

BENTHAM NEWS

LOCAL FACILITIES UNDER THREAT?

Inside this month's Bentham News, you will find three items concerning local facilities which, if not given greater support, will be lost to the community.

Did You Know - that Abbeyfield, one of our excellent homes for old people, has a number of vacancies? Those who are involved in the running of Abbeyfield think that probably local people are not aware of just how pleasant and convenient the home is, and would like to stress that unless a few more people choose to take up residence there, the very future of the home is at risk. Read more on page 10.

Did You Know - that High Bentham's Playing Field is owned by Angus Fire? They lease it to the Playing Fields Association, and it's up to local people to look after it and to raise the funds necessary to provide its sporting facilities. If we don't, then we lose the field, its play area, tennis and netball courts, pavilion, and football and cricket pitches. Read more on page 24.

Did You Know - that the Bentham News Directory, Bentham's own Yellow Pages, might never happen? If you think it's a good idea, you need to let us know! You also need to give us the information to include in it. Read more on page 19.

And, on a different theme, **did you know** that it's possible to cycle non-stop for 24 hours, averaging about 20 mph? No, we find it hard to believe too, but the man who did it lives in Bentham and you can read more on page 23.

BENTHAM'S FIRST SHOW - 1857!

In a Bentham Show article on the front page of our August edition, we asked if anyone could tell us about the first Bentham Show. We were delighted to hear from Mrs. Sedgewick, Staggarth, Bentham, who was able to give us some information.

The first Bentham Show took place on 14th October, 1857. Mrs Sedgewick has a silver cup awarded at that first show, for three classes of sheep, to George Sedgewick the great uncle of her father-in-law.

We have passed this information to an officer of the present Agricultural Society committee, who would be pleased to hear from anyone else who can shed further light on the first show. Our thanks to Mrs. Sedgewick for her interesting news.

125th Show - 2nd September 1995

Just a reminder that the 125th Bentham Agricultural Show takes place tomorrow, Saturday 2nd September. One of the most obvious attractions is the Bay Radio Roadshow, but there are lots of events and things to interest old and young alike. These include Barclay's Bouncing Castle, Henry Slinger's barrel organ, dog show, show jumping, trade stands, and St John's marquee for a rest. Don't miss it, it should be a fun day!



HIGH BENTHAM WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

By Doreen Park

The August meeting took the form of a coach outing for members and friends to the Creamery at Hawes, where we gained an insight into the making of Wensleydale cheese. This was followed by sampling! Then we went to Richmond for tea. Mrs. Hayton, who organised the trip, was thanked by Mrs. Wilson.

At the recent coffee morning £174 was raised and the raffle was won by M. Lawson. Don't forget to visit the Women's Institute stall at Bentham Show on the 2nd September. New members are always welcome. Our next meeting, on the 7th September will be addressed by Mrs Joan Farrer, on the topic, "Reginald Farrer, the boy - the man". The competition is "Flower arrangement in an eggcup". The Annual General Meeting will held be on 5th October.

HORNBY OCCASIONALS

By Stella Kenyon

The Hornby Occasionals will begin rehearsing in the Hornby Institute, at 7.30 pm. on Friday 15th September. The rehearsals will continue weekly till the end of March 1996, when the Occasionals will put on the stage production of "Utopia Ltd", by Gilbert and Sullivan.

Men are especially needed but any new singers will be welcome! For more details contact Stella on 015242 - 21579.



Rondo Ballet School

The new term begins on Monday 11th September. There are classes from 3 years of age to adult, in ballet, modern, tap and flamenco, at Low Bentham Institute.



Enquiries to Gillian Hurst, 42286.

COMMUNITY EDUCATION BENTHAM AUTUMN 1995

Monday	French (ST. Martins LDC Basic)	Burton-in-Lonsdale Primary School, 7.30-9.30pm.	£5.00 (30 weeks)
Tuesday	Community Leaders Award	Sports Bentham Youth Centre, 7.30-9.30pm	£5.00 (10 weeks)
Thursday	ART (Open College of the North West)	Bentham Youth Centre 7.30-9.30pm.	£5.00 (30 weeks)
	Creative Embroidery (College Certificate)	High Bentham Primary School 7.30-9.30pm.	£5.00 (30 weeks)
	Tai Chi.	Bentham Youth Centre 7.30-9.30pm)	£33.00 (10 weeks) Concessions available.

Further Details can be obtained, and enrolments accepted, at the Craven College Opportunity Shop, Unit 1, Millers Court, High Bentham.

TOWN COUNCIL

By W. Kennedy

Police

P.C. Kay reported on crime in the area for the first six months of the year. There were 52 crimes reported as compared to 41 in the same period last year, an increase of 26.8%. Some arrests had been made and one person is awaiting court proceedings for burglary. Mr. Marshall and Miss Dowbiggin asked if anything could be done about the rowdy behaviour and public noise problem, mostly on Main Street, in the early hours of the morning but were advised by the police officer that this was a matter for the Environmental Department at Craven District Council, rather than the police! *Do the residents in the area, some of them elderly, really have to continue to suffer from the loutish anti social behaviour of a few thoughtless yobs? A more obvious police presence at these times might solve the problem.*

Pavement parking at Lakeber Drive and Robin Lane is to be investigated by P.C.Kay. Crime figures Jan-June are:-

Assault	4	Burglary	16
Damage	13	Theft	9
Fraud	1	Autocrime	9

Goodenber Road Play Area

Ms V. Christensen reported on Bentham Development Trust's involvement with the Play Area and asked for council assistance in relation to VAT and insurance on the proposed purchases of equipment. It was not expected that there would be any problem in reclaiming VAT on behalf of the Trust as there was a precedent for this procedure in Gargrave. The Town Clerk had also had verbal assurances from VAT sources. Mr. Hurtley asked if the money to purchase equipment would be available prior to ordering it; this was confirmed. In principle, the council agreed to give the support requested, provided that all details of the arrangements were in writing. The Trust, and Ms Christensen were congratulated on the scheme's progress.

