

BENTHAM NEWS

BENTHAM' S OPEN GARDENS WEEKEND

By Sue Adams

Let's hope the weather is kind this weekend as twenty two gardens in and around Bentham are opened both to give pleasure and to raise money for the NSPCC and Christian Aid. All the gardens will be open both on Saturday 3rd July and Sunday 4th July, from 1pm to 6pm, unless otherwise stated. The cost is £2.50 per person by ticket or at first garden visited.

Refreshments will be served at some of the gardens listed below, see programme/ticket for details. Thank you for your support.

Mr & Mrs C ATKINSON, Parkinson Farm, Main Street, HB (*refreshments*)

Mr & Mrs OLDFIELD, 77 Main Street, HB (*refreshments*)

Mr & Mrs POWELL, 4 Ashbank Villas, Duke Street, HB

Mr & Mrs D STUBBS, 'The Grange', Low Bentham Road (*until 5pm*)

Mrs M FRANKLAND, 'Tamara', Low Bentham Road

Mrs M ANDREWS, 'Greystones', Low Bentham Road

Mr & Mrs D JOHNSON, 'Holly Gill', Doctors' Hill, LB (*Sunday only*)

Mr & Mrs GILROY, 'Braeside', Cross Lane, LB

Mr & Mrs WINNERY, 12 Greenfoot Lane, LB

Mr & Mrs BRAYSHAW, 48 Lakeber Avenue, HB



Mr & Mrs TOMLINSON, 15 Lakeber Avenue, HB

Mr & Mrs J WYLIE, 'Chee Tor', 38 Robin Lane, HB (*refreshments*)

Mr & Mrs R WHITFIELD, 46 Robin Lane, HB (*until 5pm*)

Mr & Mrs M RAMSAY, 9 Mount Pleasant, HB

Mr & Mrs B THWAITE, Caithness House, Springfield, HB

Mr & Mrs HARRISON, 24 Pye Busk Close, Springfield, HB

Mr & Mrs JOEL, 24 Station Road, HB (*until 5pm*)

Mr & Mrs FOSTER, 'Hazelwood', Summerhill, HB (*Sunday only*)

Mr & Mrs J FLETCHER, Branstone Beck (*woodland walk*)

Mr & Mrs HORTON, Lanefoot Farm, Greystone Gill, HB (*Sunday only*)

Mr & Mrs B SMITH, Millers Green, Mewith (*refreshments*)

Mr & Mrs M SPILLANE, 3 Nookdales, Dumb Toms Lane (*refreshments*) (*a newly acquired wildlife and organic garden under construction - see how it's developing*).

JULY 1999

ISSUE 153

WOMEN'S INSTITUTES

Flaming June in Holy Bentham

By Doreen Park



The theme of last month's meeting was flaming June as members were treated to a display of plants for hanging baskets and troughs by Mr L Foden of Bare. His expertise, humour and artistic talent were much appreciated by members as he made up a basket and a trough and then showed a selection of slides of his prize collection of dahlias and sweet peas. He was thanked by Mrs S Deaville.

The President then thanked all members who had baked and helped with food at the Gala, which once again had proved very successful. She also thanked members for their 41 entries for the Lancashire Federation Show, 30 up on last year. Mrs Hilda King won the competition for a gardening tip. *(Editor's note: We'd be interested to hear what this is!)*

Next month a warm welcome to all who would like to see Mrs Pat Haywood's demonstration of Cordon Bleu cooking, and the competition will be for an old cookery book. On 5th August Mr Scarf will tell us about 'Hearing Dogs for the Deaf' and the competition will be for a decorative candle.

Low Bentham's Journey to the Holy Land

By Jennifer Watkinson

The President, Mrs Christine Jennings, welcomed and introduced the speaker, the Rev Bob Jackson from Wray, who gave a very interesting and informative talk about his visits to the Holy Land, which he described as "a fascinating country with lots to see". His journey commenced in Jerusalem, which has been destroyed several times. He showed slides of the city wall pitted by the 1967 war, remnants of the old wall which go back to Old Testament times, the busy narrow streets and other famous landmarks. There were also splendid views taken from the Mount of Olives at different times of day. He took us through spectacular mountain scenery with deep limestone gorges and beautiful flowers, to the lowest place on earth where we saw slides of people floating in the Dead Sea. We were then shown the lush area around the Sea of Galilee, a real contrast to the Dead Sea.

Competition winners were Mrs Sylvia Brennand, Mrs Marjorie Dodgson and Miss Betty Dodgson. Mrs Edna Hewitt was a joint winner at the darts final with a highest score of 140. Five members enjoyed the Dining for Denman evening held at Middleham. The next meeting will be on 15th July when Mrs Stephanie Fort will be the speaker.

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JUNE'S TOWN COUNCIL

By David Johnson

Apologies were received from Cllrs. Woof and Jackson otherwise there was a full attendance. Jean West was appointed Deputy Mayor and the Council quickly appointed Cllrs. to various sub-committees and as representatives for the various organisations in our community.

Police Matters

P.C. Kay said that the police would like to encourage residents who witnessed illegal acts to report them and to have the commitment to follow up their observations in writing. He said there were instances where people were willing to make verbal complaints but were unwilling to go further. This left the police powerless to act which was very frustrating and sent the wrong message to the miscreants. He also pointed out that parking fines were fast approaching £1000 for Bentham this year. Finally he complimented the bikers on the well organised trouble free weekend.

Our Public Amenities

Age Concern have written cancelling their Monday booking at the Town Hall because of a decline in demand. This was a disappointment to the Council and it was decided to look into the possibility of producing a prospectus to try to encourage

bookings.

