

Village View

The newsletter for residents of Green Hammerton

Bumper summer 2014 edition

Our tour and there's more ...

Police estimated that over 10,000 spectators lined the route of Le Tour between Skipbridge and Whixley crossroads on July 6, many of them packed into Green Hammerton.

Re-live that unforgettable day with pictures galore on the centrespread and back page. Also inside this colour souvenir cycling special:

- Identify Dougie and friends' flags and win Rudgate beer! (back page)
- Lots more Le Tour reports
- Go on a family bike ride from Green Hammerton (p3)



Sock it to 'em, kids

by Laura Wells-Law of Green Hammerton School

Ivan Andrew visited to talk to the children about what life would be like at school in 1874 to mark its 140th anniversary. He explained how all children had to write with their right hands and how one of the girls in the class would have been paid to come into school early to do the cleaning. Ivan also shared with the children some history about the houses in the village which especially interested those children who live in them.



Another visitor was a lady called Sam who demonstrated puppet making with a Le Tour theme. "She gave us a sock of our own, a helmet and a bike," said Astrid Mawle of year six. "We coloured them

in and stapled together. My favourite part was when we had to pretend our sock had a personality."

Pupils in years five and six have visited a PGL site in Lancashire for three fun-filled days (and two even more fun filled nights!). Activities included raft building, zipwire, high vines, problem solving, and a sensory trail. The children were amazing: excellent behaviour, enthusiastic, brave, fantastic sense of humour and so much fun. Staff felt privileged to spend time with them.

Class four pupils were given £3 each and had to use this to make as much money as they possibly could. The children worked very well in small groups and came up with some wonderful money-making ideas such as washing cars, a movie night, fancy dress picnic, fun run, gingerbread decorating workshop and ice-cream tuck shop. In total they raised the staggering amount of £540. The children decided to donate some to charity and then spend the rest on a school trip to Lightwater Valley.

Big top show marks 140th anniversary

by Rachael Holloway of Friends of Green Hammerton School (FOGHS)

The highlight of a busy summer term of fundraising was a visit from Circus Sensible as part of the school's 140th anniversary celebrations. Pupils enjoyed a demonstration in the big top, followed by a day of workshops. They learnt many new skills including diabolo, juggling and hoola-hooping. Everyone was invited to dress in bright or circus theme clothes with prizes for the best entries. Ms Wallis donned a very fetching curly wig and hat to greet guests to the show. (She is pictured with Miss McCormack, left, and Miss Slammon.) Despite the

poor weather, friends and families enjoyed refreshments on the field, were treated to the (slightly soggy!) children singing some lovely songs and then gathered in the big top for a very entertaining show. All in all a day to remember.



Club improvements bring dividends

by Chris Nottingham of the Village Club

The club temporarily reverted to its name in the 1900s of the The Cycle Hotel for Le Tour. Thanks go to Les Weatherill for organising a fantastic sign. The name change is so popular the committee is now considering making it more long-term or even permanent.

The building received a makeover in June including a fresh coat of paint for the walls in readiness for open gardens (see p3). Dougie Mack, Mark Wilson and Martin Helliwell replaced fencing at the back of the club, Les Weatherill erected three bicycles and Mandy Helliwell and helpers converted the car park garden from a tangled mass of unkempt plants into a lovely flowered border. Our neighbour, Alistair Taylor, kindly helped by preparing much of the border with wild flowers and has offered his experience in garden design to prepare a plan for the area of the car park near the entrance.

As part of open gardens club chairman Paul Evans presented an history of the club and its connection with the Green Hammerton Horticultural Society during the 1840s. His display included maps, photographs and artefacts – and he's always on the lookout for more.

Our gala Le Tour weekend started with a family event run by Friends of Green Hammerton School which included performances by local duo Distracted, soloist Oliver Pinder (in aid of St Martins Hospice) and a bicycle drive. Our mini-beer festival on the Saturday proved popular and the band Broken Empire brought festivities to a close on the Sunday evening. Many visitors from outside the village commented on the welcoming nature of the club and contributed to the £1,000 sum raised for club funds over the weekend.

