

BENTHAM NEWS

BENTHAM BONFIRE NIGHT 1995

Saturday 28th October is the night to put in your diaries for this years bonfire celebrations. The procession will leave Cleveland Square at 6.30pm to the music of Bay Beat and lit by lanterns made by local children during October.

Hog Roast

This year we have the addition of a real Hog Roast, and live music to entertain you whilst the bonfire is burning.

Fireworks

As the flames subside there will once again be a superb fireworks bonanza for you to enjoy. Entrance fees are the same as last year, £2 for adults and £1 for children. Come and support this marvellous community occasion.

Bonfire building will start on Thursday 26th October. *Garden rubbish and wood are ideal but please do not dump tyres or glass*



.....Bentham Bonfire Nights 1930's

Perhaps evoking childhood memories for some of our less young readers, the article on page 15 by Reg Suart, gives an absorbing little insight into Bonfire Nights in bygone days. You'll enjoy reading it. If you lived in pre-war Bentham, maybe you have some memories of interesting happenings which no longer occur. If so, please let us know. They often make fascinating reading.

THE SUNFLOWER KID

In a letter on page 10, a young Bentham person tells of the wanton destruction of a sunflower plant. The child, with help from dad, had planted sunflower seeds, saw them germinate and watched with growing interest as the plants developed. Then someone else, probably a young person, removed one plant, and when the remaining one was in flower, broke the flower head off. Another sunflower, lovingly cared for in a Lakeber Drive garden, suffered the same fate.

The natural reaction to these acts of stupid vandalism is one of anger. Perhaps on reflection, rather than anger, one should feel real pity for the people who behave in such a pathetically anti social way. Their actions indicate that they are sadly lacking any sense of moral principles. The child whose sunflower was destroyed is fortunate. She has a father who cares and spends time with her, helping her to develop into a normal, socially acceptable person. Do the parents of the vandals show a similar concern?

Bentham Regeneration

Don't miss the articles on pages 19 and 24 which relate to activities of the Bentham Development Trust. Do you know that the official Launch of the Trust takes place at the weekend starting on 21st October? Do you know what community and family events have been planned for that weekend? Have a look at the events page and then make some entries in your diary. Join with your family in the community celebrations and have fun.

HIGH BENTHAM WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

By Doreen Park

At the September meeting the President welcomed 36 members and friends and reports were given on recent activities.

Mrs. Wilson warmly congratulated the 4 members who entered the Group class at Bentham show, taking first place, and 5 individual firsts on the 5 items exhibited. They also took the Silver Rose Bowl for this class; each will have the bowl for 3 months.

Mrs. Joan Farrer and her husband were then introduced. They came from Australia over 40 years ago to take over the Farrer Estate at Clapham. They inherited many old documents and diaries of the world famous botanist, Reginald Farrer. From this they had compiled a fascinating history entitled "The Boy - The Man" He had a great love of flowers and Ingleborough.

The competition winner was M. Slater. The Annual general meeting, with Potato Pie Supper takes place on 5th October. On November 2nd, Mrs J. Martindale will talk on "Home made chocolates".

H.B.W.I. - Fashion Show - Free!

Absolutely free, an invitation to a Fashion Show at Chimssides of Lancaster, on the afternoon of Friday 6th October. Free transport is provided. Everyone is welcome. Contact Mrs Smallcross on 61411.

J. McManus M.B.B.

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ANIMAL CONCERN MUSICAL EVENING

By Val Marshall

The Musical Evening with John and Judy Surridge, in aid of the pet rescue organisation, Animal Concern, has been arranged for Wednesday 25th October at 7.30pm in the Lower Town Hall, Bentham.

We are hoping that this event will be well attended, as John and Judy are well known in Bentham for their lively and enjoyable singing and instrumentation. Homemade cake and tea will be served at the interval and any cakes left over will be for sale at the end of the evening. There will be a raffle for which the Surridges have kindly donated one of their tapes.

Caring for homeless pets

Animal Concern is a voluntary organisation re-homing pets whose owners are no longer able to keep them. They never put an animal down unless it is too ill to recover. There are at least 5 or 6 cats and dogs in Bentham which have come from Animal Concern and are now living happily with their new owners.

Please support this, our first event locally. Tickets can be obtained from Kim's Pet Shop, Station Road, - Mary Thornborough, Main Street, - or Val Marshall, Brooklands, Cross Lane, Low Bentham, Tel 62512.



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TOWN COUNCIL

By Keith Cowling

Councillors Concerned about Rowdiness

A number of recent incidents of late night noise and vandalism have given rise to fears that High Bentham is becoming more rowdy late at night. Cllrs. Marshall and Dowbiggin had both received complaints and were keen to ensure that the problem is dealt with effectively. Once again criticism of the lack of police presence in the town was voiced and it was agreed to contact the Chief Inspector for assistance with the problem. Our local officer reported that a four month evaluation of the new local area policing policy would begin throughout the county shortly.

Goodenber Road Play Area

Last month the Council agreed in principle to assist the Play Area Committee with their project by purchasing the new equipment so that the VAT could be reclaimed (the Council is registered for VAT but the committee is not). The Council were advised that this is a well established procedure which is permitted by Customs and Excise Regulations. However a request for confirmation from the VAT Commissioners produced a very negative reply. They knew of no such arrangement. Had the Council contacted the wrong department? It was agreed to ask Gargrave Town Council, who have used this procedure, how they did it.

Co-op Yard

The Council wrote to the Estates Department of the Co-op following complaints about the state of the site behind their High Bentham store, which is next to, and visible from, the Market Square. The Co-op have replied that they will be inspecting the property to see what practical improvements can be made.

Highway Improvements

The Council is concerned about several different matters relating to local roads,

particularly the County's grass cutting contract and the delay in the introduction of new waiting restrictions. They also want to explore the possibility of installing traffic calming measures at the edges of High and Low Bentham. Progress on all fronts has stalled, however, until the new County Traffic Manager, Mr. Isherwood, begins work later in the month.