Several letters from local M.P.s were read out in support of Hornby Swimming Pool. The Council decided to write again opposing moves to close the pool and the District Cllrs. were asked to give their support too.

The loos will be operational by late June. I have the uneasy feeling that the Cllrs. have side-stepped the opportunity to splash out on an opening ceremony! By the time you read this the event will probably have been scaled down to the furtive unlocking of a door at 7.00am. (Thoughts of Clochmerle once more!)

Drains

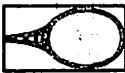
Excavations have begun to clear the beck near the playing field and a watchful eye is being kept on the gully at Wesley Close. Complaints have been received about commercial vehicles parking on the corner of Goodenber Road and Wesley Close. P.C. Kay promised to have a word with the offenders.

More New Housing

News came of an application to develop Jackson's Yard for 10 dwellings. Representations were made by the Post Office about turning facilities for the post vans, drainage and the overall impact of the development on the environment, in particular the impact of the demolition process and the reduction of light for the sorting office. The Council agreed to accept the application but with provisos, notably the need to provide adequate parking so that the residents are not tempted to use the public car park and that demolition work should be prohibited at night.

Burton with Bentham?

Cllr. Pilkington reported that the Electoral Review Body may recommend that Bentham should be joined with Burton for the purposes of District Council Elections. This is because some parishes are under represented on a per capita basis whereas

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POLICE FILE

By PC Danny Kay

The tragic deaths of Jon, Phil, and Scott at the end of May have affected many people throughout our communities. These 3 young men had so much going for them in life, and it is appropriate now to remind the family and friends of each one that our thoughts are still with them. Please also spare a few moments to think of my colleagues who had the awful task of informing the families.

Public Order

Belated congratulations from myself and the colleagues who were on duty with me over the Bank Holiday weekend, to the organisers of the bike show. Despite such a large influx of people who were intent on enjoying themselves I am pleased to report that no complaints were received and that no-one was arrested or reported for any offence during this weekend. Thankyou also to the local lads and lasses (you know who you are) who listened and co-operated with us on the evening of 28th May.

Holidays

It's holiday time again, bags packed, tickets and passport ready, but stop !!!!!!! What are you leaving behind? Not just the rain and wind, but your house and its contents. Please take a few minutes to think about your home security. Let us know when you will be away and supply us details of who will be looking after your house.

New Police Station

By the time you read this article the new Police station at Ingleton should have been handed over from the contractors to us and possibly we will be in residence. The old Police station, courtroom and a Police house will be put up for sale and will present an ideal opportunity to a developer.

New Police officers

To complement our new station we have just taken on board 2 new "recruits". Full details of each of them will be published in the next edition, along with a full run down of all the staff at Ingleton.

And finally.....

Just something to consider. Since 1 January fines totalling more than £1,000 have been levied on local residents who ignore the parking regulations. Don't be responsible for any increase in this figure, there are better things to spend your money on.

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MEMORIES OF BENTHAM IN THE 1930S...continued

By Bateman Marshall

* *Duke Street* - a familiar sight in Duke Street would be **Stephen Newhouse** returning home by bicycle (black as night from his shift at Ingleton coal mines). In summer, after a quick wash, he would come and help us in the hayfield, for which he would be paid one shilling per hour (5p today). My father, **Stephen Newhouse** and **Jack Leak** all kept racing pigeons. Because of the high cost (about £4) of the clocks used for timing the pigeons in after a race, all three men shared the same clock for timing their pigeons home. The clock was kept by Jack, and my job was to run as fast as I could to his house carrying the rubber ring taken from the leg of the returning racing pigeon, to get the time of arrival stamped by Jack's clock. One Saturday **Fred Armstrong** (Bernard's father) and my **Uncle Dixon** were left to wait for my father's pigeons to come home. A very special pigeon arrived long before any others but refused to enter the loft. Never at a loss to find a solution, my uncle got his air rifle and shot it. You could always say the pigeon won its last race, but Fred and my uncle were never allowed to wait for my father's pigeons again.

* *Bentham Power Station* - was fuelled by diesel, and supplied Direct Current (as opposed to today's Alternating Current) to Bentham. The generators were turned off at midnight and I well remember the lights dimming at midnight as the supply was switched over to the batteries, which we had to rely on until 6.30am. **Mr Copenger** was the manager of the Power Station and he lived in *Corio*, the house adjacent to the bridge. Bentham went on the National Grid around 1932. *Ashbank Bungalow*, at the lower end of Duke Street, was the Power Station office. After the Power Station closed down the manager's wife operated it for a short while as a shop because it could catch the workers using the lane to go to work at *Wenning Silks*. The lane was quite busy,

and the wall beside the lower end of the lane was built up to a good height to protect people walking along it from the wind and rain.

My father bought the Power Station property (its shell still remains today), and converted it into four houses and a bungalow. **George Bradley** was the electrician, and the contract for wiring all the properties was £15 (yes fifteen pounds), just £3 per house. Each house had three bedrooms and a bathroom. He allowed himself £9 per house for four fireplaces, one of which was a Triplex type with a grate and oven. The fireplaces for the bedrooms cost 9 shillings (45p) each. The only person still alive who worked on these properties is **Harold Williams**. The properties were then let for the following weekly rents; three at nine shillings (45p), one at seven shillings and sixpence (37.5p) and the bungalow at six shillings (30p).

* Back on Main Street we come to *Jubilee Buildings* where **Bill Lund** lived. He was a bachelor in his 70s who operated a taxi service using an old model T Ford. He lived with his mother and was not allowed out after 9pm and was told he had not to bother with any lasses.

* **Harry Hinde** (Bill's dad) started a watch repair business and shop in *Jubilee Buildings*. He later transferred to Station Road to what is now the Sports Shop.

