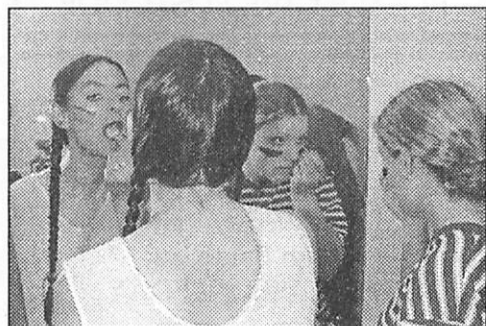


BENTHAM NEWS



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GROUP



MARCH 2000

ISSUE 161

WOMEN'S INSTITUTES

High Bentham

By Mrs. Sheila Deaville

At the monthly meeting on 3rd February, the President asked members to stand for a minute's silence in memory of fellow member Mrs. Hilda Johnson.

This meeting was slightly different as the speaker, Mrs. Margery Hanson from Kirkby Lonsdale, gave her talk about "The Lakeland Lacemakers" before the W.I. business. She showed us lace from all over Europe and from as far away as Cyprus. She said that every one could make lace. Mrs. Hanson was thanked by Joan Jackson who makes lace herself. The W.I. business then followed and the President, Faith Wilson, reminded members that the meeting on 2nd March is members' night and the theme is "Old wives tales and superstitions". The supper will be a Jacob's Join. The competition winner was Ruth Wiley.

Low Bentham

By Jennifer Watkinson

At the annual meeting the President recalled last year's events and activities which had all been well attended and enjoyable. She presented gift vouchers to the competition winners for the year, Mrs Margery Dodgson, Miss Betty Dodgson and Mrs Hilda Lister. The treasurer reported a healthy balance and passed copies of the accounts round for perusal. All members of the committee agreed to serve another year, with Mrs. Christine Jennings as president, Mrs Sylvia Brennand secretary and Mrs Barbara Mason treasurer. After the close of business an appetising supper was served, and this was followed by several rounds of dominoes. The winners were Mrs. Jennifer Watkinson and Mrs Lydia Wilkinson.

Eight members formed two teams and attended the annual quiz night, organised by Clapham W.I. at the Flying Horse Shoe.

LOW BENTHAM PLAYING FIELD

By Lin Barrington

You may have read in recent Town Council reports that the Playing Field is to be leased to the Victoria Institute. A sub-committee of the Institute has been formed, with Councillor Ted Woof representing the Town Council, Jane Pattinson representing the Institute and Ernie Close representing local parents. A draft lease is currently being prepared, so we hope that we will soon be able to start fundraising.

If anyone out there has ideas about the playing field and is willing to help, please get in touch with any of the above. Play equipment was chosen last year, and displays showing how we are hoping the finished playing field will look are going to be put up in Low Bentham. Any comments, suggestions and offers of help welcome.

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FEBRUARY'S TOWN COUNCIL

By David Johnson

All the Councillors were present with the exception of Cllr. Woof.

Open Wide!

The meeting opened with a talk by Mr. A. Wright from the Settle Dental Practice. He spoke in his capacity as Dental Adviser for the County and came after the Council expressed a desire to see a dental practice in Bentham.

The Authority recognises the difficulties encountered by those with mobility problems but he said Bentham was better placed than some other parts of the County. He thought we would have difficulty supporting a single dentist practice. There is a shortage of dentists and the capital outlay for equipment would be about £50,000.

There is talk of a mobile surgery visiting once every fortnight. If you are not registered and experience toothache, don't despair, two drop in centres are to be established, one in York and the other in Scarborough!!

Police Matters

P.C. Hayes asked the public to report any signs of suspicious behaviour, particularly concerning the theft of agricultural machinery. He condemned irresponsible parking near the HSBC Bank and the problems this gives to large vehicles. Eight parking tickets were issued in January and the police are determined to issue more. Beware!!

Highway Matters

The Council is becoming increasingly frustrated in its efforts to have repairs made to our highways. The list is huge covering railings, potholes, deteriorating road surfaces and road signs. Councillors resolved to invite a surveyor and provide a Cook's tour of the difficulties.

Low Bentham Car Park

A complaint has been made about the alleged illegal parking of trailers and caravans. The Council was provided with a copy of the contract which defined the type of vehicles prohibited from using the car park. The complainant thought that the District Council may be in breach of contract if it ignores the situation. It was decided to forward the correspondence to Skipton.

Save Our Post Offices

Everyone is to be encouraged to sign a petition, available at our two post offices, demonstrating opposition to the government's decision to channel benefit payments directly into Bank accounts. It was pointed out that this presents a dire threat to the future of our post offices.

The Millennium Tapestry

It measures 73 inches by 43 inches and is to be hung in the lower room of the Town Hall. The organisers are to be asked to consider using the Annual Parish Meeting on 22nd. March for the presentation.

New Year at the Town Hall

Representations were made about the prolonged Millennium celebrations at the Town Hall. A booking has already been made for 31st. December next year. It was pointed out that the conditions for booking the Hall are clearly stated on the booking form.

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HELPERS NEEDED FOR THE GALA!

By Sue Ray

Would anybody like to help the team organising the Benthams Gala 2000? We are looking for small groups of people to help organise and promote the Gala, and particularly to help on Gala day, 29th May.

In particular we need help in organising the fancy dress parade, the car boot sale and in the promotion and selling of raffle tickets to raise funds. The Gala last year was a huge success but in this millennium year we want to make it even better. With your help, we can! So if you can spare a few hours, please ring me, Sue Wray, on 61381.

In April we will be having our second, (hopefully as highly successful as last year) Fashion Show and Cheese & Wine Evening in the Town Hall. Any volunteers for the collection and organising and storing of prizes for a Tombola Stall for both events?

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"THE WORLD IN OUR HANDS" - CHILDREN'S DAY - 1ST APRIL 2000.

By Cliff Murphy

Plans for Children's day, to be held at Benthams Town Hall on Saturday 1st April, are well under way. Organised by Local Action for Justice and Peace in co-operation with eight schools from North Craven area, the event will consist of an exhibition of written and art work and performances by some pupils. The title of the exhibition will be "The world in our hands" and the exhibits will express the children's views of the sort of world they want to live in. LAJP will mount a parallel exhibition giving the views of some third world children on the same topic. Written work, or art work, for the exhibition is being submitted by the following schools:- Austwick C of E Primary, Benthams Grammar, Clapham C of E Primary, High Benthams County Primary, Ingleton Middle, Ingleton County Primary, Low Benthams County Primary, Richard Thornton's C of E Primary (Burton in Lonsdale).

There will be performances by pupils from Austwick, Benthams Grammar, High Benthams and, (hopefully), Burton in Lonsdale schools. The exhibition will be open from 9.30am until 12.30pm and coffee will be available from 10.00am until noon. The children's performances are scheduled to take place between 10.00am and noon.

