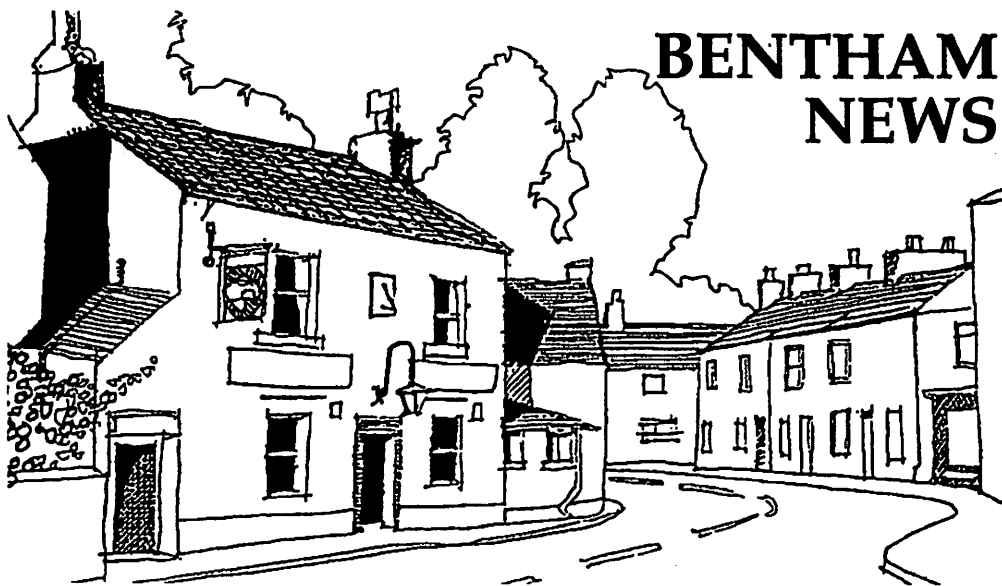




BENTHAM NEWS

BOATING IN BENTHAM?

Details in a CDC discussion paper, leaked to the Bentham News, reveal some startling suggestions for the way in which the Playing Field could be used. If the proposals are taken seriously, the radical changes would add to the beauty of Bentham and attract more visitors.

Set out under two main headings:- (1) existing problems at the Playing Field, and (2) possible solutions, the leaked document refers to the major problems being the flooding of the playing area due to drainage problems, and the fact that the facilities are not used by a wide enough range of local people. It acknowledges that the drainage problem is not easy to solve as the exact cause is difficult to diagnose, and no one seems to know whose responsibility it is to tackle the problem. There is an obvious increase in surface drainage since the Business Park was tar-macadamed, and it is also believed that the drainage pipes have been damaged. Rubbish in the open ditch also blocks the natural drainage. As a result the cricket pitch in particular often

looks more like natural marshland than the traditional English village cricket setting.

A Boating Lake

One of the suggestions for discussion is that the area should be excavated to about two feet deep and the excavated soil used to form a surrounding landscaped embankment, enclosing a lake for boating and fishing, giving rise to an annual regatta and fishing competitions. During severe winters ice skating could also be a feature. Apart from the benefit to Benthamers, wild fowl would be attracted in winter and the whole scheme would attract many more visitors to the area. One local resident, when asked what he thought of the idea, welcomed it in general but expressed concern that it might be contaminated by the nearby sewage farm, and another held the opinion that with the increase in surface drainage, the lake might be contaminated by dog dirt, washed down during heavy rain. This is a matter of concern to locals so the B.N. is floating these ideas before you and would like to hear your opinions.

APRIL 1999

ISSUE 150

WOMEN'S INSTITUTES

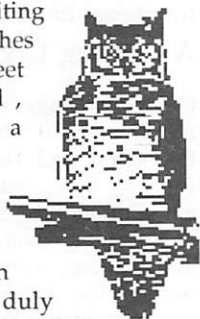
Low Bentham

By Jennifer Watkinson

Feathered friends were among the guests at Low Bentham W.I. when Mr. Don Holroyd, alias "the birdman of Torrisholme" and Mr. Nick Henderson from Corio Raptor Care and Rehabilitation at Bentham, came to talk enthusiastically to members about their causes.

The former, an experienced saviour of hedgehogs, spoke about the six different breeds and how they were liable to become extinct in about twenty years time. This was due to global warming interrupting their sleeping habits, and new housing estates and motorways destroying their habitats. He showed us photographs of hoglets the size of a toothbrush head and issued leaflets to help us care for them.

Mr. Henderson introduced his birds of prey which had been waiting patiently on special perches designed to protect their feet - a one-eyed male kestrel, which had been shot, a female tawny owl which acts as a foster mother, a barn owl and a Bengal eagle owl. Two of these were released to perform their tricks and were duly rewarded for doing so. The President, Mrs. Christine Jennings, thanked both Mr. Henderson and Mr. Holroyd.



Mrs. Alice Smith agreed to become vice president.

The competition winners were Mrs. Hilda Lister, Mrs. Edna Hewitt and Mrs. Sylvia Brennand. The next meeting will be held on 15th April when Mrs. Davis will talk on "Decorated eggs" which will also be the subject for the competition.

High Bentham

By Doreen Park

The March meeting turned out to be a "hands on" affair when the speaker cried off at the last minute, and the President had to give an impromptu demonstration on foil work.

As the president, with Margaret Hayton and Joy Morgan, had spent the day at the Spring Council meeting at Southport, not arriving home till after 5.30pm, the journey home was spent in discussing who could provide what in the way of cardboard, scissors, glue etc.

Members all sat round a large table and made their own picture or frame, amid much hilarity, as the hastily provided equipment was passed around. The evening concluded with a very creditable display of work, proving yet again, that the W.I. can rise to any occasion. One member, Pam Parkins, had the added bonus of winning theatre tickets as the 4th prize in the Federation Draw.

