

# Village View

The newsletter for residents of Green Hammerton



Dec 2016/Jan 2017

## New era for pub

*by the editor*

**The Bay Horse has new licensees. They are Jon and Tina Clarke who have moved to the village from Menston near Otley. They pulled their first pints at the pub on 4 November and are now gearing up for a busy Christmas.**

"As soon as I drove around the corner to see the pub for the first time I was taken with it and on the phone to the brewery straight away to find out more," Jon, pictured, told Village View. "Being in such a large and vibrant village the potential of the pub is plain to see. I'm really excited about the prospect of running the Bay Horse even though it's my sixth pub. My wife, Tina, and I are very much in it for the long-term, hopefully until retirement. Thanks to everyone for their warm and friendly welcome."

He added: "We aim to put the Bay Horse right at the heart of the village. Our plan is for a pub for locals that serves food rather than a restaurant. We're also keen to support local suppliers wherever possible. We'll be buying our meat from the farm shops and have already had the kind offer of apples for apple



pie from the Hagues and John Lambert in the village!"

Jon, originally a welder, and Tina entered the pub trade in 1989 when, at just 23 years old, they became the youngest managers for Tetley's brewery. Jon is a keen chef and loves to prepare homemade, quality pub grub. He also enjoys darts, dominoes, poker and football although he's not allowed to play anymore after too many broken bones! Tina is a qualified hotel manager and,

after re-training 12 years ago, now works full-time at St Aidan's School in Harrogate teaching Maths in KS3 and alternative curriculum courses in years 10 and 11. Taking the lead on the hotel side of the business and paperwork, Tina also enjoys gardening and creating hanging baskets and garden displays.

*turn to p2*

**Village shop also set for upgrade – see inside**

*continued from front page*

The couple have two sons. Ryan, 20, is in his final year reading Geography at Liverpool Hope University. A keen guitarist, he enjoys 'open mic' nights and will help out at the pub during vacations. Callum, 16, is currently completing a British Gymnastics apprenticeship in Leisure Management and coaching at Harrogate Gymnastics. He works part-time in the pub and also enjoys cooking and baking in between competing nationally in tumbling and team gym competitions. Callum was ranked 10<sup>th</sup> in his age group last year at national qualifiers but unfortunately broke his ankle at the British qualifiers in April. After a few months without training he is now back to full fitness.

The family has a seven-year-old German Shepherd called Casper. They adopted him as a rescue dog six months ago after losing their dog to cancer suddenly. "He can be quite nervous of other dogs so please respect his yellow 'nervous' lead if you see us out and about," said Tina.

Jon and Tina are currently serving food and drinks daily and will be open over the holiday period including Christmas Day when drinks will be available for 11am to 2pm and a four-course lunch at 3pm. They offer a 10% discount on B&B rates for friends and families of the village. They will relaunch the pub website soon. In the meantime for more information contact them via bayhorsegreenhammerton@btinternet.com or on 330338.

## Shop and PO refurb in New Year

*by Christopher Hay of the village shop*

Long overdue refurbishment of the shop and post office gets underway in the New Year. Plans include:

- New open plan, welcoming counter to the left as you enter the shop.
- Fridges to be moved to where the post office counter is currently positioned.
- All shelving to be upgraded with Yorkshire-made artisan crates, creating a rustic, country style.

The new configuration will boost display space by about 30%.

As much of the work relates to the post office side of the business we will need to close from Wed 4 Jan to Fri 20 Jan inclusive. We are making arrangements to continue with newspaper deliveries but regrettably all other services will cease for this period. There is no further update on the status of the sorting office and until the future is clearer all plans for the café will have to remain on hold.

We currently have an urgent requirement for assistance with newspaper delivery on Thursday and Friday mornings. The role would suit anyone with a free hour and energy in the early morning such as

teenagers, stay at home parents or community elders. If you are interested please contact me on 331062. Some customers are less able and value a newspaper being delivered to their homes. Without delivery support this service will be under threat.

We have introduced mixed cases of six red wines for Christmas, all from our bestselling range personally selected by Ingrid and I. Simply delicious, they come with tasting notes and at a special price. The French Collection includes our bestselling Malbec from Xavier Roger, his stunning Alicante bouschet, a cracking 2010 claret and a cabernet Franc. Our Malbec Mayhem covers both European and South American wines while our Christmas selection (also available as a box of 12) offers our take on the old red, white and fizz.