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CRAVEN DISTRICT COUNCIL MATTERS

By Councillor John Pilkington

Good News.....

½ Price Railcards - The Policy & Resources Committee has recommended that people eligible for a bus pass can have an option to purchase a Railcard for half the normal price instead of a bus pass. The Railcards would cost £9; the cost of a bus pass will be £8.10. The Railcard and bus passes will be available from 1st October 2000. The Railcard alternative was discontinued in 1998 but there have been several requests through Area Forums and by letters from residents and parish councils for the discount on a Railcard to be re-introduced.

Charges for the Collection of Bulky Waste to be dropped - The Policy & Resources Committee also recommended that the charge for the collection of bulky waste from dwellings should be dropped from 1st April 2000. The Council reluctantly introduced the charge in 1998 following a strong recommendation from the Auditor. However there have been many requests for the charges to be removed and the Council has agreed. Most District Councils make a charge for bulky waste collection so we will have to see how the Auditor reacts.

Support for Rural Post Offices - The Council has agreed to object strongly to the Government's proposals to switch the payment of benefits and pensions payable at Post Offices to bank transfers as it would

be likely to result in the closure of rural Post Offices. The Government has also been urged to provide a proper support system which recognises the vital role played in local communities by the rural Post Office.

Mobile Information/Collection Service to Continue - Following a review the Mobile Information vehicle is to continue to visit High Bentham Market Place every Wednesday from 9.30 am to 1.00pm and the Village Green, Low Bentham on the first Wednesday each month from 2.00pm to 2.30pm

.....Not so Good News

Dog Warden - There has been strong support from all over Craven for another Dog Warden so that more effort can be put into education. However, the Policy & Resources Committee decided not to recommend this appointment at present.

Car Park charges to go up - As expected the reduced Car Park charges introduced in November have proved to be a disaster with an estimated loss of £48,000. Charges will therefore be increased for Skipton Car Parks from 1st April as follows: Up to 2 hours up by 20p to £1.20; Up to 3 hours up by 10p to £1.60. The charge in all Car Parks for 7 hours and over will be reduced to £3.50. A Limited Period Residents' Parking Permit will increase to £15 and an Unlimited Residents' Permit will go from £26 to £50 per year. The cost of a Non-residents' Permit will go up to £200 per year. In addition the previous restrictions on the Car Parks where Restricted Residents' Parking Permits can be used will be re-introduced.

Chief Executive Appointed

Rachael Mann has been appointed Chief Executive. There were 48 applicants for the post. Rachael was selected after a three day assessment of seven candidates. Rachael joined C. D.C. in 1998 as Director of Public Services and was appointed to the temporary post of Executive Director last year following re-organisation of the senior management structure.



BENTHAM GOLF CLUB JUNIOR SECTION

Girls, do you want to play golf? Junior membership for girls aged 7 years and over, now available. Golf equipment available.

Contact 62274 for more details.

CHALLENGING THE BIG BOYS

By Shirley Brown

Insurance is far from my favourite subject, but the news that our busy local chartered accountants, Langdales, is about to expand the range of insurance services they offer, seemed worth investigating.

Geoff explained that, like it or not, nowadays insurance is very much part of our daily lives. As society gets more litigious, more claims are made and this drives up premiums. Many people will have noticed this trend with their motor insurance. It seems therefore to make sense to get the best value insurance you can, and using an independent insurance consultant is one way of doing this, as they do the work of trawling round to find the best deal available.

The idea of bringing independent insurance advice onto our High Street in fact came from Adam and Gaskell Ltd, who

are based in Lancaster. They approached Geoff, who realised that as far as he was aware, since Proctor House left Bentham some years ago, such a service is not currently available locally. This is a gap in the market that he felt he could fill.

Geoff's overall business philosophy has been, wherever possible, to add to the facilities that people can get locally - to encourage people to spend their money in the town and to keep the local economy vibrant. He feels he has the staff, the computer facilities and the modern electronic equipment to enable him to meet the challenge of the big boys.

Now that the services of Adam and Gaskell Ltd have come to Bentham, people can pop into their local office for independent advice, rather than dial an impersonal national call centre. It's worth a try, and could even save you money!

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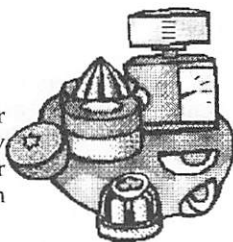
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RECIPES

By Doreen Park

Both these supper dishes are simply bursting with flavour for the days of March winds.



Bacon-wrapped Chicken with apple

- 100g/4ozs Wensleydale cheese
- 1 tbls whole grain mustard
- 2 tbls fresh thyme leaves
- 4 skinless chicken breast fillets (flattened by hitting with rolling pin)
- 8 rashers of bacon stretched by running the back of a knife along each rasher until double original length
- 2 tbls olive oil
- 1 oz butter
- 4 sprigs thyme
- 2 medium apples cut into wedges
- 240ml/8fl ozs cider or apple juice
- 1 (200m) pot creme fraiche

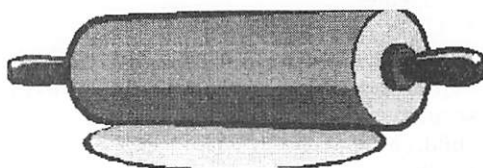
Mix together the cheese, mustard and thyme, make a cut in the chicken breasts and stuff with this mixture. Wrap 2 rashers of bacon round each chicken breast. Fry chicken in oil for 10 minutes, turn once. Add the butter, thyme and apples and cook for 10 minutes. Remove chicken from pan and keep warm. Add cider or juice, boil for 5 minutes, add the creme fraiche, add the chicken to the pan and heat through.

Smoked Haddock and Tomato

- 8 ozs granary flour
- 4 ozs butter or hard margarine, cubed
- 10 ozs smoked haddock
- 4 plum tomatoes cut into wedges
- ¼ pint double cream
- 3 medium eggs
- 4 tbls fresh chopped flat leaf parsley
- 5 tbls milk
- green salad to serve

Mix flour with ½ teaspoon salt, rub in the butter, add ¾ tablespoon cold water. Mix to a dough, knead until smooth, wrap and chill for 30 minutes. Place fish in a small pan with ¼ pint of water and season. Cover and simmer for 5 minutes until the fish is opaque and flakes easily. Remove from the pan. Cool for 5 minutes, remove skin, flake fish.

Preheat the oven to 200c/Fan 180c/Gasmark 6, roll out pastry and line a shallow 8" square tin. Arrange the fish and tomato in the pastry case, mix together the cream, eggs, parsley and milk. Season. Pour over the fish and tomatoes. Bake for 25-30 minutes until golden and set. Serve hot or cold with salad.