The next meeting will be on 1st April with Heather Guy talking on "Osteoporosis Exercises".

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MARCH'S TOWN COUNCIL

By David Johnson

A full complement of Cllrs. with John Pilkington joining Gerald Hurtley for the District Council input.

A default notice has been issued and the various signs and barriers on Wenning Avenue and Grasmere Drive should be in place before the end of March. North West Water has promised to inspect Wenning Avenue with a view to repairs but seems disinclined to install traffic calming measures although such a scheme may be introduced for the town generally next year. The work on the water treatment plant is more or less complete and the water authority is to hold an open day in the summer. Take a wine glass and you may be able to take part in a degustation!

Reflections on Dept. of Transport

Apparently the Department of Transport frowns on traffic mirrors. They can only be installed where visibility is severely restricted. As there has been no major accident over the last three years at the junction of Main Street and Station Road it was decided not to pursue the matter. (Could the problem be solved by Fishers fitting a bow window to their shop?!))

There seems to be some reluctance to investigate flooding behind Sally Warburton's house. District Councillor Pilkington promised to harass the District Council into urgent action. Street lighting was discussed in respect of the missing light on Wenning Avenue, a dark patch on Hillside Road and an informal request for a light on Gashouse Lane. Cllr Preston is to investigate the latter.

The Council found £50 for Low Bentham C.P. School for geography books and supported a motion to write expressing concern at the proposed cuts in school budgets. They commented on the excellent standard achieved by High Bentham C.P.

School choir and asked the clerk to write wishing the choir well at the Mary Wakefield Festival. Cllr. Hurtley informed everyone that a youth club has started at Low Bentham on a Wednesday evening. The councillors were delighted and resolved to send £50 to the project.

Cllr. Pilkington said Craven District Council was reviewing its car parking policy. The new model should be unveiled by April 2000. Craven District Council is also re-examining its policy towards its housing stock.

Estimates are slowly arriving for work to improve the cemetery but there was more hopeful news about immediate action at The Black Bull Car Park. It seems that it is to be surfaced within the next couple of months and we will no longer need snorkels and wellies if we wish to park there!

Concern at Butts Lane Development

There were further letters about the Butts Lane development but it seems little can be done because the developer has every right to proceed providing he plays ball over access, design materials etc. and it complies with various routine provisions stipulated by the planning authority. The Town Council's points about access, footpaths and phasing involving no more than 20 houses per year have all been noted.

The next Town Council will be on Monday 12th. April at 7.30pm. Come along and find out what is going on.

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DO YOU KNOW WHAT P.A.T. DOGS ARE?

By David and Judith Johnson

Most of us will have heard about dogs for the blind and perhaps for the deaf but there are also Pets As Therapy dogs. These support dogs visit nursing homes, homes for the elderly and hospitals by arrangement with the staff and offer a welcome change to routine.

The medical profession has long since acknowledged the benefits of the companionship of animals especially in the lives of the elderly who can feel isolated and separated from the normal world around them. Sometimes an elderly person has had to leave a beloved pet behind in order to enter residential care and sometimes a person will confide in a dog in preference to a human. P.A.T. dogs can fill an important gap in their lives.

P.A.T. dogs usually have to pass obedience tests and are fully insured before being registered and receive a bright yellow coat for use while they are working.

Of course the dogs, like our Labrador who visits Burndale House, enjoy all the fuss they attract and perhaps even the occasional biscuit.

Anyone interested in joining this scheme can contact Joy Scarfe from the Kirkby Lonsdale Dog Club where our labrador, Jet, was trained.

BENTHAM & DISTRICT CAMERA CLUB

By Peter Marshall

Our programme for 1998/99 has now ended. Although we wish we had more members, we enjoyed the events on our programme.

Trophy winners for the year were: Humphries Cup for a set of slides - David Smith; Illston Cup for monochrome prints - David Johnson; Humphries Trophy for small colour prints - Val Marshall; Humphries Trophy for large colour print - David Johnson; Clifford Bentham Trophy - Norman Crellin; Clapham Trophy for overall points during the year - 1st David Johnson (46 points), 2nd Derek Smith (22) and 3rd Val Marshall (20). The recent Annual General Meeting resulted in the Officers of the Club being re-elected as follows; President, Dennis Dafforn; Chairman, Peter Marshall; Competition Secretary, David Johnson; Minute Secretary, Derek Smith; Treasurer, Stan Smith; Committee, Norman Crellin, Madeline Hodgson.

The programme for our next season has now been completed and the themes, which can be recorded on slides or prints, are (1) chimneys, (2) something yellow, and (3) something beginning with "A". We welcome new members - who do not have to be experts - and further information may be obtained from Peter Marshall, telephone 62512.

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COUNTY COUNCIL CONCERNS



By County Councillor Ralph Atkinson

Council Tax

Now that the Council's budgets have been fixed it seems that the increase in Council Tax is not quite as bad as I forecast. Instead of the 9.6% I guessed at it will only average 8.7%. I know this is more than inflation but though it does seem a lot, we are still one of the lowest Council Taxes in the country. For comparison, Lancashire is about £128 more for Band D, ie, £755.21 in Bentham against £883.88 in Lancaster.

An explanation of how this is made up and how it will be spent, will be coming out with your Council Tax demand. Apart from an unexpectedly large settlement for teachers - including that for head teachers, and the usual inflation, most of the increase in cost comes from 2% more school children and nearly £1m. for landfill tax. In total these add up to nearly £14m. as against savings of £8.5m. and I assure you that we have cut administration costs to the bone.

Although we Liberal Democrats thought balances could be reduced a little more we really are teetering on the edge of too low an allowance for contingencies.