We have seen many new faces in the shop during the temporary closure of the Co-op at Skipbridge (see back page). We hope that our new customers have enjoyed the shop and its friendly service and will continue to support us.

## Village gives £500+ in poppy collection

*by Rob Hughes*

Poppy day collections around the village generated a total sum of £546. A big thank you to Pat Hague and Gill Blacker as well as to the Bay Horse, shop, school, surgery and Village Club and everyone that donated at village events in November. A further £375 was raised at the Remembrance Day concert (see p4).



It was a really great effort all round and brings the total raised over the last 10 years since I took over as poppy co-ordinator to £5,000. As a retired major from the Royal Engineers with service in Bosnia, the Falklands and Germany I have seen first-hand how the money helps.

If you are interested in finding out about a military covenant or volunteering for the house to house collection next year please get in touch via roberthughes30@hotmail.com.

## IN THIS NEWIEST EVER ISSUE:

**Collavoce on song – p 4**

**Gold ring found near village – p4**

**Christmas shows – pp5&6**

**Scanner appeal update – p7**



## Strip tease at village hall

*Review and pic by Jack Tinker II*

Last Tango in Green Hammerton was performed by the GHRC Players to two full houses at the village hall over Remembrance weekend. The one-act comedy concerned a struggling village amateur dramatic society's attempts to boost audience numbers by promoting a new, racy play. Flyers around the both the village in the script and Green Hammerton stated: "Adults only. This play contains scenes of nudity which may shock or offend." Reality was further blurred with fiction as Dougie Mack, the Kirk & Green Hammerton WI, the Ainsty Farm Shop, Flora the cat (see back page), Sue Holden and even Liz Powley's legendary ginger biscuits all found their way into the plot.

David MacDonald, playing Gordon, the outgoing chair of the am dram society, makes all sorts of promises that he doesn't intend to fulfill. His louche ambitions are aided – or should that be abetted? - by the other three other committee members. Bernie (played by Loretta Smith), the cynical set builder, rolls her eyes in disbelief as the ploy of Gordon's plot becomes evident

but can see the sense in the "sex" strategy. Striking a balance between prim and brazen Margaret (Helen Walsh) considers stripping off as rehearsals progress and the premiere nears. Meanwhile, musicals nut Joyce (Claire Jeffrey), takes it all lying down in the bath while getting carried away singing Don't Cry for Me, Argentina (as pictured), one of the highlights of a rumbustious evening both on and off the stage. Fittingly and in reality Claire won a raffle prize of Liz Powley's ginger biscuits on the second night.

Helen said after the show: "People around the village asked me how it was going and I said that the easiest part was taking my clothes off and the hardest was learning the lines!" So what exactly did happen? Ah, well. You had to be there!

The play was directed by Chris Turner with support from Badapple Theatre and Sue Holden and costumes by Rita Horner. It was followed by an excellent supper provided by Malcolm Horner, Sally Morrill, Sally Walker, Jane Bannan, Lindsay Councell, Rachael Holloway, Chris Turner, Sue Holden, Liz Powley and Carole Rutter. The meat and potatoes were supplied by the Ainsty Farm Shop.

What a fantastic night out. It was obvious from the performance that the cast were very dedicated and committed to the production and they provided tremendous entertainment.

- David and Helen were the hardest working people in Green Hammerton showbusiness that weekend since, as well as acting on Friday and Saturday nights, they sang with Collavoce on the Sunday afternoon. See below.

*Chris Turner adds:* We took a chance by putting on this play on two consecutive nights and much to our relief it was a complete sell-out with people left on the waiting list! It's very gratifying for the little group of people that dared to put their heads above the parapet to entertain everyone to know that their efforts have not been in vain. We made a total of £1,237, donating £650 to the scanner appeal (see p7) and the balance to the Green Hammerton Recreational Charity. We shall step back into the limelight for another one act play at the same time next year with an audition in early September. More details to follow in Village View nearer the time.

## Remembrance event strikes a chord

*Ivan Andrew reviews 'An afternoon to remember' featuring The Armed Man mass for peace, poetry and readings performed by the Collavoce choir and Eurythmia ensemble on Remembrance Sunday at St Thomas' Church.*

Margaret and I decided to attend this concert because we do believe in attending village events. We did not even fully realise that we would be entertained by two combined choirs which share the same choral director, Catherine Field-Leather.