Caravan Site Extension

The council considered a recent planning application for an extension of Riverside Caravan Park in High Bentham. There had been controversy in the past over the proposed development of a second entrance/exit to the site at Wenning Bridge but the Council were assured that details of adaptation of the road end had now been agreed with planners and that lines of site would be much improved. Although environmental considerations were discussed, Councillors generally supported the development of this well run local business and were aware of its benefits to the town's local economy. They approved the application subject to favourable consideration of the new access by the planning authority.

Low Bentham Play Area

A strongly worded letter about the dangerous state of much of the children's site was received from a local resident. The Council agreed to take the matter seriously and arranged a site inspection by Councillors to progress improvements.

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"999" POLICE FILE

By Sgt. David Cochrane

Crime Figures for August 1995

Auto crime	1
Burglary	1
Criminal damage	4 (1 arrest)
Theft	5
Total	11

With regard to the thefts, three relate to the theft of pedal cycles, of which two are outstanding:-

1. A gents Sakora make maroon coloured mountain bike.
2. A Ladies Falcon make black coloured mountain bike.

A Lister diesel engine was stolen from Moorlands Farm, and 5 calves were stolen from Greystone Gill Lane. The animals are tagged with yellow plastic tags bearing the numbers Y3774. A burglary occurred at Birkwith Lane, Low Bentham and the following property was stolen.

A Phillips 21" television, a Ferguson video recorder, and a Goodmans CD player. Information as to the whereabouts of any of these items would be treated in confidence.

With reference to the last issue, I am aware and concerned about the increase in rowdiness and general disorderly behaviour in Bentham over weekends and I assure you that every effort will be made to curb this type of conduct. Please report to us any incidents at the time as we would rather deal with this type of behaviour at the time. It is difficult to gather evidence after the event.

Hornby Drama Group

The auditions have been held and we shall be presenting the farce "See how they run" by Philip King on the 23rd, 24th and 25th November.

Anyone willing to help with this production, either back stage or front of stage will be very welcome to our rehearsals in the Hornby Institute on Wednesdays at 7.30pm.



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COUNCIL CONCERNS

By Councillor Ralph Atkinson



County Budget

The cut in spending on the 1995/96 County budget I reported in July has now been trimmed from £15m to £9m by a lot of 'creative accounting'. That includes about £3m due to the growing number of children who are coming on. Departmental budgets are now faced with significant cuts set by Policy and Resources Committee. I wouldn't mind so much if the cuts applied equally across the country, but some counties, especially those in the SE, have much more generous assessments than we have.

School Buses

When the contracts went out for Harrogate we asked for parallel tenders for vehicles less than 5 years old so that prices could be compared. The cost of these would have been 40% more - nearly £500,000 a year, and if applied across the county - £1.46m pa. Obviously the contractors were stitching us up and further negotiations must be tried. Councillors have already agreed to eliminate 3-2 seating at a cost of £125,000 p.a. This in the context of 25,000 school children a day being carried and an accident rate of less than 0.1% (Nationally, we average only six injuries a year which is far less than when children are being carried by their parents).

Education Spending

Because of the cuts in the Education budget it's anticipated that there'll be no funding for the new SEN code of practice and no growth in non-National Curriculum areas like Nursery - tho' the Govt's new initiatives for four year olds are welcomed.

Youth Workers' Pay

After much argument Education have also decided that because of overall cuts the provision for part-time

youth workers will be halved. At first they recommended an average cut in pay of 50%. Now they've agreed that existing workers should get present rates for the next two years, after which they too will be cut. New staff will go onto the new lower rates straight away. So the hours clubs are open will have to be slashed. This when youth crime on the streets is of growing importance! As with so many other things crime and youth work are paid from different pockets and no one seems to see the connection.

Highway Delays

It looks as if the Tatterthorn Lane/Clapham Road junction will be delayed as County hasn't been able to agree terms to buy the necessary land. So that's yet another local road scheme put off! On the other hand thanks to pressure by the Town Council we may get some action on a modified scheme for Mount Pleasant but I have yet to see the details.

Local Govt. Reorganisation

Rumour has it that Govt. is now about to do another U-turn and return us to status quo without the City of York. But we hear that the parish councils round York aren't pleased. Some day Govt.'ll make up it's mind I suppose. Meanwhile everybody is getting more depressed; Craven officers are thinking of joining Equity so many of them are acting and more thousands are being spent.

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AGE CONCERN

The Monday and Friday meetings have continued at the Town Hall, Bentham, during the summer months. Games, card bingo and other recreational sessions, coupled with slide shows of varied interest have been enjoyed.

Coach Trips

Two coach outings were arranged, the first was in July to the "K" village at Kendal, for a browse around the new shopping complex and the opportunity to take welcome refreshment at the excellent restaurant there. The second, in August, was to Lake Windermere on a beautiful sunny afternoon, for a sail on one of the lake steamers from Bowness to Ambleside and back, finishing with tea at the historic Woolpack Inn at Kendal.

One Friday meeting in August took the form of a most interesting talk by Mr. Bill Mitchell of Settle on the "Dales Folk", laced with much humour on the many and varied characters who live in and around our delightful part of Yorkshire.

Coffee Morning Success

The recent coffee morning was most successful and realised nearly £300, giving a generous boost to Bentham Age Concern funds. Thanks are extended to all who supported this effort and especially to those who provided gifts for the stalls and raffle, and to those who donated cash. Grateful thanks also to St. John's, Low Bentham, for their donation of £50 and to Messrs. Tooby's for the gift of £40 collected in the "wishing well" in their Bentham shop.

New Minibus

The new minibus is due to be delivered soon and it is hoped that it will be of considerable help in the transport of our less mobile friends, to and from the Day Centre and on outings. The management committee express their sincere thanks to all the voluntary helpers and others who make the running of the Day Centre such a success.

WILLY RUSSELL'S BLOOD BROTHERS

By Voirrey Wild

If you like good theatre don't miss this opportunity to see Willy Russell's Blood Brothers. A small group of players from Bentham Panto will be performing the play at 8.30pm on Saturday 14th October, in the Upper Town Hall. Blood Brothers is the highly successful play by the well known author, Willy Russell. It is fast moving and perceptive, entertaining and thought provoking, funny yet ultimately tragic.

