elected Chairman with the rest of the officers re-elected en-bloc, with Mrs Wheildon taking on the Young N.S.P.C.C. with the help of Mrs Barlow.

Future events are to be a House to House collection in Bentham and Burton in Lonsdale between 11 and 23rd April. A craft fair on 6th August and the Cracker Sale in November.

Val Hogg spoke on the work of the The Child Protection Team and on forthcoming events in Craven to celebrate the Craven N.S.P.C.C. branch centenary.

A Jacob's Join supper closed the meeting.

THE COUNTRYSIDE SOCIETY

At the AGM the committee proposed by Mr. Holcroft and seconded by Mrs Barton, was re-elected en-bloc. Participation in outdoor meetings and working parties was invited by the Chairman, and the Treasurer proposed to keep the subscription and charges as at present.

Slides of views from Burton Wood and of orchids at Heysham Power Station, and of glacier terrain and alpine flowers around Obergurgl in Austria were shown.



TOWN COUNCIL

by Jean West

Mayor Telford chaired a fairly lively meeting on 7th February 1994. Councillors present were: Joel, Marshall, Jackson, Bateson, Hewitt, Dowbiggin, Preston, Hurtley and Cowling. District and County Councillors Atkinson and Pilkington and a splendid turnout of 16 members of the public were also there.

TOWN HALL MATTERS

A considerable amount of time was spent discussing various matters concerning the management of the Town Hall. Mrs. Hayton has supplied 2 coat-hanging rails. The existing Wenningdale Room illuminated sign is in disrepair and a new sign, costing £110 is to be purchased. The British Gas quotation for servicing the water heaters and boilers was accepted. There has been no progress on uprating the electricity supply. Two bad debts for the hire of Town Hall facilities are still outstanding after a year and further action against the debtors was suggested. A quotation of £3,087 + VAT for motorising the clock has been received! It was agreed that the clock should continue to be wound by hand, and the suggestion that a rota of councillors should be drawn up to undertake the task (if Mr. Bentham is unable to) was noted!

CAR PARKING

The car parking near Crow Trees Yard in Low Bentham is making the area hazardous, but a suggestion that the Amenity Area could be used was rejected. NYCC have included Bentham in a traffic survey, and this coupled with supporting letters from the Fire Brigade about parking problems and also requests to the police to enforce parking restrictions could mean double yellow lines down the main streets of Bentham. (*Is this what we want? Could this solution to parking problems just create other problems, such as speeding through the town?*)

AND FOR THOSE ON FOOT...

NYCC have inspected Duke Street and

3 found it acceptable for walking, and as it is used for vehicular access they felt that maintaining it was the responsibility of people whose vehicles use it. Cllr. Marshall disagreed and a further letter of complaint is to be sent. Also, concerning the new dog signs; a member of the public remarked that the sign she had seen was too high and the dogs could not read it!

TREES

A member of the public expressed concern about young trees being chopped down by the Playing Field. There are now too few trees to act as a wind-break so children playing there are exposed to the elements. Also, the branches and other debris left behind were also hazards for children. The TC said that new trees had been planted, but the cause for concern was noted.

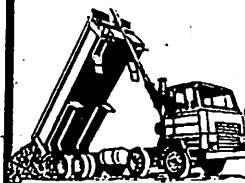
OTHER BITS

Cllr. Hewitt reported that a generous gift to cover the cost of items stolen recently had been received by Low Bentham school. Cllr. Preston praised the prowess of Craven Wanderers. Cllr. Cowling asked that the North Housing Association be told of complaints of polystyrene rubbish being blown into residents' property from their site, and Cllr. Jackson apologised for the delay in dismantling the Christmas lights.

DATES

The next TC meeting is on March 7th, and there will be a public meeting addressed by the police at 7pm on Wednesday 16th March.

R & S BRADSHAW
t/a WENNING SURFACING
Tel Bentham (05242) 61840



Free advice and
estimates.
Professional,
commercial &
domestic surfacing.

GOODBYE LESLEY!

by Christine Hodson

Lesley Barker, Bentham News coordinator, is leaving Bentham and BN. I recently spent a pleasant afternoon chatting to Lesley about herself, her adventures and the trials of working for BN.

EARLY DAYS

Lesley was born in Harrogate. At the age of 11 she went to Bentham Grammar School and as a teenager lived in Ingleton. Her first job was in the District Bank down Station Road (now NatWest) where she stayed until her elder daughter, Vyky, was born. When her 2 young daughters were aged 3 years and 18 months, Lesley 'dropped out' and lived for 12 months on a remote island in the Orkneys. Her home there had no running water or electricity and the family had to bathe in a large tin bath. Although the fierce winds blowing in from the sea would rip her washing to shreds, Lesley grew to love the wildness of the sea, the expanses of white sands and the seals who played and swam around the bay.

ANIMAL LOVER

Throughout her life Lesley has been surrounded by animals and birds of all shapes and sizes. All her animals have either been rescued by her, or brought to her because people know that she will offer them protection and a kind, caring, loving home. 'Animals rule the roost' in Lesley's home, and over the years have included a donkey, goats, geese, polecats, peacocks, numerous cats and dogs and 'hundreds of guinea pigs'. After leaving the Orkneys Lesley lived in Caithness, and then helped to build a bungalow at Ireby before moving to Ingleton where she spent 9 happy years living and working at the White Scar Caves. Vyky (now 25) and Alix (now 23) went to the local schools, and Vyky now lives in Chapel-le-Dale and is a Bentham School housemother while Alix married a US Marine and lives happily in Los Angeles where she works in a coffee shop.

4 IT'S NOT BEEN A HUMDRUM LIFE.....

Lesley has had a wide variety of jobs. Local employers have included the Horse and Farrier, Tim Churchill, Hallam and Martin and the Milk Marketing Board. The 'the worst job in the world' was as a barmaid at Lancaster Auction Mart! Although she loves working with people, deep down Lesley is a very private person who needs the comfort of open spaces. Her favourite activities are walking and 'anything outdoors'. The walk she loves best is along the Wenning in both directions, a walk which she often does twice a day. Lesley has never had the time to pursue hobbies, but she thinks that a hidden talent is probably something artistic. She is looking forward to having 'time for me' and hopes to travel extensively both at home and abroad, and would love to see Venice 'before it sinks'! In 1982 Lesley came to live in Bentham, and for the first time in her life acquired neighbours. It is these neighbours and the strong sense of belonging to a community that Lesley will miss most. If she had 'all the money in the world' she would build a huge sports centre in Bentham and would rearrange the main streets to create a town square.

THE BEGINNINGS OF BN

Lesley took over as coordinator in May 1988, a year after BN started. The job involves both flexibility and a wide range of skills and as the paper has evolved, so Lesley's role has had to change with it. An early memory is of the first collation, when the printed pages are sorted, stapled and folded before being delivered to distributors. Lesley turned up at the Angus office, stapler in hand, expecting a host of helpers, only to discover that it was down to just herself and Isobel Joel to get the paper out! As a word processor replaced the typewriter BN grew, 'like a slowly rolling snowball' gathering people and ideas. Lesley says she enjoyed the challenge of acquiring new skills, and values the friendships that have been formed through working on BN. Naturally things have not always gone smoothly, but thankfully these times have been few and far between.

MEMORABLE MOMENTS

Proudest: Receiving two awards on behalf of BN, as Finalists in the 1989 Village Ventures competition and as Runner-up in the National Village Newsletter competition in 1992.

Funniest: The April Fool spoof on the proposed dual carriageway and flyover down Robin Lane!

