

£600,000 FOR BENTHAM'S FUTURE!

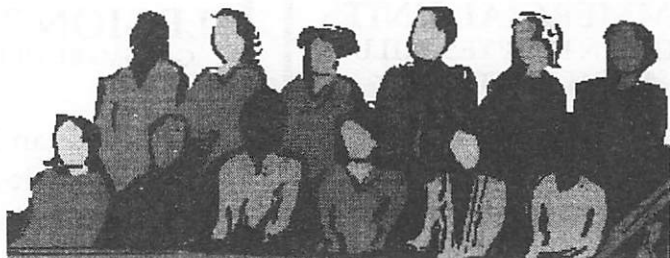
By Diane Chant

Yes, that's what it *could* mean, with "match funding" from other sources to supplement the £300,000 regeneration award announced by Yorkshire Forward last month. What a tremendous boost for Bentham.

So, what exactly does "regeneration" mean, who is going to receive the money, and how will it be spent? Apparently, all that is for the community as a whole to decide, which means that *everyone* in Bentham could, and indeed should, have a say in the matter. With this in mind, a public meeting will be held on Thursday 12th October at 7.00pm in the Town Hall, to explain more fully the conditions of the award, and for the people of Bentham to put forward ideas for projects both large and small.

There is no doubt that a great deal can be achieved through this most generous investment, but it is going to take commitment, dedication and a lot of very hard work to make it happen. It is a unique opportunity for individuals, businesses and community groups to be involved from the outset in determining Bentham's future, and in making the area an even better place in which to live, work and play. It is an opportunity not to be missed - Bentham is definitely worth it!

**REGENERATION AWARD
PUBLIC MEETING
IN
BENTHAM TOWN HALL
7.00PM THURSDAY 12 OCTOBER
YOUR CHANCE TO
SHAPE BENTHAM'S FUTURE**



OCTOBER 2000

ISSUE 168

WOMEN'S INSTITUTES

High Bentham

By Doreen Park

At the September meeting, members were shown various ways with cheese; wonderful soft cheese fillings for sandwiches, dips and desserts. Ann Fornell, who created these delights, combined the various cheeses in many different ways. She was thanked by Faith Wilson. The President congratulated the five members who succeeded in winning, for the first time, The Dr. Elizabeth Dowell silver tray for the most points in the domestic classes at the recent Bentham Show. Nominations were made for the new committee to be formed at the meeting on 1st October. The competition for a household tip was won by Mrs. Sheila Brown.

For the annual general meeting, on the 1st October, the competition will be "A pretty necklace". At the meeting on 2nd November, Mr. N. Henderson will talk on "Care of birds of prey". The competition will be "An animal photo".

LOW BENTHAM

By Jennifer Watkinson

"A most interesting talk" was how the president, Mrs. Christine Jennings, described Mr. A. Calou's talk entitled "Search and rescue dogs". The speaker, who is a member of the Cave Rescue organisation, had his first Border Collie in 1979, which was successful on a police call out course. He spoke about some of the

qualities needed, like agility, ability to dig, and a lack of herding instinct. His dogs are kept as family pets and so have socially acceptable habits. Two and a half years are needed to fully train a dog, using methods similar to Barbara Woodhouse. They are trained only to bark when they have made a find. Six to ten calls a year are received. At night they wear a fluorescent jacket and carry a torch on their backs. After helping at the Lockerbie disaster, he realised further training and experience were needed, so after gaining sponsorship, he went to America. On return, he set up the Canine Search and Rescue Charity. Afterwards two of his dogs demonstrated their skills by sniffing out objects hidden in the room.

Competition winners were Mrs. Mary Murphy, Mrs. Sylvia Brennand and Mrs. Joan Gilroy. At Bentham Show, Low Bentham won the co-operative class and Mrs. Sylvia Brennand gained the most points in the domestic and handicraft sections, and "Best in the Show" for the domestic. The next meeting is on 19th October.

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SEPTEMBER'S TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

By David Johnson

Everyone attended except Cllr. Preston and County Cllr. Ireton.

Market Town's Initiative

The meeting opened with a talk by David Gluck from the Countryside Agency. He emphasised the good fortune of Bentham to be one of the first towns in rural England to be included in such a scheme and attributed much of this to the work already done by the Trust and the attitude of The Town and District Councils. He emphasised the need for the whole community to be involved and to this end a public meeting will be arranged in October. Huge sums of money are involved but it will be important for everyone to get their act together quickly if full advantage is to be taken of European funding.

Police Report

This was disturbing because there was a steep rise in crime in August. The police think that criminals from urban areas, notably Newcastle and Lancaster, generated much of it. The theft of generators, building materials and antiques seem to feature as well as the theft of a vehicle and a boat trailer. Most disturbing was the fact that in two cases the criminals had been apprehended but they had to be released because the witnesses who had reported the incidents refused to provide a statement! The police made the point that they need public support to carry out their duties and if this is not forthcoming all their efforts are wasted. The usual problem of illegal parking in Main Street was discussed with some Cllrs. pressing for a complete revision of the yellow lines. There has been no progress with the Black Bull Car Park. A parking meter has been installed although currently it is not in operation.*

Trees

One or two of the protected trees on the Butts Lane site are to be trimmed to make them safe, but they will not be felled.

Memorial Plaque

It appears that the idea of moving the War Memorial from the Town Hall to School Hill had been mentioned at the August meeting. Three letters objecting to the idea were read out and it was decided to leave it in its present position.

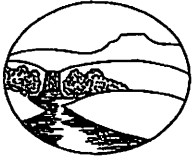
Radio Mast at Linghaw

An application has been made to raise this mast by 5 metres and to install several new dishes and antennae and a cabin. Apparently this should improve VHF and cellular phone reception in the area. Not surprisingly this application raised the question of technology versus the visual impact on the environment. After a vote technology won 5/4 but with the recommendation that a better job be made of having the mast camouflaged. The site is to be landscaped with trees, shielding the lower third of the tower.