It tells the story of twin brothers who are born into a large working class family and what happens to them when their mother decides to have one of them adopted. Blood Brothers looks at the differences and conflicts of their upbringings, their relationships with each other, and their real or adopted mothers. Tickets are available from Hairlines or by ringing 61554.



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Education in Bentham

By C.E.Birtwistle

The response to the new Craven College course programme in Bentham area has been magnificent. Over 240 people have been enrolled onto a wide variety of courses, some of which are full. An extra Word Processing course has been organised to cope with the demand and extra CLAIT courses are planned to start in October on a Saturday morning. A 10 week specialised course called "Practical Accounting for Small Businesses" starts on 5th October.

We are now considering the Spring Programme. Already planned is a manicure course, computing courses, and the City and Guilds adult teaching course. I would like to put on a Beauty Therapy course and other possibilities are alternative medicine and caring courses. But I need your views!

I will be in Millers Court most Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. Come and tell me what is wanted in Bentham.



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BENTHAM FOOTPATH GROUP



By Maureen Ellis

The past is present in our todays and it is a fine balance not to live in the one and stifle the other. This country still tenuously hangs with a thread onto a carefully forged democratic legal way of doing things. On 19th August Verena Smith and friends lead a well reconnoitred walk from Giggleswick to Bentham. At Turnerford Bridge, the path, which two weeks previously had passed in front of the farm and its adjacent buildings, was blocked by a good new dry stone wall. It is not known whether Milepeal Ltd., who are making a sensitive conversion of the old cluster of buildings, has gone through the proper channels for re-routing the footpath, by letting Helen Shepherd, the Footpath Officer in Skipton, know. Although legal ways of doing things can be cumbersome, it can result in even more complications if they are avoided. Further details of this interesting walk can be obtained from the leaders, Joan Clapham or Len Moody.

On the 2nd September Frank Yates lead four enthusiasts on a Slaidburn circular walk. Bentham Show was held the same day and it is known that several walkers including our Chairperson, David Stubbs, had responsibilities in that direction. It was very obvious as we left Slaidburn on the newly negotiated path along the river Hodder and climbed the

fellside eventually to Knowles Manor, that much work had been done by the Forest of Bowland Footpath Officer, to provide a clear well marked track. This led to Dunsop Bridge with its significant post box, and then on to Beatrix farm, and eventually back to Slaidburn. Good marking in keeping with the surroundings must be due to the Forest of Bowland Countryside management. It is therefore well timed that the talk (after the Annual general meeting on Friday 20th October, 7.30pm in Bentham Town Hall), is by Mr. David Sykes of that organisation. All are welcome.

Topical Feedback

Did you know that you can reach a ferry port for Europe, within 2½ hours of leaving Bentham? You can if you are travelling from Hull to Zeebrugge or Hull to Rotterdam, by North Sea Ferries.

Free meal on Board

When you sail at 6.00pm, you can have a good meal on board, a comfortable cabin and arrive at 8.00am ready to tackle the European motorway network. The evening meal is included in the ticket price, so it almost seems as if it is free. With the overnight accommodation, it is not as expensive as you might think. Certainly it is well worth considering.



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POST OFFICE NEWS

By Alison Wilken

Christmas 1995

With summer already receding into folklore, thoughts turn inevitably to Christmas arrangements. The months of October and November are the time to mail presents and cards abroad by surface mail, starting with the more far flung destinations first - more details on request. Next month we hope to give details of air mail postings. Also, during October, Christmas pictorial aerogrammes go on sale and the Christmas special stamps issue is on 31st October.

Foreign Travel Services

Those of you intending to go abroad for an autumn or winter break should be aware that British Visitors (1 year) Passports are no longer (from 10th October) valid in Spain, Majorca, Minorca, Ibiza and the Canary Isles. British Visitors Passports will no longer be available for *any* destination as

from 1st January, 1996. 10 year standard passport forms are available on request from High Bentham Post Office. Also available is foreign currency (17 currencies in stock), travellers' cheques, (sterling/US dollar on demand) and holiday travel insurance, a new service. Department of health (E111) leaflets complete the range of services available.

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Dear Editor,

I am researching the career of 266035 Sgt. George Burrow who was awarded the Distinguished Conduct Medal, The Military Medal and the French Medaille Militaire, whilst serving with the 5th Battalion, West Riding Regiment during the Great War. Sgt. Burrow lived in Bentham and also served with the Home Guard in the Second World War.

I wondered if any of your readers knew George Burrow and could possibly provide me with biographical information relating to his service during both wars, and his life in Bentham.

Thanking you for your co-operation,

Yours sincerely,

Dr. R. Hartley, 18 Nunroyd Road,
Mootown, Leeds LS17 6PF. Tel 0113-
2931639.

Dear Sir,

How are they now?

Former pupils of Bentham Primary School will not want to miss the opportunity to record the 80th birthday of one of their highly regarded and much loved former school mistresses. On 14th August this year Miss Kathleen Gartside, as she was once known, passed this milestone of her life, celebrating the event with her husband Frank Johnston, son and daughter and 3 grand children.

Those who benefitted from her tutorial skills, her friends and pupils of yesteryear, wish to add their congratulations and best wishes for the future, to those that she has already received from her own family.

Although Miss Gartside was married to Frank on the 28th December 1944, her one time pupils insist upon calling her by her maiden name, much to the amusement of her husband, who is said to encourage the practice. Now living in retirement at Cowan Bridge, she occasionally visits Bentham and experiences some difficulty in progressing through the town in the

pursuance of her business because of the many who wish to exchange a few words with their former teacher, Miss Gartside.

She came to teach at Bentham in 1936 and resided at the Wenning Hotel, owned by Mr. & Mrs Thomas Townson, where she quickly became one of the family. She left at the end of the summer term of 1944 and on 28th December married Frank Johnston, a solicitor who practised in Keighley. She tells us that the date of the wedding was partly determined by a masons' dinner, about the same time, which was expected to result in a surplus of chickens which would provide welcome fare for the wedding breakfast.