Worst: Midnight phone calls from irate readers.

Most exciting: The frantic business of producing a front page every month.

During 6 years as coordinator, Lesley has been responsible for over 70 editions of BN. The paper has dominated her life: no sooner has one edition been delivered than she is working on the next. Now she's looking forward to copies she's not set eyes on, arriving through her letterbox! Lesley says she is going to miss 'getting to know things first', and admits that leaving BN will create a 'big hole' in her life.

WHAT NEXT LESLEY?

Lesley's new home will be in Leeds. As she has spent much of her life until now looking after others, she relishes being able to have time for herself and is considering becoming 'a mature student'. And at last, she is going to make an honest man of John Tooby! (Editor's note: Does this mean wedding bells?)



Tel: 05242 61409
Fax: 05242 62020



All major makes of tyres
Car and Commercial tyres
High Performance Car tyres
Agricultural tyres
Race and Rally tyres
Motorcycle tyres
Wheel Alignment
Computerised Wheel Balancing
Batteries

MILL LANE GARAGE
HIGH BENTHAM
LANCASTER
LA2 7NB

Proprietor: IAN HOLT

WHERE TO SEND YOUR ITEMS FOR BENTHAM NEWS

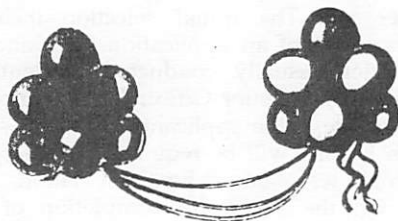
Please do not use 7, Jubilee Buildings as from now!

Items for Bentham News can be left at Bentham Sportswear, High Bentham, and at Christine Hodson's house, 2 Harley Bank, Low Bentham (the green door!).

Until a new co-ordinator has been appointed, telephone enquiries about any matters concerning Bentham News can be made to:

Shirley Brown on Bentham 61608
or

Christine Hodson on Bentham 62251



BALLOON DECORATIONS FOR ANY OCCASION

- WEDDINGS & CHRISTENINGS
 - SPECIAL BIRTHDAY EVENTS
 - ENGAGEMENT & ANNIVERSARIES
- Ring Liz on 05242 61978 or 61214

NORTH YORKSHIRE FIRE & RESCUE SERVICE

by Geoff Blackwell

Bentham Fire Station needs some new recruits. At present there are eight Firefighters to man the Station 24 hours a day, 365 days a year, and at the time of writing one Firefighter is on sick leave, leaving only seven. This is not enough to cover this area in safety. We need to almost double this number. If you are interested read on and if you are not, read it anyway, you might find it interesting.

Bentham Fire Station is a small part of North Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service. It is a Retained Station which means that there are no full time Firefighters but is manned and supervised by Retained Firefighters.

Retained Firefighters are paid to be available to respond to any fire call at any time of day or night. The Bentham appliance covers approximately 150 sq. miles of its own area and also attends incidents in other counties or calls for assistance from other Stations in North Yorkshire. It is a front line appliance carrying equipment to deal with incidents ranging from chimney fires to chemical spillages or road traffic accidents.

The selection process for Retained Firefighters is just as rigorous as for any other job. The initial selection includes completion of an application form and an interview usually conducted at Bentham Station by a Senior Officer from Skipton or Harrogate. If the applicant passes this stage then he/she will be required to undergo a strength test, again at Bentham Station.

On the successful completion of the strength test the applicant will be required to attend a medical, arranged and paid for by the Fire Service, usually at a doctor's practice in Harrogate.

On successfully passing the medical the applicant will be offered a place to attend an eight day residential course at a Training School in Ripon. These training courses are run two or three times a year. For the two Monday nights prior to the course the now 'trainee Firefighter' will attend the Station

6

for some basic familiarisation training.

At Training School the new recruit is tested for stamina, strength and concentration under extreme physical and mental pressure. It is not for the feint hearted!

If the recruit passes the Training Course successfully then they are issued with a radio pager and are classed as a Probationary Firefighter who is allowed to ride the appliance to incidents.

There are regular assessments for Probationers and all Firefighters are expected to attend both day and residential courses for further training as necessary.

If you are over 18, physically fit, have good eyesight and are interested ring Geoff Blackwell on 62085, Paul Hodgson on 62721 or call in at the Fire Station between 7 and 9pm on any Monday night.

Under most circumstances Retained Firefighters' pay does not affect Unemployment Benefit.

GROVE HILL GARAGE

Station Road, High Bentham
SERVICING & REPAIRS. MOT's.
SPRAY BAKE OVEN. INSURANCE
WORK. TYRE & WHEEL
BALANCING.

Tel (day) 05242 61782

(night) 05242 62054

ARMSTRONG'S

17, Main St. Bentham Tel 61229

MACHINES FOR HIRE
ROTOVATORS £25 PER DAY
ROTARY MOWERS £10 PER DAY
CARPET CLEANERS £10 PER DAY
WALLPAPER STRIPPERS £8 PER DAY

**Look out for our new Picture Gallery
opening soon**

COUNCIL CONCERNS

by County Councillor
Ralph Atkinson.



COUNCIL REORGANISATION

If you don't agree with the Local Govt. Commission's recommendations there's still just time to write - to arrive by the 6th! The address now is The Hon. John Gummer, Secretary of State for the Environment, 2, Marsham St. London SW1 3EB

COUNCIL TAX: 1994/95

Although the final figures won't be fixed until March 2nd, I don't think they'll be altered much from present estimates, which are: County Council up 7.25%, Craven District up 4.95% and Parish/Town Councils up 6.57% on average. This will give an overall average for Band D (the centre band) of £548.25 or an average increase of just over 7%. However, individual figures will vary a lot due to the different bands, and various forms of relief, etc. - mine for instance, including transitional relief, will be up 20%, even though I've appealed against the grading.

Most people who appealed haven't heard the outcome yet - I'm afraid we snowed them under! However, the authorities must finalise them all by October, so it shouldn't be too long now. If you do get regraded the adjustment will be made auto-matically - though it'll certainly be worth while checking.

VISITING CHIROPODIST

Jennifer Mather, M. Inst. Ch.

11 Lairgill
Bentham
Lancaster
LA2 7JZ

Tel: (05242) 62789

7

CLOSING SMALL SCHOOLS

There's a real row going on at County about the proposed closure of three small schools in the Richmond and York areas. All parties are divided over the issue!

COUNTY BUDGET

Again this won't be finalised until March 2nd but we've made significant gains over the first estimates. The biggest gain is that we've managed to shift £1.5million, earmarked for police pensions, to capital. This will mean more money for nursery classes (not in this area I'm afraid!), another 20 uniformed police officers and an additional £98,000 for highway and footway maintenance (which is an area I am very worried about!). Incidentally, we're making up the road maintenance programme now so if you know of a particularly bad patch, please let me know!

COUNCIL HOUSE RENTS

As usual we're between the devil and the deep blue sea on council house rents. Despite our commitment to keep them as low as possible the Govt. says we must increase by 7.5% or it'll cut our subsidy - and the auditors say we've got to increase our balances somewhat to cover emergencies. Meanwhile we've got to keep up with our maintenance/improvement programme or the houses will start to deteriorate. The Housing Committee recommended 9.5% but we've managed to compromise on 8.5%. This means, I'm afraid, average increases of £3.00 or so a week. Not, of course, mentioned when Parliament discusses tax increases!

