

BENTHAM NEWS

LOCAL BRIGADE AT CHAPEL-LE-DALE FIRE

By G.Blackwell, Officer in Charge, Bentham

At 1111 hours on 13th May the first of many calls was received to this incident at West Moss Forest, Chapel-Le-Dale. Two appliances, one from Bentham and the other from Settle, each with a crew of five men, were mobilised. On reaching Bentham Golf Club the sight of smoke between Ingleborough and Whernside told us it was not going to be a false alarm. Twelve minutes later we pulled up and saw about two acres of burning grassland rapidly heading for the forest. A quick check on available water supplies and the message "make pumps four" was sent. For the next twenty minutes the fire was fought with 800 gallons of water and 9 beaters.

The arrival of pumps from Kirkby Lonsdale and Hawes eased the water problem a little but not sufficiently, so a water bowser was requested.



With the fire now running through the grass and trees faster than it could be controlled, a further two pumps were requested from Sedbergh and Hornby. The northern front of the fire was put out first and then all six crews concentrated on the western edge. By 1330 hours we had the fire surrounded, and were winning. At 1450 hours the fire was almost out but damping down of hot spots continued till 1700 hours. In all, about 65,000 sq.metres were involved and around 100 trees damaged. Six pumping appliances, 1 water bowser, 35 men and women and a very welcome canteen unit attended, along with Police and Ambulance Services. If it were not for the skills of the retained crews, the damage would have been far worse.

(Ed-See comments by Councillor Ralph Atkinson on page 5 about the need for more young people to join the Fire Service locally).

This Monday is Gala Day!

The Gala Procession will be led by the Zambumba Band starting at 1.00pm from Cleveland Square car park. Don't forget the fancy dress and decorated pram competition. See the Satellite Dream Tent and enjoy Martyn's Magic and lots of other side shows and stalls. The Fell Race starts at 2.30pm and the first runners are due back about 3.30pm. And don't forget to buy an egg for Lotto the Golden Chicken to lay. First prize is £50, for the egg that goes the furthest. The second prize is £25 and third is £10. See you there!

Methodist Minister to Move

Waves of shock rolled over the Methodist Church congregation after morning worship on May 14th when the Rev. Nick Paterson announced that the Methodist Conference Stationing Committee has directed that he goes to Hemel Hempstead, Herts, as Superintendent Minister from August 1995. Nick preaches God's love and expresses that love in his pastoral care. During their two years with us Nick and his wife Marilyn have enriched the life of the church and community. We wish them God's peace and blessing in their obedience to His will.

HARRY REE CELEBRATION LECTURE

By Trevor Wear, Headteacher

Settle High School and Community College is pleased to announce this year's lecture celebrating the contribution made by Harry Ree to educational thought and practice. This is an enjoyable and thought-provoking annual event, held near the anniversary of Harry's death, which is proving popular both with those who knew and loved Harry, and with those who know about him from others.

This year's speaker is George Walker, who is Director-General of the International School in Geneva, a school with 2,800 students of 110 different nationalities, speaking 80 different languages. Mr. Walker was a student of chemistry and music, a science teacher, a university lecturer in education, a Deputy Head and a Headteacher before taking up his present post. His lecture is entitled "To Educate the Nations", and will draw on his experience of national and international education, which will reflect the 'international dimension' which was so important to Harry Ree in his thinking and writing.

Anyone wishing to attend this event is most welcome to do so. The lecture will take place on Tuesday 6th June at 7.30pm at Settle High School. A light buffet will be served after the lecture, and admission is by ticket only. Tickets can be obtained from the school (01729) 822451.

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A GOOD TIME WAS HAD BY ALL

By Judith Johnson

On Saturday 6th May, a group of folk from Bentham and Burton walked across Morecambe Bay - an event organised to raise funds for local churches. Not only was the company good, but the weather was glorious. 120 people of all ages completed the crossing, raising about £1,000 in sponsorship, and thoroughly enjoying themselves into the bargain.

Due to the wonderful week of dry weather leading up to the crossing, we were only knee-deep in water as we crossed the river channels, except, of course, for those who enjoyed sitting in them! The crossing was memorable and fascinating, with no eventful incidents thanks to the care taken by our expert guides. We were very pleased to see Cedric Robinson, our guide, looking fit and well after his operation last year, and we are grateful to him, and the other guides, for showing us safely across.

V.E.Day at Low Bentham

By Mrs. H. Ashton

The clock was turned back on 8th May at Low Bentham Primary School for the Spring Fair and V.E. Day tea. There was an abundance of floral frocks, aprons and even a couple of land girls, as the ladies of the village dressed in 40's style. Music, bunting, Union Jacks, and military equipment added to the atmosphere.

Sideshows and games were devised and organised by the children. The Gala King, Queen, and attendants were selected as follows:- Gala King, Richard Blackwell - Gala Queen, Emma Hurtle - Attendants Lisa Hodgson, Lisa Stephenson and Sadie Carter-Brown, - Page boy, Shaun Earl. The celebrations ended with a lively and hard fought rounders match. The Friends of the School would like to thank everyone who helped organise the event, donated cakes, prizes, bric-a-brac etc. and supported them on the day. The event raised just over £350 towards the new outdoor play area.

TOWN COUNCIL

By W.Kennedy

Election of Officers

After confirmation of minutes of the previous meeting, the election of officers took place. The nomination of Mr. Joel for the position of Mayor, by Mr. Hewitt, was unanimous. Mr. Joel thanked members for their support, adding that this year he will complete 50 years of public service on the council. There were two nominations for the position of Deputy Mayor; Mr. Marshall, proposed by Mr. Joel, and Mrs. Preston, proposed by Mr. Baker. Mr. Marshall was appointed on a 6-3 vote.

Committees and representatives were appointed as follows. Street lighting, Planning, Market, Town Hall Maintenance - the full council. Footpaths (joint) - Miss Dowbiggin, Mr. Atkinson, Mr. Moody, Mr. Ellershaw. Playing Fields Association - Mrs. Preston. Youth Club - Mrs. Preston. LASRUG - Mrs West.