Bike ride for the summer holidays

by the editor

Inspired by Le Tour? Then take the train from Hammerton to York and cycle back to Green Hammerton via Beningbrough Hall for a novel bike ride and an ideal way to entertain the kids this summer holiday. My son, Bertie, 11, and I did it at Easter and really enjoyed it.

Bikes are carried free and no booking is required. Wait at the far end of the platform and load your bike in the front carriage where there is a space for bikes to be strapped. At York station use the lifts to avoid the stairs.



Turn left out of the station, ahead at the lights and over Lendal Bridge. Continue for 80 yards then turn sharp left down a steep cobbled lane signed to boat trips. Turn right onto Judy Dench Walk and out onto the riverbank. From here simply follow the well signed route 65 of the National Cycle Network initially beside the river, then across Clifton Ings, through Overton, past Shipton and to the entrance to Beningbrough Hall. Most of the route is traffic-free.

Leave the signed route to pass through the grounds and out the other side into Newton-on-Ouse. Bear left at the green to and through Linton-on-Ouse. Eventually, at a t-junction, turn left to cross Aldwark Bridge. At the next junction turn left to Little Ouseburn. Don't turn into the village, though, but keep ahead to Thorpe Underwood and then home. For a map see www.bit.ly/VSo7mu.

The total distance is 21½ miles and it took us two and a half hours excluding stops. Talking of which the route has some great snack spots. Top of the list is the café at Beningbrough Hall. If you're a cyclist you are allowed into the property as long as you go to the café only where you get a free hot drink if you buy a snack. There are also cafés within the Home Farm shop practically next door and at Linton Lock (pictured) which also serves fish and chips. As you probably know, Newton-on-Ouse has two pubs and The Sidings in Skelton also serves teas. Every excuse, then, to get on yer bike this summer!

Anyone fancy a curry?

by Chris Turner and Chris Nottingham of the Green Hammerton Recreational Charity (GHRC)

We are extremely grateful to those who supported Open Gardens whether by manning a gate for an hour, baking or spending hours preparing gardens. Proceeds were shared with the church which, likewise, has shared its takings from the 'evening in the sun' event (see next story) with us. The GHRC and church have each benefited to the tune of £1,123. The pics below by Steve Ross show the gardens of Rosedale Manor and 20 New Lane.



A curry evening is planned for Sat 4 Oct. Join us for a gastronomic tour of Asia, sampling a variety of curries from mild to spicy. There will be something to suit every palate, including usual accompaniments, puddings and a bar. A snip at £15 per head! As we didn't raise as much as usual from Open Gardens we really do need your support on this one.

We are also delighted to announce that three people have offered to write something for the ghost stories evening so it can go ahead – on Sun 2 Nov. We now need actors and other help on the night. Call Chris Turner on 331306.



▪ The GHRC has appointed a new secretary, Caroline Hale, who brings several years of experience at PwC to the committee. We have suffered from minor vandalism at the hall and sports fields lately which is a real shame. New waste bins have recently been installed with lids to stop foxes and crows disturbing litter. The field is about

to be weeded and fed at the usual great expense. We recommend you keep your animals and yourselves away from the field when spraying is taking place.

WI signs off for summer with outing

by Elsie Rymer of Kirk & Green Hammerton WI

Having seen her article in the Yorkshire Post magazine, we were eager to hear our June speaker, Cluny Chapman, who gave a talk entitled: 'Sheep to shawl'. She explained how she progressed from her study of textiles to shepherd, spinner, textile maker and artist while juggling with motherhood. She finished with a demonstration of hand spinning using a Shetland style spinning wheel and provided a range of her products for us to see and buy.



We followed this with our plant and produce stall at Green Hammerton open gardens in my front garden. Pictured above are Jenny Hotson (left) and Jean Ibbitson. We raised around £100 which was split between the open gardens' charities and WI funds.

Our summer meeting was held at our president's home in July and we will be heading off to Raby Castle for our outing in next month. Visitors will be welcome to join us again in September when we resume our normal meetings at a cost of £2.50 per evening. Please contact either Susan Bowe on 330651 or me on 331641.