SOCIAL SERVICE EXPENDITURE

Last year County spent £50m. of our money, of which £20m. was spent on services for older people - a reflection of the increasing age of the population! Nearly half of this went on residential care and £7.25m. on Home Help services. This will be supplemented this year by a Special Transitional Grant to ease the transition to 'Care in the Community', nevertheless indications are that the services will still be strapped for cash.

SETTLE HIGH NEWS

by Christine White and Shirley Brown

VISIT TO RECORDING STUDIO

A party of 23 musicians from the school, accompanied by Roger Attwood and Howard Rogerson, recently went to Manchester to hear a recording by the BBC Philharmonic Orchestra of Messiaen's Turangalila Symphony. Mr. Attwood described the work as 'colossal', and the party commented particularly on the amazing sound.

CROSS-COUNTRY RUNNING

The school had some good individual results at the Area Cross-Country Championships, with local pupils, Matthew Whitfield and Jonathon Boadle being selected to represent Harrogate and Craven at the next, County, round. At intermediate level Alan Duncan and Sam Pearce put up fine performances, and at junior level Gary Leak and Michael Potts each ran personal best times. Local girls, Ruth Whitfield and Louise Pritchard, also ran exceptionally well.

SCULPTURE WORKSHOPS

Sculptor Philip Cox has been working with students in 4 Craven schools (including SHS and Ingleton Middle) over the past weeks. The dramatic, life-sized figures that have been produced will form part of the forthcoming exhibition of SHS work at Linton Court Gallery in Settle, and will also be on display as part of Settle's Festival Week (15-23 July).

PROGRESS OF BTEC & GNVQ

BTEC (First Diploma in Business and Finance) students went on 3 weeks' work experience in February to learn about a wide range of occupations. Of the 14 students, 2 learned about police work, 5 went to banks or building societies, and everyone else was involved in service industries, or work with children, agriculture or sports. All last year's BTEC students have carried on with further studies in a variety of areas, such as office practice, hotel management and leisure and tourism. SHS is now also able to offer new GNVQ (General National Vocational

8 Qualification) courses which are intended to help students develop general skills in communication, numeracy and the use of computers. Ultimately the Government's aim is for half of all 16-17 year old students to be involved in GNVQ courses.

GRANT AID FOR SETTLE

Our MP, David Curry, recently visited SHS to present grants from the Foundation for Sports and the Arts to 4 local organisations. The Foundation was formed in 1991 and now handles a budget of £60-70 million a year. Its aim is to help those who help themselves, buttressing the work of the local community and assisting projects which are already under way. Mr. Curry said he was delighted that the 'canny Yorkshiremen' of his constituency were responding to the opportunity of financial assistance. Settle Swimming Pool received £7,500, which represents half the cost of the new roof, with local fund-raisers well on the way to raising the rest of the money. SHS were given £17,500 to upgrade their community facilities, and the Community Association will use this towards the cost of tiered seating and flood-lighting.

* * * * *

BENTHAM SCHOOL NEWS

by Mr N.K.D. Ward, Headmaster

Recent events at the school have included football, netball and cross-country fixtures, and the hilarious annual charity pancake race, which this year sent the proceeds to buy vital medicines for Croatia. The Bishop of Bradford spoke to students at a recent sixth form dinner, and proved to be a most entertaining and informative speaker.

'GREASE'

The 1950's-style rock and roll musical 'Grease' will be staged on 17th, 18th and 19th March. Tickets can be obtained from the school office (tel: 61275).

SCOUTS REVIVED!

Moves are being made at the school to start a 'Bentham St John' Scout Troup. The initial intake will be from amongst school pupils, but ultimately both boys and girls from Bentham will be encouraged to join.

WALKER'S CRISP: The New Spar

by Keith Dixon

Some of our readers, we hear, have complained about the loss of parking facilities outside the new Spar. Certainly, everyone would like to have had easy parking *and* the more convenient shop. But who would have wished for easy parking and the old inconvenient shop? Surely not everyone.

Shop Locally - it's just as cheap

Some, no doubt, wish too that its commodities were cheaper. Remember, though, that a survey conducted by BN in August 1991 reported only a 4 to 6 per cent difference between prices in Asda and Sainsbury's and prices in Bentham's Co-op and Spar. If this still applies, you would still have to spend between £40 and £60 per trip to justify travelling to Morecambe or Lancaster.

Finally some complain of being disappointed with the variety of new items on offer and, ideally perhaps, it would stock everything from car accessories to health food, the latest video hit to jams. Despite this, I think, our new Spar shop represents a considerable improvement to amenities in Bentham.

Just remember when goods used to pile up in the aisles for lack of shelf-space, when sweets and chocolate were so closely packed and stacked that they spilled out on to the floor, when you could hardly make out Dime bars from Elastoplast? Ah, the good old days! They don't make them like that any more. Whatever happened to the friendly notice board advertising things wanted and for sale? For the benefit of anyone with a sentimental attachment to it, I can report that it's still where it was. I saw it myself. You just don't *notice* it any more. The wall to which it is fixed is now part of the stock-room.

New Lines

Whatever our immediate impressions, the fact is that, with twice the original sales area, the new Spar shop is able to

accommodate many new lines, 192 so far - wines, pies, freshly baked bread and pizzas, soups, cleaning materials, sauces, roast chicken, pork and ham. Soon perhaps too, a stand for "ethnic" foods and, by arrangement with WH Smith, magazines and newspapers.

Then again, you have to consider the extra employment opportunities the addition to the shop represents. Right now, it employs no more staff than it did but this is because existing staff have opted to work longer hours. We are all better off. Customers have better shopping facilities, employees more job security and better working conditions.

Spoiled for choice

In fact, with two go-ahead supermarkets, two delicatessens, a freezer centre, a fresh vegetable shop and the weekly market, Bentham is very well off for food. There's not much we can't buy locally even if it does cost a bit more. The extra price is that of convenience.

True, you can't please all the people all the time but, given the considerable outlay involved in upgrading the Spar, no doubt Mr Ray Walker, its proprietor, would prefer it if he could please most of the people most of the time. It may be that Benthamers still have to go to Asda or Sainsbury's for special items but even this is not necessarily so. Anyone wanting anything really exotic now has to travel only 4 miles up the road to the new Country Harvest store on the A65. It is fair to warn, however, as I discovered on Pancake Day, that in this case they could end up being asked to pay £6.50 for a small bottle of maple syrup!

M & E 's Fish Bar & Restaurant Bentham Tel 61317.

**Wish to announce that from 6th
March we will be opening on
Sundays**

**Restaurant 10.00 am - 5.30 pm
Take away 11.30 am - 6.00 pm**

YOUTH CLUB REPORT

by Vi Christensen

We've had a busy few weeks in the Youth Club. In January, we played Settle Youth Club at table-tennis, darts and pool in our indoor league competition and won. In March, we will play against Ingleton Youth Club.

On the 24th January, a Civic Trust representative came to visit us to listen to what our members thought about growing up in Bentham. A lively and interesting discussion took place about its pros and cons.

On the last Saturday in January, we hired the Youth Wheels from Settle High School and took 18 members ice-skating in Blackburn. There, we teamed up with members from Heysham Youth Club, returned to Bentham together, had a meal prepared by the members and "camped out" overnight in the Youth Club. None of us got much sleep but the event was greatly enjoyed by the members of the two clubs.

Our disco on the 11th February raised £20. Thanks to Nicky Louth for providing the music.

Thanks also to everyone who so generously donated tombola prizes for our coffee morning, and to all our helpers who helped - to our "customers" too, especially the parents who turned up on the morning.