Later the newly weds moved to Thornton Cleveleys and "Miss Gartside", having resided near Bradford, exclaimed on passing through Lancaster, that she was "coming home". Interestingly, her husband, a railway buff, has on his study door the notice plate "Station Master", which once adorned the door of the Bentham Station Master's office.

Her many friends and her former scholars take this opportunity to wish her well in her 81st year and hope that there will be many more of them and that we will see her frequently in the streets of Bentham.

Peter Townson,
Alton, Hampshire.

The Sunflower

The night before my sunflower went missing, my dad and me were out measuring it up to see how tall it had got now the flower had come out. It was 7 feet 2 inches. I wanted to see what happened to the flower when it was finished. I had planted two lots of flowers and some vegetables and one of my sunflowers had gone out of the garden. Then the other one got broken off, but I know who did it!

Name and address
supplied.



BENTHAM PEOPLE

Thanks

Mrs Connie Holt and family wish to thank all their friends and neighbours for their help and support during the last few months. Thanks to all for the flowers, cards, letters and messages of condolence. Special thanks to Dr. Nightingale, the District Nurses, Lancaster Royal Infirmary and St. John's Hospice for their care and attention. The donations, in Eric's memory, will be given to the Surgery's Extra Care Fund - Thank you.

The family of the late Denis Taylor wish to thank most sincerely all relatives, friends and neighbours for cards and letters of condolence received in their sad and sudden loss. Also thanks for the generous donations to Bentham Health Centre.

Alan Bowers would like to thank friends and neighbours, family and customers, for the cards, letters and good wishes received during his stay in hospital, and since he came home.

Alan Robshaw wishes to thank all family, friends and neighbours for their good wishes received during his stay in hospital and since coming home. Special thanks to Angie and George and to Dr. Nightingale for their help.

Jacky and Peggy Dawber would like to thank family and friends for the gifts, cards and flowers received on the occasion of their ruby wedding.

Bill and Doreen Park would like to thank everyone who sent cards and presents on the occasion of their Ruby Wedding. Special thanks to Richard, Pauline and family, John Ashton of Spar Motors for the four poster bed and champagne!! Also to everyone on the coach who made it a memorable holiday.

Bill Joel wishes to thank all relatives and friends for their cards and best wishes on the occasion of his 80th birthday.

Congratulations

Hodgson. Congratulations Rachel Clare on your 21st birthday, on 23rd October. Health and happiness. Love as always, Nannie Jean and Alfred.

Accommodation

Cottage to let, unfurnished, Low Bentham. 2 bedrooms, C. Heated. Suit retired person/s. Tel 61945.

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£1 per 10 words

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DAY EXCURSIONS

- 17 OCT BOLTON SHOPPER
- 18 OCT CARLISLE SHOPPER
- 22 OCT AUTUMN TINTS ON THE
SCOTTISH BORDERS
- 24 OCT FLEETWOOD MARKET
AND SHOPPING VILLAGE
- 25 OCT BLACKPOOL AND
ILLUMINATIONS
- 26 OCT MYSTERY DRIVE
INCLUDING HIGH TEA
- 29 OCT AUTUMN TINTS IN THE
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BOOK AT VILLAGE PET SUPPLIES

**BIBBY'S
COACHES**

INGLETON 015242 - 41330

Local Events in October

- Mon 2nd Town Council meeting in the Town Hall at 7.30pm.
Indoor Bowling 1.00 - 4.00pm.
- Tue 3rd Bentham Methodist Schoolroom Bright Hour 2.15pm
Low Bentham Badminton Club, 7.30pm, Victoria Institute, Low Bentham.
- Wed 4th North Craven Labour Party branch meeting 7.45pm Settle.
N.S.P.C.C. monthly meeting, Lingfield, Robin Lane, 7.30pm.
- Thu 5th Indoor Bowling 1.00 - 4.00pm.
High Bentham Women's Institute Annual general Meeting 7.30pm in Town Hall, Potato Pie supper.
- 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.
- Sat 7th North Craven Labour Party coffee morning in the Town Hall.
- Sun 8th Bentham Footpath Group walk, Gressingham Circular, 9 miles, leader Bernard Ellershaw, 62078. Meet at Lairgill at 10.00am
- Tue 10th Bible Society Annual meetings. 2.15pm Bentham Methodist Church - United. Women's Meeting. 7.30pm Ingleton Methodist Church.
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 meeting in the Victoria Institute Low Bentham, 7.45pm. 5 interesting pictures, slides or prints, members work.
Low Bentham Badminton Club, 7.30pm, Victoria Institute, Low Bentham.
- Wed 11th Coffee morning at Abbeyfield House, 30 Main Street. Cakes, bring and buy, plants, raffle.
- Thu 12th Wesley Guild family night, visit of the Salvation Army, Methodist Church 7.30pm.
- Fri 13th Friends of Low Bentham School prize bingo, 7.30pm Low Bentham Institute.
Modern & Old Time Dancing, Town Hall 7.45-10.45pm. £1.20 includes tea & biscuits.
- Sat 14th Bentham Footpath Group walk, Clapham-Wharfe-Crummock, 6-7 miles, leader Colin Clapham, 62326. Meet at Lairgill 10.00am.
Bentham News copy deadline for November edition.

Listing for Local Events

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

Event.....

Venue.....

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

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

Tue 17th Angus Fire pensioners' meeting in Bentham Town hall, 2.00pm. Illustrated talk by Mr. D.Sheil - "All creatures great and small".

Methodist Church Bright Hour in the Schoolroom, 2.15pm.

Thu 19th Low Bentham W. I. meeting in the Victoria Institute. Speaker Mr Charles Tisdall "Osteopath". Competition - Object made from bone/horn.