Police

P.C.Kay advised that there was nothing of importance to report. He was aware of the accident on Low Bentham road, involving a car which collided with a Council bench. This had apparently been placed on the road by vandals. Commenting on the article in the Bentham News, about a policeman being "spotted" on a bicycle, he confirmed that it was an official police cycle, for general use by police officers in the area, to augment mobile and foot patrols.

Highway Matters

Details of the proposals for grass verge parking at Low Bentham, had been passed to Craven District Council, and it is hoped that there will be some response in time for the next meeting.

Mrs. West raised a parking complaint on behalf of Mrs Atkinson, at Parkinson Farm. This should be resolved by the new waiting restrictions which have been approved by North Yorkshire County Council Highways Department. These will be implemented soon.

Local Action for Justice and Peace.

Mrs. West referred the council to the decision at the last meeting to refuse a grant to the local Action for Justice and Peace. She felt that the decision had been taken without sufficient understanding of the aims and objectives of the organisation, and that one of the stalls at "A Fair Do" recently, had given some councillors the wrong impression of LAJP. The general aims of Local Action for Justice and Peace are to improve the lot of under-privileged people in the third world, and are in line with christian teaching. Father P. Smythe had sent a copy of a letter outlining the aims of LAJP to all councillors, but some were not convinced. On a motion to rescind the previous minute regarding non-approval of a grant, the voting was 5-5, but the casting vote of the new Mayor was against rescinding. So the non-approval stands.

Bentham Development Trust

Mr. Baker confirmed that the position of full time Director had not been filled. The position had been accepted but later refused, by the successful applicant. Further advertising is to take place and it is hoped that an appointment will be made in the near future.

Council seats

Miss Dowbiggin suggested that local people or organisations be given the opportunity to donate seats for suitable sites around Bentham, as the existing ones are in poor condition. Anyone wishing to do so should contact Miss Dowbiggin or the Town Clerk.

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GOOD LUCK KATE!

By The BN Editorial Committee

This month's Bentham News will be the first for about 8 years that will happen without any help at all from Kate. Yes, the sad fact is that Kate Steele, a long-serving and hard-working member of our committee, has left Bentham, and will hopefully now be starting her new life and new job in Bristol. We will miss her tremendously, and would like to thank her here, publicly, for all the good times we have had together.

Our committee is rather depleted at the moment, as Keith Dixon (Lucius Redman) has also resigned due to pressure of other commitments. If you would like to venture tentatively into community journalism, or could suggest someone who might, then please have a word with any of the present committee. Making Bentham News happen is hard work, sometimes frustrating but nearly always enjoyable, and we'd welcome anyone who'd like to join us.

CRAVEN DISABILITY ROADSHOW

By Pamela Osborne

A lively disability roadshow is "hitting the road" in June. It will feature in Ingleton, at Ingleborough Community Centre on Friday 30th June from 10.30am-3.00pm and also at Settle market, on a smaller scale, on Tuesday 27th June.

The roadshow is bringing together lots of people giving demonstrations and displays on aromatherapy, homeopathy, reflexology, arts and music, local services, practical support, benefits and finances, and much more. It offers a real chance to find out about local opportunities for people with physical and sensory disabilities, to meet new people, and to start to get ideas off the ground. There will be free refreshments, live "easy listening" music and a free prize draw. Everybody is welcome! For more information please phone 01756-799299, during office hours.

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COUNCIL CONCERNS



By Councillor Ralph Atkinson

First of all an apology! Last month I wrote that the consultations with our council house tenants were the "statutory" ones. I was corrected by John Pilkington, Chairman of Housing. Apparently the statutory consultations are so expensive that Housing Committee decided on preliminary informal ones to test the water. These having proved negative - tenants are well satisfied with our services - the statutory ones will be postponed for another year.

District Council Elections

With all the national furore over the district council elections a lot of local people were puzzled why we in North Craven were not involved. Craven elects a third of its councillors each year for three years, then, as each councillor is elected for four years, there is a gap of a year. This year it was our turn not to have an election. There will be elections in May next year for both the Ingleborough and Bentham wards, when John Clapham and John Pilkington's seats are up for election. In the elections for the District Council the Lib/Dems won three extra seats and Labour 2 extra, so the Council is now as follows: Conservatives 6 Liberal Democrats 17, Independants 6 Labour 5. So it is still a balanced council (I don't like the word "hung") with the Chairman (a Liberal Democrat this year!) having the casting vote. Let's hope she doesn't have to use that too often.

Strong Bright Young Chaps Wanted

Visiting the Fire Station on its open day the other week I was most impressed with the new fire engine - a great improvement on the old one. But volunteer firemen are still wanted to make up numbers and take a bit of the pressure off the present chaps. The demands are not great, the camaraderie is fantastic, the skills learnt are endlessly useful for crises and for life in general and you will be making an enormous contribution to the community. So, you

young chaps why not give it a try. Apply at the Fire Station - I only wish I were a bit younger!

Education Cuts

The cuts in school spending aren't such as to necessitate losing teachers, in this area, as has happened in the rest of the country. We are still struggling with the Community Education allocations and it looks as if we are going to have to face reductions in our youth workers. The argument that this may lead to more disaffection in our young people has had no effect whatsoever.

Recycling

After a brief hiatus, due to substantial rises in costs having to be approved by council, the 2nd phase of the recycling programme can now go ahead. By September we should have improved bins at Ingleton and Bentham for your use and a better collection system in place. This will not mean any loss to the voluntary groups which have been doing this work and I'd like to thank them for their efforts in the last few years.

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BENTHAM & INGLETON CANCER CARE

BICC is a new group to support women who live locally and need cancer care and has been set up as the need for a local support group had been recognized. BICC is open to any woman who has received, or is receiving, cancer care, regardless of how recent or long ago.