**Just before going to print we heard that the parking meter is now in operation. - Ed.*



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tional rolpolys, sponges, or our
popular Sticky Toffee
Pudding

NEW COMMUNITY TRANSPORT FOR BENTHAM

By Lin Barrington

Now that we are ready to start up our social car scheme for Bentham, we need drivers! Would you enjoy driving local people to Lancaster hospital for clinics or visiting? You would use your own car, but expenses would be paid at a rate of 35p per mile. The system is flexible so you could help out as little or as often as suits you. We hope to be able to link up with WYMAS (West Yorkshire Metropolitan Ambulance Service) in the near future to provide a more comprehensive service.

Volunteering as a driver should not affect your car insurance or any benefits you may be receiving. For an information pack, please call at the Bentham Trust office or the Library, or phone Lin at the Bentham Trust on 61030.

ADVERTISERS PLEASE NOTE

The demand for advertising space has been increasing recently and is expected to exceed the space available in December's edition. We are limited at present to a maximum of 32 pages. So please, in order to avoid disappointment, book the space you require now! Contact Bill Kennedy 61030/62492 or call at the Sports Shop, Station Road.

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CRAVEN DISTRICT COUNCIL MATTERS

By Councillor John Pilkington

8000 Lucky Residents!?

Over 8000 residents have been sent a questionnaire by Craven District Council. The first part is a survey of Council Services and is a Government requirement. The results will be used to provide information for the statutory Best Value Service Reviews and will help the Council to decide which services need to be improved. The second part is a housing survey which will help the Council to provide a Housing Needs Assessment.

This Assessment will be used to plan for new housing in the future and will support the Council's bid to central government for the money needed by Housing Associations. As a reward, the lucky residents who return a completed questionnaire will be entered in a Prize Draw with a first prize of £100.

So far the response has been quite good but reminders have now been sent to residents who have not returned the questionnaire and a second reminder will be sent out soon. If you have received a questionnaire please complete and return it.

Grounds Maintenance

The contract for the maintenance of District Council owned land comes to an end next year. The level of maintenance, which includes grass cutting, is being reviewed. The following areas in Bentham are included in the contract: Low Bentham Car Park; Hill Side; High Bentham Car Park; Lakeber Avenue; Goodenber Road; Goodenber Crescent; Grasmere Close; Grasmere Drive. If you have any comments on the maintenance of these areas please pass them on to one of your District Councillors as soon as possible.

Recent Planning Applications

08/2000/628 Mr A Dixon, Crown Castle Communications Ltd, Millennium House, Bird Hall Lane, Cheadle Heath, Stockport, SK3 0RD. Extension of existing mast by 5m

in height; installation of 3 antennae, 2 dishes and 1 cabin; and extension of compound by 2.7m x 6m at Linghaw, High Bentham, Lancaster.

08/2000/640 Mrs Viki Pain, Peaks View, Low Bentham, Lancaster, LA2 7EX. Erection of timber stable block.

08/2000/660 Ian Godfrey Developments, "Harper's House", Harper's Lane, Fence, Burnley, BB12 9PF. Remove lower branches overhanging houses and reshape 1 No. beech and 1 No. sycamore on land at Robin Lane/Butts Lane, High Bentham.

08/2000/662 Mr & Mrs J W Lund, Mill Dam Farm, Mewith Lane, Bentham, LA2 7AX. Re-use of former agricultural building to form workspace with ancillary living accommodation.

08/2000/673 Synthesis Professional Tree Care, Brackenber House, Cold Cotes, Clapham, LA2 8HZ. 20% to 25% thinning and pruning of birch, oak, beech, rowan, lime & ash trees in woodland area around Goodenbergh Caravan Park, as part of woodland management scheme.

08/2000/679 Mr & Mrs P Biggin, 4 Harley Close, Low Bentham, Lancaster, LA2 7HD. Extension of existing garden.

08/2000/690 Mr & Mrs F Wellgate, 1 Summer Hill, Slaidburn Road, High Bentham, Lancaster, LA2 7LT. First floor extension over access, new utility room, internal alterations and rebuilding of existing store.



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-1.00 pm or Tel: 01756 - 797181.

CHURCHES TOGETHER

By Judith Johnson

Church Lounge Tent

Churches Together would like to thank everyone who took part in or visited our Churches Lounge Tent at Bentham Show on Saturday September 2nd. The weather was good and the company even better—we hope to see you all again next year.

Celebrate 2000

It is just a year since our local churches celebrated the millennium. The experience was so successful and rewarding that we agreed to continue with a more limited programme annually. This year there is a variety of activities to interest everyone. On Thursday 12th October, All Saints Church, Burton-in-Lonsdale will hold a Moody and Sankey evening. Those who wish may attend in Victorian costume.

On Friday 13th October Dr. David Shotter will present a lecture entitled

'Roman's - British Religion in North West England' at Westhouse Methodist School Room at 7.30 p.m.

North Stars Steel Orchestra

One major event for the musically minded is a concert to be given by The North Stars Steel Orchestra at 7.30 p.m. on Saturday 14th October at St. James' Church, Clapham. This band, with its roots in Trinidad and now based in Huddersfield, has a national reputation for excellence. It has performed at such varied venues as The Royal Festival Hall, The Royal Northern College of Music and Elland Road Football Ground!

They will play an imaginative and varied programme ranging from Bach and Handel, through Puccini to traditional West Indian Music. Full details can be gleaned from posters in your local church or shops. The price is £5.00 for adults and £2.50 for schoolchildren.

The weekend reaches a climax with an ecumenical celebration on Sunday 15th October at 6.30 p.m. in the Ingleborough Community Centre. The speaker will be Michelle Guinness. The Bentham Ecumenical Music Group will provide much of the music.