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CRAVEN CHILDREN NEED PERMANENT FOSTER CARERS AND ADOPTERS

Press release from NYCC

Social Services in North Yorkshire are looking for a wide range of people from different backgrounds to care for children from the Craven area who cannot live with their own families. Permanent foster carers and adopters are needed for:-

- * Older children
- * Brothers and sisters who need to stay together
- * Children with a disability
- * Children hurt by abuse

Permanent or long-term fostering provides security and an alternative family for children who cannot live with their own family. Children are brought up in the safety of a family environment with carers working

closely with social services and the child's parents.

Foster carers receive financial help and training as well as practical support and advice. Although there are very few babies needing adoptive families, there are older children who need the same chance to have a new family, in particular school age children, brothers and sisters who need to stay together in a family and babies who have a disability.

Many people assume you need to be married and own your own home to foster or adopt, but that is not true. It doesn't matter if you are out of work, a little older, or living in rented accommodation or have been in care yourselves. What is needed is space in your home, time, patience, tolerance and energy - a sense of humour helps too!

Becoming a foster carer or adopter is not a decision you can take lightly. However if you would like to find out more, please ring 01756-793700 for a free information pack.

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MEMORIES OF BENTHAM IN THE 1930s...continued

By Bateman Marshall

* Next to the Town Hall where Oglethorpe, Sturton and Gillibrand now have their solicitors' offices, in the 1930s was *Adams' cafe and bakery*.

* Then there was a large *cooperative store* which occupied several shops where there are now some flats. There was a *drapers'* a large *grocers* and a *bakery* department. The coop also had a *butchery van* which sold meat around Bentham. This was driven by *Billy Lamb* who was a well-known figure round Bentham from before the war until the 1970s.

* The next building, which until recently was *Alan Coates' butcher's shop*, in the 1930s was a *gentlemen's outfitters*, *John Fisher and Son* (grandfather of *Cliff Fisher* who owns *Fishers outfitters* now on the Main Street).

* *The Liberal Club* is still there and is little changed from the 1930s.

* At the end of the row of shops there was *The Cosy Cafe* run by *Peggy Reid*. The building seems little changed although it is now just part of the *Oakroyd Bakery* and is

no longer used as a cafe.

* Crossing over to the west side of Station Road and going back up to the top, *Ted Jackman* had a *hairdressing business* adjacent to *Knowles shop*.

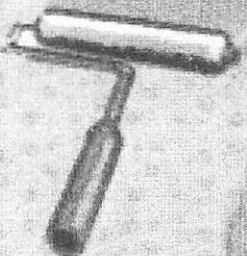
* *Harry Hinde* moved into the house next door and opened up as a *jeweller*, in what is now the *Sports Shop*.

* The *butcher's shop* has changed very little. In the 1930s it was owner by *Charlie Metcalfe*, a colourful personality, and grandfather of *Janet Metcalfe* who has carried on the business.

* Where *Henry Woods* now has his accountancy business, used to be the *Midland Bank*.

* Then where *Tom Guy* now has his '*Barber Extraordinair*', used to be *Bob Guy's hairdresser*. Bob was quite a character, but not as entertaining as his son.

* Where *Sue Ryder's Charity Shop* is now used to be *Forster's Newsagents and Toy Shop*, a very busy business with several good paper rounds. In the 1930s this was run by Mr and Mrs *Forster*, and later their son, *Fran*, who was a good all-round sportsman, took over the shop. His sister, *Audrey*, taught in *Hillcroft School*, which was down by the *Wenning Bridge*.



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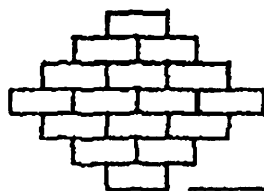
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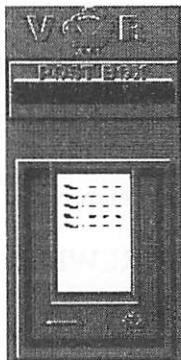
Excellence in Housing

Dear Bentham News,

I would like to thank Andrea, the Craven Dog Warden, for her article in February's BN. The ongoing problem of dog fouling in Low Bentham centres around the use of the car park as a dog toilet and the start of the footpath by the fish farm, where it takes nimble feet and a sharp eye to avoid stepping on faeces.

I have obtained some green coloured waste disposal bags from the Bentham Trust Office, (available free to anyone) and will be taking them out to dog owners who let their dogs foul in the car park. The health hazard of dog faeces cannot be emphasised enough. If parents were letting toddlers foul on the pavements there would be a public outcry; why should dog faeces not cause similar disgust?

Yours sincerely,
Christine Hodson,
Health Visitor/School Nurse.



Dear Bentham News,

The subject of "Dog Dirt" in Bentham has risen time after time in the Bentham News. Unfortunately, the problem never gets better, especially at this time of year. Yet again, the pavements are smeared with it - you can hardly put one foot in front of the other to walk in a straight line, without doing a strange side-stepping move to avoid yet another deposit.

This morning, as my children and I were walking to school (carefully) we yet again came across a dog owner letting her dogs foul the grass outside Bentham Surgery (there were other witnesses to this also). OK, so it wasn't on the pavement, but it wasn't her property either! Not even the thought of a fine (only £500?) encouraged her to clean it up. The children were disgusted - what sort of example are some adults setting? Do they not think that they are defacing our town just as much as the "Vandals" who damaged the new toilets, or those who "spray paint" on walls?

If you are "grown up" enough to have a dog, please behave like a responsible "grown up" and respect other people's property. Bentham belongs to us ALL. Collect your dog's faeces. It might not be very pleasant for you, (but then neither do the innocent find it pleasant walking in it), but it is your responsibility.

Yours sincerely,
(Name and address supplied).

Dear Editor,

There has been a lot of interest in the photograph on the front of the new Millenium Directory. Some readers are convinced that it is trick photography.

Please could the photographer enlighten us all by giving us a brief explanation of how and where he took such an amazing picture?

Yours sincerely,
Pam Woof

Editor's comment

As far as I am aware, the photograph was taken by Peter Marshall, of Low Bentham. I will ask him to enlighten you all!

Dear Readers,

If there are any current or potential Bonsai tree growers in the Bentham area who would be interested in attending the South Lakes Area Bonsai Society meetings on the second Monday of each month at Milnthorpe (7.30pm) and either require a lift or want more details, please give me a ring.

This very friendly club welcomes all ages and abilities from total novices, like me, to the extremely knowledgeable. The meetings consist of demonstrations by visiting experts, members working on and discussing their own trees, visits out to collect trees or to view collections, as well as social events.

If you have ever been intrigued by Bonsais and want to know more, why not give it a try?