Waste Management

You will have noticed that in his budget speech, the Chancellor slipped in an extra £2 per tonne for Landfill Tax next year. This will come directly from our pockets. However we will be having a really good look at waste management next year to see where we can economise. At the moment the County spends £9m. on disposal on top of the £2m. which the District Councils spend on collection. Every little bit that we can do to increase recycling reduces the amount going into landfill and so helps reduce this tax.

Access to the Countryside

There has been a good deal in the media about access to the countryside lately and

by the time you read this the Government may well have made its decision. I won't go into the detail for there is partisanship on both sides despite a general agreement that more access is desirable.

Whatever happens it seems likely that more access will be available but this may have to be negotiated through local access bodies. In this area more access in the Bowland area would certainly benefit walkers and this is something I have been trying to achieve for some time without success.

An associated problem is the use of so-called Green Lanes by 4 wheel drive vehicles. An attempt was made for the right to use these to be made overall and countrywide. Fortunately this seems to have been scotched as such, but in this case the present alternative of individually negotiated rights is unacceptably bureaucratic and unwieldy. So it's a question of "watch this space".

County Policy on the Elderly

As I have said before I think the County policy on the encouragement to elderly people to stop on in their own home, is out of balance. Not only is care in the community more expensive but from my experience (both family and Abbeyfield) many older people are happier with the burden of home ownership taken off their hands, to say nothing of loneliness and the extra burden on carers. However I seem to be getting nowhere with this.

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LIBRARY NEWS

By Diane Chant, Library Assistant

The latest edition of the Clubs and Societies file, giving information on 33 Bentham based organisations, is now on display in the reference section of the library. Would representatives from each listed group please check the file details and inform library staff of any amendments to be made. Groups not already listed can be included by completing the organisations database form, available in the library.

We now hold a small selection of audio books suitable for young adult borrowers - why not try some science fiction, horror or adventure on tape, for a change? Finally, for anyone having difficulty reading the small print on documents, bills, bank statements etc, our new easy to use CCTV reading aid provides greatly enlarged text on a screen. Staff will be happy to demonstrate - please ask.

Please note, the library is closed on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

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PET RESCUE AGM NOTES



By Val Marshall

We have had another very busy year. Cats and dogs have been re-homed as far afield as Skipton, Hawes, Preston and Ambleside, and many places between, largely due to the publicity given by Dalehead Vets and the Bentham News. We had 135 enquiry telephone calls last year, compared with 19 in our first year. We have dealt with 67 cats and kittens, 8 dogs, 5 rabbits, 6 guinea pigs and 1 horse!

We have worked very closely with the R.S.P.C.A. in Lancaster, which is the branch we come under. They have given us considerable financial help with the feral cats and have helped a number of local people, by paying towards neutering fees for their pets, when they have applied for assistance. We are lucky in having Anthea Chapman our Dog Warden. All the stray dogs from this district are taken down to kennels in Colne where they are kept for only 7 days before being put down, but any dog found in Bentham is transferred by Anthea to the sanctuary we use in the Lyth Valley, for re-homing after this period.

I would like to thank all the people from Bentham, especially the regulars who give us a steady supply of blankets, dog and cat food, bric-a-brac and tombola goodies, without which we could not raise the money to continue our work.

The current year has got off to a good start with over 60 calls so far. Last year this number was not reached until September.

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50,000 DOG WARDENS IN CRAVEN!

By Shirley Brown

Although the subject of dog dirt makes some people snigger, it can also land people in Court and present others with a serious danger to their health. The crusade in Bentham to alert dog owners to their responsibilities is one which we are taking seriously on BN. It is not that we are anti-dog as some have suggested (there are plenty of dog owners on our committee), but we are anti the serious health hazard caused when people are infected by the toxocara worm found in dog faeces. This can cause lethargy, diarrhoea and even blindness.

Rachel Clay's article in February's BN seems to have had some effect, and at least dog owners are now more aware that they are responsible for the safe disposal of their dog's faeces. However, we thought we would continue the campaign with a reminder of the legal situation, and the action being taken locally by Craven District's Environmental Health Department. The Dogs (Fouling of Land) Act was passed in 1996, and in April 1998 CDC implemented the Act and created the new offence of failing to remove dog faeces from designated land. Designated land is most land except that bordering roads with a speed limit of over 40mph, land used for agriculture and woodland, land which is predominantly marsh, moor or heath, and land which the owner has specifically requested not to be included. The maximum fine on conviction for the offence of failing to remove dog faeces is £1,000. Being unaware of the fouling or not having a means of clearing up are not deemed to be reasonable excuses. John Shakespeare from CDC Environmental Health Department informed us that there have been at least 12 prosecutions since April 1998, and Andrea Chapman, Bentham's Dog Warden, says she has referred 22 people for prosecution and issued hundreds of warnings in the same

time period.

Potentially there are 50,000 dog wardens in Craven. Local residents are able to make a difference to their environment and can provide the local knowledge to help the Dog Warden educate and inform the small number of irresponsible dog owners in the district. If you should wish to discuss issues relevant to the Council's Dog Warden Service please ring 01756 - 706374.

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Dear Bentham News,
I read with interest the contribution in the March issue "Along Low Bentham Road" by Bateman Marshall. I wish to thank him for arousing many memories, good and otherwise, surrounding his opening paragraph re Bentham Garage Services, known then as Sermaize Garage. I rightfully claim to have been the first apprentice to the late Mr. Fred Crossley, Snr. That was March 1937.

Recalling the interview when Mr. Crossley reeled off a long list of do's and don'ts. Serve petrol at one shilling and one pence per gallon. Clean the company fleet, an Austin 12, CW 307, and a Standard 9, HG 352. Shop maintenance. Start to learn the trade plus attend Storey's Technical College three nights a week, all for five shillings every Saturday night. Returning after five years of war service I shortly discovered that Fred Snr. was replaced by Fred Jnr. and the company had expanded



to include car sales. In the mid 1950's the company purchased Bentham Main Street Garage and after several years first as foreman and then service manager, it was time to move on as an Insurance Engineer.