Traffic Calming

Traffic calming (rumble strips and sleeping policemen to you and me), on the roads coming into Bentham, cannot be considered until the appointment of a replacement for the late Mr. W. Martin, of N.Y.C.C. Highways Department. Mr. Pilkington reported on a recent visit to France where different types of Traffic Calming schemes were operated, and suggested these be considered by the council at the appropriate time. So what is wrong with les gendarmes dormants?

Council Seats

It has now been confirmed that there are 27 seats/benches in the Bentham area. Renovation and repair is needed and Mr. Woof is to assess what work is involved, so that a specification can be drawn up for tendering purposes. There have been eight offers of donated seats.

Making Bentham More Attractive

Miss Dowbiggin commented on the possibility of improving the village image with street floral decorations, hanging baskets, etc. during the summer months. It was agreed to review the suggestion early next year.

Tree Trimming, Station Road

The responsibility for this work has finally been tracked (no pun intended) down to Railtrack, but due to the complicated system now in operation, there is little hope of any immediate attention.

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BENTHAM CAMP

By David Johnson

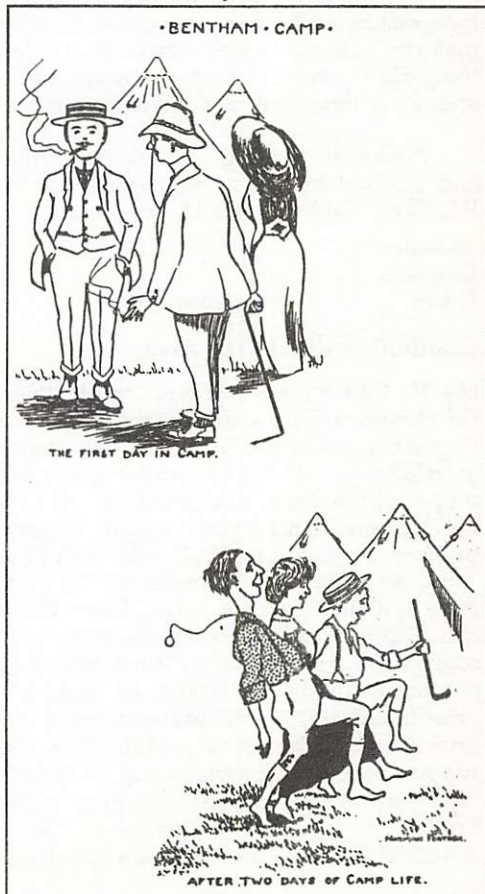
Did you know that Bentham provided the setting for one of the first holiday camps in the country? Between 1908 and 1925, a tented village would spring up on the banks of the Wenning between High and Low Bentham in an area, now eroded, known locally as 'Camp Hole'. Bentham Camp lay on each side of the river, just above a small waterfall. The cascade, which still exists today, made both a pool for swimmers and a shallow backwater for young children.

Bentham Camp was the brainchild of Joe Hainsworth, who lived at Rose Bank, Robin Lane, and it was he who later also developed the cinema, at what is now Burndale Residential Home. Most of the campers came by train from the Bradford/Leeds area, and were met at the station either by Joe, his brother Walter or his son Reg, and then escorted to the camp. In 1912, a week's stay cost 19/6d for single men and youths over 15, but ladies and family parties had to pay 21/- per head for 'certain minor amenities'. The price included accommodation and four good meals a day. Boarded tents for the ladies were located near the water's edge on the southern side of the river, and a compound of larger tents ("the wilderness") for married couples was situated further away from the Wenning with a marquee. Single men campers, other than relatives or specially invited guests, were not allowed in this area, and their tents were on the other side, between the river and the railway line. The two sides were joined by a trestle bridge, but after this was washed away on several occasions, a suspension bridge was built, although this in turn has also gone.

Apart from swimming, Joe organised a hectic schedule of entertainment. In-house concerts and fancy dress events were popular, and the campers played the village cricket and football teams. One account recalls that a cricket match had to be held up to allow the station porter to collect the tickets from the 12 noon train! Joe organised walks to the Big Stone or trips to Clapham

by train, followed by a walk to Clapham Cove and over Ingleborough returning across the fields to Bentham. Campers were given two giant beef sandwiches and a promise of a "slap up" tea provided by the cook, Adelaide Crabtree. Mr Coates, from the Black Bull, sometimes organised Dales Tours in his wagonette.

Reg Hainsworth, Joe's son, likes to recall how Walter (Joe's brother) used to collect fish from the train and cycle back to the camp with the full basket balanced on his head! Reg thinks the camp started to decline after the war, as many men had already spent more time than they cared to remember in army tents, and wanted something different. He also recalls that it was at this time that the motor car started to become popular and people saved for a car rather than a holiday.



COUNCIL CONCERNS

By Councillor Ralph Atkinson



Education Spending

Although North Yorkshire gets one of the lowest allowances of spending per pupil in the country, the County Council has agreed for many years to spend more than this. This year the Govt. has assumed that the education budget as a whole would only increase by 1%, ie. £4 million, but we had to meet the pay increases for teachers awarded by the Govt. of 2.7% (£5m.) and the cost of new pupils (£4m.) As we have minimised the cuts to school budgets to 0.75%, this has meant that the extra £5m. has had to be found from non-school expenditure, eg. youth services.

County DLO Caught Out

In order to win the contracts on School Catering and Cleaning three years ago, the County Council's Commercial organisation (DLO) submitted a very low bid. As a result they won the contracts for many areas but a snag has now appeared. The basis of the bid was lower wages for many of the staff and several dinner ladies took the DLO to the High Court. The ladies won the judgement with the result that some 400 staff have been awarded increases. This will cost the DLO some £2 million. Fortunately this payment will come out of the DLO surpluses and not out of our pockets.

New Housing Proposals

The new consultation paper on housing, "Our Future Homes", which has just been produced by Govt., has points which are both welcome and less welcome. First of the less welcome points is that they propose that the "right to buy" provisions are extended to Housing Association homes. This means that the extensive work we have done on securing cheap sites in the villages may be undermined as landowners will now be reluctant to make these available. Secondly, they propose that commercial landlords should have access to the

Housing Association Grant. As this is restricted, there will be less available for the Housing Association themselves. On the positive side, they propose giving councils the discretion to tailor renovation grants to local and individual circumstances, which will lead to better use of money. Proposals to introduce advance determination of rents which are eligible for housing benefit will also make things easier.