We hope lots of people will support these events. If you came last year you will realise it was a worthwhile experience so bring a friend!

Young People's Activities

Now that the children have returned to school, activities for young people have restarted on Monday evenings in the Methodist Hall. At 6.15pm until 7.30 pm "Springboard" takes place for the 7-10 years age group while "Breakout" runs from 7.30pm until 8.30pm for those 10 years and older. Come along and enjoy all the activities planned for you.

"Alpha"

Also in the Methodist Hall our third "Alpha" course will commence on 27th September at 7.30pm.

The course is entitled "The Meaning of Life" and we would like to welcome everyone from any or no denomination to come and join in the evenings of discussion, food and fellowship.

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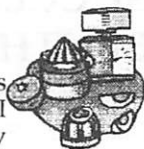
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RECIPES

By Doreen Park

Here are two more recipes from that Scottish book I mentioned last month. They are tray bakes. The second one won me two prizes at local shows, and the first one two inches on my waist!



Banana & Walnut Tray Bake

- 6 ozs self raising flour
- pinch of salt
- ¼ teaspoon cinnamon
- 3 ozs margarine
- 3 ozs walnuts
- 4 ozs demerara sugar
- 2 eggs
- 2 ripe bananas
- 2 teaspoons lemon juice

Sieve the flour into a bowl and add the salt and cinnamon. Rub in the margarine and add the walnuts and sugar. Mash the bananas and lemon juice in a bowl and add with the two eggs to the dry ingredients.

Put into a greased swiss roll tin and bake at 200c for 25 minutes. When cool, ice with water icing.

Cherry Flapjack

- 100gms (4 ozs) margarine
- 100gms (4ozs) demerara sugar
- 1 level tablespoon golden syrup
- 175 gms (7 ozs) rolled oats
- 100gms (4ozs) cherries chopped

Melt the margarine in a pan, with the sugar and syrup. Stir in the oats and chopped

cherries, mix well and turn into a 7" square tin. Place in a pre-heated oven, 160C/325F for 35 minutes until golden brown. Remove from the oven and leave to cool for 10 minutes. Mark into 12 squares, finish cooling in the tin, then lift out and store in an airtight container.

Handy household hint

Stick a fancy self adhesive hook on the wall near the sink. It is a safe place to keep rings while you wash up. If you have a useful household hint, please let BN have it for publication.

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PLAYGROUP NEEDS SUPPORT

By Stephanie Proctor

Playgroup has had a turbulent year with child attendance being unpredictable and it is proving to be a constant battle to keep the playgroup running for future children in the area. We rely on the hard work from the committee and staff, and the generosity and support of the community whom we would like to thank for their continued support over the last year.

However, we are sad to report that this year we will not be holding our annual Christmas Extravaganza due to the flagging support of this event. We would like to thank everyone who has supported this fundraiser throughout the years.

Instead, our main fund-raising event will be held on Saturday 7th October at the Golf Club. There will be live music from local band, "The Back of Beyond", a disco and raffle. So a good night should be had by all! If you are interested in coming along please contact Steph on 62304. All proceeds will go to Bentham Playgroup.

SUCCESSFUL BENTHAM SHOW

By Judith Johnson

This year's Show on September 2nd was as successful as ever. Despite wind and rain on Thursday and Friday, Saturday saw a steady improvement as the day progressed.

This was the 130th show - yes 130th, - what a fantastic record! Entry numbers were substantially increased and many regulars and also new friends came to see the excellent exhibits.

Bentham Show is envied amongst other local shows as having a good balance between farming and stock judging, entertainment value and a healthy participation in handicraft and horticultural competitions. In fact there was something to interest everyone. We have a Show of which we should be justifiably proud.

Our ever-diligent Secretary, Val Lawson, can be contacted in early December (telephone 61606) for handicraft schedules. Plans are already in progress for next year's Show so we look forward to seeing you in 2001.



PAINTER & DECORATOR

PHONE BENTHAM

015242 - 62389

MOBILE 07967 - 784256

Dear Bentham News,
My name is Stephen
and I am currently
studying at
Liverpool Hope
University College,
training to be a
primary school
teacher.



About nine months ago my university charity, "Hope one World", advertised for students to go to Africa or India to teach in a school for three weeks. This caught my interest and I suddenly had visions of teaching in mud huts somewhere in the world. I had to go. It was on 24th June this year that the vision came to pass as four students, including me, and five lecturers, all from Liverpool Hope University, set off for Mussoorie in Northern India.

The school we arrived at a couple of days later, was a school for Tibetan children who were residing in India, but primarily for refugee children who had fled and are fleeing from Tibet, due to persecution they are under from the Chinese. The school contained well over a thousand children and this number is ever increasing, as children escape continually over the mighty Himalayas from Tibet.

We were there for about three weeks and had a really amazing time. The lecturers with us guided the Tibetan teachers on how to get the most out of teaching. We, as students, taught a number of subjects to the children. The whole experience was a real eye opener for us and very humbling, as these children who had gone through so much, taught us more than we could have taught them.

I returned from India on 7th August, after spending some time travelling with my sister. In writing this short article, I want to bring people's attention to the suffering which is happening in Tibet. It is horrific. The Tibetans can no longer be reliant on other world governments to help them, because of China's world economic power today.

Stephen Jakubowski

Dear Bentham News,

May I congratulate the committee and young folk who raised the amazing sum of £2,200 with their event at the Town Hall recently, for the MacMillan Unit, Lancaster.

As a cancer sufferer myself, who attends the unit on a regular basis, I have first hand knowledge how much this is appreciated by both patients and staff. Thanks again.

Jean West (Mayor).

Dear Bentham News,

I have been horrified to discover recently that my pony has been subjected to a barrage of abuse from our local children throughout the summer holidays.

Throwing stones at him and stubbing out cigarettes on his nose have been two of the reports I have received. Because the pony is kept quite a distance away such incidents must have required considerable planning and pre-meditation. It has been a very sad time for me as I have been brought up to love and care for our fellow animals.