* **Matt Jackson**, a well-known drainer, lived across the road.

* Against the ginnel way lived **Bill Moss**, drayman for **Edward Holmes**, the coal merchant. The horses were stabled behind until he built a barn and stables in *Duke Street*, behind *Ashbank Villas*. The remnants are still there today in the form of a shed.

* **Sue Williams**, also lived along that row. She was a lovable friendly character who it was always a pleasure to meet.

* Next door we had **Ma Plonk** (Mrs **Staveley**)'s *Fish and Chip shop* - fish and chips always tasted better in those days.

* Mrs **Staveley** was succeeded by **Tom Whitford**.

Ed - More of these "memories" next month.

GLORIOUS GALA!

By Wendy Dowbiggin (the 'TIC sandwich board'!)

We all kept our fingers crossed and it worked! Although dull and a wee bit drizzly, the day was good for the Gala. In the morning the car boot stalls did a lively trade, and the ladies of the WI made sandwiches, buttered scones and arranged a selection of their delicious home-made cakes ready for the onslaught in the afternoon. Helpers, ably organised by Sue Ray, scurried around the field putting the final touches.

At about 1pm those in fancy dress and the floats made their way to Cleveland Square. What a melee of folk! The floats were all excellent and there were so many children in fancy dress - well done Bentham! Led by the 'one man band', we made our way slowly and proudly to the Playing Field and were well applauded en route by the crowd. At the field the judging was done by 'Elvis' who is in the area at the moment! I didn't envy him his task but winners were found and every entrant in the children's section received 50p.

The Gala was well-attended and the children had fun with the bouncy castle and various rides. The grownups enjoyed an ice cream, a cuppa from the WI or a burger from the barbecue. The tombola and the raffle were excellent with lots of winners. The fell race was again well supported and the runners' families added to the excellent attendance. Throughout the afternoon the well-known songs of the late, great Elvis Presley, performed by our own local 'Elvis', could be heard echoing round the field. His fans had a wonderful time.

Last but not least, tribute must be paid to the Gala Queen and her retinue who looked beautiful and acted royally. Their mums are to be congratulated on all their hard work in preparing gowns and decorating the vehicle.

Thanks from the folk of Bentham to Sue Ray and her band of workers for all their hard work in organising the events and co-ordinating everything, making the day such an enjoyable success.

WOULD YOU LIKE TO HELP CRAVEN PEOPLE FIND HOMES?

By Mary Russell

Craven has above average rents and below average wages, making it difficult for those on lower incomes to access the private rented sector for accommodation. *Craven Housing Scheme* was set up because of local concern over the lack of available accommodation for people on lower incomes. The organisation runs a Bond Scheme, where a written guarantee is given to a landlord in place of a cash bond in case of damage to, or theft from, a property during the six-month tenancy. Over the past year, thirty two Bond Guarantees have been given; eighteen were for families with one or more children, two were for couples and twelve were for single people. Locally, three Bond Guarantees have been given to people in Bentham while others have been helped to find housing in the Ingleton area, and we hope to be able to extend the service.

Bond Guarantors can be individuals or organisations who pledge £100 per year to the Scheme, but what they actually pay is a percentage of the amount claimed by the landlords. This year it worked out at the princely sum of £8.80! We are now looking for more Bond Guarantors so that we can continue and extend our work. Anyone who can help or who would like to find out more, should contact *Alison, Mary or Dot* on 01756-701110, or call in at the *Craven Housing Scheme* office at 28 Victoria Street, Skipton, Monday to Friday between 9.30am and 12.30pm.

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RECIPES

By Doreen Park

Here are a few recipes for students and pensioners, or those living in bedsits or flats.



"Take a tin of baked beans" Pie

Half an ounce of margarine

Half an onion

4 small tomatoes, sliced

Salt and pepper

1 tin Baked Beans (or Baked Beans with Sausage)

2 ounces grated cheese

Heat margarine in pan and fry chopped onion until tender. Add sliced tomato, salt and pepper and baked beans. Heat thoroughly and pour into greased dish. Cover with grated cheese and brown under the grill.

Cheese & nut roasted sandwiches

4 tablespoons grated cheese

4 tablespoons ground nuts

Mayonnaise

Salt and pepper

8 pieces of hot, buttered toast

Mix grated cheese and ground nuts. Add enough mayonnaise to bind. Put in pan and stir over hot plate until thoroughly hot. Spread thinly on 4 pieces of toast and top with remaining 4 pieces of toast. Serve hot with a side salad.

Date Crunch

4 ounces margarine

3 ounces caster sugar

1 packet dates, finely chopped

2 and a half ounces of Rice Krispies

Bar of chocolate

Melt margarine, sugar and finely chopped dates together in a pan until the mixture bubbles. Take pan off the heat and pour onto

Rice Krispies in a bowl. Mix well. Spread mixture into a tin (approximately 8 inches by 10 inches) and smooth flat. Cover with melted chocolate. When cool, cut into slices.

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KITTENS ABANDONNED

By Val Marshall (Secretary) Tel: 62512

The kitten season is here again and what a distressing start. It amazes me that we have already had two lots of tiny four week old kittens found dumped - too young even to lap, which means that they have to be hand fed. They owe their lives to the kindness of Mavis Bargh, who had four dumped in her field, and Betty Sherlock, who found two left by the roadside in Ingleton. How can people do this sort of thing? It is hard to understand, especially now that there is a local pet rescue group which will take kittens in so that they are not left to die a horrible death by starvation. Words fail me.