Ian Wood, Beck House,
Branstone Beck,
Bentham, 015242 62656.

HOUSES! NEW HOUSES! LOTS OF THEM!

By Judith Johnson

Irrespective of one's views on the necessity of new housing in Bentham, a progress report makes interesting reading. Currently 8nder construction in Bentham is a number of different kinds of houses with varying prices.

Mill Gardens in the old Jackson's Yard will be ready for occupation at the end of May/June and consists of the most reasonably priced properties in the centre of town. Flats with two and three bedrooms are selling at £48,500 and £49,500 respectively and there will be five Mews houses at £64,950 for three bedrooms and £56,250 for two bedrooms.

The Moonsacre site has only four houses left unsold out of a total of thirteen. There is a mixture of four bedroom, detached houses at £129,000-£135,000 and £89,950 will buy you one of the eight semi-detached houses. Building will be completed by the autumn.

The largest development is **Dalesview** on Butts Lane which will have a total of fifty-nine houses to be completed in several phases over the next five years. The first phase will be made up of six properties including a four bedroom detached house for £120,000 and two semi-detached houses having three bedrooms selling at £82,000 each. Also to be built is a row of three terraced houses at £70,000 having three bedrooms each. This phase will be completed by September. Two bedroom, bungalows will also be built selling at £82,000.

Then, of course there are the ongoing properties built by **K. W. and A. Parker and Sons**, our local family builder that started in 1985 and are nearly completed (seven to be built). These houses make up Holme Park and Millholme Drive and are a mixture of detached, semi-detached and terraced houses with prices subject to negotiation (phone 62144).

Added together a total of ninety-five new houses plus a further thirty-four on

Millholme Drive and Holme Park is quite a large proportion of the original housing stock of about eight hundred in High Bentham. A great opportunity for our schools, shops and services to provide for people wanting to live in our rural environment.

FAREWELL GIFT FOR DR.



The Mayor, Councillor Margaret Hayton, presenting Dr. Peter Nightingale, with a cheque for £400, from the people of Bentham, on the occasion of his departure from the practice in Bentham. The Mayor thanked him for all his kindness and his immense contribution to the community during his years here.

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WEDNESDAY FLOWER MAN

By Shirley Brown

A cold Wednesday morning seemed as good an opportunity as any to spend a happy hour or so chatting to 'The Wednesday Flowerman', as he has been known ever since I came to Bentham 28 years ago. But of course he's been coming here for longer than that, in fact for over 40 years, and he can't remember the last time he missed a Wednesday, although he knows he must have done for 'exceptionally bad weather'.

Finding out a bit more about Alan Bradshaw was a real pleasure. He runs a family business and his daughter, who is married to a farmer, still works for him 2 days a week. However he says that when he gives up, "then that's it", because his daughter doesn't want to take over the business. When he's not standing by his stall in Bentham, he can be found on Tuesdays and Saturdays in Chorley market, and for 51 years he was also at Garstang market on Thursdays, but he retired from there in September 1998. On non-market days he works in his nursery in Bilsborrow, 3 miles south of Garstang. In fact the reason he started coming to Bentham in the first place was because he needed £600 for a new boiler for his greenhouses! He first stood by the Royal Oak, but when Richard Turner bought the pub he moved to his present pitch, where it seems that in the past Mr Armstrong also had a flower stall.

Alan says that being out in all weathers doesn't bother him, but that he worries when it's icy that it will kill the plants. In fact Alan seems to have his own brand of central heating! He likes to be busy and there's constant activity around the stall with affectionate banter between him and passers-by, whether or not they are



particularly likes about Bentham is that it's "an old-fashioned, once-a-week market where people work and shop where they live". He also feels he can leave his stall for a while knowing that he can trust people to leave money for the flowers they take, "I wouldn't do this in other places". If he's noticed any changes during the 40 plus years he's been coming to Bentham, it's that the "seasons are ploughing down the middle, it's never too hot or too cold anymore."

Alan is not just a nurseryman, his other great love is singing. He sings tenor in the church choir every Sunday, and bass in the Preston Orpheus Choir. He enjoys this too - in fact enjoyment of life perhaps best sums up Alan's philosophy. And is he thinking of retiring? His honest answer is, "I don't know, only time will tell. At the moment I'm fit as a fiddle, and I'll carry on until I want to give over." Let's hope for all our sakes that Alan and his wonderful stall stay a feature of Bentham's Wednesdays for a good many more years yet.

Local Events in early March

Sat 4th Liberal Democrats coffee morning, 10.00am-12.00 noon at the Town Hall. 

Bentham Footpath Group walk, 15 miles, Clapham Circular including Ingleborough, (Millennium Walk) leader F. Royston, 41725. Please meet at Lairgill/Clapham car park 9.15/9.30am.

Sun 5th Afternoon concert at St. John's, Low Bentham, 3.00pm. Music from flutes, guitars and singers. Proceeds to NSPCC. See page 28.

Mon 6th Looking Well, 10.30am-12.30pm, Baby Buckets, Parent and Baby Group. 7.30-8.30pm, Tai Chi Qigong gentle exercise session. Both every Monday.

Looking Well, 12.45-1.45pm, Relaxation session. 2.00-3.00pm Women's Support Group. Both every Tuesday.

Tue 7th Bright Hour at the Methodist Schoolroom, 2.15pm. Rev. V. Ashworth.

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

Wed 8th Citizen's Advice Bureau at the Surgery, 1.30-3.15pm.

Looking Well, 1.00-3.30pm, Muckey Buckets, Parents and under 3's play session, and every Wednesday. Alzheimer's Disease Support Group meeting, 7.30-9.00pm

Thu 9th

Bentham & District Camera Club, Annual Competitions and AGM. Low Bentham Institute 7.45pm.

Looking Well 2.00-3.00pm, Tai Chi Qigong. 3.45-5.30pm Shadow Puppet workshop. Both every Thursday.

Fri 10th

Age Concern, Mr. Rex Brindle.

Looking Well, 6.00-9.30pm. Black Library Wargaming Club, over 11's, and every Friday.

Sat 11th

Tatham County primary School coffee morning, 10.00-11.45am, at the Town Hall. 

Bentham Footpath Group walk, Appleby circular, 8-9 miles, leader B. Greenwood, 42072. Meet at Lairgill 9.30am.

Kirkby Lonsdale Brass Band Concert in Bentham Town Hall, 7.30pm. Admission £3.50 adults, £2.50 concessions. See page 22.

Burton-in-Lonsdale & District Horticultural Society Spring Show, at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

Mon 13th

Looking Well, 12.30-2.00pm, Cancer Support Group shared lunch.

Wed 15th

Copy deadline for April B.N.

Bentham & District Pet Rescue AGM at the Development Trust office, 11.00am.