As I am ultimately responsible for this pony, I have, with a heavy heart, decided to sell him as I feel I cannot guarantee his safety.

Yours sincerely

Mrs. Vycky Barker,
1 Bentham Old Mill Cottages,
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THE MARKET TOWN INITIATIVE

*By Caroline Taukulis (Economic Development
Officer, Craven District Council)*

The Market Town Initiative was launched locally at Bentham Show on Saturday 2nd September. Yorkshire Forward and the Countryside Agency have agreed a contribution of £340,000 and Craven District Council £100,000.

To access the money the next steps are to:

- form a local steering group to move the scheme forward
- to report back to a public meeting on 12th October
- to form a broad partnership involving all sectors of the community
- agree an action plan by March 2001
- deliver projects from April 2001-March 2004.

A public meeting will be held on 12th October. This will be held to form ideas as to who should be represented on the formal partnership to cover community, private, and public sector interests in the town, to look at the geographic area e.g. which settlements look to Bentham as a service centre, and to see who at the local level needs to be involved in the broader partnership to ensure all voices are heard in Bentham.

If you would like to get involved or to find out more please come to the public meeting at 7.00pm, Thursday 12th October at Bentham Town Hall, or contact the Development Trust or a Town Councillor.

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BENTHAM & DISTRICT PET RESCUE



By Val Marshall

During the last month we have had two very successful and enjoyable events. Low Bentham Street Market attracted plenty of buyers at our bric-a-brac stall, and at Bentham Agricultural Show our Tombola table proved very popular with the visitors, who went off with a variety of prizes. Many thanks to all of you who supported us on those days.

However, for us the high-light of Bentham Show was in the Dog Classes, in which our Border Terrier "Tilly" and Karen Allsopp's lovely cross-bred Collie took the first two places in the "Best Rescue" class. Both these dogs came from the sanctuary we use in the Lyth Valley.

At present, we still have some tiny 7 weeks old kittens waiting for homes. There are also two silver tabbies, now 5 months old, and these boys are desperately needing a home. Ideally, they should have fields to wander in and would be happy living in a barn or outhouse earning their keep, but with food and warmth when they needed it. Can anyone help them please?

The results of this year's rhyming Whiz-Quiz will appear in the next Bentham News. Our next event is a sponsored Dog Walk of 4 miles starting at Leck Village Hall on Saturday morning, 7th October. There is still time for you to collect a Sponsor form and earn money for us that day. Please contact me on Bentham 62512.

LOW BENTHAM STREET MARKET

by Lin Barrington

The weather was good to us for this year's Street Market held on August Bank Holiday Monday, though some of us on the Victoria Institute committee kept waking up all through the night before, listening to the rain and dreading the prospect of sorting out our first indoor street market!

In the event, we had over 20 stalls, and the Institute raised £622.86, our best figure yet. We served teas in the Institute building, and had a barbecue, tombola and Russian Raffle (the winners were J.Capstick, Sam Ashton, Wac, M.Hewitt, H.Tomlinson and Mr or Ms Pritchard). The proceeds will go towards the upkeep of the Institute.

Our thanks go to everyone who helped on the day, booked a stall, donated tombola and raffle prizes and baked cakes.



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Practice Administrator

Rachel, our current Practice Administrator, is moving to Penrith and we're going to miss her! She has very efficiently, handled a varied work load, including Reception, Secretarial and Administrative functions, requiring computer skills for our Client Database and in many cases, their Insurance requirements. Do you have the necessary skills to take over from Rachel? If you have, we'd like to hear from you! Please contact Mr. G. W. Langdale, at the address below.

Langdale

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NATIONAL
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Applications are invited for the post of a part-time administrative officer to be based at the Bentham Development Trust office, 26 Main Street, Bentham LA2 7HL.

This is a new post of 16 hours a week (£7 per hour). The successful candidate will be appointed initially for 12 months but with the possibility of a renewal of contract.

Applicants should be computer literate and have some experience of keeping accounts.

They must enjoy working with the public and possess good team working skills.

Experience of voluntary/community groups will be an advantage.

COMMUNITY OFFICE CO-ORDINATOR

Applications are invited for the post of a part-time community office co-ordinator at Bentham Development Trust. The post is for 7½ hours per week (£7 per hour), initially for 6 months. Applicants must be sufficiently computer literate to give initial basic computer training to new users, and also be able to administer the work of the community office.

Further information about both these posts can be obtained from the Trust office, telephone 015242 61030. Applications, in writing, should be sent to the Chairman, Bentham Development Trust, to arrive no later than Monday 16th October, and should indicate clearly which post is being applied for.

Bentham Development Trust (Reg Charity No. 1057429) is an equal opportunities employer.

FRIENDS OF THE SETTLE - CARLISLE LINE

By Pete Shaw

Call for better rail services on the Leeds - Settle - Carlisle line

The Friends of the Settle-Carlisle Line are launching a call for improvements to the quality of rail services on this route. Under the franchising process which governs railway operations, the contract held by the train operating company will expire next year, and so the Friends think the time is now right to press for improvements to be written into the new contract for the future.

In recent years the number of trains running over the line has been reduced; the remaining trains no longer call at some stations; connections at Leeds and Carlisle for long distance travel could be improved; services from Lancaster are still at a very basic level; fares have risen dramatically; overcrowding needs to be tackled differently and bus links to the stations are poor.

The Friends think that all these issues should be addressed as the Shadow Strategic Rail Authority consider who should be awarded the new franchise for this line, and they have made a detailed submission to the SSRA outlining their aspirations. Details of the submission are available from me (01274-590453). They included a request for certain changes in some aspects of the Passenger Service Requirement (PSR), in the new North of England Franchise, including

- 1. Level of service
- 2. Fares
- 3. Services from Lancashire
- 4. Through Leeds-Glasgow Service.