European Grants

As a result of the concerted efforts of a lot of people, we are beginning to win back some of the monies we have paid to Europe. Craven has won monies for a wide range of projects, ranging from grants to small businesses and unemployed young people to sewage disposal systems for some of our villages and the restoration of some of the paths in the Three Peaks. Both Bentham and Ingleton will benefit from successful bids by Craven College for business computer facilities.

Rubbish Disposal

Both Councils have responded sharply to proposals by Govt. to introduce a new levy on rubbish disposal in landfills. Although Govt. say this is to encourage recycling by raising the cost of garbage disposal, we believe it will result in more fly tipping. It would be far better to encourage recycling by raising the level of the credits we get for reducing the tonnage disposed of this way and encouraging the reuse of materials.

J. McManus M.B.B.

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CRAVEN COLLEGE BENTHAM CENTRE

By Cathy Birtwistle

Unit 1 of Millers Court opened as planned at the beginning of August. Unit 1 is the Opportunity Shop where information about courses run by Craven College in North Craven is available. Enrolments can also be accepted in the Opportunity Shop. From the first day the shop opened, we have been busy. There has been intense interest in the whole range of courses which are on offer. As expected, all the computing courses are proving popular but the general education and NVQ courses are also attracting many enrolments.

On 15th August work started on the classroom complex which is on the lower floor. Electrical ducting has been installed for the computers and the benching is now being installed. Plans are being put into action to fully equip the creche, which is available for many of the daytime classes.

Still Time to Enrol

We will continue to be open on Tuesdays and Wednesdays until the 20th September. Don't forget that we are open on Tuesday and Wednesday evenings as well, so that everyone gets the chance to discuss their educational ambitions.

Craven College has put a lot of planning effort and investment into the Centre, which will provide new opportunities in Bentham. So far it looks to be a success!

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UP, UP AND AWAY

By Rita Torr

In the humid sunshine of a recent summer evening, a large, low-flying object was seen invading Low Bentham airspace, causing mowers and barbecues to be hurriedly abandoned, as people came to see what was happening. Even the local constabulary arrived to investigate, to discover a large yellow balloon, with basket and occupants, sinking gently to the ground behind Mr. Hurtley's home. The balloon, still inflated, seemed reluctant to rise again, so it proceeded to give the local children in the gathering crowd, short tethered ascents, before finally packing up.

Heavenly Birthday

Ballooning is a magical experience. The calm quiet atmosphere, high above fields and trees, houses and farms, is unbelievable. My balloon flight was a family surprise marking my 50th birthday. With four other intrepid maiden voyagers, I assisted with ropes and basket as the balloon was inflated by a huge fan-heater. Suddenly it began to lift. The restrained billowing shape was now impatient to be off! Loud shouts encouraged us to embark, which we did with undignified haste, tumbling rather haphazardly into the big square basket, already some inches off the ground. We were off!

No stomach-churning sensation, just a

gentle rise through the still summer air, until we were gazing down on a patchwork of fields, farms and small reservoirs. The sun cast the balloon's tiny shadow slightly ahead of us onto the hazy clouds as we soared and then floated eastwards. We sailed on until the sun set, its last golden rays edging below the horizon and casting thin elongated shadows of trees across new-mown fields.

Down to Earth Again!

We bumped gently down in the stubble, having all been encouraged to lean against the same side of the basket, "to keep us steady" as the balloon began to subside in the opposite direction. The balloon died, was quickly rolled up and stowed with basket into the waiting landrover. We were driven to the nearest hostelry to celebrate. A truly remarkable trip, highlighting a special never-to-be-forgotten birthday. For my 60th some mention has been made of a glider flight....



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Tai Chi

Classes will begin on the date listed.

Enrolment will be on the first night or 18th September at Q.E.S. for the Kirkby Lonsdale class, or at Craven College Offices for the Settle or Bentham Classes.

Thursday (21/9) Bentham Youth Club

8.00 - 9.30 pm (Beginners)

Monday (18/9) Settle Primary School

7.00 - 8.30pm (Beginners)

8.30 - 10.00pm (Advanced)

Tuesday (26/9) Kirkby Lonsdale Q.E.S.

7.30 - 9.00pm (Beginners)

For mor detail call 015242-61403

BENTHAM FOOTPATH GROUP

By Maureen Ellis

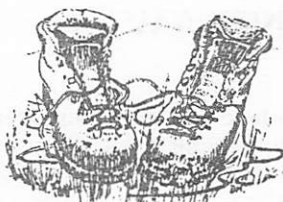
There is hidden effort behind the scenes whereby leaders unerringly take walkers to an almost invisible stile through a wall; and that is preparation time. Joan Clapham described to me how she and Verena Smith spent up to four times as long as Verena's "railway" walk from Giggleswick to Bentham will actually take. I have also had this experience.

Brontë Country

June Burnett bravely deputized as leader for her husband on 22nd July, for the Leck, Cowanbridge, Tunstall circular; the rest of us followed. It could have been named the Brontë walk, with a good smattering of ancient and natural history. A plaque at Cowanbridge reminded us that the Brontë sisters attended school there. They walked each Sunday to Turnstall church, and back, eating their lunches between the two services. A note from one of them relates how cold and miserable an experience it could be, so unlike ours!

We took the path along the north bank of the Leck Beck, helping ourselves to raspberries along the way. We passed through Cantsfield and its stream of flowering watercress. Animal litter informs, and I noticed a peppering of the lane with cherry stones, which prompted David Fisher and me to look up and admire three mature cherry trees, which otherwise would have been missed.