The first meeting was well attended and it was decided to meet regularly. BICC will be part of Airedale Cancer Care, having some initial help from their care nurses, with access to their information, practical support and newsletters.

BICC meets on Tuesday 13th June in the Grasmere Room in Bentham Surgery, from 7.00-8.30pm. All are welcome. Contact Shirley, tel 61370, or Louise, tel 42405.

LANCASTER SCANNER & HOSPICE

By Mary Frankland

My sincere thanks to all who helped to make the coffee morning on 13th May, in aid of the above, such a success. Special thanks to the working party and Sid and Ann who supplied milk. £313 has been donated to each of these causes.

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BIBBY'S OF INGLETON

GARDENING PAGE



By Jo Taylor

June 25/26 Organic Gardening Weekend Open Days

Well it is National Organic Gardening weekend again and for those who don't know, the Henry Doubleday Research Association has for the past 3 years encouraged and supported local organic gardening groups, like ours, to open their gardens to the public. Lots of gardens all over the country will be open on the same weekend.

We have three gardens open this year. My own at Marshes Farm, Wennington, from 10.00am - 5.00pm on the Saturday and Sunday. There will be various organic techniques to see in operation, such as a carrot fly barrier, mulches, slug control, worm bins, compost bins, land clearance, pond and a recycling display, plus lots more. We will be serving strawberry cream teas, scones etc. There will also be some garden quizzes for you to enter, with prizes for the winners.

Pauline Henry's garden at Mill Farm is well worth a visit, with its pond, fruit cage and large beautiful garden. There will be plants for sale, and the garden is open on Saturday and Sunday from 10.00am-5.00pm.

Nancy and Roy Pallit at Melling are also opening their garden. This is on a natural theme with interesting features including raised beds, wild flower area,

and an electronic leaf that Roy made, for watering the greenhouse. He has had many years experience of worm bins, and several will be on display. This garden will be open on both days from 10.00am-4.00pm.

Why be organic?

People often ask "why be organic"? Well for me it is the only way I can garden with care and consideration for the environment. For many people "Organic" has been a search for healthier food. Most organic gardeners are aware of the limitations of being totally organic. Consider simple things like cow muck. Cows need to be fed organic food and no antibiotics. Well this seems an almost impossible situation in our current systems. So the Henry Doubleday Research Association states that we do the best we can. It follows closely the standards of the British Organic movement, and the E.U. produces organic guidelines to help cover all aspects of gardening. These include soil management rotation, pest and disease management, weed control etc. A leaflet covering this can be obtained from HDRA, Ryton Garden, Coventry CV8 3LG. If anyone is seriously interested in organic techniques, joining the HDRA is invaluable. Our local organic group meets on the first Monday each month. Contact Jo Taylor on 21776, or Pauline Henry on 21722, for more information.



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BENTHAM SILVER BAND

By David Johnson

Sometime ago, a vase exhibited on "The Antiques Road Show" displayed the names of Brass Band Competitions won by the Black Dyke Mills Band, and there, clearly visible among the list was "The Bentham Brass Band Competition". I have been talking to Jim Robinson, who has been able to throw some light on Bentham Band, an interesting and often forgotten organisation.

The Band was formed in the 1860s, and flourished for just over a century, involving many villagers in a varied and busy musical life. The Band's official title was Bentham Silver Band, and their uniform was blue serge with silver trimmings. As recently as the 1960s it had 30-40 active members, and toured the district playing for galas and fairs in nearby towns such as Carnforth and Milnthorpe. Christmas was a particularly hectic period with performances taking place on evenings, weekends and even Christmas Day itself.

Blowing our own trumpet!

It was successful in championships too, going to Belle Vue, Manchester in the 1950s, and coming 6th out of 30 at the first attempt, and 4th out of 28 on another occasion. The band also participated in The Hardraw Scar and Barnoldswick Competitions. The winner of the Bentham Brass Band Competition was awarded the Tradesman's Cup (I wonder where it is

now). Jim Robinson recalls three conductors, namely J Patterson of Giggleswick, and Tom Watkinson and Ed Duckworth from Lancaster. During his time the Band Masters were George Leeming and Jack Parker, and the Presidents were R C Ford, W Wilkinson and Bert Slinger.

Where to rehearse?

They also had a bewildering variety of practice rooms. In 1936-7 they met in the old Catholic School at "Knowetop" on Low Bentham Road. 1938 saw a move to the Town Hall Balcony, until it was refurbished. They then moved to the Church Hall (Tintabernacle) in Station Road, until it was burnt down in 1949. After that they met in the Primary School as part of the West Riding Evening Class scheme, before again shifting venue to the Liberal Club on Station Road. Finally they used an upstairs room at the rear of the Royal Oak (now Turner's offices).

The Band owned its own instruments and music, some coming from the Ingleton Colliery Band. When support eventually ebbed, these were dispersed between the Giggleswick and Kirkby Lonsdale Bands, but some instruments still remain in Bentham. We still have a cornet at the Primary School, and there are probably others around Bentham.

How sad that a thriving organisation, with such a proud history, should fail so quickly. What a pity it does not exist today.



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BENTHAM PEOPLE

Personal Thanks

Wilson, the daughter and sister of the late Elsie Wilson, wish to thank all relatives, friends and neighbours for cards, letters and donations received during their recent bereavement. Thanks to all at Bentham Health Centre, and also to the Rev. Jackson of Wray and Brown & Whittaker, Funeral Directors, for their helpful and dignified arrangements.

Thanks

Ex Landlady/cleaner etc., would like to thank her customers/friends old and new for their kind acceptance in her reign, cut short because of surplus requirements, at the Coach House. Thanks to Kath J.C. for their support and teamwork, to Malc/Liz and Margaret. Sorry for any inconvenience caused. Will miss the boys but not *The Old Goat*. See you around the other side of the bars. Regards Judy.

Birthday

Blackwell, Happy 18th Michael, love Mum, Dad, Janet, Gavin, Richard.