Bentham Insurance Consultants

As Independent Financial Advisors we work for you in recommending the most appropriate life assurance, pensions or unit trusts on the market.

To be sure you get the best deal, contact us.



Station Road,
Bentham
via Lancaster
LA2 7LF
Tel: (05242) 61424



Bentham Quiz 1

The Answers

1. 2865. The population of Bentham is growing again, after a decline from 1971 to 1981.
2. 1132, the average size of a household is 2.53 people.
3. 68.9% of households have no dependent children at all.
4. 38.4% of households have a pensioner in them.
5. And 28.7% have *only* a pensioner.
6. 80.2% of households are owners or mortgagagers.
7. There are a total of 40 second homes or holiday homes in Bentham.
8. 58.8% of homes in Bentham are in Bands A-C (under £68,000).
9. 23.1% of households have no car.
10. 59 Bentham residents were born outside the UK.
11. 44 Bentham residents were born in Scotland.
12. There are 94 economically active people in Bentham who are 16-19 years of age.



LANCASTER FURNITURE STRIPPERS
CHRIS HALL

Door & Furniture Stripping Specialists

*Pre-war & antique furniture bought.
Full & part house clearances.*

Day
0524 846456

Night
05242 62711

The Interview

By Tom Cahill

*This month we interview Mrs. McGregor Wood
(edited by Shirley Brown)*

I was born in Burton-in-Lonsdale in 1904. I left Burton in 1927 when I married a Scot. We had a whirlwind courtship of only three days. From Burton we went to America where my husband managed a Shell oil refinery in California.

Where did you go after that? Where did we not go! Four years in Borneo, two years in California, three years in Suez, as well as China, Japan and South Africa for shorter periods. Shell paid for three and a half trips around the world for us.

What do you like about living here? We didn't really choose Bentham, we just ended up here. We saw a kindergarten school for our daughter, Elspeth, and found a nice house to let in Burton. I knew lots of people in the district and I know the area. I am keen on collecting the history of Burton. After my husband died, I simply lived here. I wouldn't want to live with my daughter as I have my own ideas, and I don't think I have the right to impose my ideas on the next generation.

If money were no object, where would you choose to live? If I were younger, I would choose to live out East, but at my age, I would prefer California.

What sort of music do you listen to? It depends on what mood I'm in. I like Chopin if I'm just sitting relaxing, but I like Spanish guitar music if I am feeling more lively. And every week, I listen to *Top of the Pops* because I like to know what the latest young music is.

Favourite local walk? I used to like walking on the banks of the Wenning or the Golf Course. Now I make myself walk to Bentham every day because it eases the rheumatism in my knees.

Favourite local view? The view on a fine day of Ingleborough and the moor from my attic window is absolutely marvellous. This is the highest house in Bentham.

Favourite foods? I'm very, very fond of food, I like Chinese food. I like all the vegetables, except cabbage. I love fruit and my favourite is mango, mango straight from the tree is unbelievable, but now I buy them from

Bentham. The last fruit salad I made had nine different fruits in it and I poured Dubonnet over it, to preserve it!

What two books would you take with you on a Desert Island? I would like a large, thick book of all Shakespeare's works, because I have never studied him as I should have done. A *History of England* would also keep me quiet.

What British food did you miss most when abroad? The ordinary white loaf.

Did you miss anything particularly about Britain? The mail came by flying boat or steamer and was very erratic, so when I heard Big Ben on the radio, striking the hour, it meant a lot.

Was it difficult to adjust to living back in Britain? Yes, the climate was hard to get used to, I still feel the cold. I keep the central heating on most of the year and always use an electric blanket.

What do you think are the most serious problems facing Bentham? The way the roads keep being dug up causes havoc. Robin Lane is always in some kind of chaos. The shopkeepers must hate it. And crossing the road in Bentham takes me ages. Some people are kind and take my arm and help me across, but I think there should be a pedestrian crossing between the Midland Bank and the Coach House.

If you had a million pounds to improve Bentham, how would you spend it? I would build a special centre. It would have gardens and trees and a large building and a caretaker and it would be open every day. You could have a meal there and meet your friends. There should be a warm place with comfortable chairs, and facilities for young and old, like a pool room, a gymnasium and a room for lectures or dances.

If you were younger, what would you want to do? I'd like to go around all the places I'd been and see how they'd changed. Most of the people of my age have popped off long ago, but I could visit their sons and daughters. I could spend at least 30 years doing that, and really enjoy it. I wouldn't dare to travel now. It's very awkward when you can't see. Now I take small steps because I'm frightened I might fall over something, and if I fall it could be the end. I am very lucky to have so many nice friends and so many nice things in the house to help me.

LOCAL EVENTS IN MARCH

- Fri 4th** "Unplugged" presents Gordon Tyrell at the Black Bull at 8.30pm.
- Sat 5th** Bentham Agricultural Society coffee morning 10am - 12 noon in the Town Hall.
Alan Bates, Hypnotist at the Town Hall at 8pm. Disco and late bar.
- Sun 6th** North Craven Heritage Trust: A Walk Around Bonnie Bentham" 6/7 miles. Start at Lairgill Car Park at 1.45pm. Leader Len Moody - Tel 61128.
- Mon 7th** Town Council meeting at 7.30pm in the Lower Town Hall.
Youth Club - fashion show preparation.
- Tues 8th** Suit Yourself - Women's Event at Skipton. Drop In open.
Tatham Fells W.I. at Lowgill Primary School at 7.30pm.
Speaker: Mrs I. Waddle & Mrs J.M. Gardener. Subject: "Pretty Images in Clay"
- Wed 9th** NSPCC Monthly meeting at Lingfield, Robin Lane at 7.30pm.
Youth Club - Members Committee.
- Thurs 10th** Indoor Bowling in the Town Hall 1pm - 4pm.
- Sat 12th** North Craven Labour Party Jumble Sale at Ingleton Community Centre at 2pm.
(Offers of jumble phone 61650 or 61634)
St John's Spring Coffee Morning in the Town Hall 10am - 12 noon.
- Sun 13th** Bentham Footpath Group walk - Oakhead & Branstone Beck (5 miles) Leader Charlie Procter Tel 61654. Please meet at Bentham Bridge at 1pm.

12

- Tue 15th** Angus Pensioners Association. Slides and Talk by Mr. Don Towers on "France".
Youth Club Indoor League - Ingleton.
Suit Yourself - Easter Eggs - Bring eggs. Goodenber Play Area Review.
Toy Library in the Youth Centre 10am - 1pm.
- Tues 15th** Bentham & District Camera Club - Theme Competitions judged by members.
Bentham Child Health Clinic at "The Surgery" 1pm - 4pm.
- Wed 16th** Public meeting addressed by the Police 7pm in the Town Hall.
Youth Club - Video work.
- Thurs 17th** Low Bentham W.I. in the Victoria Institute at 7.30pm.
Speaker:- Mrs D. Cunningham.
Subject:- "Childhood Memories"
Indoor Bowling in the Town Hall 1pm - 4pm.
- Fri 18th** WASTE PAPER COLLECTION at the Legion Hall 8.30am - 11am. Proceeds to NSPCC.
The Countryside Society meeting upstairs in the Hornby Institute at 7.45pm. Speaker:- Mr Ron Bliss. Subject:- "Caves of Easegill".
- Sat 19th** Bentham Footpath Group Walk Hardacres - Turnerford Bridge (8/9 miles). Leader John Pilkington Tel 61757. Please meet at Lairgill at 10.30am.
St Boniface's coffee morning in the Town Hall 10 - 12 noon..
OFF THE WALL - 8pm for vegetarian dinner 10pm for dancing to "The Rhythm Seeds". Tickets Jane 62277 or Tash at Hairlines 61554.