Christian Aid Lent lunch in Methodist Schoolroom, from 11.45am. Everyone welcome.

Inaugural meeting of Bentham & District Archaeological Society, 7.30pm at the Looking Well. See page 20.

The Victoria Institute AGM, 7.30pm at the Institute, Low Bentham.

Listing for Local Events

Please supply details of day, date, event, venue, contact and telephone number to Bentham Sports by 15th March, for inclusion in April Diary.

Fri 17th Waste paper collection at the Legion Hut, 8.30-11.00am. proceeds to NSPCC.

Age Concern, "The Work of Her Majesty's Young Offenders" - Lancaster Farms". Town Hall.

Sat 18th St. Boniface's Church coffee morning at the Town Hall, 10.00am-12.00noon. 

Mon 20th Burton-in-Lonsdale & District Horticultural Society meeting in the Village Hall at 7.30pm. Ken Barnes - "Roses".

Tue 21st Bentham Child Health Clinic at the Surgery, 2.00-4.00pm.

Angus Pensioners' Association, 2.00pm in the Town Hall. John Talton - "Bees" - Slides and talk.

Bright Hour, 2.15pm at the Methodist Schoolroom, Mrs. C. Price.

Wed 22nd Citizen's Advice Bureau at the Surgery, 1.30-3.15pm.

Fri 24th Age Concern, Card Bingo.

Slimming World "Greatest Loser" Celebration Night at the Town Hall, 7.00pm - 12.00midnight. Tickets from Angie Swithenbank, 62932.

Friends of Bentham Grammar School, "Questions and Answers" evening with sporting Celebrities, at the school. Fully licensed, raffle, price includes hot pot supper. Tickets £8 single, £15 double. See page 25.

Burton-in-Lonsdale Village Hall, 7.30pm. "Discover the History of your House". £2.50 includes refreshments. In aid of Burton Millennium History Group.

Sat 25th Millennium coffee morning in the Town Hall Ballroom, 10.00am-12.00noon. 

Sun 26th Bentham Footpath Group walk, Bolton-by-Bowland, 7½ miles, leader T. Connolly, 42129. please meet at Lairgill at 9.45am.

Mon 27th Ewecross Historical Society meeting at the Town Hall, 7.30pm. Mrs E. Bannister - "The History of Coniston Cold". Members £5, Visitors £1.

Fri 31st April Bentham News published. Age Concern. Jim Parker - "My life in costume with music"

EVENTS IN EARLY APRIL

Sat 1st Local Action for Justice and Peace "The World in our Hands" - Children's Day in the Town Hall. Exhibition from 9.30am-12.30pm. Coffee from 10.00am-12.00noon. 

Sun 2nd Tea in the Old School, Lowgill, to celebrate the opening of Tatham Fells Primary School in 1875. Tea will be served after the Mother's Day Service which starts at 2.15pm. All pupils, staff and friends past and present are welcome.

Mon 3rd Town Council meeting at the Town Hall, 7.30pm.

Tue 4th Bentham Child Health Clinic at the Surgery, 2.00-4.00pm.

Bentham Toy Library at the Youth Centre, 9.30-11.30am.

Bentham Sports



Tel: 015242 62001

NEW SEASON'S FOOTWEAR



NEW SWIMWEAR RANGES FROM TYR

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SUE & STEVE

We are pleased to announce that from March we will be open for lunches and drinks between 12.00noon and 2.00pm, (closed all day Monday). As always, a warm welcome, real ales and excellent food.

Our Chef, Bartole, would like to invite you to his first speciality night, bringing cuisine from around the world. Naturally, we will be starting with an Italian evening - 3 course meal £12.95. Booking is essential. These evenings will be on the first Thursday every month. Phone 015242 61381.

THE BYRES

We are also pleased to inform customers old and new that we will be starting the famous 3 course Sunday lunches again on 5th March. All you can eat from the buffet for £2.99. We look forward to seeing you soon!

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LOCAL FIRM SECURES HONDA FRANCHISE

By Bill Kennedy

Established four years ago this February, Thorntons Garden and Estate Machinery, on the business park at Wenning Avenue, have been appointed as "main dealer" by Honda Power Equipment. This endorsement by such a prestigious manufacturer as Honda shows that with the professional approach taken by Thorntons, small rural businesses can thrive in a town like ours.

Thorntons started after Armstrongs on Main Street decided to discontinue the garden machinery side of the business after many years. Seeing an opportunity, and having had many years experience in the agricultural engineering industry, Duncan Thornton decided it "was now or never" and so he began trading in February 1996.

Many people's reaction, when visiting the showroom for the first time, is surprise at how comprehensively it is stocked and also at the excellent service facilities and expertise available, and so Honda were convinced that Thorntons were the right business to promote and service their premium garden products.

Duncan explained that "it has been hard work getting the business off the ground, but we were delighted when Honda approached us. They are a leading manufacturer in the garden machinery industry and set very high standards including the Honda pledge, which means that they require us to keep up standards of service and support to customers, including 2 and 5 year warranty plans".

Thorntons are already authorised dealers for other leading manufacturers including Hayter, Stihl, Atco-Qualcast, Westwood, Stiga and Briggs & Stratton, and they supply and service domestic and semi-professional equipment.



Wendy Thornton who also works for the business said "we will probably be looking to take on more staff as the business grows. We currently employ a full time service engineer, and part time staff. We believe in the rural economy and the rural way of life. Many people in the rural industries at the moment are suffering and we feel that we all need to work hard together for the survival of our community. It is crucial for a small town like Bentham to have viable businesses, as so often the story is a depressing one, with small businesses having to close, unable to compete with the Asda's and B&Q's".

Thorntons is a fine example of how, with effective planning, determination, hard work and quality service, small local firms can play an important role in the economic development of a rural community.

BENTHAM CLEANING SERVICES

Spring Cleaning will become a distant memory when you employ Bentham Cleaning Services to keep your home in sparkling clean order. Returning to your home will become a pleasure.

Ring 62402

We have in the past cleaned commercial premises, houses that are to be re-let, standing mobile homes, busy offices shops.

Ring 62402 for more details.

FOOTPATH MATTERS

By Maureen Ellis

There is only one thing to say about the Annual Dinner - **tremendous**. This event, a tribute to the hard work of Joan Clapham, is a very friendly, happy affair without fuss. It is a statement about the strength of the walking group in Bentham, a date to put in one's diary and keep free, where you know you will see the people that you've missed on walks.

It culminated in a competition organised by Angela Robertson, whose husband Ken had taken photographs of many of the local bridges. It was fun to guess or know which was which. There will be a display in due course in Bentham, with the answers.