For Sale

Canon 35mm, 50m 1.8lens plus Vivitar 70-210 zoom 2.8 lens. Lowe Pro bag. Bell & Howell super 8 sound camera and projector, Paterson colour printing system including enlarger. Excellent condition. £200 ono. Will split. tel 62492.

2 wall mounted gas convector heaters. £30 ono. tel 62277.

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Services

Shelley Duncan, pianos tuned, repaired and sold. Tel 62532.

You could use a small ad like this to sell items which others may find useful or have a need for.

Staff Vacancy

Steward or Stewardess for Bentham Sports Club, approximately 25hrs per week, will consider two people working alternate weeks. Please reply to Mrs.L.Bentham, Secretary, Tel 61562.

N.S.P.C.C. Collection

The recent house to house collection held in High and Low Bentham and Burton-in-Lonsdale, for the N.S.P.C.C. realised £881.82. Many thanks to everyone who helped and supported this event.

Delightful Display by Rondo Ballet

By Jane Callus

On the 19th and 20th May we were treated once again to a feast of local talent, when the Rondo ballet School, run by Gillian Hurst, put on its annual ballet show.

The first half of the programme was in the form of divertissements, when each class, tap, modern, Spanish and ballet, did a set routine. The second half presented us with Acts 1 & 2 from *La Fille Mal Gardée*. This is a delightful ballet and it was a captivating performance of the highest standard.

Congratulations must go to Miss Hurst and her colleagues, for a presentation which reflected all their hard work, and enthralled the audiences.



ABBNEYFIELD

If you have financial/accounting skills and would like to help a worthwhile local charity, Abbeyfield Bentham Society is looking for an Honorary Treasurer.

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BENTHAM FOOTPATH GROUP

By Maureen Ellis

The quarterly meeting took place on the 9th May in the Town Hall and it was acknowledged that the condition of the local footpaths was quite good, with a few problem areas still in need of attention to bring them up to standard. The conservation and waymarking programmes need to be continued.

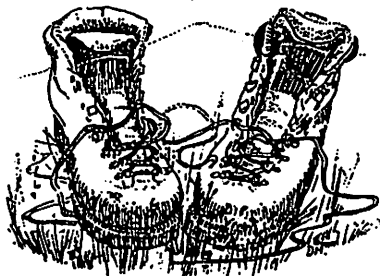
Mary Hudson and Sue Pilkington have once again put a great deal of time into the organisation and printing of the programme of walks for May-October 1995. The distinctive orange card is available from the treasurer, Verena Smith, on receipt of the membership fee of £2. Ten members had a delightful weekend away at Cold Keld, organised by Joan Clapham and I very much hope it will be repeated.

The 3 Thomas Dixon walks took place in the early part of May coinciding with the VE Day anniversary celebrations. A more detailed description of the walks is being prepared separately. The driving force behind this venture was Len Moody, who, with Frank Royston and Deborah and George Pickett, lead a total of 35 people over the three days. The walks trace the Wenning from its source below Ingleborough summit to its confluence with the Lune west of Hornby.

In line with green conservation ethics there was discussion of the group using public transport to and from the walks. There was also general support for the

chairman's affirmation that walks further afield were welcome, but the distinctive function of the BFG is to utilize, appreciate and care for footpaths within a radius of approximately 5 miles from Bentham.

There has been an invitation to contribute walks to a programme being developed by Craven District Planning Department to make use of the Skipton-Morecambe railway line for Sept '95 to May '96. The chairman, David Stubbs, listed 5 footpath projects in the Bentham area which would be undertaken if Bentham decides to apply for inclusion in the North Yorkshire Parish Partnership Project.



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LOCAL EVENTS IN JUNE

- Thu 1st High Bentham W.I.members evening. 7.30pm Town Hall. Competition "An old candlestick"
- Fri 2nd Cuerclo Espanol meeting in the Sun Dial, Low Bentham.
6.30pm. Men's Tennis Match versus Windermere at the playing field.
- Sat 3rd St.Margaret's coffee morning in the Town Hall, 10.00am-12.00noon.
- Sun 4th High Bentham Methodist Chapel Anniversary Services, 10.30am and 6.30pm. Speaker Rev.Margaret Lawday, Soloist Jennifer Martindale.
- Mon 5th Town Council meeting in the Town Hall at 7.30pm.
- Tue 6th Angus Pensioners coach trip to York. Pick up Low Bentham 9.00am, High Bentham (End of Lakeber Drive) 9.05am, Angus Works 9.15am.
Toy Library in the Youth Centre, 9.30-11.30am.
Bentham Child Health Clinic in the Surgery 1.00-4.00pm.

Wed 7th Disability Information Service in Craven. Local session in the Grasmere Room, Bentham Health Centre, 10.00am-12noon.

N.S.P.C.C. Monthly Meeting at Oxenforth Green, at 7.30pm.

Wed 7th Bentham Footpath Group walk, 4 miles, Greystonegill area, leader Jean Clapham, 62326. Please meet at Bentham Bridge at 6.30pm.

Fri 9th Modern & Old Time Dancing in the Town Hall 7.45-10.45pm. £1.20 includes tea and biscuits.

6.30pm Men's Tennis Match versus Arnside A at the playing field.

Sat 10th Bentham Footpath Group walk, 8-10 miles, Howgill Walk, leader Charlie Proctor, 61654. Please meet at Lairgill at 10.00am.

Low Bentham Playgroup coffee morning in the Town Hall, 10.00am-12.00noon.

St John's Summer Music Concert (see Churches Page, page 16, for details)

Lowgill Sheepdog Trials at Lowgill village, Tatham Fells at 8.00am. Sports commence at 1.00pm.

Sun 11th Ewecross Historical Society outing. Please meet at Middleton Fell Inn at 1.45pm. Contact Geoff Brown, 41331.