Passing behind Scaleber Farm we reached Burton-in-Lonsdale and left on the northerly path leading to Ireby Hall. To most of us Ireby was a signpost on the A65 and it was very pleasant to walk through a whole village of houses and their summer gardens. Walking back to our cars, we saw purple dashes of Betony lining the southern bank of Leck Beck. So it was thanks to June and Tony Bennett who had constructed and lead the walk allowing the rest of us, with no responsibility, to enjoy the exercise and the ancient buildings, the



meadows and flowers, and each other. Sadly I've missed the other walks in July and August, but there is plenty of enthusiasm for

the variety of times and venues, and praise for the leaders, amongst those who have taken part.

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HEALTH PAGE

By Christine Hodson, Health Visitor

During June I was fortunate to spend a week in Flevoland in Holland, as part of a return exchange visit with a Dutch School Nurse. Flevoland is one of twelve provinces of Holland and a new polder reclaimed from the sea, fifty years ago. The health system provides a similar pattern of care to ours here, but the finances are different.

I worked with a Health Visitor whose work was similar to mine in Bentham with children aged up to five years old. The Health Visitors in Holland work specifically with children and old people, whereas I work in a generic role with people of all ages and in schools. All maternity, child health care and GP services are paid for from private insurances paid for by the individuals. I felt this was reflected by the luxurious office and beautiful purpose built clinic for the babies, and the very regular visits made to the clinics. It was a surprise though, to sit with a GP in the baby clinic, who rolled his cigarettes and drank copious black coffee throughout his consultations! When I expressed amazement about him smoking, his comment was "ah, you English, so prim!"

Working with the GDD

I was part of a team in the GDD, which is the public health department of Holland. This is funded by public money from taxes but under severe cuts (25% in 1994/1995) and so GDD has several income generating schemes including running an "asylum seekers camp" for refugees from thirty two countries, occupational health for factories and private firms to use and comprehensive travel clinics. The GDD has a centre in each small town, like our Health Centres, and the staff there include ambulance staff, school nurses and doctors, clerks and advice staff. Ambulance staff are all trained nurses and intensive care nurses before learning to work in the ambulance service. English schools integrate all children to their local schools

as far as possible, so I was surprised to find that in Holland there are seventeen types of special schools and 10% of children attend special schools.

My command of the Dutch language was nil when I went, and about six words when I came back, so I was very glad that everyone I met was pleased to try their English on me. Prima! (very good).

"George, don't do that!"

Do you work, or plan to work with children? Are you a parent who gets exasperated at times by your child?

On Mondays for 10 weeks from the 18th September, I shall be running a course in the management of children's behaviour, children aged 1-7 years, for Craven College. The course includes key stages of development, methods of behaviour control and looking at all the factors which are linked with behaviour problems. This course could be used towards an NVQ in Childcare, or lead to a college certificate. The venue is Millers Court, Bentham, and costs £5 or free if on benefit. Contact Christine Hodson on 62251 or Craven College in Bentham for further details.

Craven Disability Service

By Pamela Osborne

The Craven Disability Service will be visiting Bentham on 13th September. The session, from 10.00am - 12.00noon, will be in the Grasmere Room, Bentham Health Centre. For more information phone 01756 - 799299 during office hours.

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Dear Editor,

Abbeyfield Under Threat

Through various natural causes, the Abbeyfield House in Bentham has recently lost half of its residents, and this has placed its financial viability under threat. For many years, since it was started by Mr. Neild and his late wife, the Abbeyfield has provided a comfortable home for eight elderly Bentham people. As a non-profit making charity, the home has always been run on a low cost basis. But now with so few residents it is proving difficult to make ends meet. New residents are desperately needed. So if you are considering moving to a home in the near future, or if you know of any elderly person who is finding it difficult to manage on their own, we would be glad to hear from you. Couples can also be accommodated. The Abbeyfield provides each resident with their own bed-sitting room with their own familiar furnishings. Warden facilities, a common sitting/dining room and daily meals are also provided. The house is on the Main Street, right next to the Post Office, so access to shops, pubs, clubs and other facilities is easy.

Yours sincerely,
Ralph Atkinson.

Chairman: Bentham Abbeyfield Society.

Dear Bentham News,

I would like to thank the two ladies who helped me when I came off my bike near the Auction Market. Also I would like to say thankyou to Jean, my neighbour, who helped as well.

I would like to point out to all cyclists how important it is to wear a helmet. If I had not worn one I would have come off a lot worse. As it was I had cuts and bruises on my knees, elbows, hip and forehead. So please, don't think you look silly wearing a helmet. You are more silly not wearing one. I am glad I wore one.

Richard Blackwell
Lairgill.

Dear Editor,

Can anyone provide me with any information regarding the Townson family.

My late father, William Christopher Townson told us that a distant relation from Bentham, a stone-cutter, came to Liverpool to cut through a tunnel for the Overhead Railway. My Grandad was John James Townson, and other uncles have the names, George Francis (lived in the Liverpool area), and Thomas Richard.

We were able to take my Dad to Bentham about 8 years ago and he remembered places where he played as a young boy. My husband and I visited last year and tried to look in the churches but they were locked. We picked up a copy of the Bentham News and bought a copy of the History of Bentham. We enjoyed our visit. It is a lovely place.

The family names include Margaret Townson, my aunt, James, Richard, Francis, Thomas, William etc. My brother George and I would appreciate any news. We wish that we could have taken Dad to visit sooner but he didn't mention Bentham to us until the last years of his life. I enclose a donation.

Yours faithfully,
Dorothy Collins (nee Townson)
Glenbrook, Ewloe Place,
Buckley, Clwyd
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BENTHAM PEOPLE

Thanks

Smith - Walmsley and family of the late Nellie Smith wish to thank all relatives, friends and neighbours, for their kind expressions of sympathy, letters and cards, and for the donations received for the Surgery's Extra Care Fund, during their recent bereavement. Special thanks to family doctors, and the staff at Harden Ward for their kindness to Nellie, and to the Reverend John Bennett and Jim Glazebrook for a lovely service.

Mrs Lilian Chapman wishes to thank all friends and neighbours for their cards and messages of sympathy on the recent death of her husband, Leslie. Thanks are also extended to Dr Nightingale, Castlebergh hospital staff, Mr Eric Brown and Rev Nick Paterson, for their care and attention during this period.