I have much to thank Mr. Crossley for. He was a true engineer in every sense of the word. He was a disciplinarian who achieved respect from man and boy. He taught me first to develop a respect in the areas surrounding my work, and secondly to sell the product, which was "service". Thanks Bateman, for stirring many thoughts.

Yours sincerely,

Reg. Suart.

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POLICE FILE

By PC Danny Kay

Liaison with Local Organisations

We are keen to maintain our existing ties with local organisations such as the Town Council and Bentham Traders, but it is felt that there may be other groups in the community who would benefit from liaison with us. Police liaison can be structured to meet the needs of most organisations and we will be pleased to do what we can to help. If you think that your group or organisation would benefit from such help then please contact us at Ingleton Police Station in writing or by phone on 41217.

Neighbourhood Watch

A number of schemes are running in the Bentham area, but as always we would welcome the establishment of new schemes. If you would like more information, please write or telephone us.

Ingleton Police Station

The contract for the building of the new Ingleton Police Station has been awarded (to a local firm, we believe) and by the time this article goes to press work should have started to convert the two former police houses on Backgate, into a far more functional and accessible station than our existing somewhat dilapidated premises on Hawes Road. The project is a sign of the police authority's willingness to maintain police presence in the area at a time when we have seen neighbouring counties reducing their police cover in rural areas similar to ours.

And Finally....

We couldn't go for a whole issue without mentioning parking!

Some drivers seem to be taking heed of our plea regarding unlawful parking in Bentham. Casual observations over the last month indicate that the "hot spots" for unlawful parking appear to be on the Main Street outside Armstrongs and outside the Spar shop. As stated many times before we will not hesitate to issue a £20 fixed penalty notice to offenders.

Please think before you park.

March Quiz Results

The prize, kindly donated by Hash Browns, was won by Chris Hall, Burnside Nurseries.

Answers. 1 - Yellowbird. 2 - Ostrich. 3 - Sparrow. 4 - Cuckoo. 5 - Nightingale. 6 - Penguin. 7 - Snowbird. 8 - Robin. 9 - Dipper. 10 - Albatross. 11 - Blackbird. 12 - Ptarmigan. 13 - Capercaillie. 14 - Bluebirds. 15 - Emu. 16 - Toucan. 17 - Birdie song. 18 - Puffin.

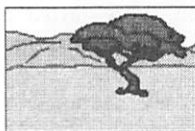
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MEMORIES OF BENTHAM IN THE 1930s....continued

By Bateman Marshall

* And now to *Moonsacre*. This belonged to Bentham Grammar School and was extended in 1929 by donations from the Carr family and by public subscription. I was at Bentham Grammar School from 1932 to 1937, and then it was an all-boys school of some 30-40 pupils. Percy Booth was assistant to the headmaster, George Percy Gill. Mr Gill was also organist and choirmaster at St Margaret's church. Mrs Gill, his strong-willed German wife, was a keen horsewoman and the building at the end of the lane opposite (now pedestrian entrance to Bentham Show) was her stable and coach house. Every morning in the summer term, wet or fine, all pupils went swimming to Wenning Bridge. In those days even the boys were not topless. If any boy needed extra tuition, then Mrs Gill gave lessons at 6.30am in either Camphole or the Cut at Low Bentham.

During my time at Bentham Grammar School my father never paid any fees, but then the school never paid for any milk. The trouble started when I left to go to Giggleswick School, as then Mr. Gill was still reluctant to pay for milk.

* Across the road from the school was *Ebenezer Mount*, later to become known as *Burnside Nurseries*. Here an elderly gentleman by the name of Whittaker carried on his business as nurseryman. He spent a lot of time in his cucumber house reading the bible, and lived to a good age. His face was like polished marble, and each day he took enough Epsom Salts to cover a sixpence. He wheeled his produce to market on a handcart and stood in the recess between what is now the Sports Shop and Midland Bank to sell it.

* Back across the road adjacent to Moonsacre is *Kilnbrook*, then the home of Mr

& Mrs Twaddle. Mr Twaddle was a retired customs officer.

* During the 1930s the road between High and Low Bentham was widened because in many places it was not possible for two buses to pass. This was a big project for Bentham and I cannot recall much soil being dug by machine. It was carted away either by horse and cart or by Freddie Reid's Model T Ford waggons which repeatedly broke down.

When it was safe to let children out alone at night

* We used to go back to school to do our homework between 6pm and 8pm. In winter it was necessary to have night watchmen who had to make sure the red lamps did not go out. The night watchmen were Cuddy Smith in High Bentham and Billam Wilcock in Low Bentham. As eleven year old schoolboys, we used to love gathering round the coke brazier on cold winter nights to listen to the exaggerated stories that both of them were expert at telling. Many were the nights we were scolded for being late home. I wonder how many parents would allow eleven year olds to be out at night now?

* There were no houses between *Kilnbrook* and *Vale View*, the home of John Fisher (draper) who was the grandfather of Clifford Fisher.

* Next door was occupied by Will Lumb who was at the time a grocer in Ingleton. Mrs Lumb later had a sweet shop, following Molly Ayrton in what was last known as 'Pop and See'. Next to *Vale View* was the *old Catholic School* which during the early 1930s served as a band room for the Bentham Silver Band. Jim Jackson, who started as a monumental mason in the grounds at the end, bought the property, pulled it down and built two houses. He carried on in business from there for some 45 years. These two houses have now been put together and are occupied by Thomas Marshall.

Don't miss the next part of this interesting account of part of Bentham's history in the May edition of the Bentham News. Ed.

CLIFF MACHIN - LOCAL ARTIST

By Shirley Brown

'The Looking Well' is hoping to stage an exhibition of artwork by Cliff Machin opening at 10.30am on Wednesday 14th April. We thought readers would be interested to know a little about Cliff's life before he moved to Bentham.