- Mon 21st Youth Club - Fashion Show preparation.
- Tues 22nd Suit Yourself - Prepare for Fashion Show.
- Wed 23rd North Craven Heritage Trust - "A Close Look at Moths and Butterflies" illustrated talk by M. Stainforth at Watershed Mill, Settle at 7.30pm.
- Thurs 24th Indoor Bowling at the Town Hall 1pm - 4pm.
- Sat 26th Liberal Democrats coffee morning in the Town Hall 10am - 11.30am. Home produce, bric a brac, tombola, plants, books etc. Youth Club - Horse Riding.
- Mon 28th Ewecross Historical Society in the Lower Town Hall at 7.30pm. Speaker - Mr Stephen Moorhouse. Subject Looking at the Monastic Landscape in Ewecross.
- Tues 29th Toy Library in the Youth Centre 10am - 1pm.
Bentham & District Camera Club "Travel and Hobbies" short talks by members.
Bentham Child Health Clinic at "The Surgery" 1pm - 4pm.
- Thurs 31st Indoor Bowling in the Town Hall 1pm - 4pm.
Bentham News Published

LOCAL EVENTS IN APRIL

- Fri 1st High Bentham Methodist Church, Good Friday Service 10.30am.
"Unplugged" presents Jay Turner at The Black Bull at 8.30pm.
- Sat 2nd Low Bentham Playgroup coffee morning in the Town Hall. 10am - 12 noon.

- Sun 3rd High Bentham Methodist Church Easter Sunday Service 10.30am. Rev. N. Paterson.
- Thurs 7th High Bentham W.I. at 7.30pm in the Lower Town Hall. Speaker:- Mrs Pat Mann. Subject:- "A Patchwork Evening".
- Sat 9th Arthritis and Rheumatism Council for Research coffee morning in the Town Hall from 9.45am to 12 noon. Admission 35p.
- NSPCC - A House to House Collection will begin on the 11th April and will continue for two weeks.
- ORGANIC GARDENING GROUP** meet on the first Tuesday each month.

ADVERTISING RATES

Payment must accompany advertisements to ensure publication.

STANDARD COMMERCIAL ADVERTISEMENTS

Local advertisers: (Bentham, Burton in Lonsdale, Ingleton):
Boxed advert (one-eighth of a page) £10.00 each insertion.
Boxed advert on a standing order £9.00 per month.

Non-local advertisers:

Boxed advert (one-eighth of a page) £15 per insertion

BENTHAM PEOPLE PAGE

Thanks and personal notices:

£1.00 per 10 words

Small ads: £2.00 per 10 words

FLYERS / INSERTS

Business / Commercial £100.00

Charitable services £25.00

To place an advert in BENTHAM NEWS contact Jane Callus tel 62277 or any member of the editorial committee.

Friends' Meeting House Low Bentham

Bentham Friends will now be holding Meeting for Worship only on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month. Our hour of silence is open to everyone and we will be pleased to welcome you. If you would like to know more or if you have children, please phone 62365.



AN APOLOGY

Bentham News would like to apologise to Lara Charlotte at the Black Bull. It seems that her arrival was not in the morning as we stated but in fact at 10.50 in the evening.

14 PAT's GOODBYE TO AMY JANE's

Pat Clowes of Amy Jane is leaving her salon over the Midland Bank to work in the family hotel in Ingleton. Pat has been a hairdresser for 38 years and for 23 of those years she has worked in Bentham. She was originally from London and came via Shrewsbury to Ingleton. She has had a number of employees over the years amongst these were Jen Carroll and Christine Coates. Pat has been a member of Bentham Golf Club for 11 years and was Lady Captain in 1992.

Margaret Ball is taking over the premises, and Chris Coates! Pat hopes that she will be as happy as she has been over the years and hopes that everyone will support her.

Pat would like to thank everyone for their support over the years a special thanks to Jen and Chris for their friendship and to the village for giving her a lot of happy times.

PROCTER HOUSE INSURANCE SERVICES

The Old Post Office.

Bentham, Nr. Lancaster

LA2 7HQ

Tel: 05242 61350 Fax: 05242 62458

Friendly, experienced staff at Procter House will be pleased to talk to you about all your insurance needs.

- household, buildings and contents
- private motor
- shops, business and commercial risk
- personal accident and health

Procter House Insurance Services - working for you.

RIOTING RATS ROUTED!

by Shirley Brown



This was "the children's pantomime" - 34 children acting, dancing and clearly having a great time. They looked good, they spoke their lines with confidence and added a special

dimension to Bentham's annual community bonanza which was produced this year by Margaret Cowling and Jane Reas. A notable feature was the number of new names in the programme, and this bodes well for the future.

ACTORS

Nigel Bamford, John Hicks, Christine Best, Liz Cartmell and Jane Reas all performed their major parts well, and there were some stunning cameo roles for other budding actors and actresses. Sarah Taylor looked really comfortable on stage and was ably supported by Roy Denby. Stephen Harford was a star and his interaction with the dream fairies was lovely. Ron Heatley kept his candy floss army in control, while Sally Baren, Heidi Spencer, Alison Murray and Gary Preston did well in their speaking parts, with the vampire sequence particularly effective. Kevin McSherry's confident performance enabled Paul Morphet, Stephen Smith and Django Sankey to shine in their brief appearances.

SETS AND EFFECTS

The sets, designed by Geraldine Holmes, were a great success, and Josh Parkinson's special lighting effects gave a professional edge to the production.

A FUN TIME

The general feeling at the end was that those involved had clearly had fun, and this sense of fun came across to the audience. One stagehand was heard to remark that all

15

the work would have been worth it even if there hadn't been a pantomime at the end of it, because of the comradeship enjoyed by all the participants. Even those advertising in the programme entered into the spirit of the occasion, with witty contributions from The Black Bull, Tom Guy and Armstrongs, among others.

Some of the company hope to put on a play later in the year, so anyone interested in taking part should contact Margaret Cowling (61764).



JACKSONS OF BENTHAM

Now stocking



ROTHENBURGER

PLUMBERS AND ENGINEERS TOOLS

**PART-TIME CLEANER
REQUIRED**

at the

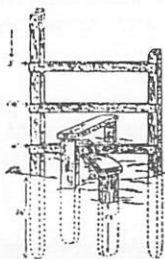
FLYING HORSE SHOE

Tel 05242 51229

BENTHAM FOOTPATH GROUP

by Maureen Ellis

A great deal has already been achieved and we are only two months into 1994.



Conservation Work on Footpaths

Stone step stiles have been repaired at both Crowtrees and Branstone Beck. A further list of tasks for the coming six months has been circulated by Barry

Greenwood (tel Ingleton 42072) who can be approached with offers of help.

The Forest of Bowland Management Service has put steps in St. John's Bank Wood, Low Bentham above the new footbridge built by Bentham School. The climb up the steep bank to Robert Hall is much improved especially as the line of fall has been slightly amended. There is much appreciation of their action.