Audrey Leak would like to thank friends and neighbours and family for the cards, letters and good wishes received during her stay in hospital, and since she came home.

Julian, Ann and Lara would like to thank all their customers and friends for their best wishes and gifts on the birth of Charlie. Special thanks to Kate, Gail and Andy for their extra help.

The Flying Ferrets would like to say thank you for all your support and donations for the Easter Wheelbarrow Race. The cheque for £1150 was given to St. John Hospice on Sunday 20th August at The Byres.

Dorothy Faraday, on her recent retirement after 38 years with the firm, would like to thank the partners of Oglethorpe, Sturton and Gillibrand, for the beautiful carriage clock, excellent lunch and bouquet of flowers; her colleagues for the garden bench and bowl of plants, and everyone for their good wishes, cards and presents.

A Low Bentham lady had reason to visit Low Bentham Churchyard early in August and was delighted to see how well kept and cared for it was. Obviously this is a labour of love. She would like to thank Mr. Albert Coates who has looked after the graves for many years.

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Local Events in September

- Fri 1st Bentham News published.
- Sat 2nd Horticultural Society coffee morning in the Town Hall, 10.00am - 12 noon.
- Bentham Agricultural Society Show at Bellfleckers Field, Low Bentham Road.
- Bentham Footpath Group walk, Slaidburn area, 10 miles, leader Frank Yates, 61375. Meet at Lairgill 9.30am.
- Mon 4th Town Council meeting in the Town Hall at 7.30pm.
- Tue 5th Low Bentham Badminton Club at the Victoria Institute, 7.30pm.
- Wed 6th N.S.P.C.C. monthly meeting at Lingfield, Robin Lane, 7.30pm.
- Sat 9th Age Concern coffee morning in the Town Hall 10.00am - 12.00noon.
- St. John's Family Walk led by Michael Horton, starting from the church at 1.30pm, about 5 miles through fields. Bring your picnic tea, everyone welcome.
- Grand Jumble Sale, 2pm, Wray Institute, admission 20p.

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.

- Mon 11th Rondo Ballet School new term begins, contact Gillian Hurst, 42286, for details.
- Tue 12th Bentham Child Health Clinic in the Surgery 1.00-4.00pm.
- Toy Library in the Youth Centre, 9.30-11.30am.
- Bentham & District Camera Club, "A Naturalist in East Africa". Twin projector presentation by Tony Marshall.
- Wed 13th Indoor Bowls AGM in the Town Hall at 7.00pm.
- Fri 15th Copy deadline for October edition of Bentham News.
- Waste Paper Collection at the Legion Hall, 8.30 - 11.00am. Proceeds to N.S.P.C.C.
- Hornby Occasionals begin rehearsing in Hornby Institute at 7.30pm for the March production of "Utopia Ltd".
- Sat 16th Christian Aid Harvest coffee morning in the Town Hall, 10.00 - 11.30am. Cake stall, plants and produce.
- High Bentham Methodist Church Harvest Supper 7.00pm for 7.30pm. Meat & potato pie, followed by entertainment.
- Bentham Horticultural Show, Town Hall in the afternoon.
- Bentham Footpath Group walk, Ingleborough Circular, 8 miles, leader David Fisher, 61449. Meet at Lairgill at 10.00am.
- Wray Parish Church produce bring and buy stall, at the church gate, 10.00am - 12.00noon.
- Sun 17th High Bentham Methodist Church Family Service 10.30am, speaker Mrs. Liz Norris. Harvest Service 6.30pm, speaker Mr. Mark Thomas, Singing Group "The Followers"

- Sun 17th Bentham Horticultural Show in the Town Hall in the afternoon.
- Wed 20th Playing Fields Association AGM at 8.00pm in the clubhouse.
- Thu 21st Angus Pensioners Outing to Ulverston, returning via the Candle factory and Grange.
- High Bentham Baby & Toddler Group open meeting in the Youth Centre 9.15 - 11.15am. All mums and children welcome.
- Low Bentham W.I. meeting in the Victoria Institute. "Sugar craft" by Mrs. C. Jennings. Competition "Bun to decorate"
- Sat 23rd Conservative Party coffee morning in the Town Hall from 9.30am.
- Bentham Footpath Group walk, Potter Fell - Gurnall Dubbs, 8-9 miles, leader David Asquith, 62619. Meet at Lairgill/Devil's Bridge 10.00am.
- St. John's Harvest Family Party at the Victoria Institute, Low Bentham, from 4.00 - 7.00pm. Puppet show, games and Jacobs Join tea.
- Mon 25th Low Bentham Methodist Chapel Harvest at 7.30pm, with the Westhouse Singers.
- Ewecross Historical Society meeting in the Town Hall at 7.30pm. "Sir Titus Salt and Saltaire" - Mr. Stanley Viro.
- Tue 26th Bentham & District Camera Club slides presentation on "Tibet" by Ron Chapman.
- Toy Library in the Youth Centre, 9.30-11.30am.
- Bentham Child Health Clinic in the Surgery 1.00-4.00pm.
- Fri 29th Bentham News published.
- Sat 30th Tatham Fells Church coffee morning in the Town Hall, 10.00am - 12.00 noon.

Local Events in October

- Mon 2nd Town Council meeting in the Town Hall at 7.30pm.
- Fri 6th Vale of Lune YFC 50th year Dinner Dance in the County Hotel at Carnforth. Big Q. Tickets £15 available from 61606 or 61784.
- Sun 8th Bentham Footpath Group walk, Gressingham Circular, 9 miles, leader Bernard Ellershaw, 62078. Meet at Lairgill 10.00am.

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 72004. 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.

DO YOU BELIEVE ALL YOU READ IN THE NEWSPAPERS?

By Nick Love

Many peoples' first reaction to the mention of Europe is to cite one of the classic Euro-Jests that crop up so frequently in the British press. It seems that with the ratification of the Maastricht Treaty there will be no more cheddar cheese, prawn cocktail crisps, doorstep milk deliveries, and even the Queen as Head of State is apparently under threat.

Many of these stories, so popular in the tabloids, bear little if any resemblance to reality. Let's look at the truth behind some of the more bizarre examples produced by those "barmy Brussels Bureaucrats".