The following day Gerald Amos led a circular walk from Clapham over the field paths to Austwick and then, skirting Oxenber, to the edge of Feizor. We then climbed up the east side of Oxenber (where there was much talk of the spring displays of primrose and bluebells in the wood and where there was a sight of buzzards) and round onto the upper edge of Wharfe. We approached the impressive and geologically unusual escarpment of Robin Proctor's Scar and walked to the lower reaches of the Norber erratics.

Everyone knows that these are boulders brought down in the ice age but what is not so well known is that the ice age was a huge era stretching from 2,500,000 to 7000 years ago and it came in waves with slight rises in temperature between. We are still technically within the ice age. From here the return to Clapham was by the high route of Thwaite Lane and through the tunnels of the Wall.

March has a full programme of near and far walks and for these consult the calendar of events, or see the details on display in the window of the Tourist Information Centre at 26 Main Street.



NEW HOMES TO BE BUILT IN INGLETON BEAUTY SPOT

By Amy Sanderson

Yes, it's true. But before you send any letters to the council, reflect on this. The homes to be built are for birds.

It all started on 7th November, when seven members of Kirkby Lonsdale Wildlife Watch Group met at Bank House, home of Mr and Mrs Neale, the Wildlife Watch Group leaders. With the help of Martin Rhodes from English Nature, (who have funded this project) the group have made seven bird boxes.

Then on 28th November, an intrepid group of eight trekked up the Ingleton Waterfalls Walk, bird boxes in hand, and attached them to trees along part of the walk, using wire to keep damage to the trees to a minimum.

It is hoped that the boxes will attract pied flycatchers, a summer migrant to this country. During the last forty years the number of these birds has increased, possibly due to the provision of nest boxes. Pied flycatchers have been spotted in several places along the Waterfalls Walk so the arrival of the boxes should help to boost the breeding success of these birds.



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BIBBY'S OF INGLETON

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Wednesday, 22 March
CARLISLE .. £6.50

Sunday 2 April
MOTHERS DAY SPECIAL
 incl. Roast Beef Meal .. £13.50

Sunday, 16 April
SNOWDONIA
 incl. Beddgelert .. £11.00

Tuesday, 18 April
TRAFFORD CENTRE
MANCHESTER .. £7.50

Thursday, 20 April
YORK .. £8.00

Thursday, 27 April
CHESTER .. £8.50

Wednesday, 24 May
SHIRLEY BASSEY
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COTSWOLDS

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 The Spey Valley

EASTER 21-24 April - £159
PARIS
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28-30 April - £129
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2-7 May - £295
GARDENS OF CORNWALL
 Based in Falmouth

6-10 May - £259
**YPRES SALIENT &
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19-22 May - £175
ISLE OF ARRAN

21-26 May - £285
DELIGHTS OF DONEGAL
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RING FOR BROCHURE

BENTHAM & DISTRICT ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

By Bill Roy

The inaugural meeting of the proposed Bentham & District Archaeological Society is to take place at the Looking Well in High Bentham at 7.30pm on Wednesday 15th March. Although it is impossible to say how the society will develop, it is proposed that it would meet once a month for talks, demonstrations, lectures etc., and take part in Field Walking, Surveying, Field Trips and hopefully, excavation training, and of course, excavations.

What archaeology is there in Bentham? A heck of a lot is the answer, and when the surrounding parishes are included there is so much that it becomes almost incalculable. We have the Roman Road running up from Tatham through Bentham and Wennington. Ingleborough has a place all of its own in the archaeology of the district with its Hill Fort (which is the highest in England). On surrounding moors there is evidence of Neolithic and Bronze Age occupation of the area. In High Bentham, Neolithic stone tools have been found. In Low Bentham the Parish Church has the remains of a Celtic Cross (possibly 8th century). Why has Low Bentham village moved away from the church and where was the original village are questions that a group of us from the University of Bradford are just starting to explore this year!

TV programmes such as "Time Team" and "Meet the Ancestors" have enthralled people throughout the country; now the proposed society aims to enable local people to explore their own environment for the untold story of the past.

It has been possible through my connections at the Department of Archaeological Sciences, University of Bradford, to gain promises from members of staff and research students to give talks on a wide variety of subjects over the coming months. These include *Landscape Archaeology*, *How do we date finds*, *Teeth - what do they tell us*, *Ice Age Northern England*, *Bronze and Iron Age Northern England*, *Seeing*

beneath the soil (Geophysics), *Who were the Vikings and Medieval Life*. We also hope to get speakers from local museums and other bodies.

If you have found something locally, or know of something having been found locally, please contact a member of the society so that we may record it.

A quick word to any farmers or landowners, beware, the society will be contacting you shortly! All that we would initially ask is permission to walk your land to see if there is any evidence of archaeology on it. That does not mean trampling through fields like a bunch of morons (whether we are idiots or not is open to question, but we are "responsible idiots" at least).

So, are you interested in archaeology, especially the archaeology of Bentham, Tatham, Wray, Wennington, Burton-in-Lonsdale, Ingleton and Clapham? If so, why not come along? For more information contact me on 015242 62470 or e-mail: wroy1@bradford.ac.uk

THE OAKROYD BAKERY
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Mother's Day
March 12th

Why not treat her to one of our special Mother's Day cakes, or something equally delicious from our wonderful selection.

We look forward to seeing you at the Bakery.

BENTHAM & DISTRICT PET RESCUE

By Val Marshall



We would like to thank the helpers and all those who supported us at our February Coffee Morning in the Town Hall when we raised £328. We really do appreciate the effort everyone made to make this the success it was.

We have been very busy these last two months trapping, testing for Aids and Leukaemia, and neutering feral cats - eleven were done in January. A total of seventeen have now been done in Low Bentham car park and fish farm, so hopefully the domestic cats in the area should now be able to lead more peaceful lives. After treatment, the ferals are returned to their area and we feed them regularly. At present we have lent some of our equipment to help the catching of a colony in Clapham.

Now is the latest time that all last year's kittens should be spayed or castrated, as the breeding season is starting once again. Please do get your cats neutered as it is pitiful seeing so many unwanted kittens dumped at the roadside, some dying before anyone finds them. Never think that if everyone has their cats neutered there won't be any kittens at all, as it is a known fact that, if they are not treated, one female cat can be responsible for over 20,000 offspring in 5 years! Also it is the cruelest thing to let a female produce a litter and then drown the kittens as it can take up to an hour for

them to die, struggling for breath each time they surface. Do please get them neutered and ask if you need financial help.

Although outside our jurisdiction, another thing worrying us is the amount of dog dirt around Bentham. Craven Council now supplies dog poop bags free and these can be obtained either from them or from Bentham Trust. Do please use them, even on country roads, as children can trip and fall face down in "it", as I know to my cost with one of my grandchildren. Dogs can be trained to use their own garden, as the Guide Dogs for the Blind do, and it's worth the effort.