Cliff, the son of a coal miner, was raised in South Yorkshire during the depression-hit 1920/30 period. He left home at 16 years old to attend a course in engineering at a Government Training Centre in Leeds. After a year's assessment he was transferred to an aircraft factory in the South of England to train as a draughtsman.

He went on to hold posts as chief draughtsman at a Metal Rolling Mill in London and chief draughtsman and designer in Agricultural and Dairy Engineering. He was then asked to take on overall responsibility for the design,

artwork and production for national and international exhibitions for the Agricultural Research Council.

In 1976 Cliff returned from "exile" to his native Yorkshire and settled in Mewith. He has spent his "retirement" painting, sketching and restoring his home, "Gruskhams".

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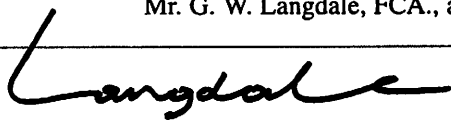
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LOCAL EVENTS IN APRIL

- Sat 3rd T. I. C. coffee morning in Town Hall, 11.00-11.45 am. 
- Looking Well, 10.30-12.30 LETS Seed and Seedlings swop.
- Tue 6th High Bentham Toy Library in Youth Club, 9.30-11.30am.
- Bentham Child Health Clinic at the Surgery 2.00-4.00pm.
- Wed 7th NSPCC monthly meeting at Lingfield, Robin Lane at 7.30pm.
- Thu 8th Bentham Footpath Group walk, Burton circular, 5 miles, leader C. Crellin, 61881. Please meet at Lairgill/Burton Bridge 1.15/1.30 pm.
- Sat 10th Arthritis & Rheumatism Council coffee morning at Town Hall, 9.45-11.30 am. 
- Sun 11th Low Bentham Playgroup Jumble Sale at Victoria Institute, 2.00-4.00pm.
- Mon 12th NSPCC House to House collection starts and continues for one week.
- Looking Well, 7.30-8.30pm, Tai Chi/Chi Qong gentle exercise session, and every Monday.

- Mon 12th Town Council meeting, 7.30pm, Town Hall.
- Tue 13th Bentham Footpath Group quarterly meeting for all members, 7.30pm at Town Hall.
- Looking Well 12.30-1.30pm, Relaxation session. 2.00-3.00pm WISH womens support group, and both every Tuesday.
- Wed 14th Looking Well, 10.30am opening of exhibition "Paintings & Drawings by Cliff Machin".
- C.A.B. at the Health Centre, 1.30-3.15pm.
- Bentham Alzheimer's Disease Support Group at the Looking Well, 7.30-9.30pm.
- Thu 15th Low Bentham W.I. at the Victoria Institute, 7.30pm. See page 2.
- Deadline for copy for May edition Bentham News.
- Looking Well, 1.15-3.30pm, Mucky Buckets Play Project, (parents & under 4's) and every Thursday.
- Fri 16th Waste paper collection at the Legion Hut, 8.30-11.00am. Proceeds to NSPCC.
- Looking Well, 6.00-9.30pm, Black Library Wargaming Club, and every Friday.
- The Countryside Society meeting at Hornby Institute, 7.45pm. "Yows and Yaks and other important trees in N. England" - John Wyatt.
- Sat 17th Methodist Church coffee morning, Town Hall  9.45-11.30am.
- Labour Party Jumble Sale at Ingleton Community Centre, 2.00pm.
- Sun 18th B. F. G. walk, Ribble Way (stage 6), 10 miles, leader B. Ellershaw, 62078. Meet at Lairgill 9.00am.

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.

Mon 19th Burton-in-Lonsdale & District Horticultural Society panel of local gardeners "Question Time" 7.30pm in Village Hall.

Tue 20th Angus Pensioners' Association AGM in Town Hall, 2.00pm, followed by whist and dominoes.

High Bentham Toy Library in Youth Club, 9.30-11.30am.

Bentham Child Health Clinic at the Surgery 2.00-4.00pm.

Victoria Institute AGM at the Institute at 7.30pm. All welcome.

Thu 22nd Acoustic jam session, Horse & Farrier, 8.00pm. All musicians welcome. See page 24.

Sat 24th Craven Wanderers coffee morning at the Town Hall, 10.00am-12.00noon. 

Bentham Footpath Group walk, Newby Cote circular, 6 miles, leader D. Stubbs 61430. Please meet at Lairgill 11.00am.

Burton-in-Lonsdale Bowling Club Jumble Sale & coffee morning at the Village Hall, 10.00am-12.00noon. 

"Off the Wall" Town Hall Ballroom, "Gangster Night", 8.00pm for dinner, 10.00pm dancing. Tickets from Hairlines, 61554.

Wed 28th C.A.B. at the Health Centre, 1.30-3.15pm.

Fri 30th Bentham News published.

Events in early May

Sat 1st Bentham Horticultural Society coffee morning at the Town Hall, 10.00am-12.00noon. 

Mon 3rd Low Bentham CP School's 90th birthday party at the school.

Reminder

Don't forget the Annual Parish Meeting at the Town Hall on Wednesday 31st March at 7.30pm.

Netball

Join the netball group, at the Playing Fields, every Wednesday from 6.30-7.30pm. This starts on the 14th April. All are welcome. Contact Ingrid Ellershaw on 62345 for further details.