Square gin bottles to be banned in the Single Market

The European Commission has insisted that gin bottles must be round rather than square, putting into jeopardy Britain's lucrative spirits export industry.

This is utterly untrue - the European Commission has never had any such intention. This myth stems from an April Fool joke printed in a national newspaper some years ago!

EC Elephant Signs for Zoos

The European Commission is to make all zoos and wildlife parks publicise themselves using the symbol of an elephant, regardless of what the attractions inside might be.

This is untrue. The commission has no plans to do anything of the sort and what is more, has no powers to introduce any such legislation.

Unwrapped Sweets

Local sweet shops are being forced to close due to Brussels regulations forbidding them to sell unwrapped sweets.

There is no Brussels regulation existing or planned which would affect the selling of unwrapped sweets.

Rare Meat in Restaurants

The EC is to ban the serving of rare meat in restaurants as it contains "too much bacteria". This, together with other similar rules, is causing immense problems for restaurateurs and helping to drive out their customers.

This is wholly untrue. The EC has no such plans and furthermore its Food Hygiene Directive, which lays down the guidelines in this sphere, does not in any way apply to retailers (ie. butchers, restaurants and pubs) but only to those operations carried out before the point of sale.

No More Home-made Jam at the Village Fete?

Home-made jams, cakes and fresh farm eggs can no longer be sold on charity stalls or at village fetes thanks to an EC Directive requiring that these products have to meet strict labelling requirements, and be made according to even stricter hygiene rules.

This is not so. EC labelling requirements are aimed at making life easier for the consumer in the Single Market, but are geared solely towards the production of these foods on an industrial scale. Those making jam without any industrial commercial end in mind have been quite purposely exempted from this. Similarly, EC hygiene laws, which have been left deliberately flexible so that national governments can implement them as they see fit, also apply to the industry and production of food on a large scale.

What Euro Queries do you have?

You have a chance to put your Euro-questions to someone who may well have the answers, right here in Bentham.

If you want to discuss or to find out more about European affairs, Helen Park, the Euro Information Officer, will be in the Bentham Development Trust office on Wednesday 6th September, from 2.00-4.00pm.

Please do drop in!

YOUTH SERVICE

By Pauline Hill, Bentham Development Trust/ Youth Service.

Recently young people have been asked what it is like to inhabit the no-mans land between being a child and an adult, responding with "we are asked to act like adults, but not given the opportunity to be treated as adults. Adults think we are too young to be listened to, no-one asks our opinion, we get told what to do all the time."

Responsibility for the attitude of young people towards society does not rest solely with their parents. Positive interaction with the community is essential. "If we continue to fail our young people they will inevitably withdraw from making a full contribution to society. Drug taking and criminal activity have drastically increased in areas where youth unemployment is highest. After years of neglect it is no wonder that young people are becoming disenchanted and disaffected." (David Blunkett MP, addressing the Press) "The future of any country lies in the hands of its young people. What they do, how their beliefs and interests are shaped and their characters formed, conditions the contribution they will make to the society in which they live." (Martyn Lewis, Broadcaster, contributing to the Changemakers Initiative)

Young people can feel angry in a society which places little value on what they can offer; the indifference of an apparently unheeding adult world and the complexity and impersonality of an increasingly technological society can be daunting.

Youth Forum

The Bentham Development Trust is hoping to utilise the Changemakers Initiative Scheme to set up a Youth Forum, where young people can plan and run their own projects; to address their interests and concerns and develop a sense of citizenship, offering a chance to make a difference to their own lives and the lives of others. We are happy to hear the views of young people, or anyone interested; call in for a

chat to the Youth Centre or the Trust Office. Bentham Youth Centre every Monday from 11th September, will be the home of "Dougals" from 5.00-7.30pm-on a Drop-in, make your own snacks basis, for age 13+. Confidential Youth Enquiry and Family Planning services available.

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RECIPES

By Doreen Park

Nectarines are one of
summers more
versatile fruits. I buy

mine by the punnet and here are two of my
favourite nectarine recipes.

Nectarine Parcels

- 4 nectarines
- 1 piece stem ginger finely chopped
- 1 oz flaked almonds
- 2 tablespoons golden syrup

Halve the nectarines and remove the stones. Place two halves on each of four pieces of foil. Sprinkle each nectarine with ginger and flaked almonds and drizzle over the golden syrup.

Wrap up each parcel securely before placing on a baking tray and baking for 15 - 20 minutes until tender. These parcels may also be heated on a barbecue. Serve with icecream, cream or fromage frais.

Baked Nectarine Pudding (serves 6)

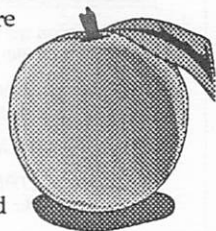
- Small knob of butter
- 2 ozs plain flour
- 2 ozs caster sugar & icing sugar to dust
- Pinch of salt
- 3 eggs
- ½ pint semi skimmed milk
- 1 tablespoon oil
- 2 tablespoons rum (optional)
- 6 nectaries, stoned and quartered

Preheat the oven to 425F, Gas mark 7, and butter a shallow ovenproof dish. Sift the flour into a large bowl. Add the caster sugar and a pinch of salt before carefully whisking in the eggs. Add the milk, whisking continuously to obtain a smooth batter and then add the oil and 2 tablespoons of rum, if desired.

Place the nectarines in the ovenproof dish and pour the batter mix over them. Bake for approximately 40 - 45 minutes. Serve warm, sprinkled with icing sugar. When I made this dish for "two" I just halved the quantities. It was delicious.

Quick and Easy

For nectarines that are getting over ripe, try this fruit fool recipe. Peel the nectarines and then puree them with sugar to taste. Add a dash of lemon juice. Fold into whipped cream. Easy!



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Costa Del Bentham!

By Jill Adam

It was no illusion! Bill Noble was recently sighted on the streets of Bentham. For the first 65 years of his life he lived in Bentham, and for the last 5 years he has lived in Coin, 20 miles inland from Malaga, Spain. He lives with Val Houston, who was Bentham News' very first coordinator. When he lived here, he worked for Angus's, and now he spends his time growing oranges!