A full report of last year's activities will be given next month after our Annual General Meeting on 15th March.

SUCCESSFUL QUIZ NIGHT

By Val Lawson

Bentham Agricultural Society held a successful and enjoyable quiz night on Friday 11th February. Thank you to everybody who supported us at this event. John Whitfield was quiz master, with thirty one teams competing. After 11 rounds of questions the winning teams were:- 1st - E & R. Butterfield, D. Lund and J. Bellamy, with 93.5 points. 2nd - T., D. & R. Faraday & B. Wills with 84 points. 3rd - R. Lowes, D. Ibbetson, J. Lee & C. Preece with 81 points. Raffle winners were M. Airey, W. Dowbiggin, T. Stannard, J. Lister, R. Parker & J. Lee.

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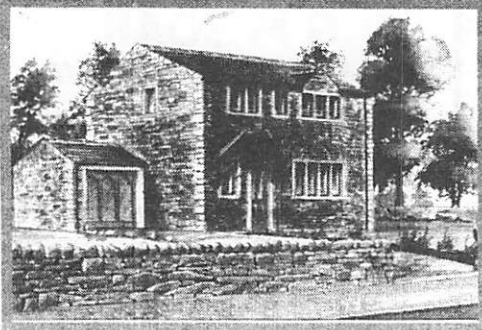
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KIRKBY LONSDALE BRASS BAND

By Allan Greenwood



We are pleased to be asked to come and perform once again in Bentham Town Hall, at 7.30pm on 11th March. The programme will be a mixture of marches, solos, TV and film music, with a couple of exciting and tuneful new pieces by two of today's leading band composers, Kenneth Downie and Peter Graham.

We hope that there will be something for everyone to enjoy and that we will send you home whistling! The concert will be compered by David Jones. Admission will be £3.50 for adults and £2.50 concessions.

PHOTO PROJECT GRANT

By David Johnson

This project by the Bentham and District Camera Club to save photographs of all the buildings in the two parishes onto CDs received a boost with a grant of £394.44 from the North Yorkshire Small Project Fund. Fearful that the images could deteriorate over time the club is in the process of accumulating funds to make the record permanent and easily accessible to future generations. A matching application has been made to Craven District Council Community Chest. It is hoped that the balance will come from donations given at the Local History Exhibition to be held in the Town Hall at Easter.

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BENTHAM PEOPLE

Personal Thanks

The family of the late **Hilda Johnson** of Thornthwaite, Robin Lane, would like to express their appreciation for the friendship and support she received from the people of Bentham during her short stay in the village. She filled her 84 years with an energy and commitment to "living life" to its fullest, and will be greatly missed by us all.

From my heart, I would like to say thank you for all the letters and cards of condolence. Also the beautiful flowers. I was very proud for John, knowing so many remembered and cared. At this sad and hurting time, your kindness and support helped more than you know. I would also like to thank Bentham Round Table, 41 Club and not least, Wray Fair Committee for their letters of sympathy. With sincere gratitude, Judith Place.

Marian Pye and family wish to thank doctors and staff of Bentham Surgery for their care of Ronnie over the years. Many thanks to the Rev. Norman Price and Joe Morphet for the funeral arrangements and very apt services, and all who came. To neighbours and friends, their cards and kind words were much appreciated, not forgetting Alan and Anne Robertshaw for all the care and help they gave Ronnie.

Thanks

Rob and Michelle Piper would like to thank everyone for the lovely cards and gifts received on the birth of their daughter Jessica Catherine. Also a special thank you to both families for their help and support.

In Memoriam

Huggonson, remembering "Uncle Bill", died 21st February 1998, Love Marian.

Congratulations

Donald and Mary Edmondson of Burton-in-Lonsdale, on your Ruby Wedding Anniversary on 26th March, 2000. Love from all your family.



Apologies

Dinah apologises for not having her stationery stall in the **Town Hall** during **April**, due to family commitments.

For Sale

Hewlett Packard 4M+ laser printer with automatic two sided printing and two 500 sheet paper trays. Up to 12 pages a minute at 600dpi. £700 including toner cartridges for at least 15,000 pages (worth over £100). Ring 61757 or 62138 and leave a message.

Study unit and wardrobe in light grey, good condition, ideal for kids bedroom. £45 o.n.o. Bentham 61076.

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GARDEN IDEAS

By Dot Hughes



Take a good look out of your window. Do you see a lawn, or a patch of green edged with a small garden border?

Now at this time of year you have the opportunity to transform this into something wonderful. If your lawn area is hardly big enough to turn a mower around, then why not take this opportunity to change it? Utilise some of those wonderful ideas we see on the TV gardening programmes. Dig up, or better still, dig it in and go and buy some different paving or pebbles or gravel to create pathways or seated areas in between plantings. Buy new perennials and take an interest in what you are buying; look at the colours, textures and different shapes and sizes, to create a more interesting garden. Perhaps you might like to include a water feature. It is important to keep everything in proportion.

If you cannot afford to buy all the perennials you would like at one time, when the summer comes it may look a bit bare, but you can fill in using bedding plants. I can assure you that in a couple of years it will be full.

March is the time for pruning roses. Clematis fall into three categories; spring flowering, which are pruned into the required shape after flowering; the early summer hybrids which can be cut down to 3 feet and the texensis and viticella hybrids which can be cut back to ground level. Happy planting.

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NEW PUBLIC TRANSPORT FOR BENTHAM

By Giles Bond

With this month's Bentham News you will find copies of a survey sheet, which we would like each member of your household to complete. If you feel that you are experiencing transport difficulties as a result of not having a car or not having regular access to a car; and if you feel current available public transport is simply not suitable for your needs, then it is very important that you fill in this survey.

There are now funds available to create innovative new types of community based public transport, these services will be different from the typical Stagecoach local bus service, as they will respond to individual demand. In short the aim is to provide services which will operate to do what people of Bentham want them to do.

The survey forms, which will be collected from you, are designed to ascertain the nature of people's transport problems, and to provide information to help create the most effective transport services with the money available. For example the survey may show that there are a number of young people who have a transport problem because they cannot get to Lancaster for a Saturday night out; a cheap simple solution to this problem that could quite easily be implemented is to use a minibus. The survey may also show that there are older people who need transport to the dentist, in this case the development of a community car scheme could be a solution. These are just examples, in reality the survey could uncover numerous different transport needs, but this will only happen if people are prepared to fill it in.

So if you've got a transport problem, then do something about it, fill in the survey and let us know!



LOOKING WELL NEWS

By Alison Jones

News in Focus

Craven Herald photographer Stephen Garnett's excellent exhibition continues throughout March.