Desperately seeking village history

Ivan Andrew is researching village history on three fronts, as below. If you can help with his enquiries please contact him on 331158

Snippets on life in 1914-18. I realise that many people who took part in the First World War did not talk about their experiences but you may have had some brief information passed down to you by relatives even if it is only on the lines of "my great grandfather was at the Battle of the Somme". I am also interested in how the Great War affected those left in England. Again just a simple sentence like "I think my great aunt went to work in a munitions

factory" would be very welcome. Memories do not have to include reference to Green Hammerton or the war itself; any memory from 1914-18 will interest me.

Green Hammerton around 1911. I believe I am very close to knowing who lived where in Green Hammerton in 1911. This would provide a boost for progressing the history of families in the village both backwards and forwards. If you live in a house that was in existence in 1911 I would be delighted if you could contact me with any information, pictures or documents containing information about who lived in your house. I am intending to give a talk on the history of Green Hammerton later in the year.

History of Green Hammerton from 1920 onwards. I know that there are a number of residents and ex-residents who have memories of this period in our village's history. It would be very helpful if you would share some of these memories so that they are not lost forever. It is surprising how even the smallest snippet of information can be helpful when placed with other pieces of the jigsaw. from other residents.

News from the pews

by David MacDonald of St Thomas' Church

Life in the church has been as full and as hectic as ever since the last issue particularly with the lead up to Le Tour which seemed to take over all our lives.



Sadly, arrangements for the dance at Stirke's barn in June had to be revised at the last minute. Although we had sold a reasonable number of tickets the fabric committee realised that sales were still insufficient to make the event financially viable necessitating a switch to the Village Club (see above). Sincere thanks to all those who came and supported it, despite the understandable disappointment. The event would not have been possible without the invaluable help of Mandy and Martin at the club, who very generously paid £300 for the band, This Way Up. We raised a over £500 which was very gratifying in the circumstances.

Our other fundraising venture, the pop-up coffee shop at the church for Le Tour was the brilliant brainchild of Helena Leather and proved very popular. Credit to Helena for organising it, everyone who helped to dispense the refreshments, the kind ladies who made all the delicious cakes and biscuits, Dougie for the loan of the tables and chairs, Stella and Mandy for allowing us to direct customers to the pub and club toilet facilities and, of course, to the customers. We made over £500 for the church, a brilliant result which exceeded our expectations.

Curbs and kerbs

*by Gilly Leather of
Green Hammerton Parish Council*

Our main thrust at the moment with the help of Chris Lewis is to persuade Harrogate Council that we need at least two more dropped kerbs particularly on Bernard Lane and at the junction of Boroughbridge Road and Back Lane. We do have parishioners using mobility scooters who should be able to move around the village without impediment. Also happily we have quite a few new prams and pushchairs, even double pushchairs which would benefit from having a smooth ride. Just a reminder too that parking on the pavement obstructs both the elderly and the babies so please think about them before you mount the kerb. We continue to report pot holes to the council's highways department.

Our grass cutting plan for next year, when we shall be going it alone due to council cuts, is the source of much debate particularly with regard to how we will meet the cost. Watch this space. We are also looking at new and more varied ways in which we can keep you up to date about our activities and explain which level of council is responsible for what.

News in brief

▪ A **car boot/table top sale** will take place on The Green, Green Hammerton, on Bank Holiday Monday, Aug 25. Seller entry is £8 for cars and tables and £10 for vans. Buyer entry by donation. Open to sellers from 7am and the public from 8am to noon. Refreshments available. All proceeds to St Thomas' Church Fabric Fund. Call 330694 for further information.

▪ Jane Harden of Meadow Vale is going on her maiden **bike ride in aid of St Michael's Hospice** in Harrogate. The intrepid hairdresser will be embarking on a 12-mile route from Ripley to Burnt Yates, Bishop Thornton and Markington this Sunday (27th). "People can't believe I'll do it but I will!" says Jane, who has long had a bike but only ever previously used it within Green Hammerton. To sponsor her call in at her Jane's Hair Design at the top of the green.

▪ Steve Ross and Sam Blacker are walking Wainwright's 192-mile **Coast to Coast walk** to raise money for the Royal Agricultural Benevolent Institution and Yorkshire Air Ambulance. They set off on Thu 7 Aug. To sponsor visit to justgiving.com/Steve-SamC2C or see the chaps.