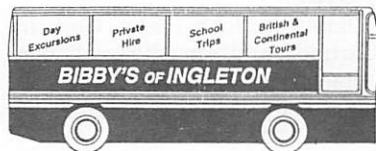
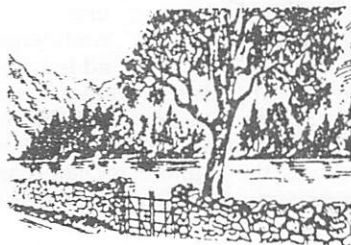
RECENT WALKS

Sunday 16th January. This sunny afternoon one of the largest numbers of people to take part in a BFG Walk (45) did the circuit on the south side of Bentham taking in Flannagill and Holly Tree. Ken Walton ably lead the walk.

Saturday 29th January: On a very unwelcoming day 8 members did a circuit around Chapel le Dale. Low cloud eliminated nearly all the "views" and it was uncomfortably windy. However the Beezley Falls in full spate were spectacular. Walks are about views, matching oneself against the elements and many other things. Frank Royston's experienced leadership gave a good idea of how to enjoy "Three Peaks" territory without adding to the erosion of principal tourist routes.

Sunday 13th February. Verena Smith constructed a splendidly variable walk of village and quarries, going over the fellside and into the Ribble Valley. From the Scar Top lay-by, foreground hills were bluegreen, trailing off into middle distance blue and the far distance silhouettes of pale

grey. Limestone and skeleton trees of February cold were one of the features of this winter walk. Smearsett Scar and Pot Scar were features as Feizor was approached. Up the hill and onto the fells and we looked over to Helwith Bridge and its adjacent quarry. Then past Hargreaves Barn and down through pretty Little Stainforth to the wooded Ribble Valley and on through Stackhouse up to Giggleswick Quarry, and then it was back to the cars.



BIBBY'S OF INGLETON

1994 Coach Holidays

- 14 April Paris Weekend £107
- 14 May 7 days Dunganvan £269
- 22 May 6 days Isle of Man £229*
- (*not 22 June as in February advert)
- 19 June 10 days Austria £339

Ring 05242 41330 for brochure

Concert/Theatre

- 25 Sept Shirley Bassey, Blackpool £38
- 18 Oct "Phantom of the Opera" Manchester £35

Day Excursions

- 23 March Kendal/K Shoes £3.60
- 29 March Blackpool/Fleetwood £4.00
- 7 April Granada Studios Manchester £5.50
- 10 April Spring Daftodil Run £7.00

Pick up a leaflet at Village Pet Supplies,
Station Road, Bentham

YOUR LETTERS



Dear Dog Owners,

Me and my mum are very concerned about the dog dirt on the pavements all the way up Station Road. We have to get off the pavements onto the road at least three times every morning on the way to school. Sometimes my mum has to get onto the road with the pushchair, right on the bridge, which is very narrow and it is very dangerous for us all. We would be very grateful if all dog owners could pull their dogs on to the roads or grass verge when they know their dogs are going to the toilet.

Thank you very much.

Jemma Telford (age 9)

3, Holme Park,

Wenning Avenue, Benthams.

Dear Benthams News,

In defence of the School Hill Public Toilets, the only ones for miles around, I'd like to say (I live next door to them, I should know) they are tremendously convenient. Dozens of people a day are greatly relieved that they are there. At such moments, who cares about luxury and poshness? And the caretaker does a good job. That's from the inside.

The outside could easily, cheaply be cheered up with paint, cream would be tasteful, though strawberry-pink more fun, and greenery. Russian vine would do the trick in no time. The roof gives a handy platform for fireworks, hurray, and you could put a brass band up there on Gala days.

I've heard some bigwigs talking enthusiastically about knock 'em down, let's have another carpark. Well, thanks, but no thanks. Hideous idea.

More seriously, the Electric Substation does need moving, urgently. It is now officially

are a cause of leukaemia. And kids do still run round the top of the wall, ignoring "Danger of Death" signs, and me shouting. Where can it go? The far end of the Auction Mart yard would save digging up Main Street again. Worth a thought, anyway.

Yours Truly,

Gill Barron.

The Old School, High Benthams.

Dear Editor,

On behalf of the staff and children of this School, we would just like to thank the parents and friends of the school for their help in collecting cards of stamps from the Co-op. We collected 118 Gold Award cards and have been able to order small games and P.E. equipment.

In particular, we would like to mention Colin and the staff at the Co-op for their help and assistance.

Yours sincerely

David Johnson (Headmaster)

High Benthams C.P. School.

Benthams.

BILL HOULSWORTH

Time Served

PAINTER & DECORATOR

5, Lairgill,
High Benthams
Nr. Lancaster
Tel 05242 62369



BAMFORD'S

FRUITERS & FLORISTS.

7, Main St., High Benthams, Tel: 61904

MOTHERING SUNDAY

13th MARCH

Show her that she's special.

Bouquets, arrangements, plants and foil balloons. all delivered FREE in the Benthams area.

HIGH BENTHAM TOY LIBRARY

by Lynda Rushton

We are now open with 30 signed up members and 62 toys to hire. At the opening we raised over £195, including a cheque for £75 from Angus Fire and a £5 voucher from the Early Learning Centre. This will allow us to buy toys to replace some that are at present on hire from Skipton. Raffle prize winners were Marina Harrison, R.D. Carter, Diane Hilton, Kathleen Rushton, Sue Lis, Wendy Kitching, Shirley Garnet, Julie Taylor, Irene Cooper, Tom Brown, C. Scott, Linda Mooreby, Andrew Ridgley, Shan Lockwood. Thanks to all the shops who for donated prizes. The Guess the Weight of the Cake was won by Katherine Smith. 2lbs 10oz.

A Bulk Buy system is now available where items like cardboard, coloured paper, glue, crayons, paints etc can be bought at lower prices. We hope this will prove popular and help promote learning ideas. In Skipton the Bulk Buy system and Toy Library run well side by side.

The Design-a-Poster competition was won by Sarah Dobson, age 10, from High Bentham. Runners up were Catherine Denby, age 8, from Ingleton and Andrew Robinson, age 10, from High Bentham.

We have found that the larger toys are the most popular, with some already booked out for the next month. Anyone who would like to join or to know more are welcome to come along or ring Lynda on (05242) 62383.

MACDONALDS

SHOE SALES & REPAIRS

11, Main Street, High Bentham

Tel 05242 61370

REPAIRS

and

ALL TYPES OF FOOTWEAR
AVAILABLE.

HEAT LOGS VERY HOT NO SPARKS

- 1 - 4 BAGS £2.25 EACH
- 5+ BAGS £2.00 EACH
- KINDLING WOOD £2.75 PER
LARGE BAG

FREE DELIVERY

TEL 61229

FISHERS of Bentham Tel 61349

Come and see our

SPRING COLLECTIONS of

*Jacques Vert, Cinch and match set by
Lerose and various makes.*

Open all day Saturday

Stationery Supplies - Card, Paper, Pens, Pencils, etc.

Computer Supplies - Cables, Disks, Listing Paper, Printer Ribbons, etc.

Disk Transfers from 5¹/₄ to 3¹/₂ DD or HD and vice versa

Image Scanning Service and Consultancy available

All types of Printing available

Photocopy and Fax Bureau service

Call for further information



The Bentham Print Shop • Main Street • Bentham • LA2 7HJ
Telephone 05242 - 62180 Fax 05242 - 62450

BENTHAM PEOPLE

PERSONAL THANKS

HARRISON - The family of the late Charlie Harrison would like to thank all friends for their kind words, many messages of sympathy and cards of condolence. Special thanks to the staff of Bentham Health Centre, Brown & Whittaker, Holy Trinity Church, Wray and Anley Hall.