Cancer Support Group

If you or a member of your family is facing cancer, we invite you to come along to lunch at the Looking Well on Monday 13th March at 12.30pm. The group meets for lunch on the 2nd Monday each month.

Millennium Bugs

Please come to the Looking Well for free materials to make a "bug" to display outside your home. You are welcome to make one at Looking Well. Come in any time we are open to make a start. If you want some help or advice, Alison Jones will be available on Tuesday afternoons from 1.30-4.30pm.

ATTENTION ALL SPORTS FANS

By Alison Piper

There is a treat in store for you! Coming soon ... an evening not to be missed! A "Questions and Answers" evening with some great sporting celebrities, featuring Martin Dobson (England, Burnley and Everton), Carol Hodges (England Ladies cricketer), Alan Winword (Chairman Barrow Rugby League Football Club) and D.B. Allison (Football League Referee).

This promises to be a fun packed event for all lady and gentlemen sports fans, and their friends, at Bentham Grammar School on Friday 24th March at 7.30pm. The event is being organised by Friends of Bentham Grammar School. Tickets, £8 single and £15 double, (£6 for sixth formers), include a hot pot supper. There will be a fully licensed bar. Tickets are available from the School and Bentham Sports.

ADVERTISING RATES

Local Advertisers

Bentham, Burton, Ingleton - Boxed advertisement, one eighth page - £10 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 contact Bill Kennedy on 61030 (office) or 62492 (home).



ANCHOR STAYING PUT - CRAVEN

Offers elderly people in Craven advice and help with house repairs or adaptations. Call at Bentham Development Trust office 1st Wednesday each month 11.00am-1.00pm or Tel: 01756 - 797181.

HORNBY OCCASIONALS MILLENNIUM PRODUCTION

By Peter Silvester

Hornby Occasionals will be presenting Gilbert and Sullivan's "The Yeomen of the Guard" in Hornby Institute from 22nd to 25th March 2000, each evening at 7.30pm. Tickets are available from Hornby Institute (015242 21754) and cost £4 for adults and £1.50 for children. Patrons are asked to take their seats by 7.20pm. Latecomers will not be admitted to the auditorium until the interval.

Set in the Tower of London, The Yeomen of the Guard is generally regarded as one of Gilbert and Sullivan's best works - they indeed both felt this themselves. Sullivan's score is the closest he came to Grand Opera in his collaboration with Gilbert, and includes some delightful music. The libretto has more serious overtones than most of the Savoy Operas but the comic side is not overlooked. Both aspects are well presented in this production which is once again set to delight audiences and is sure to sell out quickly. Book early to make sure you don't miss it!



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BENTHAM HOMING SOCIETY NEWS

By Jack Pickup

Some 90 members and guests attended the Homing Society annual prize presentation at the Bentham Golf Club on Saturday 5th February. There were some notable performances by birds belonging to members in 1999.

The following are worthy of note:-

Roy Monk and Mick Armstrong won the Federation Trophy for best average velocity for 4th Fed. Weymouth OB's and 11th Fed YB's against a total of 1822 birds.

Glenn and Keith Parker's birds raced consistently but it was in showing that they excelled. During the winter months they won over £400 at various shows around the area, and in the National Show in the Winter Gardens, came a very creditable 2nd in the Channel Cocks Class.

Andy Westbury and Paul Rigg had the 1st and only bird in racetime in the club and it was 3rd Fed. from Niort, flying 550 miles.

Jack and Zoe Pickup's sprint widowhood cock "Victor" won another two races and later in the race programme his half brother, Victor2, won over £350 when he was 1st in the NL and W2 bird Club from Rennes, a distance of 420 miles, having already flown five races from France in 1999, covering a total distance of 2748 miles. Dave and Karl Akrigg have just established a loft at a site next to the graveyard on Summerhill where Keith Abbott used to fly

without much success. However, Keith decided to go and encourage them with the result that they won three YB races - maybe this is a sign of things to come.

The main prize winners were as follows.

Dave and Karl Akrigg, 4 trophies, 3 x 1sts, 5 x 2nds, 6 x 3rds and 3 x 4ths & £197.85.

Roy Monk and Mick Armstrong, 9 trophies, 5 x 1sts, 4 x 2nds, 5 x 3rds, 2 x 4ths & £319.95.

John Fletcher, 1 x 1st, 1 x 2nd, 2 x 3rds & £20.

Richard Hunter, 2 trophies & £10.

Glenn and Keith Parker, 6 trophies, 5 x 1sts, 5 x 2nds, 7 x 3rds, 4 x 4ths & £358.85.

Jack and Zoe Pickup, 5 trophies, 6 x 1sts, 6 x 2nds, 1 x 3rd, 6 x 4ths & £221.50.

Doug Ralph, 1 trophy, 1 x 1st, 1 x 2nd & £106.

Andy Westbury and Paul Rigg, 3 x 1sts, 2 x 2nds, 2 x 3rds, 6 x 4ths & £85.85.

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MUSICAL TREAT AT ST. JOHN'S

By S. Adams

The NSPCC would like to thank Judith Johnson for her initiative in organising a concert on 5th March at 3.00pm in St. John's Church, Low Bentham. All are welcome and entrance is free, yes free! We hope that the varied programme will inspire all to make generous donations to the NSPCC, on leaving the church.

Judith, along with her flute pupils, whose ages range from 9 upwards, are to be one of the three groups of musicians who are to provide this concert along with the guitar pupils of Dave Kellett from Lancaster and singing teacher Margaret Patterson.

The musicians and singers are coming from a wide but local area, which incorporates Bentham, Ingleton, Kirkby Lonsdale, Grange, Arnside, Kendal and Lancaster. Several are pupils of Queen Elizabeth School and Dallem School, and all deserve our support. So please also come along to what will prove to be a most enjoyable afternoon's entertainment.

There will be light refreshments provided by the local NSPCC committee members, who wish to thank Judith, Dave and Margaret for their generosity in allowing us to hear these young musicians.

BENTHAM FARMERS BEEF IT UP AT ANNUAL DINNER!

By John Dawson

Bentham Branch of the National Farmers' Union held its annual dinner on 28th January in the Wheatsheaf at Ingleton. Over fifty members attended to enjoy a meal of roast beef and hear guest speaker Peter Lethebee describe, with the aid of slides, his work as a member of Clapham Cave Rescue.

Chairman Mr. Richard Coates then thanked the speaker and said that despite the current crisis in agriculture, it was good that members could enjoy a pleasant social evening.

OUR CHURCHES CELEBRATE 99

By David Johnson

Following the Churches Together celebrations and exhibition at the Looking Well in October last year there were many requests to compile a booklet of the photographs and text of each participating Church. This is now available from your local Church at £2 per copy. There is a limited number available so alternatively please phone me (David Johnson) on 61905.

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