- Fri 20th Bentham Footpath group Annual general Meeting in the Town Hall 7.30pm.
- Sat 21st Bentham & District Liberal Democrats coffee morning in the Town Hall 10.00am - 12.00noon. Home Produce, plants, bric-a-brac, tombola.
- Bentham Footpath Group, Leeds -Morecambe rail walk to Burnmoor and the Great Stone of Fourstones, 7-8 miles, leader Len Moody, 61128. Please meet at Bentham Station at 11.30am.
- Wesley Guild party for Senior Citizens at Methodist Schoolroom 7.30pm.
- Bentham Development Trust Launch - am Street entertainment by local people in High Bentham. 12.30pm Family treasure hunt to Low Bentham. Afternoon tea with entertainment & exhibitions, Victoria Institute (free). 7.00pm Family Barn dance, Town Hall, supper and entertainment, (free).
- Sun 22nd Bentham Footpath Group Hells Ghyll - Lady Ann Clifford Way walk, 8 miles, leader Bert Barnes, 71880. Please meet at Lairgill 10.00am.
- Ecumenical Service at the Methodist Church involving local churches, 2.30pm.
- Tue 24th Bentham & District Camera Club meeting in the Victoria Institute, Low Bentham, 7.45pm. Picture Portfolio, with comments by Leslie Leak.
- Low Bentham Badminton Club, 7.30pm, Victoria Institute, Low Bentham.
- Wed 25th Musical evening with John and Judy Surridge, Lower Town Hall, 7.30pm in aid of Animal Concern.
- Fri 27th Local Action for Justice & Peace meeting on the topic "Population Concern" in the Town Hall at 7.30pm. All welcome.
- Sat 28th Bentham Community Bonfire, Lantern Procession and Fireworks.. Parade leaves Cleveland Square at 6.30pm.
- Mon 30th Ewecross Historical Society meeting in the Town Hall 7.30pm. "Slaidburn Families" by Mr. Chris Spencer.
- Tue 31st Toy Library in the Youth Centre, 9.30 - 11.30am.
- Red Cross First Aid Course commences at Friends Meeting House, Calf Cop, Low Bentham..
- Bentham Child Health Clinic in the Surgery, 1.00 - 4.00pm.
- Low Bentham Badminton Club, 7.30pm, Victoria Institute, Low Bentham.
- Deadline for booking space in Bentham News 1996 Directory.
- ### Local Events in November
- Fri 3rd Bentham News published.
- Sat 4th North Craven Labour Party Jumble Sale in Ingleton Community Centre at 2.00pm
- Burton-in-Lonsdale Bonfire and Fireworks, Recreation Field. Bonfire lit 7.00pm, Fireworks 7.30pm.
- Mon 6th Town Council meeting in the Town Hall at 7.30pm.
- Sat 11th Kirkby Lonsdale Brass Band Concert in Bentham Town Hall at 7.30pm.
- Tue 21st Angus Fire pensioners' meeting in the Town Hall at 2.00pm. "Barny" - Slides and talk on California's National Parks.

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Closing date 22nd October 1995.

POPULATION PROBLEMS

By Stephen Dawson

The Justice & Peace Group's autumn event in One World Week is entitled Population Problems. The meeting to address the problems will be held in the Bentham Town Hall on Friday 27th October at 7.30pm.

Wendy Thomas, National Director of Population Concern, and Julian Filochowski of Cafod will present the issues. There will be a Fair Trade Shop and tea and coffee will be served. To round off the evening Dr. Peter Nightingale will chair an "Any Questions" panel.

Last autumn's event on "Who runs the world" (Debt and the Arms Trade) was a moving and challenging evening, so please come along and find out how you can make a difference.

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REMEMBER, REMEMBER THE 5TH OF NOVEMBER

By Reg Suart

The 5th of November - Bonfire Night! Are there still bonfires and fireworks displays, supplemented by roast potatoes, plus home made toffee? I wonder. When I see the present day attempt to commemorate the man who had designs on altering the system of government, my mind leaps back to the time when our Main Street bonfire competed with Lairgill and Mill Row.

I say our bonfire, I should say Bentham Hall bonfire for it was through the kindness of the late Mr. John Marshall of Bentham Hall that such an event took place. It was normally held in the field behind Parkinson Farm and we had an advantage over our competitors when virtually all the collected waste was kept dry, being stored in an out building. The words "collected waste" demand explanation of who collected, what was collected and from where.

Bentham Bonfires - 1930s

The years in question were in the early to mid 1930s when my pals Denis Robinson, Reg Hutchinson, Clifford Ross, perhaps a couple of Goodenber Road lads, supplemented by the three Reids, Alwyn, Cecil and Connie, were the collectors. What did we collect? Anything that would burn. Old oil and worn tyres from Hemmings Garage, fruit crates and boxes from Granny Jones fruit shop (the parlour of her Main Street cottage), boxes from Jackson's shop, Bibby's fruit shop and the Co-op. In fact anything from anywhere. Bogeys and trolleys were the transport of the day and the fleet could be seen ferrying loads to the appointed site, even in the dark. Yes, it was safe to be out after dark. I say safe, that was until the Mill Row gang caught us sweeping up dried leaves from the road by South View, or the Lairgill gang threatening us in Robin Lane. Added to what we collected there was an abundance of hedge clippings and farm waste.

Bonfire night was great, and it never rained, or so it seemed. Everything was piled high thanks to slave labour. Mr. Marshall or my father lit the fire and prevented us from becoming roasted like the burnt potatoes which we had hoped to eat. Uncle Dixon Marshall was the chief firework lighter to the thrill of us kids, and the pleasure of the assembled adults, while Mr. Marshall or my mother supplied home made sticky toffee.

From the Parkinson farm site we could see the Mill Row puny fire. It was nothing like ours. Ours burned on and on, and it was smouldering the following day. We Main Streeters felt we had won once again. We had a super evening but I don't know how my mother felt as she ladled out hot water from the boiler to the zinc bath in her attempt to do battle with her two smoke laden lads. I recall one of her comments "Thank goodness it's only once a year!" How many present day parents would be thankful if carbolic soap would rectify their concerns?



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GOODENBER PLAY AREA

By Vi Christensen

The Goodenber Play Area Committee has just been given permission by the Craven District Planners to go ahead with developing the site behind Wesley Close. We are very pleased to have finally got over this hurdle and are excited about the prospect of helping to provide a "state of the art" play and picnic area for the parents, grandparents but most of all for the children of Bentham.

However, we are aware that it is only the first hurdle of what is still quite a long course. The next step will be to raise the money for the equipment. We have already sent off two applications for funding, one to the Lottery and one to the European "Community Development Fund" and we should know by November this year if our bids have been successful, so keep your fingers crossed.