The Friends hope to see the future PSR strengthened to include the above and to take account of the increased passenger demand on the Settle-Carlisle line, and particularly to incorporate the early morning train which was withdrawn just before the current PSR was set.

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LOCAL EVENTS IN OCTOBER

Sun 1st High Bentham Methodist Church Harvest Festival Services. 10.30am-Rev.N.Price. 6.30pm Harvest Supper, table speaker Rev. N. Patterson.

Mon 2nd Town Council meeting in the Town Hall, 7.30pm.

Looking Well, 10.30am-12.30pm Baby Buckets parent and babies group. 7.30-8.30pm Tai Chi Qigong gentle exercise session, and both every Monday.

Indoor Bowls at the Town Hall, 1.00-4.00pm.

Tue 3rd Bentham Child Health Clinic at the Surgery, 2.00-4.00pm.

Bible Society Annual Meeting, 2.15pm, Methodist Schoolroom, combined with Bright Hour and Mothers' Union. Rev. T. Dent.

Looking Well, 12.30-1.30pm Relaxation session. 2.00-3.00pm Women's support group. Both every Tuesday.

Wed 4th Looking Well, 1.00-3.30pm Mucky Buckets, parents and under 3's play session, and every Wednesday.

NSPCC monthly meeting at Lingfield, Robin Lane, 7.30pm.

Thu 5th Looking Well, 2.00-3.00pm, Tai Chi Qigong gentle exercise session, and every Thursday.

Listing for Local Events

Day

Date

Event

Venue

Please complete and return to Bill Kennedy 62492, or hand in at Bentham Sports.

Thu 5th Bentham & District Camera Club meeting at Victoria Institute, Low Bentham, 7.45pm. "An Alaskan Adventure" slides by D. Johnson.

Fri 6th Looking Well, 6.00-9.30pm, Black Library Wargaming Club, over 11's, and every Friday.

Age Concern, Mrs. Daffern "My visit to Bahrain" at the Town Hall.

Lancaster & Skipton Rail User Group Annual General Meeting in the Town Hall, 7.30pm.

Bentham Conservatives Speakers Supper, "Trek China", 7.30pm. Tickets £10 from 61586.

Sat 7th St. Margaret's coffee morning in the Town Hall, 10.00am-12.00noon. 

Bonfire Band, 10.30am-12.30pm at the Youth Club. Drumming with Leo Nolan, and every Saturday. See page 18.

Bentham Footpath Group walk, Barbon-Casterton circular, 6 miles, leader J. Pilkington 61757. Meet at Lairgill 10.30am.

Bentham & District Pet Rescue sponsored dog walk. Details from Val Marshall, 62512.

Mon 9th Looking Well, 12.30-2.00pm Cancer Support Group shared lunch.

Wed 11th Citizens' Advice Bureau at the Surgery, 1.30-3.15pm.

Looking Well, 7.30-9.00pm, Alzheimer's Disease support group social, 7.30-9.00pm.

Coffee morning at "Pevensey", 8 Robin Lane, High Bentham, 10.00-11.30am. Proceeds for St. Margaret's Church toilet fund.

Thu 12th Public meeting at the Town Hall 7.00pm. "Regeneration Award". See front page.

- Thu 12th Wesley Guild party for senior citizens at High Bentham Methodist Schoolroom, 7.00pm.
- A Moody & Sankey evening at All Saints, Burton-in-Lonsdale, 7.30pm.
- Bentham Footpath group walk, Low Bentham-Goodenbergh, 5 miles, leader F. Yates 61375. Meet at Bentham Bridge 1.30pm.
- Low Bentham Ladies Friendly Hour, 2.30pm. Rev. K. Dixon.
- Fri 13th Age Concern, "Autumn Lanterns", in the Town Hall.
- October lecture at Westhouse Methodist Schoolroom, 7.30pm.
- Sat 14th Bowling Club coffee morning at the Town Hall.  9.45-11.30am.
- North Stars Steel Orchestra at St. James Church, Clapham, 7.30pm. See page 6.
- Sun 15th Celebrate 2000 Service at Ingleborough Centre 6.30pm.
- Copy deadline for November Bentham News.
- Mon 16th Looking Well, 3.45-5.30pm, Lantern Making Workshop, and on 17th & 18th.
- Burton-in-Lonsdale & District Horticultural Society meeting in the Village Hall 7.30pm. "Dennis Nelson".
- Tue 17th Bentham Child Health Clinic at the Surgery, 2.00-4.00pm.
- Angus Pensioners' Association, 2.00pm in the Town Hall. Illustrated talk by Dr. Andrew White, "Lune Valley".
- Thu 19th Low Bentham W.I. 7.30pm at Victoria Institute. See page 2.
- Fri 20th Waste paper collection at the Legion Hut, 8.30-11.00am. Proceeds to NSPCC.
- Fri 20th Bentham Footpath Group AGM in the Town Hall, 7.00pm.
- The Countryside Society meeting at Hornby Institute, 7.45pm. Martin Hey-"Badgers".
- Age Concern, Autumn Tints, at the Town Hall.
- Sat 21st Conservative Association coffee morning in the Town Hall, 10.00am-12.00 noon. 
- Looking Well, 2-4pm, lantern making workshop, & all week.
- Wesley Guild with Kendal Salvation Army, 7.30pm at Methodist Schoolroom.
- Murder Mystery Night at the Town Hall. 7.00 for 7.15pm prompt. Tickets available from T. Marshall.
- Sun 22nd Bentham Footpath Group walk, Haverthwaite area, 7-8 miles, leaders A. Staveley/C Ramwell, 61682. Meet at Lairgill 9.30am.
- Wed 25th Citizen's Advice Bureau at the Surgery, 1.30-3.15pm.
- Fri 27th Age Concern at Town Hall.
- Bentham News published.
- Sat 28th Bentham & District Liberal Democrats coffee morning, in the Town Hall, 10.00am-12.00noon.  Books, tombola, home produce, bric-a-brac.
- Bentham Community Bonfire, procession starts from Cleveland Square at 6.30pm. See back page.
- Mon 30th Ewecross Historical Society, 7.30pm at the Town Hall. "An old road, possibly Roman, from Lancaster towards Ingleton" - Dr. Keith Horsfield.
- Tue 31st Churches Together "Festival of Light" at St. Boniface, 6.30pm.