On a happier note, I would like to thank all those who supported us at the Bentham Gala where we raised over £240, some of which will help pay for the kittens' continuing vet bills. We are attending all the local events this summer, so we hope to see you there. We also have quiz sheets relating to 'Famous Cats and Dogs', with money prizes! These can be obtained from our stalls, or from Mary Thornborough's shop, the TIC and Dalehead Vets. Also, if anyone has an off cut of vynoleum, three feet wide by any length, we would be most grateful to have it for our cat runs.

Urgent S.O.S.

Young male cat found at Lowther Hill on 15th June - black & white with black nose. Undergoing veterinary treatment for damaged jaw. Contact 62512.

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BUSY CUBS FACE CLOSURE

From Sue Halsall, Cub Secretary

The Bentham Cub Group has had a busy time this year. They have worked towards badges, such as athletics, photography, road safety and swimming, and have had several special events including a 5-a-side football competition, skiing at Kendal dry ski slope, swimming at Casterton, an outdoor cooking session and finally a cub camp. The camp was held at Silloth, near Austwick, and we arrived on a sunny but windy Friday evening. It needed lots of us to hold on to the tents as we put them up and securely pegged them down! The boys enjoyed competitions, a walk and cooking on an open fire, and didn't get too wet when it rained on Sunday. We would like to thank all the parents who helped to make the camp such a success.

However, on a less cheerful note, the cubs will not run next year unless we find a new leader. Many 8-10 year old boys in Bentham will miss out on the fun that cub scouting can provide, so if anyone would like to offer their help, please contact me on 61407.



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"HARVEST OF THE HILLS" CELEBRATED

By *Gwen Whitfield*

High Bentham Methodist Church was full to capacity on Sunday evening, 30th May, for the 'Harvest of the Hills' Thanksgiving Service.

Rev Norman Price led the proceedings and also conducted the newly formed Circuit Male Voice Choir of 26 voices, which was ably accompanied by Audrey Whitaker. This was an evening of thanksgiving for the work of shepherds, and this theme was continued with testimonies by James Gorst and Ian Ellershaw, who spoke of the love and care that Jesus, the Good Shepherd, has for them. Rev Norman Price and his wife, Catherine, delighted the congregation with two duets testifying of God's goodness to them during times of illness and stress. The hymn singing was a true reflection of thanksgiving and praise, accompanied on the organ by Richard Whitfield.

During the service an offering for Kosovo was taken which realised £708.

CHRISTIAN AID HOUSE TO HOUSE COLLECTION, MAY 1999

By *Kathleen Goldsack, Hon. Secretary*

The house to house collection held in May raised £1136.11. This is a slight increase on the amount raised last year.

Very many thanks to all who supported this cause and to everyone who helped in any way.

PLAYING FIELD UPDATE

The Playing Field committee met recently to hear an update on the drainage work being undertaken, and a site visit will take place in September to confirm that health and safety conditions have been met. It is hoped that new showers will be in place before the football season starts. There's a new slab seat in the play area and a new timber bin is on the way. Sue Ray was showered with praise for her marvellous efforts at this year's Gala which resulted in it being the best gate yet. The good news is that now she knows what to expect she's offered to do it all again next year! She's already booked the Dream Tent and is also hoping to bring the Arizona Wild West Show to the Gala. Maybe there could be a Wild West theme for the event with such attractions as a Best Totem Pole competition? Children's sports were also suggested as there was a general feeling that there should be more for people to do on the show ground.

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HANGING BASKETS, PATIO POTS, WINDOW BOXES & SUNFLOWERS IN LOW BENTHAM

By Judith Johnson

Low Bentham Horticultural Society met on 8th June to discuss their show on Bank Holiday Saturday 28th August. Although this is towards the end of summer, here are a few of the notable earlier dates.

The competition for a Hanging Basket, a set of three Patio Pots or a Window Box can be entered free but names must reach the Secretary, Judith Johnson (61905) by 9th July. Ann Stewart from the Toll Bar Nurseries will judge on July 26th. For children the "Tallest Sunflower" will be measured on 19th August but entries must be received by 9th July. All other entries must be received by 26th August.

WASTE PAPER COLLECTION

By Carolyn Woof

Almost forty eight tons of waste paper has been brought to the Legion Hut for collection during the twelve months to April.

The proceeds from this have amounted to £264 and this has been sent to the NSPCC.

In view of the shortage of collection time on Friday mornings it would be very much appreciated if people who are able to bring their own waste paper, would do so. It can always be left before business hours.

Many thanks to everyone who brings or sends their paper to the collection each month and to those willing and cheerful volunteers who help on the collection in fair weather and foul. We would be grateful for extra help on the morning of collection, which is on the third Friday each month, from 8.30am - 11.00am. at the Legion Hut.

MISSING BODIES IN BENTHAM!

**Since January 8 people
have mysteriously vanished
without a trace.**

**Witnesses have reported their last
known whereabouts as outside the
Town Hall on Tuesday nights.**

The missing persons, each
described as weighing about 12
stones, have locals baffled.

Some locals are actually quite
pleased!

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report - it is all thanks to your local
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CRAVEN WANDERERS UNDER 10s FOOTBALL TEAM

The picture shows our excellent under 10s football team and management. They have achieved outstanding results this last season, winning virtually everything in sight!

It's looking good for the senior team of the early years of the next millennium!

See the full report on page 23 of this edition

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LOCAL EVENTS IN JULY

Fri 2nd Looking Well, 6.00-9.30pm, Black Fantasy Wargaming Club, over 11s, and every Friday.

Sat 3rd Bentham Footpath Group walk, 8 miles, Turnerford circular (Wenningdale). Leader F. Royston 41725. Please meet at Lairgill 10.00am.