Once the money starts to come in the really hard work begins. We have to prepare the site, fencing, digging out the pits for the equipment, landscaping and planting area. At that stage we are going to have to rely on a lot of voluntary help from members of the local community. One of the ways we can lever out some of the funding for the play area is by offering local voluntary labour; in short, the funders match our "sweat equity" with money for the project.

I am sure that there are lots of people who would like to see this development happen and we need you all. We have offers from senior members of the Youth Club and several dads have offered their muscle power and skills. Please put your names and what you would like to do, on the notice board outside the Development Trust's office (on Jackson's gate). Everyone can get involved, from offering to dig to donating plants for the site. Small flowering bushes will be particularly appreciated. If you would like to find out more about the project, please contact Denise Peters on 62207.

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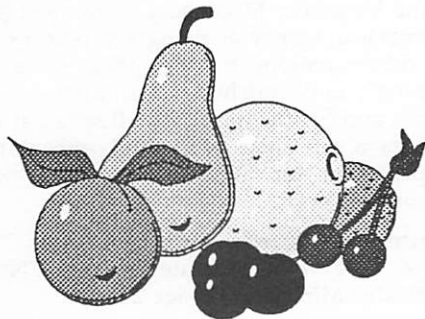
By Doreen Park

The mellow days of autumn are coming so it is jam and chutney time again. I have covered this subject before but at this time of year my kitchen is called "Nanna Park's pickling factory", so here are some more of my favourites.

Indian Chutney

- 2 lbs cooking apples, peeled & sliced
- 4 ozs salt
- 1 pt pickling malt vinegar
- 1 lb sultanas
- 8 ozs raisins
- 1 oz garlic
- 1 oz red chillies
- 2 lbs brown sugar
- 1 oz mustard seeds
- 1 tsp ground ginger

Layer apples with salt in a large bowl. Cover and refrigerate for 24 hours. Drain and rinse apples. Transfer to a large pan with 8 fl ozs vinegar and simmer until tender. Mince or process sultanas, raisins, garlic and chillies. Mix remaining vinegar and sugar together in a separate large pan and simmer until syrupy. Add the mustard seed and ginger and simmer for 5 minutes. Add minced dried fruit mixture, apples and vinegar, mix thoroughly and simmer, stirring occasionally for about 30-40 minutes, until thickened. Pack into warmed sterilized jars. Seal, label and store. This recipe makes about 2½ pints.



Marrow and Apple Chutney

- 2½ lbs marrow, peeled and diced
- 1 oz salt
- 1½ lbs cooking apples, peeled and finely chopped
- 12 ozs onions chopped
- 12 ozs soft dark brown sugar
- 1½ pints pickling vinegar
- ¼ teaspoon ground cinnamon

Leave marrow with salt in a large bowl, cover and refrigerate for 12 hours. Drain and rinse thoroughly and quickly, and put in a large pan. Add remaining ingredients and heat gently, stirring continuously until the sugar has dissolved. Boil steadily, uncovered, stirring occasionally, for about 2 hours until the chutney thickens. Seal and pot as usual. This makes about 2 pints.

Mixed Fruit Jam

- 12 ozs desert apples, peeled and cored
- 1½ lbs pears peeled and cored
- 8 ozs black or purple grapes, deseeded
- ¼ pint water
- 3 lbs granulated sugar. 1 oz butter

Mix or process fruit roughly and place in a large pan with water, bring to boil, reduce heat and simmer gently for 10-15 minutes. Add sugar and heat slowly, stirring until sugar is dissolved. Boil briskly for 10-15 minutes or until setting point is reached. Draw pan away from heat and stir in butter to disperse the scum. Pot in warm jars, cover with waxed paper and cellophane papers while hot. Makes 5 lbs.

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CHURCHES PAGE

Compiled by Judith Johnson

The Churches Together

By Canon John Bearpark

I was very pleased to give a greeting to our new Methodist Minister at his welcome service. In doing this I was returning the welcome given to me by his predecessor, Nick Paterson, last November. Pat Smythe played a similar role on both occasions.

I quickly grew to know and respect my new colleagues, along with Marvin Bamforth, a friend of long standing. We soon had an excellent working relationship. We found we shared the same convictions, and the same sense of humour. While we were very sorry to say goodbye to Nick, we know we shall enjoy Norman Price's fellowship just as much, and look forward to getting to know him. From his experience in every part of the British Isles and beyond, he will have a lot to teach us.

At his farewell Nick compared the church with a rope; one strand alone is weak, but a number of strands woven together means great strength. In Bentham our churches, along with the Society of Friends, are learning this truth, and enjoying doing so. We work closely together in the Justice and Peace Group, in Christian Aid, and in many other less visible ways. We need each other and you need us all.

Pat, Marvin, Norman and I will be meeting together regularly for prayer and discussion, learning from one another and seeking ways to co-operate in worship and service. We'll value your prayers, you can be sure of ours.

St. Margaret's Church

Harvest Festival Services will be held on Sunday 1st October. We hope that members of our newly revived Junior Church will be playing a leading part in the Parish Eucharist at 10.00am.

Our Gift Day is on Saturday 14th October. The Vicar and Churchwardens will be in the Lower Town Hall from 10.00 -

11.30am to receive gifts for the work of St Margaret's. A cup of tea or coffee (no charge!) and the opportunity for a chat, will be available.

The Parish's Memorial to the Reverend Nigel Kinsella is to be an aumbry for the reserved sacrament. This will be dedicated by the Bishop of Beverley, The Right Reverend John Gaisford, on All Soul's Day, Thursday 2nd November at a Eucharist at 7.30pm, to which all are welcome.

St. John's

St. John's Harvest celebrations have been concluded in September but the Junior Church, led by Alison Hawkey, will continue on Sunday mornings at the Victoria Institute, Low Bentham, from 10.30-11.45am. In addition there will be a new group called Trailblazers for young people from 10 years and older. All children are very welcome; for more information call Bentham 62050.