Our expectations were increased when we realised that some Collavoce singers had recently joined from the disbanded Kirk Hammerton Singers which we knew well. In contrast the other choir was completely new to us. Neither Margaret nor I would claim that this kind of music is our favourite nor that we could really understand all the intricacies of the music and singing. But what matters is did we enjoy it and did it fulfil its aims?

We would have to give a resounding yes to both questions. The quality of the singing certainly exceeded our expectations. The musical entertainment was supplemented by readings which added tremendously to the occasion. We realised they had been specially chosen but they had to be read well and they were.

All in all, it was interesting, thought provoking and enjoyable afternoon; a tremendous act of remembrance. We almost even forgot about the hardness of the pews after 20 minutes! We shall certainly keep an eye out for future performances.

## Medieval ring unearthed near village

*from Mail Online*

An amateur treasure hunter discovered a precious Tudor ring near Green Hammerton and has sold the "extra-ordinarily rare" piece of jewellery for a five-figure sum. Lee Rossiter found the ring using a cheap metal detector he had bought on eBay. The 15th century ring is 80% gold and contains a ruby and an emerald.



Mr Rossiter discovered the ring while searching with the Yorkshire Searchers Metal Detecting Club in April 2015. He said: "I got really excited. So far I had only found the odd silver coin but this looked like a proper piece of jewellery, which seemed to be made of gold."

"One of my friends said it was far too yellow to be real gold and looked like costume jewellery, I should just throw it away. But the ring was relatively heavy and I thought I'd better ask our dig organiser, Stuart Littlewood. Luckily he confirmed that this was definitely an antique ring, most likely Tudor Gold."

The ring, which is a double-bezel chased finger ring in the form of a flower is set with a ruby and an emerald and is engraved in medieval French. Scans at the British Museum showed the ring was 78-80 per cent gold and confirmed the nature of the precious stones. The jewellery worn in Medieval Europe reflected a hierarchical and status-conscious society. Royalty and the nobility wore gold, silver and precious gems.

The ring was classified as treasure but local museums were not able to raise the funds. Cheshire-based auctioneer Mark Littler advised him to sell directly to a collector rather than go through an auction.



Mr Littler said: "I was excited when Lee first approached me as medieval jewellery is more often found in museums, not fields. I knew immediately that this was an important find and would require some thought as to how best to sell it. It was decided that

an auction might not be the best course of action as the ring would be worth more to a private collector if it had not already been presented to the market.” He said he brokered a sale with dealers Wartski, in Mayfair, who have been supplying the royal family with jewellery for generations. “I contacted them and negotiated a private treaty sale for a five-figure sum for my client which was a great result,” Mr Littler said.

Kieran McCarthy, director of Wartski, said: “We have a strong interest in medieval rings and were thrilled to have the opportunity of purchasing this one. Jewels of this calibre are extraordinarily rare and it is magical when the ground presents them as gifts to those who look for them.”

## Parish council bulletin

*by Ivan Andrew of Green Hammerton Parish Council*

The parish council has arranged a special meeting in the village hall on Tues 6 Dec at 7.30pm to discuss the proposed Harrogate local plan. The roadshow will have called at Green Hammerton the previous week. Your views, and those of other parishes, will be very welcome. These plans will determine the way the village develops over the next 15 years or so.

Plans to develop the Linden Homes/Yardley site are about to go to Harrogate District Council. The parish council is against this development in its present form and believes the project needs re-evaluating. The matter is now in the hands of the District planning committee. Over the next few months work will take place in Meadow Vale. Two houses will be built where the garages are now and the road in front of numbers one to 14 will be improved.

Many of you will be aware that The Green, a valuable open space, was owned by Mr Leather and Mr Hetherton. Angela Taylor now owns Mr Leather's share and she has proposed giving it to the parish council. We are in the process of finding out exactly what is involved and how best to move this exciting venture forward.

Alistair Taylor and a number of volunteers have responsibility for maintaining Helenfield. This year they will continue the winter management tasks on Sun 11 and Wed 14 Dec. Work starts at 10am and finishes about 3 pm but volunteers do not need to be present all the time. Even an hour is very beneficial to the project. Stout boots and working gloves are needed plus long-handled pruners or loppers if you have any. Alistair or Angela can be contacted at Croft Cottage on Boroughbridge Road or via 330330 and [alistairgreenhammerton@gmail.com](mailto:alistairgreenhammerton@gmail.com).