On Tuesday 1st August, Bill took off from Malaga airport at 10.15am, and arrived at Bentham railway station at 3.30pm. This amazingly efficient journey was made possible by making connections from Manchester Airport to Preston to Lancaster to Bentham - with all trains waiting and on time. So it is possible to commute from Bentham by train, even from Spain! Unfortunately, as he arrived earlier than expected, Bill found his daughter out and the house locked, so, undeterred, he went round to Tom Guy's to have his hair cut!



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V.J.DAY COMMEMORATION

By Dorothy Pidgeon

The Upper Hall in Bentham Town Hall was packed on the 15th August, for the commemoration service of V.J. Day. Understandably, the gathering was composed mainly of people old enough to remember or to have taken part in the war. There was an atmosphere of solemn reverence, tinged by an undertone of praise and celebration, throughout the service. Local clergy, members of all our churches, and civic leaders participated. We remembered the supreme sacrifice made by so many of our young people, on our behalf, and the responsibilities laid on us in consequence.

A most poignant moment came when the bugle rang out the Last Post and Reveille, evoking many memories for ex-servicemen present. The names of those who had fallen, from Bentham and district, were read out by the Mayor, as we stood in silent respect.

Following the service the mood was lightened somewhat by various musical items performed by members of the Methodist Church, in some of which the audience joined quietly, in keeping with the solemnity of the occasion.

From the beautiful flowers decorating the platform through to the provision of welcome refreshment at the close, everything combined into a fitting tribute to those who "For our tomorrow, gave their today"

BENTHAM NEWS DIRECTORY 1996

By Bill Kennedy

In the August Bentham News, page 18, details were given of the new format for the 1996 directory. A reply coupon was included on the page. However, only 5 coupons were returned, and only two of these were from High Bentham. Your support is needed. Now! It will take a considerable amount of page preparation and time to put together the directory. So please, if you do want to feature in it, let me have your completed coupon, or leave it at Bentham Sportswear, within the next few days. The intention is to produce a Bentham News sized "yellow pages" type local directory. This will include free alphabetically listed names of companies, traders etc, as well as boxed advertisements.

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FARMING DIARY

By Our Farming Correspondent

As if the weather wasn't giving us enough problems, the last Bentham News mixed up 2 months' notes about the weather, giving a rather confusing picture! However, since then we have had more hot, dry weather, and, as yet, there is no sign of it breaking. This is probably one of the driest summers on record, although I can remember the very dry one in 1959 when the Stocks Reservoir dried up and the remains of the flooded village could be seen.

Drought Causes Problems

Lots of streams are now dry, leaving cattle and sheep without water.

This has caused problems for our farm, so we've had to stand a water tanker at the top of Linghaw Cross. We are using a petrol engine to pump water from there over

Linghaw to fields and farms, and up to the Block Works and Butts Farm, and to Mrs Carr for her caravans.

The feed situation for cattle and sheep is also getting serious. The grass has dried out and lots of farmers are having to feed silage to their milk cows, which will leave them short of feed this winter. We are just hoping that when the rain comes, we will get a late growth of grass, which will mean that the cows can stay outdoors later than usual.

Most of the harvest is now in, and we have been buying straw for the winter, some for feeding young stock and wheat straw for bedding the cows and calves. The variety of grain that is grown nowadays is on shorter stems, and the price seems to go up every year. Hay is also expensive at £140-£150 per ton, and the price is probably high because there is a shortage, as it is being taken down into the Midlands and the South of England where their fields are like a desert.

July Rainfall

Figures supplied by Mrs M Foster and compiled by Judith Johnson.

July has been another dry month with rainfall of 1.75" being about half what we would normally expect. Since June 20th, there has been very little significant rainfall, except for several thundery outbreaks and a period of more consistent rain on the weekend of July 15th and 16th. As I am sure you are aware, the latter part of the month has been exceptionally hot. By the time you read this it will probably be raining by the bucketful, however some previous rainfall figures may be of interest. Draw your own conclusions!

	10 year mean	1995	
January	4.5"	9.9"	(above average)
February	2.7"	6.2"	(above average)
March	3.6"	4.1"	(above average)
April	2.6"	0.6"	(below average)
May	2.1"	1.9"	(below average)
June	2.4"	1.0"	(below average)
July	2.8"	1.7"	(below average)



Friday 27th October
Upper Town Hall - Bentham
at 7:30 p.m.

You are invited to attend and
participate in an open discussion of:-

Population Problems

National Directors, Wendy Thomas of
Population Concern and Julian
Filochowski of CAFOD will present
opposing views on the relationship
between poverty and population growth.
There will then be an opportunity for
you to question the speakers or to air
your own views on the subject.



LOCAL ACTION FOR JUSTICE AND PEACE

By Fr. Pat Smythe

Population Problems

As announced in the August issue of *Bentham News*, LAJP are organising a Public Meeting in the autumn on the controversial issues which arise from the increasing human population and poverty in the world today.

These two concerns are closely related; where there is severe poverty the birth rate tends to be higher - and a high population density is an important factor in the generation of poverty. Thus the countries of the Third World, where poverty is greatest, will experience the most dramatic increase in population during the next decade - and become poorer still.

What is the answer to these problems? Some would say that there must be population control; others that poverty must be relieved. But there are many other factors involved in what is a very complex situation.

For example, the forced birth control which takes place in some countries such as China, and which is financed by the International Planned Parenthood Federation and the UN Population Fund, (supported with UK taxpayer's money by H.M. Government), is an infringement of basic human and family rights with unpredictable long-term consequences.

Another important consideration is that contraceptive by-products cause pollution

which is damaging to water, marine and human life. It also seems paradoxical that the UK can help fund a contraceptive activist for every village in Bangladesh but declines to support basic health care in the same villages.

On the other hand it is argued that for most poor countries the desirable economic prosperity will be long in coming - if indeed it is not altogether nullified by the greater demands of the increasing population. In the meantime the problems of poverty, which basically arise from lack of access to productive land, will only grow worse.