*** **

BALKIN - Doctor Mark Balkin - Chief Chemist for George Angus & Co, Bentham and Newcastle from 1931 - 1971, died recently in hospital. Since the death of his wife, 15 years ago, he has resided with two of his daughters.

*** **

BROWNSWORD - The family of the late Alice Brownsword of Sunnyside, who died in St. John's Hospice on the 12th February, aged 79 years, thank relatives and friends for their kindness and sympathy. Special thanks are given to the staff of the Hospice whose care and compassion was unsurpassable.

*** **

TAYLOR - Bryan and Daphne, Green Smithy, would sincerely like to thank family, relations and many friends for all their help, get well messages, cards, gifts and visits during Bryan's recent stay in the Royal Preston Hospital. Thanks also to Doctors Walker and Nightingale and local district nurses for all their care and attention, which was very much appreciated.

THANKS

High Bentham Playgroup would like to thank Julian and Ann and all the people who supported the competition at The Black Bull Hotel, which raised £100 for Playgroup. It enabled us to purchase two bikes from Bentham Sportswear and other equipment.

*** **

Drs. Story, Walker, Sullivan and Nightingale would like to thank everyone who has given so generously to the Extra Care Fund. We have already purchased

Enuresis alarm, a Foetal Heart Monitor, 2 Propulse ear syringers, an Ultra Violet Lamp, a Cryotec machine, Physiotherapy cones, a Perinoemeter and a new operating couch. There are still several items that we are hoping to buy e.g. an Impedence Tympanogram (for hearing tests), and we hope that future donations will allow the practice to keep purchasing equipment which enables the practice to offer a wider range of services to our patients.

On behalf of the Patients who have benefitted, we would once again like to thank everyone who has donated.

*** **

I would like to inform those people genuinely interested, that my mother, Mrs Ruth Gorst is now residing at Hartland House, Beetham Road, Milnthorpe, having spent 50 years in Bentham. When we came here in 1944 we were told it took 50 years to "Belong", so mother has fulfilled that qualification, and many others in the minds of those who know her well. Patricia R. Jackson.

FOR SALE

Leisure Gas Cooker Excellent condition £100 O.N.O. Tel Bentham 62789.

ZANUSSI Fridge/ Freezer. Very good condition £75. O.N.O. Tel 62789.

TO LET

Semi furnished flat - Main Street, High Bentham. Tel (05242) - 61367 or 62809.

*** **

3 bed flat to let, possible 3 sharing, male or female. Bob Swithenbank, 7, Station Road. Tel 62191.

WANTED

Elderly gentleman returning from abroad, seeks flat or cottage to rent in High or Low Bentham. Tel 62049.

NOTICE - Could everyone who has borrowed books from The Old School, please return them soon. Cheers folks.

INGLETON TWINNING and the FRENCH CONNECTION

by Liz Neale

Ingleton Twinning Committee has, for some time, been negotiating with a small French town and last year saw the fulfilment of that endeavour, when a group of local people went to La Chapelle des Marais, to join in the first part of the twinning procedure with the ceremony of signing the Twinning Charter there in France, followed by some very enjoyable celebration events.

A similar Twinning ceremony and celebration weekend is being organised here in Ingleton, which will take place from 20th to 22nd May 1994.

Ingleton Middle School has built up a good liaison with a French school near La Chapelle des Marais and children have been exchanging letters and information for some time, which has culminated in the organisation of a school trip at the beginning of April, with a return visit by the French school a few weeks later. Clapham and Ingleton Primary Schools have exchanged letters and pictures with two primary schools, and all the primary schools that feed into Ingleton Middle School helped produce a lovely circular collage depicting local features from our natural environment that was presented to the people of La Chapelle during the Twinning Ceremony. Ingleton Twinning

20

Group would like to extend a very warm welcome to everyone in the local community, in and around Ingleton, including High and Low Bentham, to join in with all our celebrations.

The main ceremony and procession will be on the Saturday afternoon and we would welcome anyone who would like to join us with / without fancy dress on a European Friendship theme. Please look out for posters and leaflets with further details nearer the time.

We would also be very grateful to hear from anyone who feels they could offer accommodation for our visitors during the weekend as there is quite a large group of French friends hoping to join us.

Offers of help and further details from Liz Neale Tel 41155.

J. McManus M.B.P.S

STAFFORD HOUSE
BENTHAM, LANCASTER. LA2 7HL
TEL: 05242 61733

- Prescriptions dispensed with patients records, automatic warnings and any drug interaction reports.
- Delivery service for prescriptions where necessary: please ask if required.
- Ostomy supplies and surgical hosiery supplies.
- Oxygen equipment supplied and cylinders delivered and changed as required.



THE COMPLETE BUILDING SERVICE WITH A REPUTATION BUILT ON QUALITY

C.M. SLINGER & SONS LTD

EXPERTS FOR:-

HOUSES - OFFICES - INDUSTRIAL UNITS - SHOPS - HOTELS ETC.

• TILING & SLATING • NEW ROOFS & ROOF REPAIRS • BUILT-UP FELT ROOFING • GUTTERING / CHIMNEY WORK

STORM DAMAGE, INSURANCE AND GRANT WORK WELCOME

ALL OUR WORK IS FULLY GUARANTEED AND CARRIED OUT BY TIME SERVED, QUALIFIED, TRADESMEN
FOR IMMEDIATE PROFESSIONAL, PERSONAL ATTENTION CONTACT

BENTHAM (05242) 61333

51 MAIN STREET, BENTHAM, NR LANCASTER

ESTABLISHED 1820

GARDENING COLUMN

by Joyce Knapp of Bentham Organic Gardening Group

Once the weather begins to warm up and the soil is reasonably dry we can start preparing the vegetable plot. The first thing I usually do is dig over the ground, to loosen the soil, and remove the weeds before they develop strong roots. This is also the time when I clear any ground which was sown with green manure the previous autumn. Green manure is a crop

Grazing rye



grown (usually through winter) to enrich the soil and / or improve its structure. I grow grazing rye because its extensive root system makes it very good for

breaking down my clay soil. In the spring I cut off the tops, which I add to the compost heap and lightly fork over the ground which breaks down easily. There are other advantages to growing green manure such as:- preventing the rain from washing away valuable plant foods; keeping the temperature and moisture level of the soil more constant and suppressing weeds.

Sowing Time at Last!

March is the month we have all been waiting for - seeds sowing time at last. When sowing vegetable seeds I sow a small number of cauliflower, cabbage and lettuce to produce early crops, which will be ready to eat before those sown outdoors in April. I usually put two seeds per 4" pot in organic seed compost and put them in the greenhouse to maintain an even temperature. I also sow seeds of half-hardy annuals e.g. asters, marigolds and petunias and flowers suitable for hanging baskets such as:- lobelia and nasturtiums. I start the seeds off in seed trays of moist compost and cover them with glass and paper (to keep in moisture and exclude light) removing the covers when the seedlings appear. When

21

the seedlings are large enough to handle I pot them on to individual yogurt pots of compost where they grow on until planted out in late May. The seed of the poached egg plant (*Limnanthes Douglasii*) a half-hardy annual can be sown in late March directly in the ground around rose bushes and fruit trees. Its yellow and white open flowers attract hoverflies whose grubs eat enormous numbers of aphids e.g. greenfly, thereby helping with pest control. The poached egg plant self seeds and may start to take over in which case it can easily be controlled by hoeing.