▪ The **world's biggest coffee morning** arranged by Macmillan Cancer Support will include an event at The Anchor Inn, Whixley, on Sat 27 Sept at 2pm. There will be a tombola and raffle plus sale of cakes, jam, handbags, jewellery and cards. Donations of sale items to Sue Triffitt at The Anchor.

▪ The **Tockwith Show** takes place on Sun 3 Aug at the Cattal Moor Lane showground. Events start at 8.30am and tickets are £8 for adults with children under 16 free. Tickets can also be purchased online at a discounted price of £7. See tockwithshow.org.uk.



▪ 1st Hammerton with Whixley **Rainbows** wish to thank everyone who supported their fair trade tea party which generated £105 for unit funds. The party was part of Brownies' centenary celebrations. Both Brownies and Rainbows took part in a "starquest spectacular" event at Wetherby racecourse which saw 10,000 girls joining up from across the county for a massive party. An exciting term has included a hike around the village and French-themed "grand departry". Leader Vicky is now on maternity leave until next year so there will be a couple of changes to faces in September with Mandy and Sally (Brownie leaders), Caroline Hartley and Helen Gardner joining the team.



▪ David Cameron met Green Hammertonians Steve Ross and Mandy Helliwell (above) during a visit to Wetherby on July 4. Nigel Adams MP introduced the duo to the Prime Minister to talk about the work they had done in the village ahead of Le Tour.

▪ Oil prices have been low on the last two orders and with demand being low at this time of year it is a good opportunity to fill up your tank. The next order date is Sept 24. For details email janebannan@btinternet.com.

Sad end to flag story

by the editor

The fine display of national flags which suddenly popped up in the village just before Le Tour got us all talking and caught the eye of ITV producers who featured the decoration in the opening sequence of the stage two highlights programme.

Dougie Mack was given the flags during a house removal a few days before Le Tour and enlisted the support of volunteers and co-operation of householders to put them on display. The team behind the flags are, below from left, Simon Mack, Jo Nottingham, Fran Bowden, Hannah Chamberlain Jane Harden and Dougie. Rita Horner and Rebecca Gethin also helped but couldn't make the photocall.

Dougie said: "We would like to thank the ladies that started decorating the village. What a fantastic idea! They inspired us to do something too. Well done also to Jamie Leather who helped hang the flags."

Chris Nottingham added: "We owe a huge vote of thanks to these ladies who, in the absence of any official direction or financial support, felt that the village should celebrate Le Tour passing through our village. They set about making decorations, ribbons, bunting and so on, at considerable private expense, putting it up all around the village and then taking it all down afterwards."

Unfortunately, the eight 9ft flags hung along the A59 were stolen between 10pm and 5am on the Tuesday night after Le Tour. Dougie had kept them flying to welcome visitors on their way to the Great Yorkshire Show.

"We're absolutely gutted and the theft has spoilt our weekend," Dougie told BBC Radio York at the show. "The flags were worth about £400 or £500. Thankfully, we'd taken down the flags within the village on Monday night for safekeeping and possible use for future village events." The police have been informed of the crime. If you spotted any suspicious activity that night please contact them or the Macks. Two similar thefts were reported in Kirk Hammerton.

Competition time: win beer!

So which countries do the flags represent? Dougie doesn't know all of them but do you? If so then email the editor (see box, below) identifying the flags as shown below from left to right. The first correct entry out of the hat wins a case of eight bottles of Bicycale beer courtesy of Rudgate Brewery of Tockwith. Closing date: Sun 3 Aug.



A word from the editor

Many thanks to residents who kindly contributed Le Tour pics viz Terry Pearson (terrypearson-photography.co.uk), Susan Goss-Clements, Steve Ross, Jimmie Martin and Rob O'Connor. You can see the full gallery at greenhammerton.org and I will publish some more in future issues.

Thanks also to Arena Group for producing this bumper, colour edition for just the cost of the paper as usual. Finally, apologies to correspondents for having to cut copy and include fewer pics than I'd like but it was necessary because there was so much strong material this time. Do keep it coming!

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