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DEEP FRIED WHITEBAIT SERVED WITH SALAD....YES/NO

MELON PEARLS AND FRESH SEASONAL FRUITS....YES/NO

GARLIC MUSHROOMS SERVED WITH GARLIC BREAD....YES/NO

ROAST TURKEY, CHESTNUT STUFFING AND ALL THE TRIMMINGS....YES/NO

FRESH HORSESHOE GAMMON STEAK WITH PINEAPPLE....YES/NO

ROAST BEEF AND YORKSHIRE PUDDING....YES/NO

VEGETARIAN LASAGNE (V)....YES/NO

RUMP STEAK WITH/WITHOUT SAUCE OF YOUR CHOICE....YES/NO

SALMON EN CROUTE WITH A FRESH HERB SAUCE....YES/NO

CHICKEN BREAST SERVED WITH A MUSHROOM SAUCE....YES/NO

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LANTERN TIME AT LOOKING WELL

By Alison Jones

Our harvest celebrations are well underway with the Millennium Dance at the Town Hall on 30th September, followed by lantern making with the children in the top class at High Bentham School towards the Harvest Lantern Processions which will take place between 18th and 21st October. This year we are going to spread the processions over a few days so we can visit new areas of the town.

Lantern Workshops

If you would like to make a lantern to carry in the procession to the Bonfire, we will be holding workshops after school from 16th October and during half-term. Children must be accompanied by an adult.

Bonfire Band

If you would like to join the band, there will be four drumming workshops starting

on Saturday 7th October, led by Leo Nolan (of Brassa Nova fame). Beginners are welcome. If you would like to play brass and you can get hold of an instrument, come along too.

Sewing Group

There is interest in starting an informal sewing group in the Cottage over the winter. If anyone would like to join, call 62672 or leave your name and preferred time at Looking Well.

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First Place - The Face of War

We collapse to the ground with diseases,
Full of fear and debility.
Heavy backpacks we carry full of memories
From a distant past.
Stumbling to our feet,
We tread the battle field.
The horizon lights up with fire,
Safe as we long to be.
Oblivious of the surroundings,
We tramp on rocky ground.
Shells blast behind us,
The ground shakes beneath.
Our feet sore from blisters,
The pain is oh too much.
Our faces fatigued and scared,
Our minds wounded for life.
by Heather Cowgill 13 years

Second Place: My Mum and Dad

Dad is tall
Mum is small
They both work hard
To feed us all.
Dad is out-numbered
By five to one
Four daughters, a wife
But alas; NO SON!!
Mum is brilliant at
Cooking, ironing ,washing
Gardening too.
But OH how she shouts
If things don't go right
So look out all of you lot
Keep out of sight!!!!
Hannah Dixon 13 years

Third Place- Millennium Rocket

Count down:-
10, 9, 8, 7, 6, 5, 4, 3, 2, 1.
Welcome to the year 2000.
Fireworks – whoosh, bang, crackle
Lighting - up the dark night sky
Red and Green.
Streaking and squealing way up high –
Then falling down silent and gone.
Tick Tock, Tick Tock,
The clock struck midnight,
Welcome to the year 2000
Being shouted everywhere
A millennium bear we have found,
It's amazing, I feel happy, joyful
Lit up and alive inside.
Happy Millennium
Megan Dixon 10 years

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GARDENING PAGE

By Dot Hughes

Bulb and corm planting time is here again. If you buy good quality bulbs from reliable sources you should not be disappointed with the blooms. Try some new varieties, consider the size of your garden and choose those that will enhance this, remembering the scale and proportion rule.

Combine daffodil and tulips with forget-me-nots, alyssum, arabis or aubretia for the best colour impact. Plant blue muscari (grape hyacinth) and *Leucojum snowflake* (which resemble overgrown snowdrops); these are especially good for cutting. Group bulbs, perhaps five or seven together and plant at the required depth. Crocus corms will be planted shallower.

Grow some bulbs in bowls; those for forcing should be of good quality. They can be grown in a wide range of containers with drainage holes in the bottom. Buy "prepared" hyacinth bulbs and specially produced bulb fibre, which must be moistened before planting. Place some broken crocks in the container, half fill with moistened compost and then place the bulbs close together, but not touching. Pack more compost around them. Narcissi and hyacinth should have their noses protruding but other types are just covered. After planting it is very important to set the container in a cool place to allow the roots to develop. After about eight or nine weeks when there should be about an inch of white shoot, it is time to move them to a cool, light place. Water as necessary.



By Barbara Harrison

Harvest Festival gives us an opportunity to raid the garden for surplus fruit and vegetables - firstly to decorate the church and secondly to raise funds for the church. Our apples are plentiful, but not yet ripe. We are eating plums, waiting impatiently for the damsons to ripen and, in the greenhouse, our grapevine has once more produced a bumper crop. However, having a grapevine in the greenhouse does restrict the light and as a result the tomatoes have been slow to ripen. But, as the greenhouse is also home to sweet corn, aubergines, peppers and a melon - not to mention the *cobaea scandens* and the winter flowering white jasmine, perhaps it is wrong to solely blame the grapevine!

Outside, we are beginning to see the first of the autumn flowering crocuses (called Naked Ladies because they flower without leaves) - a splendid purple head on a tall white stem. Garden centres are full of spring-flowering bulbs but, whilst the plants in the tubs and pots around the house are still flowering profusely, it seems unnecessary to uproot them too early.