Low Bentham W.I. coffee morning at the Town Hall, 10.00am-12.00noon. 

Open Gardens of Bentham in aid of the NSPCC and Christian Aid. See front page.

Looking Well, 10.30am-12.30pm, opening of OO! ER? exhibition of new paintings by Gill Barron. See page 14.

St. Margaret's Church treasure hunt. Meet at Wenning Bridge at 2.00pm. Entry £10 per car, includes barbecue tea. Entries tel 61321.

Bentham Agricultural Society President's Evening/bring & buy sale at 2 Pye Busk Close, Bentham, 7.00-9.00pm by kind permission of Mr. & Mrs. J. McManus. £3 includes first glass of wine and cheese. Tickets from 61606 or pay on the night.

Sat 3rd

Clapham Playgroup Nearly New sale & coffee morning at Clapham Village Hall, 10.00am-12.00noon.

Sun 4th

Open Gardens of Bentham in aid of the NSPCC and Christian Aid. See front page.

Bentham Cycling Group CTC ride, coffee at Clapham, leader K. Cartledge 61567. Meet at bottom of Robin Lane 10.00am.

Mon 5th

Looking Well, 7.30-8.30pm, Chi Qong gentle exercise session, and every Monday.

Tue 6th

Looking Well 12.30-1.30pm Relaxation session; 2.00-3.00pm WISH womens support group, and both every Tuesday.

Bentham Traders Association treasure hunt, starts 6.30pm at Riverside Caravan Park followed by social at Horse & Farrier. Contact Thomas Marshall 62163 for details.

Wed 7th

Citizens Advice Bureau at the Health Centre, 1.30-3.15pm.

Looking Well 7.00-9.00pm, homeopathy with Beth Tyers "Womens Problems". 7.30-9.00. See page 14.

Thu 8th

Looking Well, 1.30-3.30pm. Mucky Buckets Play Project, parents and under 4s, and every Thursday.

Bentham Cycling Group, easy ride with pub visit, leader L. Harpur 62930. Meet at the Victoria Institute, Low Bentham at 6.45pm.

Ingleton Middle School Summer Fair, 6.30pm, admission 30p. Cakes, Raffle, Books. Everyone welcome.

Sat 10th

Alzheimer's Disease Support Group coffee morning, in the Town Hall, 10.00am-12.00noon. 

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.

- Sun 11th Bentham Footpath Group walk, Ribble Way stage 7, Preston - Dolphin Inn, Longton. 10 miles, leader B. Ellershaw 62068. Meet at Lairgill at 9.00am.
- Tue 13th Bentham Child Health Clinic at the Surgery, 2.00-4.00pm.
High Bentham Toy Library, in the Youth Club, 9.30-11.30am.
Bentham Cycling Group ride, Lowgill, leader P. Edge. Meet at Victoria Institute, Low Bentham 6.45pm.
- Thu 15th Copy deadline for August Bentham News.
Bentham Footpath Group quarterly members meeting, 7.30pm Town Hall.
- Fri 16th Waste Paper collection at the Legion Hut, 8.30-11.00am. Proceeds to NSPCC.
- Sat 17th High Bentham W.I. coffee morning at the Town Hall, 10.00am-12.00noon. 
- Tue 20th Bentham Playing Field Association committee meeting at the Social Club, Wenning Avenue, 7.30pm.
- Wed 21st Looking Well, 7.00-9.00pm Homeopathy with Beth Tyers "Arthritis & Joints."
Looking Well 7.30-9.00pm Alzheimer's Disease Support Group meeting.
- Wed 21st Bentham Cycling Group ride, 6.45pm at Victoria Institute, Low Bentham. Leader R. Murton 21763.
Citizens Advice Bureau at the Health Centre, 1.30-3.15pm.
- Thu 22nd Bentham Footpath Group walk, Hornby circular, 4 miles, leader A. Robertson 61285. Meet at Lairgill/Hornby Car Park, 6.15/6.30pm.
- Sat 24th High Bentham W.I. coffee morning, at Town Hall  9.45-11.45am.
- Sun 25th Bentham Cycling Group ride with Aluna Ski Club. Leader B. Cartledge 61567. Meet at Victoria Inst. L. Bentham 10am.
- Mon 26th Looking Well 12.00-1.30pm Cancer Support Group Jacob's Join Lunch. See page 24.
- Tue 27th Bentham Child Health Clinic at the Surgery, 2.00-4.00pm.
High Bentham Toy Library, in the Youth Club, 9.30-11.30am.
- Wed 28th Bible Society coffee morning, at the Methodist Schoolroom, 9.45-11.30am. 
- Thu 29th Cycling Group 6.45pm, Victoria Inst. Leader K. Cartledge 61567.
- Sat 31st NSPCC coffee morning, 10.00-11.30am, at Town Hall Ballroom. 



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MAY WEATHER

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



The beginning of May followed on from a period of hot, sunny weather which we were lucky enough to enjoy over the May Day Bank Holiday.

The 7th of May brought a change to thundery showers and a rainfall on that day of nearly an inch.

Thundery showers continued with brief sunny intervals although none of them was for long enough to call Summer.

The total rainfall was 71.5mm (2.8") similar but higher than the average for May of 62.4mm(2.5")

"LOOKING WELL" NEWS

By Alison Jones

Spring Into Health This Summer

Beth Tyers' homeopathy sessions on Wednesday evenings have been popular and fascinating. She will be focussing on 'Women's Problems' on 7th July and 'Arthritis, Joints and Musculo-Skeletal Problems' on 21st July. Feel free to come along to whichever interests you (£5 per session).

Oo! Er?