Clearly there are many issues to be confronted regarding these problems. We are very fortunate that the National Directors of Population Concern and CAFOD, Wendy Thomas and Julian Filochowski, are able to be with us to offer their expertise in helping the residents of Bentham and district to understand and address these problems better. Hopefully there will be an excellent attendance at the meeting which will take place in the Town Hall on Friday the 27th October, at 7.30pm.

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SPORTS REPORT

Compiled by Janette Richardson

Cycling - R.T.T.C National Championship - 24 hours Road Race

By Janette Richardson

The weekend of 29/30th July was hot and sunny, even hot enough for T-shirt and shorts through the night! How do I know?

At 2.00pm on Saturday 29th, 84 cyclists set off from near Chester, on racing bikes, tandems, tricycles, tandem-trikes and mountain bikes. Each competitor needed a backup team and vehicle, as the idea was to see how far it was humanly possible to cycle in 24 hours. Phil Leigh set off on a low profile bike with small front wheel and disc at the rear. Josie, Liz Parry and I cheered him off before dashing to the van and first feeding station.

Support team kept busy

We passed Phil water bottles, bags of food and wet sponges every 8-10 miles. He kept up his planned speed of 20 miles per hour until dusk, when he stopped for a minute to put on lights. Even though I witnessed it, I don't know how they kept riding in the dark, on unknown roads, with only bike lights. All we could see from the laybys were white or red lights moving in the dark. Phil called out so we knew it was him as we held out his drink bottles.

Dawn broke and all was still going to plan (we had only lost Phil once in the dark, but Josie spotted him as we tore up and down the dual carriageway). We knew that one rider was way ahead of us and looked steady and strong.

There had to be a bad patch-11.45am Sunday! Phil's knees were stiff and painful and he eventually had to stop to lie on the roadside. We sponged him, fed him, changed his shoes and socks, uttered words of encouragement and watched other riders pass by. This was to be his longest stop in 24 hours-all of 10 minutes! We brought his bike to him, lifted him up, helped him on and sent him off again! Gradually he recovered, and, with encouragement every few miles, managed 15 miles per hour for

the last 4 hours. The end came none too soon. After 24 hours he lay on a grass verge, covered in ants and the timekeeper congratulated him on completing 463 miles!

There were 49 riders who completed the full 24 hours and the winner was Andy Wilkinson, (who holds the John O'Groats to Lands End record) with 501 miles. Phil came 3rd and the first lady came in 7th overall with 441 miles.

Many thanks to Liz. What a team!

Badminton



The Wenning Badminton Club Annual General Meeting will take place at 7.30pm on Tuesday 5th September in the Black Bull. Juniors will be discussed at the

AGM. Senior club night will start on Wednesday 6th September at 7.00pm. New members will be welcome.

Football

The Craven Wanderers Junior Football Club new season kicks off on Sunday 3rd September. Training has now started at Burton-in-Lonsdale for the under 16s whose manager is Robert Park, Telephone 61196.



The under 14s, based at Ingleton Primary School field, will be managed by Colin Dixon, telephone 62047, and the under 12s, also at Ingleton, have Rod Preston, telephone 41881, as manager. For further information please contact Chris Tallon on 62047, or Sue Ralph on 62006.

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BENTHAM PLAYING FIELDS ASSOCIATION

The annual general meeting will be held on Wednesday 20th September at 8.00pm in the clubhouse. This meeting is open to the general public. As there are some misconceptions as to the association's position, this is an opportunity to correct any false impressions and hopefully encourage greater participation in the management of the field and its facilities.

The field is not owned by the local authority, although Bentham Town Council does provide a welcome annual grant towards maintenance costs. The field is owned by Angus Fire and leased to the Playingfields Association for a peppercorn rent. The lease, which was granted in 1965, is vested in the Official Custodian of Charities and provides the Association's constitution. The management committee is composed of representatives of the Sports Clubs, nominees from local organisations and members of the general public. The clubs (football, netball, tennis, cricket and the homing society) pay a modest annual rent to the association to assist with running costs and the social club makes a major and indispensable contribution to the overheads of the clubhouse, together with occasional donations for new equipment and improvements. The annual Gala, whilst providing funds for local organisations which assist in making it happen, is an essential source of finance for the association both in keeping the clubs' rent low and improving the amenities. Unhappily, Margaret Hayton, who has done a splendid job as Gala co-ordinator in recent years, is unable to continue in this role although she will still lend invaluable service to the Gala committee. A new co-ordinator is urgently required. Anyone interested should attend the AGM or contact Jim Guy (61909) or Ken Robertson (61285).

The facilities provided by the playingfields association are among the best in the area and could be substantially

improved in the near future. These facilities cannot be taken for granted and if lost through neglect or lack of local effort would be almost impossible to retrieve. If you wish to contribute to the continuation of sporting amenities in Bentham for the benefit of the local community as a whole, do try to attend the AGM and offer your support or contact a committee member.

New Service For Bentham Library

By Pauline Hill

Bentham Library now has a good selection of Children's Story Cassettes available on a three week loan period for a small hire charge; perfect for a boring car journey.

The recent Children's Magic Show given by David Clarke of Burnsall in the Library, was a great success, with enthusiastic audience participation from the local youngsters involved. David's production with games and quizzes was very popular and hopefully will lead to other events with a Library venue.

Bible Society

By Elizabeth Towler

The Bentham and District Action Group coffee morning raised £253, including donations. Thank you to all for the generous support for this effort to help in supplying Bibles in many languages, and the New Testament on cassette for people who cannot read but are eager to listen to the Gospel, the good news of Jesus Christ.

A.R.C. Coffee Morning

Many thanks to everyone who supported this coffee morning on 12th August, when the sum of £333 was raised.

Raffle prizes were drawn by Mrs. Sherry Tinney of Mississippi, USA, who was visiting in the area. The prize winners were:- Mrs. Watkinson, Mrs. Pridmore, Mrs. Waite, Mr. Noon, Mrs. Kay, Mrs. Boyle, Mrs. Englefield, Mrs. Lawson and Mr. Guy. The cake competition was won by Mrs. Wright.