There have been a number of excellent events in the village during recent weeks with more still to come. Last Tango in Green Hammerton was a first class evening's entertainment (see p3). A contrasting mood prevailed on Sunday when The Armed Man was

performed in church by the Collavoce and Eurythmia choirs (see p4). The parish council is also aware that the Village Club and the Bay Horse run many interesting events and we wish them all well as we approach the very busy Christmas period.

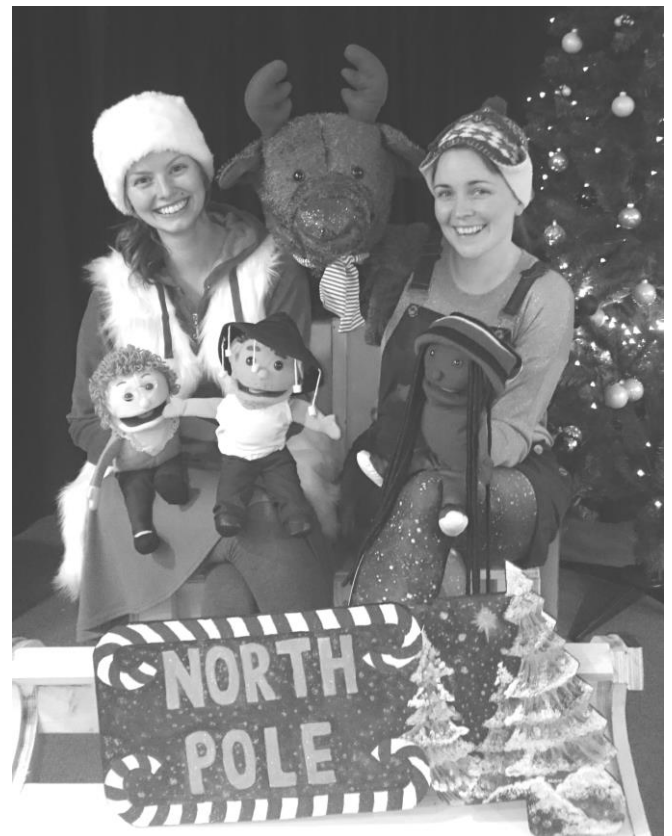
We welcome Claire Greenwood from Harrogate Road onto the council. Claire was born and brought up in the village and has much to offer now that she and her family have returned to live here. See the next edition of Village View for a profile.

Defibrillator training will take place in the village hall on Sun 4 Dec from 3 to 5pm. Participation is free and it is hoped as many as possible will attend.

The council has requested to keep the phone box at its present site although not for the purpose of making phone calls. We will consider the best alternative use of the box in due course. Dog mess is a continuing to be a problem both in Helenfield and on pavements. Can we do something about this please?

## Show with snow guarantee

*by Annabelle Polito of Badapple Theatre*



We present our brand new Christmas production, The Elves and the Carpenter, on Fri 23 Dec at 7.30pm in Green Hammerton village hall. Kate Bramley's latest family show is a magical mix of theatre, songs, clowning, puppetry, music and animation following the adventures of Mrs Claus who finds mischievous missing Elves hiding among the upcycling at Mrs Carpenter's shop. Their attempt to help complete her

special Christmas order has not worked as they had hoped. Will Mrs. Claus be able to restore order and get them back to the pole on time? Tickets cost £9.50 for adults and £5 for under 16s or £25 for a family (2+2). Some of the proceeds will go to Friends of Green Hammerton School.

Enjoy a night 'Snowed in with Jez Lowe' and his multi-talented Bad Pennies at Green Hammerton village hall on Sun 18 Dec at 7.30pm. As ever, Jez will provide an original take on Christmas in the north. The show is part folk concert and part music hall revue with songs and humour done the way only the Bad Pennies know how. Also featuring special guest Benny Graham. Tickets cost £9.50 for adults and £5 for under 16s. They are available via 339168 or badappletheatre.com.



Finally, the young actors at Badapple Youth Theatre will stage Cinderella on the evening of Fri 10 Feb 2017 at Whixley village hall. Make a note now as this promises to be an unmissable performance!