Don't miss Gill Barron's latest paintings on exhibition from Saturday 3rd July. Since last year's exhibiton, Gill has been in wildest Spain painting cacti and donkeys, then back to Bentham to paint more local scenes and pastimes to complete the set at the railway station.

What Local Transport Do We Want?

Giles Bond, Craven's Rural Transport Partnership Officer, is coming to lunch at the 'Looking Well' on 5th July. If you have any comments or suggestions about local transport needs, do call in to see him or leave a note for us to pass on to him.

DOUGLAS GARLICK

By Peter Marshall, Chairman, Bentham Tourist Information Centre.

It is with great sadness that we have received the news of the death of Douglas Garlick. Among his other activities in Bentham, Doug was Manager of the Tourist Information Centre for several years until taking a well earned retirement at the end of 1993. After its initial location at the Liberal Club, Doug supervised the move across Station Road into a room rented from Tom Guy.

Doug had devoted a great deal of time to the organisation of the tourist facility in Bentham, ably assisted by his team (often conscripted, but none the less willing) of volunteers. Although in latter years grants provided the means for the office to be self sufficient, Doug had initially the task of raising the running costs through local publicity and coffee mornings, at which he received the generous support of his wife, Eunice and the volunteers.

Those of us who have been involved with the management of the T.I.C. in recent years have been pleased to follow the pattern of organisation developed so capably by Douglas. We all owe him a great debt for his contribution to life in Bentham.



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CONSERVATION WORK BY BFG

By Maureen Ellis



A celebration is in order for the completion of the work on the Burbles Gill bridge and its approaches. Congratulations to all involved in this major conservation work, which involved providing steps and a substantial bridge to make safe this important path over Burbles Gill. A clear white marker now denotes where the track divides to footpaths 52 and 64. There were many people and agencies involved in the work, and it can best be summed up as a good example of Parish Paths Partnership.

This is just one of the continuing conservation activities in the Bentham area, and at a recent quarterly meeting future tasks were outlined.

Bentham: FP 24: extended caravan site, footpath sign needed at the road side. FP 1: step missing. FP 16: step missing. FP 36: two obstructions. FP 37: one obstruction. And a member asked about the maintenance of the FP from Springhill to Fowgill.

Ingleton: FP 37: fit a new bridge. FP 20: stile removed. FP 31: stile not on definitive line and an obstruction. FP 34: stile blocked. FP 46: steps needed at fence.

Burton: FP 1: steps needed and stile fitted.

If anyone is interested in helping with our conservation work, please contact the secretary of BFG, Angela Robertson on 61285.

INFINITE TAI CHI

By Julie Guillian (nee Denby)



It was probably my early years on Far Greenbank farm, near Lowgill, which led to my appreciation and respect for life's natural rhythms. It was there that I learnt about the cycles of life; animals were born, animals died, winter had to give way to spring just as summer gave way to autumn. Everything has its natural pace and rhythm and it is this principle which we follow in Infinite Tai Chi. Infinite Tai Chi is about rediscovering your own unique nature, it helps you to flow with your life instead of against it. In the relaxing, soothing movement, we move in the same way as the universe. Rising and sinking, expanding and contracting, straight and curved lines, but each containing the essence of its opposite.

The style I teach is non-combative and beyond thoughts of self-defence. It heals on all levels, physical, emotional, mental and spiritual. Through it we learn to calm the busy mind and appreciate our bodies, and it enables us to take time out of the busy rat race we call life, to nurture and revitalise ourselves. I am the only qualified Infinite Tai Chi teacher in the North West, and am beginning classes in Hornby (Fridays 7.30-9 pm), Kendal (Tuesdays 1.15-2.45pm) and Lancaster (Tuesdays 7.30-9pm). The classes consist of Infinite Tai Chi, Infinite Chi Kung and Meditation. If you are interested or would like further information please contact me on 01524 418663.

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Dear Bentham News,
"Healing Herbs"

I would like to share with others the benefits I have found by using healing herbs. For years I have suffered from irritable bowel syndrome which, as well as being painful, often rendered me housebound. Recently a friend introduced me to a chinese herbal remedy, and now, for the first time in years, I feel completely healed. Last week I went for a full day out in the Lake District with no worries about, 'Where is the nearest toilet?!' I feel that the herbal remedy has given me my freedom back. They also seem to have cleared up my husband's asthma and eczema, and a lady with arthritis told us that they have relieved her pain and given her back some mobility.

The herbs work on the immune and nervous systems and are known as 'adaptogens', which means they 'adapt' to the body's needs at their weakest point. The herbs stimulate your whole system so that energy levels increase and a general zest for life returns!

I feel like I have got my life back after years of lethargy and ill health so if anyone wants to ask me more please get in touch.

Gillian Ratcliffe

28 Lakeber Drive,

High Bentham (tel: 62608)



Dear Edito,
Goodenber Play Area

It would be appreciated if the parents of the children who play on the Goodenber Play Area would heed this letter. We have had complaints that children have been scaling the fence, which has been put round the play area at considerable expense, and entering gardens and causing some damage. It has taken us many years to bring this play area to fruition and we have plans to add more equipment shortly.

So please tell your children to enjoy the Play Area and to stay inside it, then everyone will be happy.

The Goodenber Play Area Committee.

Dear Editor,
Bentham Eyesores

I have noticed a couple of eyesores in Bentham recently. The first is the accumulating rubbish in a field on the north side of the road between Low and High Bentham. The second is the litter around the playing fields and tennis courts, which is because there are not enough bins and the two that are in use are frequently full.

These areas are quite visible particularly as summer approaches and we get more tourists, so is there anything that can be done to improve the situation?

Sue Halsall, Low Bentham Road.