Tue 13th Bentham & Ingleton Cancer Care meeting in the Grasmere Room, Bentham Surgery, 7.00-8.30pm. (see page 6)

Thu 15th Low Bentham Women's Institute Members Night in the Institute at 7.30pm.

Deadline for copy for next issue of Bentham News.

Listing for Local Events

Day.....Date.....

Event.....

Venue.....

Contact.....Tel.....

Please complete and return to Bill Kennedy, 1 Lakeber Avenue, or hand in to Bentham Sportswear, Station Rd, by 15th.

Fri 16th Waste Paper Collection at the Legion Hall 8.30-11.00am. Proceeds to NSPCC.

Cuerclo Espanol meeting in the Sun Dial, Low Bentham.

Sat 17th Play Scheme coffee morning in Town Hall 10.00am-12.00noon.

Bentham Footpath Group walk, 9 miles, Whitebarrow, leader Frank Yates, 61375. Please meet at Lairgill at 9.30am.

Sun 18th Bentham Footpath Group walk, Family ramble, 3-4miles, leaders Ann & Trevor Dobson, 61210. Please meet at Bentham Bridge at 2.00pm.

Tue 20th Toy Library in the Youth Centre, 9.30-11.30am.

Bentham Child Health Clinic in the Surgery 1.00-4.00pm.

Wed 21st Bentham Agricultural Society coffee evening/bring and buy at Linghaw Farm, Bentham, by kind permission of Mr. & Mrs. Butterfield, 7.00pm. Admission £1.

Sat 24th Methodist Chapel coffee morning in the Town Hall 10.00am-12.00noon.

Sun 25th St. John's Patronal Festival (see Churches page, page 16, for details).

Tue 27th Bentham Footpath Group walk, 11 miles, Turbary Yordas cave, leader Barry Greenwood 42072. Please meet at Lairgill/Ingleton at 9.30am.

Wed 28th 10.00am-4.00pm Parkinson Farm Garden Open Day, by kind permission of Mr. & Mrs. C. Atkinson. In aid of Christian Aid. Cakes, plants & refreshments. Admission 50p.

2.00-4.00pm Open afternoon at Abbeyfield, Main Street. Light refreshments available, come and look around, all welcome.

Fri 30th The Disability Roadshow, Ingleton Community Centre 10.30am-3.00pm. All welcome, refreshments served.

Fri 30th St. Margaret's summer concert at 7.30pm. (see churches page, page 16, for details)

6.30pm Men's Tennis Match versus Burneside at the playing field.

Bentham News Published

Local Events in July

Sat 1st 10.00am-4.00pm Parkinson Farm Garden Open Day, by kind permission of Mr. & Mrs. C. Atkinson. In aid of NSPCC. Cakes, plants and refreshments. Admission 50p.

St. Margaret's Mothers Union coffee morning in the Town Hall, 10.00am.-12.00noon.

Bentham Footpath Group walk, Kirkby Lonsdale Circular, 12 miles, leader Geoff Huddart, 61700. Please meet at Lairgill at 10.00am.

Mon 3rd Town Council meeting in the Town Hall 7.30pm.

Thu 6th High Bentham Women's Institute meeting in the Town Hall at 7.30pm. Mr G. Rennie - Stick dressing. Competition - A dressed peg doll.

Sat 8th St. John's Vicarage garden Party at the Burton-in-Lonsdale Vicarage, 2.30pm.

Sun 9th Bentham Footpath Group walk, Cold Cotes, 7 miles, leader David Stubbs, 61430. Please meet at Lairgill at 10.30am.

Wed 12th Annual coffee morning in aid of Shelter, at Burncroft, Robin Lane. In garden, weather permitting. Raffle & Bring and Buy.

BENTHAM & DISTRICT CAMERA CLUB

By P. Marshall

Do you enjoy using a camera? If you do, why not come along and join in our activities. Although we admire the skills of those members who can develop black and white enlargements in their home dark-rooms, most of us produce commercially processed colour slides or 6" x 4" colour prints. We all learn as we go along, but the main objective is to have pleasure both from taking part in the informal competitions, and from viewing the pictures taken by other members and visiting speakers. Our first date in September is with "A naturalist in East Africa".

For only £7.50 per year (£6 for seniors) you can come along to 19 events between September and May. By joining during the summer, however, you can make sure that

on your holidays you watch for entries suitable for the theme competitions which take place during the winter. This year themes include:- water, windows, patterns, a Christmas card and Bentham scenes and activities.

For further information please contact Peter Marshall, Bentham 62512, or Sheila Avery, Ingleton 42388. A copy of the programme can be obtained from them, or Bentham Tourist Information Centre.

Did you leave Ingleton School in July 1970?

By Sharon Haslam

If you left Ingleton School in July 1970 and are interested in a class reunion, then read on. If you were in the same year as Sharon Haslam (Oldfield), Tony Harrison, Malcolm Telford, Pauline Hird (Cornthwaite) and David Robinson, and fancy a get together at the Bridge Inn, Ingleton on Saturday 29th July, then phone either Sharon Haslam 62018, or Tony Harrison 62105 between 9am and 5pm.

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MORE FREEDOM FOR POST OFFICE

By Alison Wilken, Postmistress

After two and a half years of Government uncertainty over the future of the Post Office, the President of the Board of Trade has announced a new framework for Post Office activities.

The Government has agreed not to take more than about 50% of forecast profits, which taken together with a proposal to relax capital investment controls, will mean that the Post Office will be able to undertake more investment for the benefit of customers and meet external competition threats more effectively.

The Post Office will also be able to put forward proposals for new ventures in related activities, joint or otherwise.

However, the Government intends to ensure that the Post Office is run as efficiently as possible by appointing consultants to review its operation. It will also insist that funds for any expansion will be met from increased efficiency, not from increased prices.

Taken as a whole the statement goes a considerable way to giving the Post Office the additional freedom it sought, whilst retaining it within the Public Sector, and as such, is to be welcomed, even at this late stage. Hopefully this will be the last word on the subject!