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- Full colour digital laser copying
- B&W and spot colour photocopying
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Course Title	Duration & Cost	Dates	Time	Location
Introduction to Silk Painting	5 Weeks £7.00	Starts 14/4/99 Ends 12/5/99	Wednesday 7-9pm	Millers Court Room 7
Modelling with Marzipan	2 Weeks £7.00	Starts 17/4/99 Ends 24/4/99	Saturdays 10-4pm	Millers Court Room 7
Start Psychology	10 weeks £7.00	Starts 16/4/99 Ends 25/5/99	Fridays 1-3pm	Millers Court Room 7
Oils OCNW Face Level 1	15 weeks TBA	Starts 13/4/99 Ends 27/7/99	Tuesday 7-9.30pm	Millers Court Room 9
Drawing for Beginners	5 weeks £7.00	Starts 16/4/99 Ends 11/5/99	Friday 10-12pm	Millers Court Room 8
Clait/IBT2	10 weeks TBA	Starts 19/4/99 Ends 5/7/99	Mondays 9.30-12.30	Millers Court Room 9
Start Word Processing	5 weeks £7.00	Starts 15/4/99 Ends 13.5.99	Thursdays 1-3pm	Millers Court Room 9
Introduction to Wired Flowers	2 Weeks £7.00	Starts 15/5/99 Ends 22/5/99	Saturdays 10am-4pm	Millers Court Room 7
Start Your Own Business	10 Weeks £7.00	Starts 12/4/99 Ends 28/6/99	Mondays 7-9pm	Millers Court Room 7
Fresh Start	5 Weeks £7.00	Starts 12/4/99 Ends 10/5/99	Mondays 1-3pm	Millers Court Room 7
Start Desktop Publishing	5 Weeks £7.00	Starts 16/4/99 Ends 14/5/99	Fridays 1-3pm	Millers Court Room 9
Start Flower Arranging	5 Weeks £7.00	Starts 16/4/99 Ends 14/5/99	Fridays 7-9pm	Millers Court Room 7

There is also a full range of Comprehensive Courses Available.

Please contact:

Susanne Grady

Unit 1 Millers Court, Bentham.

Telephone Number: 015242 61474.

FOOTPATH MATTERS

By Maureen Ellis



Despite the wet weather there have been excellent walks in the early part of this year. Frank Royston's Bentham-Ingleton-Clapham circular used many unusual footpaths and the Burnett's walk round Cartmel utilized the Cumbrian coastal path which therefore gave good views of the estuary and the Hoad at Ulverston.

Michael Meacher, Environmental Minister, has promised a right to roam in the countryside and four million acres of English and Welsh land will be open to the public. It is not certain when the new Countryside Agency responsible for deciding where people will be able to walk, will decide access points, mapping and legal costs.

We are not the only country to see recreational access to fells and mountains as a source of revenue. While most mountain access is free in the European Alps, Nepal and Tibet charge for their mountains.

My mind is much on Everest as I was given a book by John Krakauer called "Into thin air", which is the account of a disastrous expedition when several clients, guides and sherpas died. It highlighted the successful organisation of the first ascent in 1953 led by John Hunt. His book "The Ascent of Everest" and Wilfred Noyes "South Col", both accounts of that expedition, write of the

careful use of previous knowledge and a hand picked team of climbers. There was methodical ferrying of equipment and food to staged camps all the way up the mountain by the team, as far as the last small camp comprising one small tent for Hillary and Tensing, above the south col. They were near enough so that with great effort they could make a successful final push. A lot of nonsense is talked about how easy the Matterhorn and even Everest are, now that there are fixed ropes and guides. Rebecca Stephens account "On top of the World" tells in an unboastful way of the enormous effort involved and also of the organisational infrastructure required.

Exciting stuff all this but I think a great deal of thought, hard work and effort also go into producing a comprehensive set of guided walks in our area that we can all take part in. Please take note of the quarterly meeting for all members at the Town Hall on Tuesday 13th April at 7.30pm.

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LOOKING WELL

By Alison Jones

We are closed for Easter from 3rd to 12th April. Our new exhibition after that features paintings and drawings by local artist Cliff Machin. It opens on Wednesday 14th April.

Relaxation

By request, we are starting a relaxation session again, on Tuesdays from 12.30-1.30 pm. If you prefer relaxation with gentle exercise come and discover Chi Qong with us on Monday evenings at 7.30pm.

Mucky Buckets

If you have babies and young children, come along to sessions on Thursday afternoons. You can relax, chat and play with your children. The group has recently sponsored Mojo the Owl (from Corio Raptor) and is busy making a beautiful pea green boat to play in. Some mums are thinking of starting an evening group that meets without children. If you are interested, put your name down on the card at the entrance desk.

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BIBBY'S OF INGLETON



COACH EXCURSIONS

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Manchester Trafford Centre



Sun. 9 May
Springtime in the Lakes



Saturday 15 May
Manchester Trafford Centre



Sunday 16 May
East Riding Coastal and
Countryman



Sunday 23
May Secret Shropshire



Sunday 30 May
Country Drive



Monday 31 May
Blackpool



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RECIPES

By Doreen Park

At this Easter time I thought readers might like to peruse this old family recipe using quotations from the world's best selling book, the Bible, giving clues to the different ingredients. It was usually made for the village church outing on the annual feast day. The day was one of sports, entertainments and feasting as well as special services often held in the open air in the church grounds or local beauty spot. The ladies of the village would prepare the food, hams, tongues, cold beef, pies, cakes, buns and biscuits, and lay it out on white linen cloths.

The quantities given make a 10 inch round cake. The amounts in brackets make a better cake than the biblical quantities. The ingredients are not in the order in which they are used, but as they usually appeared in old recipe books.