## News from the pews

*by David MacDonald of St Thomas' church*

It has been a busy couple of months in the life of the church in this parish and in the benefice as a whole. By now many of you will have heard the news that our vicar, Chris Parkin will retire at the beginning of February next year and that we shall enter what is known as an interregnum until a new priest is appointed. At this stage we have no idea how long the period will be but suffice to say the work of the church will continue albeit on a slightly different footing. Chris's last service in the benefice will be on Sun 29 at 10.30 am followed by a gathering in Green Hammerton village hall where refreshments will be provided. We hope as many of you as possible will be able to join us on this occasion and take the opportunity to say

farewell to Chris and his wife Linda as they embark on this new chapter in their lives.

The number and frequency of services both here and at Whixley will remain largely unchanged and our hard working assistant priest, Joan Roper (who I am delighted to say is making a very successful recovery after her recent operation) will still be with us and providing her usual untiring and valuable support during the interregnum.

A big thank you to everyone who joined us for the Remembrance day services and The Armed Man performance in the afternoon (see p4). It was wonderful to see so many people sharing this special occasion.

You will all have received details of the services in the benefice over Christmas and you can be assured of a very warm welcome at any of our churches if you are able to join us.

## WI round-up

*by Elsie Rymer of Kirk & Green Hammerton WI*

We held a jumble sale in Kirk Hammerton village hall in October, our first for quite a few years so a learning curve for all involved. However, we had a reasonable return for our efforts and from the left-overs we had some jewellery to donate to Heart Research UK's Treasure your Heart Appeal and some bras for North Yorkshire East Federation of WIs' bra bank. The latter not only helps ladies in developing countries but also raises funds for the charity Against Breast Cancer.



Chris Gilston and Pauline Gray, pictured above, gave a very entertaining talk on the history of scarves and accessories followed by a demonstration of tying techniques at our October meeting. We now know how to make a top, hat, shrug, jacket, skirt or dress from large scarves as well as decorative alternatives for the standard neck scarf. The evening ended with one of every woman's favourite occupations, shopping. All profits were ploughed back into local charities making it a win-win evening.

The rose bowl for gaining most points in the monthly competitions has been awarded to Sheila Hornby and the shield for the runner-up to Christine Bonnett. Anonymously donated in memory of Dorothy Lumley for the most helpful member, the new trophy was awarded to Mary Coombes following a members' ballot.

Jo Barrett will demonstrate the art of felting at our next meeting on Tues 13 Dec at 7.30pm in Kirk Hammerton village hall. We will learn about the work of Clarity, an organization supporting the blind and partially sighted, at our first meeting of the New Year in Kirk Hammerton Village Hall on Tues 10 Jan at 7.30pm. For more information contact Ann Johnson via 01904 738541 or anneandwilliam@tiscali.co.uk.

## School soon into Christmas spirit

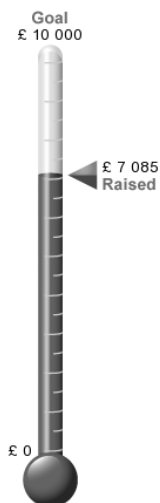
by Annabelle Polito  
of Friends of Green Hammerton School

We invite everyone to join us at our festive Christmas fair on Sun 4 Dec at 2-4pm at the school. This year it takes the form of an outdoor Christmas market complete with stalls (some will be indoors as well as outside), warm doughnuts, cakes, biscuits and tea, coffee and mulled wine. Santa and his elves will be in their grotto awaiting visitors. Don't miss the children's crafts, tombola, lucky dip, lollipop game, tattoos, nail painting, jarbola, fantastic raffle prizes (including vintage champagne and a mini-spa day for two at Aldwark Manor) and much, much more.

Why not also join us in school for carols around the tree Mon 5 Dec at 3.30pm? Enjoy some refreshments and see the grand unveiling of our brand new school stage in the main hall.

## Scanner appeal nears target

by the editor



The Springbank Health Patient Group's scanner appeal is surging towards its £10,000 target.

A bridge afternoon was a great success raising £1,045. Jane Bannan said: "We had an enjoyable two hours of bridge followed by a wonderful tea provided by Chris Turner, Dickie Black, Sue Holden, Pat Hague, Joanne Lightowler, Sally Walker, Toni Forsyth, Felicity Evans, Gail Reilly, Lindsay Cuncell, Margaret Andrew and Liz Powley. There was also a raffle with some wonderful prizes provided by local people and Dougie Mack helped with some tables. A big thank you to all those

who helped and contributed in any way".