The pond has undergone a major clearance this month. The pond weed had multiplied beyond belief and it was difficult to see the fish. Now they are swimming freely - but let's hope that the heron does not spot them! The cascade that feeds the pond has been cleared of self-seeded *alchemilla mollis* and *geranium endressii* - both thugs in our garden. Now we can plant the plants we really want to see there.

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FUN FOR GOOD CAUSES

By Heather Guy

On Sunday 8th October between 12.30 and 3.30pm Karen Hayton, Sally Horne and myself are holding an Aerobathon at Ingleton Community Centre. We are hoping to raise money for Ingleton Swimming Pool and the Surgery Extra Care Fund.

The Aerobathon will be three hours of aerobic type exercise suitable for all abilities so don't be put off if you haven't exercised for a while. As long as you are medically fit you'll be okay. Our aim is for you to have fun and make money. Registration is £10 or through sponsorship. For more information phone me, Heather Guy, on 63196.

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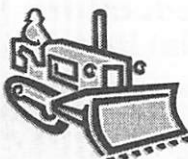
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BENTHAM PEOPLE



Personal Thanks

Gillian and Ray would like to thank all those who sent cards, letters of sympathy and donations to St. John's Hospice in memory of their mother, Marjorie Easterby. It is comforting to know that she was held in such high regard by so many people.

Thanks

Elizabeth Field neé Jones and family of Northampton, wish to thank all their friends in Bentham and District for the cards and expressions of sympathy on the death of her husband Patrick.

Kerry Armstrong wishes to thank all who sponsored and her friends and family who came to support her on her recent parachute jump for charity.

Bentham MacMillan Appeal raised £2,200 at their recent fund-raising event. They would like to thank the Black Bull for all their help, and also all the local businesses for their continued support. Special thanks to Nicky Louth for making the night so special. A good night was had by all.

The management committee wishes to thank everybody who supported and helped to make the Bentham Show a success. The Exemption Dog Show raised £104.80 for the HAPPA Charity.

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THE HOUSING WE NEED AND WANT IN OLD AGE

By Vincent Miller

As more and more people approach retirement age, the question of what housing is appropriate and preferred by older people has become an important issue facing our communities and the nation as a whole. Lancaster University and Counsel and Care have recently begun a three-year research project that is studying housing decisions in old age. What pressure do older people face in terms of where to live? What factors affect their decision to stay in their current homes or to move to other accommodation? How happy are people with the choices they have made? This research aims to provide information to policy makers and housing providers about the housing preferences of older people, which has frequently been missing in past research.

The researchers are keen to involve people over sixty years of age from a variety of backgrounds and housing situations in the Lune Valley area, and this research provides an opportunity for older people to alert those who make policy and build houses to their requirements. So, if you are interested in participating in this research and would like to share your experiences and views related to housing, please contact either Mary Leamy or Vincent Miller at:-

Housing Decisions in Old Age Project
Applied Social Science, Lancaster University
Lancaster LA1 4YL, Phone: (01524) 594104 or
Phone: (016977) 41726.

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WELL DONE LOW BENTHAM - HORTICULTURAL SHOW A BLOOMING SUCCESS!

By Judith Johnson

Last year the organisers of Low Bentham Horticulture Show were afraid that this year's show would be the last. Entries had been going down for several years and so a special appeal was mounted to persuade Low Bentham folk to compete in their show and save it. And it worked! This year entries increased by 30% and the ladies of Low Bentham in particular provided 70 entries in the Domestic Section which last year was nearly a non-event.

The Vegetable Section had its usual high standard especially from Arthur Jennings and some superb onions from Brian Murray.

Beautiful gladioli entered by David Woodhouse took prizes in the Flower Section and also Best in Show while a prolific streptocarpus from Judith Johnson took first prize in the potted plants.

The new Floral Art Section was won by Christine Jennings with "Flowerless Beauty" Competitions for Hanging Baskets, Patio Pots and Window Boxes judged by Ann Stewart from the Toll Bar Nurseries were won by Margaret Wheildon and Christine Jennings.

Children were well represented especially by Jake Telford's collage which was awarded a plaque for the best in the Children's Section.

Sylvia Brennand was judged the Master Baker for the Domestic Section and Linda Cressey provided a perfect Victoria Sponge.

The Show Committee was delighted by the response to its appeal and also the many folk who came to look round on the day. We hope to see you all next year.



BENTHAM FOOTPATH GROUP

By Tony Burnett

Walk on an old railway line? Get enthusiastic about photographing a redundant railway viaduct? Sit by a tombstone for your lunch? Great! It all happened on the Smardale walk on Sunday 3rd September and the dozen or so Bentham Footpath Group walkers who made the effort were rewarded by a superb day amidst spectacular scenery. But where's Smardale, you ask? It's a well kept secret by those fortunate enough to have sampled the delights of walking through the impressive gorge with its beautiful wooded nature reserve and high limestone banks. With Scandale Beck sparkling in wall to wall sunshine, it was, and is a photographer's paradise.

Little wonder then that the group spent an idyllic day lingering with cameras clicking, by the age old bridge on the Shap-Kirkby Stephen coach road (now redesignated as part of the Coast to Coast route), and viewing the antiquities of Crosby Garrett church, a gem of probably Norman design standing proud on its hill overlooking the quiet farming village.

But there...I've given the game away. You can't fail to locate this lovely corner of Eden. The group all agreed that it was a day well spent; beautiful surroundings, easy walking, pleasant company. What more could you want on a sunny day?



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LATE NIGHT SHOPPING

Bentham Traders will be holding the traditional Late Night Christmas Carnival on a Wednesday this year. The date is Wednesday 6th December. Please make a note in your diary!

More details will be published next month. Voluntary groups may wish to make a note of the date if they are planning to have a stall on the street.