J. McManus M.B.S.

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CHURCHES PAGE

Compiled by Judith Johnson

St. John's

June and July promise to be busy at St. John's, the first event being the annual Summer Music Concert on Saturday 10th June at 7.30pm. Last year this was a most enjoyable, informal event, full of variety from local singers and musicians performing in large and small groups and not forgetting the Sunday School. Do come along.

On 25th June we hold our St. John's Patronal Festival when we have an opportunity to enjoy a day of friendship and celebration. The day starts with a Family Service at 10.30am. including the collection of Smartie tubes, given out in March, to aid our refurbishment fund. We then transfer to High Bentham School where we can picnic and play games and sports on the School field. Let's hope the weather is fine! There is a display of photographs at the back of the church if you want to see how we enjoyed ourselves last year.

The Vicarage Garden Party is at Burton-in-Lonsdale on 8th July at 2.30pm. This is a lovely garden with stalls and refreshments. Anyone is welcome to join with members of our other two churches of Burton and Thornton.

St. Boniface

By Father P.A.Smythe

On Saturday 27th May there will be a "Spring Sausage Sizzle" barbecue in the church forecourt at 7.30pm. Adults £2.50 and children free. Proceeds to parish funds. On Thursday 15th June the Feast "Corpus et Sanguinis Christi". Sacrament of First Eucharist (First Holy Communions) at evening Mass, 7.30pm. The Diocesan Bishop's Visitation is on Sunday 23rd June. The Sacrament of Confirmation is at 9.30am. Mass Preparation of candidates and congregation will take place on the Sundays following the Feast of Pentecost (at and after the morning Mass)

Holy days - Holidays

By Rev. N. Patterson.

Time quickly hurries by, the seasons being unevenly spaced. It seems I have no sooner gone just past Christmas, and I am stood on the doorstep of Easter. Each season, of course is marked by its distinctive character.

Or is it? Are we not in danger of simply marking our calendar and assuming it is just another holiday. Admittedly we do different things. We still hold something of the occasion; at Christmas it was the toys and the parties, at Easter it was chocolate eggs and hot cross buns; and there the distinctiveness ended.

What happened to holy days, these times and seasons that not only marked our calendar but also became times of deeper awareness of God's wonderful provision for us? The incoming light of Christmas and the wonder of the child. The cruelty and the awesomeness of the Easter event. If we don't keep these we are left with only the empty shell; a holiday, but not fully understanding why? Please don't run away with the idea that these lines and this page are intended to be the conscience twinges of Bentham. It is hopefully going to be an opportunity to take a sideways glance at the events, maybe an occasional exploding of the myth with regard to our understanding of religion. You know the ones like "religion is boring" - yes it is, I agree, but faith is exciting. Or if you are "churchy" you are miserable, when in fact faith repeatedly talks of joy.

Let these be opportunities to show that experience.

St. Margaret's

A "Summer Concert" will take place in the church on Saturday 1st July at 7.30pm, with local choirs and musicians. This event is in celebration of the renovation of the organ. Admission £2.

The Patronal Festival, St Margaret's Day, is on Thursday 23rd July. Eucharist 7.30pm. On Sunday 23rd July the celebrant and preacher at the Parish Eucharist will be Rev. J. Dalby, Vicar of Austwick & Clapham.

BENTHAM DEVELOPMENT TRUST UPDATE

By Vi Christensen

Trust Office Opens

Many of you will have noticed by now that the Bentham Development Trust office has opened on the Main Street, between the Post Office and the Chemist. We would like to thank Jacksons for letting us use part of their premises for this, and a special thanks to Linda who made a very welcome 'cuppa' for Brian Cowling and me on the day that we were decorating it. Thanks also to Henry Hayton for helping us equip the office, and to Gerry Holmes and Gill Barron for lending us some of their paintings to cheer up the walls - it now looks as if we've been here for years! We are open weekdays (except Thursday) from 9 to 3.30, and anyone is most welcome to pop in. Come and find out what we are about and share your ideas about Bentham's future. If you haven't joined yet then you can pick up a form, and if you have, then you can collect your membership certificate.

Project Director: Second Attempt

Now we just need a director to put in the office who can start to make things happen! As we reported last month, our first effort to make an appointment was unsuccessful, so we have had to go through the whole process again, and will be interviewing on 2nd June. We have had an excellent response to our advertisement, with some very interesting applications, so are hopeful of being successful this time. If you would like to come and meet the short-listed candidates, you are most welcome to join us during the lunch break, between 1.15 and 2.15 in the Black Bull. Thank you, Julian, for putting up with us again.

What Is The Bentham Development Trust?

For those of you who feel unsure about what all this is about, can I just remind you of some of the things that have happened so far to bring things to this stage. In 1993 the

Bentham Community Trust commissioned a study to prepare a regeneration strategy for Bentham. This study took place between September 1993 and March 1994, with hundreds of Bentham people coming forward with their ideas about what was important for the town, both now and in the future. There were "Good, Bad and Ugly" workshops, talks to local organisations, surveys of local businesses and interviews with local people.

What Is Regeneration?

Regeneration is about enhancing all the positive aspects of an area, while seeking out new opportunities to improve the environment, the quality of services provided and the economy. It is about the future well-being of a community, and as the word 're-generation' suggests, it is essentially about ensuring a future for the next generation.

Vision 2020

Our vision for the future is that those living and working in Bentham will have a high quality of life, both in terms of the environment, the facilities available and employment opportunities. We think there will still be an agricultural base together with a manufacturing sector, with service industries being key. We want Bentham to be a positive place to live, and for this we hope to encourage as much community involvement in the regeneration process as possible.

Please let us know how you see Bentham in 2020, and together we can make it happen.