Attention to Roses

In mid to late March, just before growth begins, I finish pruning my roses, a job which was started at the end of flowering the previous year. Firstly I cut out any broken or diseased stems and remove crossing branches and spindley shoots. Then I cut back the remaining strong shoots to 5 - 7 buds and weaker ones to 2 - 3 buds. Once the roses are pruned I give them a generous helping of well rotted manure and if the soil was poor a sprinkling of bonemeal would be beneficial. Bonemeal supplies phosphorous and nitrogen releasing them slowly to plants throughout the growing season. This should only be applied every third year because annual application would lead to a build-up in the soil.

Please write with your questions and queries about organic gardening. The Bentham Organic Gardening Group meets every first Tuesday evening of the month.

Rachels Cycle Surgery

Rachel C. Murton

- Qualified Cycle Mechanic (City & Guilds)
- Full Service and Repairs
- Reconditioning of Second Hand Cycles
- Free collection & Delivery

PARK COTTAGE,
DEER PARK LANE,
HORNBY.

Tel (05242) 21763

RECORD REVIEW

by David Greenep

DURAN DURAN - ORDINARY WORLD TOUR Sheffield Arena - 24 January 1994

I was pleasantly surprised at this concert, as I thought it would be very "poppy", but it was more like rock with heavy bass and excellent guitars and hardly any synthesizers. The concert was held at Sheffield Arena but should have been in a concert hall as they only sold enough tickets to fill half of the Arena. The show started at 8.30pm and they played for just over two hours, including *Rio*, *Girls on Film* and the more recent *Ordinary World*. This is the kind of concert where you don't need to know the songs at all, as it is very light and thoroughly enjoyable.

I give Duran Duran Live 8/10, though it would have been a better atmosphere in a smaller place. Also look out for their new covers album which is out soon, including a David Bowie cover.

MANIC STREET PREACHERS Sheffield University - 5 February 1994

Manic Street Preachers have only had two albums out but have become tremendously successful through them. The Manics played non-stop, churning out hits including *Motorcycle Emptiness*, *Slash 'N' Burn*, *La Tristesse Durera* and *Roses In The Hospital*, strange names but excellent songs. This was a well packed concert with a great atmosphere with singer James Dean Bradfield flying all over the stage doing both lead vocals and lead guitar without stopping once, which made the crowds come alive.

I give The Manics 7/10. Sadly it seemed rushed and incomplete without an encore.

OBITUARY

by Jean West

JOHN CAPSTICK

John Capstick farmed at Summerfield for many years. He will be remembered by older Bentham people as the 'Lane House Dairy' milk man delivering milk by horse and cart with milkchurns. Peggy, his horse, was a favourite with us children. Later on he delivered by van. He was a very friendly man with a word for everyone.

On retirement he moved to "Criffell", Springfield and despite deteriorating eyesight kept busy with his garden. He was a familiar figure in Bentham helping Mrs Capstick with the shopping.

He will be sadly missed by his wife, family and all his friends.

CRAVEN COLLEGE

PERSONAL CAREER DEVELOPMENT

FREE COURSE FOR THE UNEMPLOYED

A 10 week course where you will receive practical help and advice towards self development to improve your chances of employment

CHILD/DEPENDENT CARE & TRAVEL
ALLOWANCES AVAILABLE.

Further details from:
Central Admissions,
Craven College,
High Street, Skipton,
N.Yorks BD23 1JY
Tel: 0756 791411 Fax: 0756 794872



RECIPES

by Doreen Park

TWO FISHY DISHES FOR A CHANGE

CRUNCHY TOPPED HADDOCK CASSEROLE

1lb fresh skinned fillet of haddock
2 ozs button mushrooms, sliced
1 tblsp parsley, chopped
salt and pepper
1 large onion chopped
1 oz butter
8 ozs fresh tomatoes, skinned and sliced

TOPPING

6 slices crustless bread, well buttered
1 oz grated cheddar cheese

Arrange haddock fillets in a buttered shallow oven proof dish.

Fry onion in butter until soft, add mushrooms and fry for a further minute.

Stir in parsley, season well with salt and pepper, pour over the fish.

Cover and bake in a moderate oven for about 40 minutes.

Cut slices of bread into triangles then arrange on a baking sheet close together.

Sprinkle over grated cheese and bake on shelf below the fish.

Arrange triangles round the outside of the fish before serving.

23

RUSSIAN FISH PIE

8ozs white fish e.g. cod or haddock
1 oz butter
3 tblsp flour
1/4 pint milk
2 tblsp parsley chopped
salt and pepper
1 hard boiled egg, shelled and chopped
7 1/2 oz pkt frozen puff pastry
beaten egg to glaze

Cook and flake the fish retaining 1/4pt of the cooking liquid.

Melt the butter and stir in the flour and cook for 2 to 3 minutes.

Remove the pan from the heat and gradually stir in the fish liquid mixed with the milk.

Bring to the boil and continue to stir until the mixture thickens.

Mix half the with the flaked fish, parsley, salt and pepper and chopped egg.

Thinly roll out the pastry into a fairly large square and place on a baking sheet.

Put the filling in the centre in a square shape.

Brush the edges of the pastry with beaten egg and draw them up to the centre to form an envelope shape. Press the edges well together and flake and scallop them. Brush the pie with the beaten egg.

Bake in a moderately hot oven (400f gas mark 6) for about 30 minutes until golden brown.

Serve with remaining parsley sauce.

CASUALS

44, Main Street, High Bentham.

Stockists of Ladies and Gents wear

WE STOCK LARGE SIZES TOO

Now displaying collectables for

HENRY'S, PYES MILL

Tel 61707.

HENRY'S Pyes Mill

Tel 61900.

**HOUSE CLEARANCES
SECOND HAND FURNITURE**

*Open Wed, Fri 12 - 4.30pm
Sat 10am - 4.30pm.*

**Collectables now on display at
CASUALS, 44, Main Street, Bentham.**

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, Jane Callus, Keith Cowling, Christine Hodson, Ken Robertson, Kate Steele, Jean West, Pam Woof and our co-ordinator Lesley Barker.

BENTHAM NEWS can be sent anywhere in the UK for an annual subscription of £7, or anywhere in the world for £12.

To place an advert in BN please contact our advertising manager Jane on Bentham 62277. Items for publication can be left at Bentham Sportswear, Station Road.

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.

BENTHAM NEWS is printed at LOGO LABELS, Main Street, High Bentham. Tel (05242) 62180.

TAYLORS

Ophthalmic Opticians

G. N. Theobald F.B.C.O.

Mount Pleasant House, High Bentham.

Open Wednesday 9am - 6pm

Tel 0524 32915 for an appointment



CHURCH SERVICES

St. Maragret's C of E, High Bentham.

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

St. John the Baptist, Low Bentham.

1st Sunday 9.30am Parish Communion (ASB), 2nd Sunday 9.30am Morning Prayer. 3rd Sunday Parish Communion (ASB). 4th Sunday 9.30am Holy Communion (BCP). 10.30 Family Service. 5th Sunday 9.30am Parish Communion (BCP).

St Bonifaces Catholic Church

Saturday 6.30pm. Sunday 9.30am. 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. Bright Hour 2.15pm alternate Tuesdays. Springboard 7 - 10 years Monday 6.15pm. Breakout 11 - 13 years Wednesday 7pm.

Methodist Church, Low Bentham.

Afternoon Service 2pm. Friendly Hour 2nd Thursday each month 2.15pm.

Religious Society of Friends, Quakers.

Calf Cop, Low Bentham.

Meeting for Worship, 10.30am on 2nd and 4th Sundays. All welcome. Any enquiries please ring 62365.