Scripture Cake

Take 4½ cups of 1 Kings 1V - 22, and Solomon's provision for one day was thirty measures of fine flour. (1 lb plain cake flour)
1½ cups of Judges V - 25. She brought him butter in a lordly dish. (8 ozs butter)
2 cups of Jeremiah VI - 20. To what purpose cometh there to me... sweet cane from a far country. (8 ozs brown sugar)
9 cups of 1 Samuel xxx - 12. And they gave



him two clusters of raisins. (8 ozs raisins)
2 cups of Nahum 111-12. All thy fortresses shall be like a fig tree. (8 ozs figs)

1 cup of Numbers XV11 - 8. The rod of Aaron was budded and put forth buds and bloomed blossoms and bore ripe almonds. (2 ozs almonds)

2 tablespoons of 1 Samuel X1V - 25. And there was honey upon the grounds. (1 tablespoon honey)

Season to taste with 2 Chronicles 1X - 9. And she gave the king spices in great abundance. (1-2 teaspoons mixed spice)

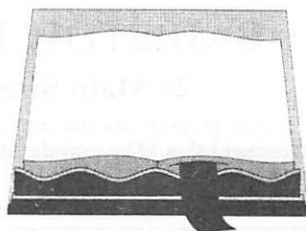
6 cups of Jeremiah XV11 - 11. As the partridge gathereth young which she has not brought forth. (3 eggs)

A pinch of Leviticus 11 - 13. With all thine oblations thou shalt offer salt. (pinch of salt)
½ cup of Judges 1V - 19. And she opened a bottle of milk. 4-5 tablespoons milk as required.

2 teaspoons Amos 1V - 5. And offer a sacrifice of that which is leavened. 1 teaspoon baking powder.

Follow Solomon's prescription for making a good boy, Proverbs XX11 - 14. And you will have a good cake. (Thou shalt beat him with a rod)

Pre-heat the oven to Gas 2, 150C/300F, grease and line a 10" (25cm) round cake tin. Beat together the butter and sugar until light and creamy, add the eggs and beat thoroughly. Work in the flour, baking powder, spices, salt, raisins, figs (cut into quarters), almonds and honey. Add enough milk to give a soft wet mixture, turn into prepared tin and bake for 3 hours or until a warm skewer comes out clean. Remove from the oven and leave to cool in the tin for 5 minutes before turning out onto a wire cake rack to finish cooling.



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BENTHAM PEOPLE

Personal Thanks

Pauline Burke and the family of the late William Burke would like to thank all friends and neighbours for their love and support and especially for the donations amounting to £144 which will be divided equally between the Multiple Sclerosis Society and the Camphill Village Trust at Botton Village near Whitby.

Thanks

Lynette Robinson would like to thank her family, relations and friends for their cards, flowers, gifts, good wishes and support during her recent stay in hospital.

The Christian Aid Lent Lunch held on Wednesday 24th February, raised £343.55. Many thanks to all who helped in any way. *K. Goldsack, Hon. Sec.*

Congratulations

To **David and Gill** on the birth of a beautiful Great Grand daughter. Lots of love, Gran and Grandad.

Wanted

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FEBRUARY WEATHER

Rainfall figures from Mrs. M. Foster, other data from D. & J.S. Johnson.



February was much drier than the average having 61.1mm(2.4") against the average for February of 112.0mm(4.4")

The winter pattern of cold northerly winds bringing fine, frosty weather occurred on two main occasions. The first was between 9th and 12th when there were 6 nights of frost and a little snow. The nights of 23rd and 24th were similar.

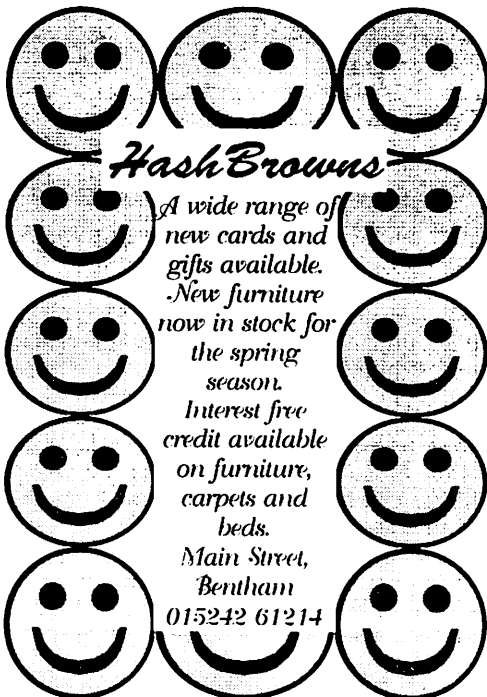
In between there have been Westerly or South Westerly winds bringing much warmer temperatures and drizzle and gales of 60mph were recorded on 4th of February.

The daylight hours have increased appreciably bringing the snowdrops and crocuses and the birds are singing. We can look forward to the occasional Spring-like day in March.



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"THE LITTLE MERMAID" WON OUR HEARTS

This year's pantomime was an exciting and innovative production for which all those concerned are to be congratulated. Anita would like to thank Hillary, Yvonne, Caron and everyone who made their own costumes. Would anyone who still has their costume, or part of it, please return it as soon as possible to the Sports Shop or ring Anita on 61109, who will arrange to collect it.



Above - Dave Hilton and Nikki Johnson.

Below - Margaret Cowling, Ann Corrigan and Heather Guy.



Stephanie and Tina Park.

These pictures were taken backstage just before the Friday night performance. Sorry that we don't have space to publish all that were taken, and thanks to all of the cast who so graciously allowed our photographer to happily snap away while they were being "made up".

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WATCH OUT, BADGERS ABOUT!

From the CRAVEN BADGER GROUP

February is the main breeding month for badgers although cubs can be born anytime between January and early April. Very often at this time of year the boar badger is "banned" or evicted from the main breeding sett and travels further afield. Also the previous year's cubs can be moving away looking for new territories of their own. All this movement can mean badgers straying onto roads and being knocked down, injured or killed. If you should come across a road casualty, the Craven Badger Group would like to know about it. *We can be contacted via The Species Officer at Yorkshire Dales National Park Office in Grassington (Tel: 01756 - 752748).*

If you encounter a live road casualty, please try to contact the RSPCA first, and do take care when approaching a casualty as sometimes the badger is only stunned. Try giving the badger a gentle prod with a stick, or cautiously pulling its tail. If it is alive, cover it with a blanket or coat as the dark will help keep it calm. Local vets are usually prepared to treat wild animals. But beware! Many Badger Groups can relate tales of rescued badgers coming to in cars and causing considerable damage to interiors as they desperately try to escape. The Badger Group and the RSPCA have special equipment and cages that enable them to manage injured badgers safely, so if in doubt please contact them.