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RECIPES

By Doreen Park

Crunchy Mustard Chicken

This wonderful crispy crusted chicken looks as if it had been deep fried, but is baked in the oven. Please try and make your own breadcrumbs with day old white bread - remove the crusts and whizz in your processor or liquidizer. This serves four and you will require:-

- 4x4oz skinned boneless chicken breasts
- 6 tablespoons wholegrain mustard
- 2 small slices cooked ham, halved
- 2 oz melted butter
- 4 ozs breadcrumbs
- 2 tablespoons plain flour
- 1 egg, beaten
- 4 tablespoons mayonnaise
- 4 tablespoons sour cream

First pre-heat the oven to 375F or gas mark 5. Remove the fillets, the loose pieces of flesh on the underside of each chicken breast, and flatten slightly with the palm of your hand. Spread the underside of each chicken breast with ½ teaspoon of mustard and cover with a piece of ham and then the fillet.

Mix the butter and breadcrumbs. Dip each breast in flour, the egg and then the breadcrumbs. Lay on greased racks over roasting dish and cook for 25 minutes. Mix the mayonnaise with the sour cream, the rest of the mustard and salt and pepper. Serve with the chicken and new potatoes, carrots and peas.

As a complement to the chicken dish try this Choco Addicts Delight, which is whipped up in a trice, and serves four.

Mocha Pots

- 1 tablespoon instant coffee
- 5 ozs plain chocolate
- 2 pints double cream
- ½ pint vanilla flavoured yoghurt
- 2 tablespoons dark soft brown sugar
- extra grated chocolate for decoration

Dissolve the instant coffee in 3 tablespoons of boiling water. Put this in a bowl with three ounces of the chocolate and place over simmering water. Stir until melted then set aside and allow to cool for 2 minutes.

Place the cream in a bowl and whip until it forms soft peaks, but make sure that it is not too stiff. Set aside 4 tablespoons of the cream to use for decorating the dessert later. Mix the yoghurt with the dark brown sugar, gently fold into the whipped cream, with the melted chocolate and coffee, until it is evenly mixed.

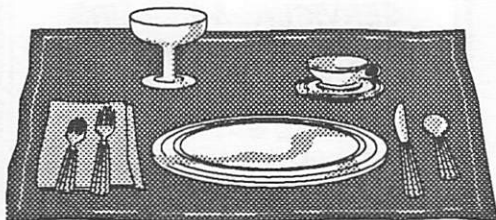
Spoon half the mixture into four teacups. Grate the rest of the chocolate and sprinkle on top. Spoon over the rest of the creamy mixture. Chill and then decorate with whipped cream and chocolate.

High Bentham Women's Institute

By Doreen Park

The May meeting of High Bentham Women's Institute took the form of a party to celebrate the Institute's 2nd birthday in Bentham. Resolutions were discussed and voted on and this was followed by a most enjoyable quiz. Birthday cake and scones were served by the committee. The competition for the most items in a match box was won by Mrs. M. Slinger with 77.

The catering band of Women's Institute members would like all stall holders, carbooters, visitors etc to know that they will be making and selling sandwiches and scones on the morning of Gala Day. After last year's experience they realised the need for this! The cake stall will be in the afternoon.



FARMING DIARY

By Our Farming Correspondent

We started May with a beautiful, warm, dry week, which was great for getting the cattle out into the fields, and for making the grass grow. But since then, we have had cold wind and frosts at night, and this has slowed the rate of growth of the grass. Maybe it will have to rain before it gets warmer again, but I hope it isn't wet when we are ready to start silaging at the end of May, or early June. We have been doing some repairs to the silo wall, and this is important as we have to be careful not to let any silo effluent get into water courses.

Young Farmers Compete

One Saturday in May, the Settle region of Young Farmers' Clubs, including clubs from Burton-in-Lonsdale, Lawkland, Rathmell and Coniston Cold, held a rally in the Auction Mart. As part of the rally, the young people competed against each other, judging cows, sheep, goats, pigs and poultry. There were also flower arranging and cookery competitions. The winners will go on to Harrogate to compete at County level, and some may even get to the Royal Show.

Friesian Club Judging

May is also the month when the Lancashire Friesian Club runs three stock judging nights on different farms, often attracting as many as 300 people, both young and old. Points are awarded each week for getting the cows in the same order as the judges, and total points for all three nights are then added up, and the winners receive silver trophies, which they keep for a year.

Sheep Shearing

Lambing time is almost over, and we have just a few late ones to come. To keep the lambs healthy, we have to dose them against worms, now and every month. The farmers' work with the sheep doesn't end here though, as the sheep are now eating new grass which has the effect of scouring

them out. To keep the wool as clean as possible, and to enable us to sell the fleece free from dirt, the sheep need to be clipped round their rear parts. In June we will be shearing the sheep. Nowadays this is mostly done with electric machinery, so the job is not as back-breaking as it was in the old days when we used hand-clippers. This year it looks as if we will get a better price for the wool as world demand is high. Last year, the price we got for the wool hardly paid for someone to do the clipping.

APRIL RAINFALL IN BENTHAM

Figures supplied by Mrs. M. Foster

After the excessive rainfall earlier in the year, this April has been the driest since 1984, with a rainfall of 0.6 inches, much lower than the average for April, which is 2.6 inches. The middle of the month was especially cold, with showers of snow and hail and a very cold wind.

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Dear Editor,

The 8th of May was VE Day. VE means Victory in Europe Day. It is the remembrance day from the war. The two minute silence was very nice. It was good watching all the people standing quiet and the fires were good.

All the best for people that worked in the war. Thank you for fighting or else we would be Germans.

Richard Blackwell, aged nine and a half.
Lairgill, High Bentham.



STOP PRESS

Flamenco dancers in town tonight!

By Jane Callus

Don't forget that tonight Friday 26th May in the Town Hall at 7.30pm you have an opportunity to see the exciting and colourful "Jaleo" Flamenco Dancers, all the way from Seville. Come along and bring your friends and neighbours.