Dear BN,
Bentham's Pharmacy

I would just like to state a personal view, which I'm sure other people will share, that we have a great pharmacy in Bentham - it always has been and continues to be so. Nothing is too much trouble for any of the staff to sort out, whether it's getting the right sort of shampoo or checking a prescription with the surgery. I have even had a lot of help and advice for friends and family who don't even live in Bentham! Thanks to all at the pharmacy for being so friendly and helpful.

Jean West, 7 Lairgill, High Bentham.



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BENTHAM PEOPLE THANKS



Edwin and Margery Leeming wish to thank family, friends and neighbours, for their kind wishes and cards during Edwin's recent stay in Lancaster Infirmary. Also, Kenneth, for his many journeys to Lancaster.

Dr Ralph Sullivan - I would like to thank everyone who has been in touch with messages of goodwill and support following the recent incident at the Surgery. It has made a big difference to me. I am back at work now and it is 'business as usual'.

The Black Bull - Steve and Yvonne would like to extend sincere thanks to all customers, staff, family and friends for their help, tokens of good luck and support during the extensive renovations. It has been a long haul with some way yet to go before completion, but thanks to the building contractors pulling out all the stops, we were able to open for the end of May Bank Holiday. Also, we would like to thank Mike and Dot at the Coach House for their kindness and hospitality and our neighbours, Jimmy and Shirley, Ian and Wendy, for their patience and understanding in putting up with the dust and chaos.

Congratulations

Carter - Happy 65th Birthday Dad on 5th July. Also congratulations mum and dad on your Ruby Wedding anniversary on 25th July. Love from all the family.

Stuart Ralph - Young Stuart Ralph proved that he's just as good with a golf ball as he is with both footballs and cricket balls, when he won Bentham Golf Club's Junior Championship for the second year running. Well done lad!

House cleaning

Cleaner wanted, High Bentham, 3 hours per week. Tel Jane, 62045.

For Sale

Horse manure for composting, 6 bags £2.50, delivered locally. Well rotted and composted 60p a bag. Tel: 62176

Services

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A THOUSAND PEOPLE VISIT LOCAL EXHIBITION

By Suzanne Grady

Craven College has once again held a successful end of year exhibition at Miller's Court in Bentham to highlight the talent of local people, and to show the hard work had been put in throughout the year at the Bentham and Ingleton centres. More than a thousand people passed through the doors of Millers Court that weekend to enjoy the exhibition.

Craven College's enrolments at the Bentham Centre have increased considerably this year and now stand at 370. Now that the prospectus is available it would be wise to enrol early to give yourself the best chance of joining in the many and varied activities that take place. Who would have thought it was possible to study not just crafts, languages and computers in Bentham, but also teacher training and other advanced courses. Many new and exciting courses are becoming available, so please don't hesitate to call in at the Miller's Court centre to see what is possible. During the summer we will also be installing fifteen new computers with internet access which will be available for business use as well as for non-vocational and vocational courses.

Craven College welcomes all levels of abilities, so don't think that studying is not for you, just give it a go, and have fun.

LETTERS continued from page 17

Dear Editor,

May I make a few comments regarding David and Judith's discovery - B.N. June '99. In heaven's name, what is shocking about it? There is nothing more pleasant after a long walk, than to relax on a chair or sofa, (colour of no consequence) among delightful bluebells, coupled with the sound of running water. Their dog probably enjoyed a few moments investigating the animal hairs. Could this be a badger rest area? Sofa-r so good, ooh!

Craven District Council's "no promise to remove objects" suggests to me that the Environmental Health Dept. is perhaps responsible for placing furniture for the convenience of weary walkers and wild animals. If so, well done Craven. Great initiative! An IKEA contract will be on its way to Bentham very soon, I guess.

A check for van or wagon (we call them lorries) track patterns at the time of discovery could have confirmed Craven's involvement. My district council provide allegedly, similar facilities for our country strollers beside and in the canal. Shopping trolleys too, for that forgotten purchase on the way home.

We country folk sometimes fail to recognise the dedication of the Environmental Health Department. Finally, do all the Jack Russells in Bentham now go for walks on their own?

Take care Bentham people.

Mike Reid, Knaphill, Woking.

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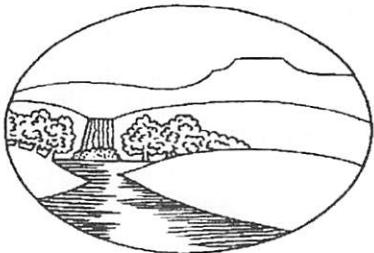
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BENTHAM ON THE INTERNET

By Danny Kay

A design team has now been formed and work is now well under way towards the creation of a site on the World Wide Web for the people of High and Low Bentham. The design team is made up of Sean Sanderson, Hugh St. Lawrence, Mick Ramsay, and Danny Kay. A charter has been agreed upon and appears below.

CHARTER FOR BENTHAM WEB SITE

The web site is created specifically for the Parishes of High and Low Bentham. The site will be administered by a design team of local volunteers who may from time to time receive paid professional assistance in the course of their work. There will be no limitation on content of the web site other than those technical restrictions imposed by the host server, and legal restrictions on the publishing of documents in relation to obscenity, defamation of character, and incitement to political or racial hatred. The design team will work to ensure that the content of the site meets with the wishes of the community that it serves but reserves the right to edit and correct any submission that it may receive, with regard to the specified restrictions.

Broadly speaking the design team will create the working structure of the site but the content will reflect as far as possible the wishes of individuals, organisations, and businesses in Bentham. If there is anything that you would like to see on the web site then contact the design team at the Bentham Development Trust office.