The annual Kirkby Lonsdale Brass Band Concert, hosted by St. John's Church and High Bentham Primary School, will be held at the Bentham Town Hall on 11th November at 7.30pm. Sunday 12th November is Remembrance Sunday at St. John's.

St. Boniface RC Church

By Fr. Pat Smythe

On Sunday 8th October the Parish will celebrate its annual Harvest Eucharist at 9.30am; the produce is then sold and the funds donated to charities working for the poor in Third World countries. On the weekend of 28th/29th October, which concludes "One World Week", Judy Talbot of the Volunteer Missionary Movement (an ecumenical agency enabling lay persons of all denominations to offer their skills in helping impoverished communities in Africa and South America) will speak at all Masses about their work and appeal for helpers and for funds to assist in their various projects.

Methodist Church, High Bentham

Please see the separate report, "New Methodist Minister" on page 21.

Trust In Bentham

By Alison Clough

Following last years successful build up to the community bonfire over the autumn half term week, this year promises to get off to a flying start with the Bentham Development Trust Launch on 21/22nd October.

The weekend is packed with events in a celebration of our community life. On Saturday 21st, street entertainment by local people in the morning, will be followed by a family treasure hunt from High to Low Bentham in the afternoon, with tea and biscuits, exhibitions and entertainment at the Victoria Institute. In the evening there will be a family barn dance in High Bentham Town Hall. Any Low Bentham residents needing a lift to this event should contact Sharon Haslam on 62018.

On Sunday an Ecumenical Service will be held at the Methodist Church at 2.30pm, to bring everyone together in a spirit of hope for the future.

Advertising Rates

Local Advertisers:-

Bentham, Burton, Ingleton. boxed advertisement, one eighth page - £10.00
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Non - local advertisers, boxed advertisement one eighth page - £15.00
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Flyers and inserts, rate negotiable depending on size, design layout and printing etc.

For small advertisements or notices on the Bentham People Page, please see the rates shown on that page.

To place an advertisement in the Bentham News please contact
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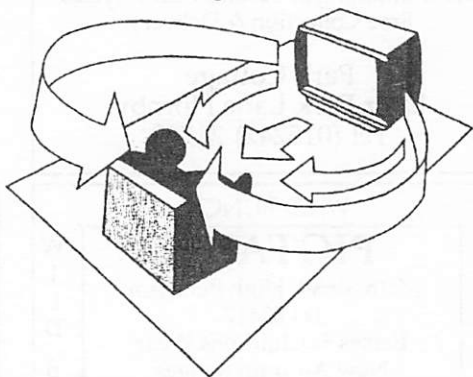
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EDITORIAL INFORMATION

BENTHAM NEWS is published at "Latharna", High Bentham, by an editorial committee consisting of Shirley Brown, Tom Cahill, 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 Bill Kennedy on 62492. 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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NEW METHODIST MINISTER

By P. McCabe

The North Craven Section of the Settle Methodist Circuit welcomed a new minister last month. The Rev. Norman Price has come into the Methodist Church after 14 years as a Salvation Army officer. During that time, he and his wife, Catherine, have worked at home and abroad.

Their home is in Dundonald, Northern Ireland, and it was there in 1973 that Norman became a Christian. He worked with young people and Catherine was also involved in this. When she dedicated her life to Christ, they decided to join the Salvation Army. After working in Wales they returned to Belfast and it was here that they were touched by the troubles. One evening, when Catherine was leading a service, she was blown off the platform into the congregation by the force of a nearby bomb.

During their time in West Belfast Norman and Catherine began a ministry of reconciliation among children on either side of the Peace Line. They used their home as a neutral meeting place for children from Protestant and Catholic communities. When they left the province they handed the work on to the R.U.C. and it continues today. Catherine and Norman were posted to Dundee, and while there the Gulf War occurred. Norman volunteered to minister to the troops involved in Kuwait and Saudi Arabia.

They have two children, Karl, who is in Dundonald, and Leann, who is married and lives in Wiltshire. They were welcomed to Benthams Methodist Church, (so full that extra seating had to be brought in) on 29th August. The singing was lead by a 50 strong ecumenical choir directed by Stephen Dawson. Rev. Price was greeted by Methodist Church leaders and those of other denominations, as well by as civic dignitaries. The Rev. Price's churches are High and Low Benthams, Ingleton, Westhouse, Lowgill and Burton-in-Lonsdale.

YOUTH CLUB

By Pauline Hill

Our year has started with the opening of "Dougals" Drop-In, on Mondays from 5.00 - 7.00pm for ages 13+. If you have any ideas on how you would like to see this scheme run, then take the hint and drop in!

Junior drama is on Wednesdays from 6.00 - 7.30pm. We have been asked to "do a turn" for the celebration launch of the Benthams Development Trust. If anyone wants to be a waiter/waitress for that evening, or help backstage in any way, please let us know.

Benthams Show Raffle Winners

The winning numbers from the Benthams Show raffle are as follows:- 2686, 628, 2221, 4, 2658, 1228, 2654, 2469, 788, 83, 2174, 1077, 928, 737, 2331, 666, 815, 2551, 115, 2263, 711, 2214, 958. Any winners who have not received their prizes should contact Bob Ervine on 61491.

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FARMING DIARY

By our Farming Correspondent

A few weeks ago we had our local agricultural show and people tell me that it was one of the best for some years. This was probably due to the fine summer and the support of the public, and the co-operation of the committee and helpers. It rained hard about 4.00am on the show morning but it kept fine through the day. The welcome rain in early September has helped farmers, as the grass has grown, and the mushrooms. I don't expect there was enough rain to help the water supplies.

Some farmers are hoping to get more silage for winter feed as they have had to use existing stocks when the grass was burnt off. Some fields are being ploughed and re-seeded in mid September, which is rather late for this area.

Autumn sales of sheep started in August and store lambs were low in price and hard to sell at the first sales. When the rain came buyers were more interested and the prices rose by about £10 per head. The first of the breeding lambs sales in Bentham took place on 9th September when around 9000 were on offer. Prices were much the same as last year. Lots of these lambs are transported to the south of England.

The horned sheep sales have recently started. These are sheep that live on the moors and the slopes of Ingleborough and Penyghent. Many of these are bought by local farmers, to put with the rams in October for lambing next April.