Funds were boosted by a donation of £1,000 from Tockwith & District Agricultural Society (TADAS). Society secretary Steve Ross said: "This is not something we would normally do but after having had such a successful Tockwith Show the committee unanimously decided to make a donation."

Jane added: "The last I heard the sum raised for the scanner is £7,085. There is still a way to go yet and we hope to get going again after Christmas. Anyone can make a donation or hold an event at any time".



▪ Pictured above Arnold Warneken, chair of the Springbank Health Patient Group committee, committee member Jane Bannan, and Tockwith surgery nurse Christine Edmond receive a cheque for £1,000 from TADAS treasurer Malcolm Barrett and co-chairman Sam Blacker.

## News in brief

▪ This issue of Village View is kindly sponsored by **piano teacher Anna Phelps** who lives in the village. She is soon to accompany at the Whixley pantomime. Tel: 07919 084662. Also see Anna's profile on LinkedIn: [bit.ly/2gn8SQO](https://bit.ly/2gn8SQO).



▪ The Co-op will help out with the next **coffee morning and book sale** by providing their own teas, coffees and biscuits. Come along to the village hall for some festive cheer, and fantastic raffle prizes on Sat 10 Dec from 10am to noon. Stalls will sell wreaths, handmade decorations, stockings and bunting.

▪ Village fundraisers should note that we have negotiated a super deal with Mick Harrison of Arena Group, writes Chris Turner. Mick will print **flyers or**

**posters** to publicise your event at cost as he does for Village View. Orders need to be placed via me at c.turner2011@btinternet.com and originals supplied as PDFs. Thanks to Mick and Arena for their generosity and to Jane Bannan for coming up with the idea.

## Sits vac at the **ANCHOR INN** **WHIXLEY**

**Chef, full-time.** We require a chef to join our friendly team, preparing fresh, locally sourced food and working four straight shifts from Thursday to Sunday, 40 hours total. Own transport essential. Permanent position. Meals on duty and good rate of pay commensurate with experience.

**Bar person, full-time.** Average 35 hours per week to include nights and weekends over five days. Permanent position. Excellent rate of pay for the right candidates. Training will be provided. Own transport essential.

**Pot washers and waiter/ess also required for Sundays.**

Apply in writing or via email or telephone to victoria@anchorinnwhixley.com/07801 611828,

## Christmas greetings

Many thanks to the following villagers who have donated a sum to Village View in exchange for greeting:

**Brian & Lindsay Cuncell** wish everyone a very Happy Christmas and peaceful New Year.

**Ian & Dickie Black** wish all their friends and neighbours a Merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year.



**Flora Hague\***, above, would like to wish everyone a Happy Christmas and hopes to visit every house in person (or should that be 'in cat'). She has had a wonderful time this year appearing at all the main events and appreciates all your good wishes.

*\*For those not in the know Flora is a rescue cat acquired by John & Pat Hague. While the Hagues were away for 10 days in October she was looked after by the Politos. The moggy's wanderings took her into Stamford House next door, the village hall and sorting room of the post office as well. They also incurred two detentions from Mrs Wallis following unauthorised entry into the school and ejection by David MacDonald from St Thomas' Church!*

And a Merry Christmas from the editor and all correspondents of Village View.



## First and last calls

- The **Co-op** at Skipbridge is due to re-open after refurbishment on Fri 8 Dec.
- The **Hooked & Cooked** fish and chip van will not call on Thu 29 Dec due to staff holidays. The weeks either side are unaffected. Note the slightly revised time for Green Hammerton: 6-6.30pm.
- The last **green waste collection** of winter is scheduled for Tues 6 Dec. The service resumes in March.
- Belated thanks to Daniel of St Anne's for again doing such a fine job of mowing the **York Road verges** last summer. Ed.
- Forward dates for your **social diary** include a quiz night with fish and chip supper on Sat 11 March; meet and eat on Sat 20 May; barbecue on Sat 10 June; and ghost stories on Sat 28 Oct.

Village View is published bi-monthly and distributed free to every household in Green Hammerton. Also available online at **greenhammerton.org.uk/village-newsletter**.

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All news to paulkirkwood@talktalk.net.

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