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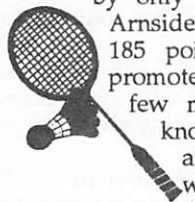
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SPORTS REPORT

Compiled by Janette Richardson

Badminton by Diane Lister, Captain

Wenning B team had an excellent season, missing out on being Division 6 champions by only 1 point! Final result, Arnside 186 points, Wenning B 185 points. Both teams are promoted to Division 5. The last few matches had been tense, knowing that we could not afford to lose many games with the scores so close.



Andrew Chappell and Diane Lister finished the season on a high, winning the mixed double levels restricted to Divisions 6 & 7, at Salt Ayre, Lancaster.

Team:- Andrew Chappell, Ian Wood, Aidan Dawson, Geoff Higgin, Reserves:- David Fisher, Adrian Humpage, William Adam and Paul Hodgkinson.

Ladies:- Diane Lister, Yvonne Mcfarlane, Jillian Taylor, Morag Taylor and Louise Adam.

Thanks to the team for a successful season.

Fell Running

This is great fell running country, with one of the classics, The Three Peaks, on our doorstep. This year's race saw Jason Hodgson finish a very creditable 17th in 3 hours 21 minutes, and this at his first attempt! Jason is now 22, and a student in Sheffield. Well done!

Football

Craven Wanderers U16's by Brian Mottram Results over the last month have, to say the least, been disappointing. Playing away at Carnforth Grasshoppers, with only 10 men, there was no score at half time, but we eventually lost by 4-2. We lost two matches with Lune Valley, both 4-2, and away to Lancaster we had a game to forget, being down 7-0 at half time. After some re-arrangement, we played better in the second half, losing by 8-1. Anybody interested in running the U16's next season should contact Christine Tallon, secretary, on 62047.



The U14's and U12's season has ended. The U12's were runners up in the league, Division 2, and won most of their matches. They were unfortunate in losing to Lancaster City in the semi-final of the Speight Cup.

Craven Wanderers had a games night on 10th April at the Craven Heifer, Ingleton. The aim was to raise money for funds, but mostly to have an enjoyable social evening for players and families. Thanks to Bud for a lot of hard work and organisation, ensuring the evening was well attended and voted a success by everybody. After many games of pool, darts, and dominoes, and a pie and pea supper, congratulations went to winners Paul and Barry Lister, with runners up Lewis and Simon. A big thanks to Bud, the Craven Heifer and all who gave raffle prizes.

(This football report was not included in the May issue, due to pressure on space).



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EDITORIAL INFORMATION

BENTHAM NEWS is published at "Latharna", High Bentham, by an editorial committee consisting of Shirley Brown, Tom Cahill, Jane Callus, Keith Cowling, Christine Hodson, Judith Johnson, Ken Robertson, Jean West, Pam Woof, and our co-ordinator, Bill Kennedy, who can be contacted on 62492.

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 advertisement in the BN please contact our advertising manager Jane Callus on 62277. Items for publication may be left at Bentham Sportswear, Station Road. Please include your name, address and telephone number. 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, Telephone (015242) 62180.

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TENNIS COURT VANDALISM

By Shirley Brown

Bentham is one of the few towns in the country to offer the facility of two well-maintained tennis courts which are available for members of the public to play on free of charge.

Because of the position of the courts near to the play area, and not directly overlooked, they have always been subject to vandalism. Sometimes this is just thoughtless and playful, but sometimes it is also deliberately malicious. Nets are ripped, posts are broken, wire is cut, and sometime last year someone even carefully removed the basketball ring from its backing board by cutting it out. The costs involved in sorting out this damage are considerable, both financially and in terms of the distress caused to those who have worked hard to make the area a pleasant amenity for all to use.

If we want our tennis courts to remain playable, for tennis, netball and five-a-side football, we all need to take greater care of them. If you see behaviour on the courts which is clearly causing damage, then please say something to the people involved, or report it to Bentham News and we will take some action. Informing the police is another tactic, but we can't rely solely on the police to deal with all our local difficulties.

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BETTER BENCHES?

By Shirley Brown

The Town Council is checking and repairing the benches situated by the side of roads and footpaths in the Bentham area. Some of these are old, and many have been repaired before, so the Town Council would like to hear from anyone who might be interested in donating a bench. This could perhaps be given in memory of someone, or by way of giving thanks for something, or could be a way of sharing some personal good fortune with those who live in or pass through Bentham. If you would like to discuss this idea further, please contact the Town Clerk, Reg Pointon (tel: 61596).

Multi-Use Games Pitch for Burton-in-Lonsdale

By Susan Gregory

The results of a 1993 village appraisal in Burton-in-Lonsdale highlighted a need for a tennis court in the village. The idea of a new court has been taken on board by an enthusiastic team of fund-raisers, and the project, called Burton Community Sports, is set to raise £35,000 in just under 18 months. The facility will provide an all weather surface, initially for tennis, football and basketball. Other ball games will be catered for, suitable for the young and not so young. Burton Community Sports was launched on 29th April by Cllr. Atkinson, at a revue of performers doing their bit to raise money for the project.

YOUTH CLUB REPORT

By Pauline Hill

Oriental aromas wafted from the club last month when the Boppers enjoyed an evening of wok cookery ending in a feast of Chinese dishes.

For the Fashion Show in the Town Hall we presented our version of Four Weddings and a Funeral - winners were Rebecca Middleton for bridal wear, and Tim Pilkington for the groom's outfit. Thanks to Vorrey and Carmen for their last minute help.

Vorrey Wild will be running stage makeup sessions during June/July, so if you fancy being transformed into something gruesome, or disguised, come along and have a go.

Will there be a Playscheme?

On 5th and 6th June we will have a playscheme meeting with Carol Robinson. Provisional dates for the Playscheme are 24th July to the 4th August. The youngsters have really appreciated these school holiday activities in the past, but this year it will not go ahead without a committed working group. So even if you can only give a few hours during that time, please attend the meeting.

Youth Club Times

Juniors, Mondays 6.00pm-7.30pm
Seniors, Mondays 7.30pm-9.00pm.

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