No computer experience is necessary, just put your ideas on paper and the team will do the rest. For those of you already on the net, the web site address will be published at the earliest opportunity, and the team hopes in the future to be able to offer some "trial sessions" locally when as many people as possible will be given the chance to "surf the net".

LETTERS (continued from page 20)

Dear Sir,

Last Saturday I brought my elderly father and my teenage son to High Bentham to the barber. My waterworks being somewhat suspect, I was becoming rather in need of the loo....despair! The ladies loo by the bus shelter (love the painting!) was locked! So too was the ladies loo at the seemingly new WC block at the car park! By this time my situation was critical. Ah. I saw the Disabled WC and using my Dad's special key I slipped into the cool interior, my legs firmly crossed in near agony, to find that to close the door put me in total darkness. No light! Desperate for relief I flung the door half open and heaved a sigh of pure bliss to empty my bladder, flush the loo, and beat retreat.

Please, why were all the WCs locked? My Dad later used the gents loo by the bus shelter and was horrified at all the green slime and yucky messes. **Don't you want visitors in Bentham?** Incidentally I later came across a friend in the supermarket and hearing my tale of woe (very nearly a wet tale!), she explained that the "new WC block" is to be officially opened....well sorry folks but the Disabled loo has already been truly christened!

Who'll join me in an "open the loo" campaign? Please have the better facilities open before I come again as my personal plumbing cannot cope without them.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs. Sarah Woof. Dent. 17th June 1999.

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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 contact Bill Kennedy on 61030 (office) or 62492 (home).

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Cup and League Double Winners

By Paul Wood

Craven Wanderers U10 football teams have just completed a very successful first season in competitive football. They have been playing in the Morecambe, Lune and district junior football league, which is a 7-a-side league split into two divisions.

Craven 'A' won the first division by 6 clear points having scored 61 goals and conceded only 6 from 16 games played. Having secured the league they concentrated on the end of season cup competition and were successful in beating the mighty Morecambe Youth team 1-0 in the Cup final. Thomas Burns scored the goal and was mobbed by both parents and team-mates alike. This rounded off a brilliant season for Craven 'A'. Players were: Thomas Burns, Nathan Capstick, David Coggins, Matthew Walker, Curtis Wood, Shaun Airey and Jon Lister.

Craven 'B' team were under strength in their cup competition and were knocked out in the early stages but that should not overshadow their huge success in the league. They won the B Division by a staggering 13 points from Morecambe Youth who can select from hundreds of

lads. Craven 'B' scored 49 goals and conceded only 8. Players were: Thomas Wills, James Horton, Adam and Daniel Jackson, Philip Carter, Roger Parker, Robert Mills, Daniel Briggs-Calvert, Mark Whitehead, Luke Hodgson and Lee Benson.

Leading goal scorers

Thomas Burns was leading scorer with 27 goals for the A team whilst Daniel Briggs-Calvert scored a total of 19 goals for the 'B' Team.

Burnley FC

Curtis Wood and Shaun Airey have been offered a second year's contract with Burnley F.C. and coach Paul Wood is hopeful that pending a friendly match in August more first team players will be taken on and coached by Burnley.

More playing opportunities

It was decided at a recent C. W. meeting that due to the large numbers of 10 and 11 year olds in the area interested in playing for the club, under 11 and under 12 teams would be entered in the Transpint league next season.

This will be the first experience of 11 a-side football for the younger players so friendly matches will be played throughout the summer in preparation for the new season. All lads who fall into the U11 category next season are welcome to come to trials being held this summer. Please contact Paul Wood 015242 51007/63255.



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BETTER TRAIN CONNECTIONS

By John Bearpark (Chairman, LASRUG)

Enclosed with this month's *Bentham News* is the summer timetable for our local railway line. As well as the Leeds-Morecambe service, this also includes trains on the Settle-Carlisle line and an attractive guide to both routes. A separate leaflet (available from the TIC) gives details of guided walks along both lines.

An improvement in the new timetable is the re-scheduling of the weekday early morning train so that this now connects with the London service at Lancaster, with a good connection to Manchester at Preston. The train leaves Bentham at 6.11 arriving at Lancaster at 6.43. The London train leaves at 6.51 and arrives at Euston at 9.57 (Manchester Piccadilly at 8.19).

The train operator, *Northern Spirit*, along with North Yorkshire and Lancashire County Councils, is making a bid to the Rail Passenger Partnership for funding for an extra three trains to run between Leeds and Lancaster. This is a lengthy and competitive process, and it will be some time before we know if it is successful. LASRUG (the Lancaster and Skipton Rail Users' Group) continues to press for a better local rail service, so if you would like to join us please contact the Membership Secretary, Jack Warbrick on 62031.

NEW CANCER SUPPORT GROUP

A group has now held two meetings and is moving towards setting up a self-help cancer support group in Bentham. The aims of the group are to provide support, information and a range of therapeutic and creative activities or whatever is requested by the people who come to the group. If you, or a member of your family, are facing cancer, we invite you to come along to a 'Jacob's Join' lunch at the 'Looking Well' on Monday 26th July at 12 noon. If you would like more details please phone Sheila (62349), Marion (61200) or Alison (62672).

STEINER SCHOOL TO OPEN NEAR BENTHAM

By Ric Best

An alternative school project is to be started near Bentham. The Lancaster Steiner Project, which already runs a kindergarten and toddler group, hopes to open its first class at the Middlewood Centre in Roeburndale West, near Wray. The Steiner Project promotes a child-centred education, encourages creativity and resourcefulness as well as having a broad academic curriculum.

Unfortunately by the time you read this you will have missed our informal meeting at the 'Looking Well' on 1st July, but if you would like to find out more about the project please ring 015242 - 22214.

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