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CRAVEN WANDERERS JUNIOR FOOTBALL CLUB

By Louise France

Welcome to the beginning of another new season. We must start with a big thank you to our fund raising committee and the many local businesses and individuals who have sponsored us over the last year. Money raised has been spent on various things, some of which are listed below:-

Training balls, goalposts, new shirts, training tops, trophies and engraving for presentation night, team registration with the leagues, players signing on fees, affiliation membership, insurance and various other mundane fees that we have to pay every year. To keep the club running we need to find nearly £2,500 every year, so all your hard efforts are appreciated.

A big thank you to all our players who have represented the club; we are proud of you all, and last, but not least, to our managers and their assistants who give up their time freely, to train our children.

Now a sad note. We are desperately struggling in the under11's to keep them going; if John is unable to get regular help every week he might have to finish this age group. This would leave a big gap in our club for the next few years and I am sure you would agree that this would be a sad situation, not only as a club, but for the boys of that age group. So, please, please if you can spare 2 or 3 hours a week to help him, we would all be very grateful.

The under 8's will not be able to train this year unless someone is willing, to take them on board. Please contact us if you can help. My telephone number is 63083.

Please note that this year the registration fee for each child is £12.50, payable to the team manager at the start of the season. Weekly fees for those playing on match days are as follows:- £2.00 if on from start of game; £1.00 if brought on as a sub. No charge will be made if they do not play. All our team managers hold child protection certificates.



JUNIOR GOLFERS FURTHER SUCSESSES

By Duncan Stephenson

On the Thursday before Captain's Day, the Captain, Mr. Phil Baren, held a new event, the Captain's Junior Competition. This consisted of nine and eighteen hole competitions. The nine hole one was won by Matthew Thistlethwaite with 22 points and the runner-up was Matthew Carter with 17. In the 18 hole competition, Robert Coates was a clear winner with 42 points despite playing the last few holes in near darkness. Lisa Stephenson was runner-up on 39 points. Our thanks to the Captain for his support of the Juniors during his year in office.

On Sunday 10th September, twelve eager Juniors travelled to Stand Golf Club near Manchester to take part in their Junior Open. From the twelve we managed to pick up five prizes. 0-19 handicap division, first place - Mark Earnshaw and second place - Robert Coates. 20-45 division, first place - Ian Robinson and third place - Andrew Earnshaw. Lisa Stephenson was fourth in the girls event, losing a card play off for third. Well done to all for once again putting Benthams on the map.

Thanks to Alan Kellet for organising and driving the minibus and to Esther, Graham, Alan and Audrey for their help on the day.

Oakroyd Junior Golfer of the Year:-

Lisa Stephenson 61, Robert Coates 50, Tom Earnshaw 48, J. Preston 39.

BENTHAM & DISTRICT CAMERA CLUB

The programme for the new season, commencing on 5th October, is now available. Meetings are held at 7.45pm at the Victoria Institute, Low Benthams. Annual subscription is £5 and new members will be very welcome. Contact 62512 for details.



RAIL CHANGES!

By Pauline Hill

The Annual General Meeting of the Lancaster and Skipton Rail User Group will be held this month (see diary dates). Important changes to the rail network will be taking place in the future and we welcome comments from the public on these possible changes. We hope to have a speaker from the operating company; please come and make your views known.

FLU VACCINATIONS

This year there is going to be a National Campaign to encourage all the people listed below to attend for flu vaccination.

Who should have one?

1. Everyone aged 65 years and over.
2. Anyone with the following conditions (regardless of age)

- ◆ chronic lung disease
- ◆ asthma
- ◆ chronic heart disease
- ◆ diabetes
- ◆ chronic renal disease
- ◆ weak immune system
- ◆ people in long-stay residential homes

Starting Monday 9th October, flu vaccinations will be available at:

Bentham Surgery, Monday to Friday from 10.00-11.00am and 2.00-3.00pm. (N.B. No clinics will be available on Thursday 19th October).

Ingleton Surgery, Tuesdays only, 12.00-2.00pm. No appointment needed.



This year's bonfire will be on Saturday 28th October. The evening starts with the familiar lantern procession that starts at 6.30pm. from Cleveland Square car park as usual on previous occasions. It will proceed down

Goodenber Road and up Main Street to the Auction yard. Main Street will be closed to vehicles for approximately 20 minutes. Please come and make a lantern for the procession. There will be workshops at the Looking Well during October. Drummers are also needed for the street band. You can learn how to do this at drumming workshops also in October. Details of both these workshops are in the Looking Well News on page 18.

The bonfire will be built from Thursday 26th onwards. Garden cuttings, wood etc. is ideal but PLEASE DO NOT DUMP tyres, mattresses, builder's waste or plastic.

There will be a hog roast and other stalls and activities in the Auction yard while we are entertained by Brassa Nova, the bonfire and of course the wonderful finale of pyrotechnical display by David Clough and his assistants.

Any voluntary group which would like to raise a little money for their funds is welcome to have a stall in the yard during the evening. Please see Pam Woof at Bentham Sports or Alison Clough at the Looking Well to arrange this so that we do not duplicate goods on sale.

Enjoy the warmth of the huge bonfire and munch on a succulent hog roast bap at our millennium community bonfire.

BENTHAM NEWS is published at "Latharna", High Bentham, by an editorial committee consisting of Shirley Brown, Diane Chant, Judith Johnson, Dorothy Pidgeon, Ken Robertson, Jean West, Pam Woof, and our co-ordinator, Bill Kennedy, who can be contacted on 62492. Every effort is made to ensure that information contained in the paper is correct. However Bentham News is an open access paper and views and opinions expressed are not necessarily those of the editorial committee. The committee reserves the right to edit contributions. Please note that we are willing to withhold names on request, but names, addresses and telephone numbers must accompany all items for publication. The Bentham News is printed By Pica Design & Print, Low Bentham.