We would be particularly keen to know when female badgers are injured or killed, because if they have young in a sett we would try to locate and possibly rescue the cubs, hopefully preventing them starving to death.

Road casualty reports along with general sightings and sett monitoring help us build a picture of how the badger population is developing. Many landowners believe that if they report a sett on their land, hordes of people will descend on them to

watch badgers. This is not the case. One or two members of the group may visit the sett on a regular basis to check that it is active and not being interfered with, but this would only be with the landowner's consent. If the landowner would kindly agree to return a pro-forma report two or three times a year, then we wouldn't have to visit the sett at all. Even just knowing where setts are is a help and for several reasons, not just if we find an injured or dead lactating female as already mentioned, but also if we hear of any untoward activity in an area, we can advise the landowner to be vigilant.

The Craven Badger Group normally meets in the Skipton area, but it is hoped to arrange an Open Meeting in the Settle area this year. New members are always welcome and details can be obtained via the YDNPA or Skipton Area Police Wildlife Liaison Officer.

CRAVEN COLLEGE - SUCCESSFULLY INVESTING IN PEOPLE

By Corinne Lambert

Craven College has successfully achieved re-recognition and continues to be an 'Investor In People' as judged by a recent IIP Assessor's Feedback report. The Assessor, Sue Alderson, summed up by saying that *"All employees appear to be very committed, to the college; they are keen to do the best for students and to help and support each other."* She particularly commented on the positive attitude of staff to their working life at Craven College, and included these quotes from staff in her report: *"You get welcomed-in here", "best job I ever had", "management are understanding - it's like a family business", "you can direct your own work", "you can make things happen" and "you could go to anybody on the staff about anything"*.

The college met all 23 indicators of the 'Investor in People' criteria, and in most cases exceeded the requirements.

ADVERTISING RATES

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Other sizes pro rata.

Series rates (prepaid) for 6 or more insertions, subject to 10% discount.

Non-local advertisers

boxed advertisement one eighth page - £15

Flyers and inserts rate negotiable depending on size, design layout and printing etc. Normal commercial rate £100

For small advertisements or notices on the Bentham People Page, Personal Thanks, Thanks, Birthdays etc, 10p per word. For Sale, Wanted, Situations Vacant etc. 20p per word.

To place an advertisement in the Bentham News please contact Bill Kennedy on 61030 (office) or 62492 (home).

SOUTH AMERICA COMES TO NORTH YORKSHIRE

By Dorothy Pidgeon

On the first Friday in March, every year and throughout the whole world, people gather in churches of all denominations to take part in the Women's World Day of Prayer. Each year the service is devised by Christian women from a different country, explaining the material and spiritual needs of that country and sharing these concerns with other Christians world-wide. This year the service came from the women of Venezuela and gave us an insight into a country about which most of us knew very little. Although the service is meant for everybody, it was in fact only women who came to All Saints, Burton - our hosts this year - but women from all our local churches took part in the readings, singing and drama, and an excellent talk was given by a friend from Morecambe. It was a most uplifting occasion and I urge all who can to come next year.

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NSPCC CONTINUES EXCELLENT FUND-RAISING

By Caroline Woof

Twenty members and friends including the NSPCC Appeals organiser from York, attended the AGM of Bentham Womens Social Services at Cloudsbank. Mrs. S. Brennand presided. A busy and successful year was recorded with £4825 having been sent to the NSPCC, and £60 to the Toy Library. Young NSPCC raised £362.24 and are to have a walk and picnic in July. The officers were re-elected en bloc.

Future events and a recipe book for the millennium were discussed. A Jacobs Join supper concluded the evening.

MUSICAL EXTRAVAGANZA

By Adrian Leigh

The Horse and Farrier has kindly offered to be the venue for a monthly jam session, to be held on the last Thursday of each month (except the first one which will be held on Thursday 22nd April). All musicians, and non musicians, are welcome so please come along and help build this into a regular event. For further information contact me on 63037.

COMMUNITY OFFICE OPEN FOR PUBLIC USE

By Jolien Jarrett-Leest

The Community Office, based at Bentham Development Trust, was officially opened in December 1998. The office offers facilities for accessing the Internet, desktop publishing, word processing, printing, scanning, photo copying, etc. Up till now the use of these facilities has been restricted to voluntary community groups. However, after Easter, the community office will be open to adults living in the Bentham area. This will provide an excellent opportunity for anyone wanting to use or learn how to use these facilities. As co-ordinator, I can provide or arrange for training to meet most needs, free of charge. On completion of training arranged through Craven College at Millers Court, a diploma is usually awarded. Use of the Community Office is free, although there is a small charge to cover the costs of photocopying, printing and internet access. The facilities are not available for commercial use.

The office is operated on an appointment basis and bookings can be made through the Trust Office on 61030. If you are interested in having more information, please contact us.

CHEAPER STAMPS

By Alison Wilken

1 There will be a revision of letter post tariffs (inland and overseas) on and from Monday 26th April. Details can be obtained from leaflets at post offices during April. Not every rate is changing, for example, the first class inland basic rate of 26p stays the same whilst the second class inland basic rate will go down from 20p to 19p. Please check before posting, especially overseas items.

2. There will be a Bank Holiday on Monday 3rd May and post offices will be closed. There will also be no mail deliveries. Pensions and allowances due on that day can be collected up to one week earlier.

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Bentham News Millennium Directory.

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