On the 12th September there were about 1000 bullocks and heifers to sell and many of these go to the eastern side of the country to be fed on grain which is grown there. They are put into big yards and bedded with straw, which makes good manure. This is put back and ploughed in for next years crop, which could be barley, oats or maize.

August Rainfall

Figures supplied by Mrs. M. Foster

Only a little rain, 14.5 mm (.6") in August, which gives a total of 149.5mm (5.9") from the 1st April compared with a 10 year average of 355.7mm (14.0") for the same 5 months. Recently the wettest August was in 1992 with 150.9mm (5.9"). The predominant aspects of the month were the extreme temperatures and hours of sunshine. What a fabulous summer - now for the rain!

Craven College Course at Millers Court

By Aliatair Gregory

92% of businesses in the Craven area employ less than 2 people! To help in the economic regeneration of Bentham, Craven College will be running a practical accounting course for small businesses, commencing on Thursday 5th October, at Millers Court, High Bentham. It will run for 10 weeks and each session will be of 2 hours duration.

The course is designed to cover practical financial and accounting aspects and topics will include:- measuring profit, credit control, cash forecasts, liaising with your bank, taxation of profits, and more, plus any topics which you may wish to raise. For further details please ring Cath Birtwistle on 015242-61474 or Alistair Gregory on 015242-62863.

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SPORTS REPORT

Compiled by Janette Richardson

Bentham's World Record Holder

Bentham has its first world champion record holder. Forty year old Les Pilling of Lakeber Avenue, took the Master Class title at the recent World Drug-Free Powerlifting Federation Championships at Horsham in West Sussex.

Les has been power lifting for 7 years and for the last three years has been British and European champion. He realised his ambition to be world champion after a long gruelling contest with the existing world record holder, Johnny Graham of America. Power lifting contests incorporate squat, bench and dead lifts, and his world beating efforts saw him lift a total of 795kgs over the three categories, breaking the existing record by 10kg. In the squat he lifted 310kg (about 6 cwt), followed by 165kg in the bench lift and 320kg in the dead lift. The dead lift was another world record. Les trains at Lancaster University with his friend, Peter Hudson of Lancaster.

Bowls

Springfield Bowling Club had its Finals Day on the 19th August. After an exciting afternoon of bowling the results were as follows.

The Butterfield Cup was won by R. Butterfield with G. Denby as runner up.

The Mens Challenge Cup was won by W. Rose with M. Taylor as runner up.

The Ladies Rose Bowl was won by Mrs. S Bennington with Mrs. E. Garlick as runner up.

The Ladies Challenge Cup was won by Mrs. E. Garlick with Mrs. J. Cardus as runner up.

Wenning Badminton Club

There will be a meeting to discuss the future of Junior badminton. If you are interested in helping or have any ideas please attend the meeting in the Black Bull on Monday 2nd October at 7.30pm. For more information ring Trevor Dobson on

Bentham Men's Tennis



Described as the "Ascent of the Greybeards" the Bentham Men's team benefited from the less demanding standard required of the Kendal League's second division, and in the event were unlucky not

to complete the season as division two champions. Windermere won the title on a countback of sets dropped, having the same number of points and rubbers as Bentham. Both teams completed their fixtures undefeated.

So Bentham return to the first division next season when the ageing legs, elbows, lungs and eyesight will face a more demanding examination. Perhaps a sponsorship from Body Talk should be sought. Players and number of appearances:- John Bell 10. Colin Brown 10, Roger Alston 6, Simon Hicks 7, Ken Robertson 12, Dave Worthington 1, Alan Warde 1, Ian Alcott 1.

Football

Under 16's. Craven's season started well with a 3-1 victory against Westgate Wanderers, then our form slumped as we were beaten 5-0 at home by Lune Valley. It seemed impossible to play as badly again but our form was very low as we were crushed 9-0 away to Lancaster Colts. Not a very auspicious start to the season!



Under 14's. The under 14 season kicked off on Sunday 10th September with a very tough match against a well organised Morecambe Youth side. We were down 4-0 at half time but a much better second half performance saw us losing by 5-1.

Under 12's. Following a hectic pre season, the under 12 team got off to a positive start in the first division. After a close match Craven were unlucky to lose 2-0 away to Dolphinholme. Despite this disappointment, the team bounced back to beat Dallam 7-2 in an exciting end to end encounter.

BENTHAM DEVELOPMENT TRUST PROGRESS

By Bill Kennedy

There was an excellent attendance at a members' meeting in the Black Bull on 13th September, arranged to enable the BDT Board of Directors to report on progress and plans. The meeting was chaired by Brian Cowling.

The story of the development of the movement, started 5 years ago, to the present situation, was given by Keith Cowling, who had been involved from the beginning. The "Study of Bentham", from autumn 1993 to spring 1994, led to recommendations for the creation of the Trust. BDT was registered as a company on 6th February this year and the Project Director, Nick Love, took up his post on 13th June. At present the Trust is run by a Holding Board, but the first annual general meeting will enable members to elect directors.

Vi Christensen gave a detailed report on the progress of the Goodenber Play Area Project. Did you know that the site was leased to the Town Council 10 years ago, for development as a play area, but the group of local residents involved found the task too arduous and eventually no further action was taken. The present playground committee has also found that progress is slow, and requires great effort and persistence. It is only through their determination that the objectives now seem achievable. They have been granted charitable status and permission to take over the lease, plans have been submitted and funding has been applied for.

If all goes well, work on the site should start in the New Year. This will involve landscaping, fencing, planting and preparation of the site for equipment. It is hoped that there will be ample voluntary labour.

Details of other plans and projects were given. These include the following. The improvement of facilities at the Victoria Institute in Low Bentham, to make it more suitable as a community venue.

Bentham Town Enhancement Scheme. Sketches of the proposed improvements will be put on public display, and the community invited to make suggestions for amendments etc.

Bentham Painting Scheme. This project is at planning stage, and may be modelled on other similar successful schemes, already completed, such as that at Caister in Lincolnshire.

Other projects are being considered and the Bentham News will report regularly on progress, plans and achievements of BDT.

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