

Village View

The newsletter for residents of Green Hammerton

Christmas 2013 edition

Second murder in village

DEATH FOLLOWS GHOULS SITINGS

*by Chris Nottingham of the
Green Hammerton Recreational Charity*

Our murder mystery performed in September proved so popular that a second showing was arranged for last weekend. We are counting the proceeds as Village View goes to press but indications are that the second murder mystery will have been as successful as the first with approximately £1,350 raised from both performances.

The Halloween ghost storytelling was extremely popular with over 50 children, well wrapped up against the cold, experiencing the tales of spirit activity in the village and a super hotdog supper. Fortunately, the threat of rain was realised only at the beginning of the event and so the outdoor barbecue manned by a valiant team of chefs and helpers were able to cook that supper successfully without the discomfort of cold rain running down the

backs of their necks! The night raised £135 for the GHRC.

So what about next year's plans? The first event will be a quiz at the village hall on Sat 1 Feb. Teams of all sizes welcome but if you are on your own don't but put off. Come along and join in the fun; we will fix you up with a team. Tickets cost £7.50 per person and can be obtained from Carole Rutter 331669 or Sue Holden 330440. The evening starts at 7.30pm and ticket price includes a hot supper with pudding!



News from the pews

by David MacDonald, 330836

By now everyone in the village will have received our Christmas Card with full details of the forthcoming services in the benefice. We hope as many of you as possible will feel able to attend wherever and whenever you can. You will be assured of a warm welcome.

Our harvest services were well supported and we are grateful to everyone who contributed gifts of food which, as usual, went with those from Whixley to our link church in Leeds, St Aidans in Harehills, for the benefit of their charitable work.

On the subject of charitable giving may I provide a reminder that there is an ongoing collection in all the parishes of non-perishable food in support of the Harrogate food bank. You will find a collection point at the rear of the church which is open every day during daylight hours.

Following the meeting in October about removing the three front row pews in the church, it was decided to apply for permission from the diocese to go ahead given that it will provide a good deal more flexibility in making better use of the space available. We will keep you posted as plans develop.

Many of you will be aware by now that the Revd Joan Roper was licensed at the beginning of November to join the ministry team as assistant priest. Joan and husband Clive recently moved to Whixley Gate having lived in Shropshire for 25 years. She will work closely with Father Christopher and we offer her a very warm welcome to our parish.

Finally, those of you who attended our Remembrance Day service will doubtless have been impressed not only by the presence of and contribution to the occasion by the local Rainbows but also by the splendid art work courtesy of Green Hammerton School which once again reminded us all of the debt we owe to those who served and gave their lives for our freedom.

Helena Leather writes:

A big 'thank you' to everyone who supported our quiz for Christian Aid. A great time was had by one and all. Our quizmaster, David MacDonald, fulfilled his role with his usual wit and aplomb. Competition was close as we had to have a tie breaker between three teams to determine the winner. Many thanks also to the willing team of helpers without whom we would not have raised the magnificent sum of £653.

Sam's the man

by Steve Ross



Congratulations to Green Hammerton resident Sam Blacker who has been named as president of the Tockwith Agricultural Show for 2013/14 year. An ex-show chairman and long-term supporter of the event, Sam comes to the role with the aim of promoting education in and of the countryside. The president's charities for the year are the Yorkshire Air Ambulance and also the lesser known (but just as important) Royal Agric-

ultural Benevolent Institution. Sam, pictured on p2 with ceremonial crook, has also just signed up to undertake the 192-mile coast to coast walk from St Bees to Robin Hoods Bay next August. The walk will take 14 days and raise money for charity.

New faces on the council

*by Gilly Leather of
Green Hammerton Parish Council*

Since our last update we have co-opted, and hopefully welcomed, Ivan Andrew and Adam Tegerdine onto the council to fill the vacancies left by Lyndon Nicholson and Frances Smith. While I am sure most of you already know Ivan from his involvement in many community activities, Adam may not be so widely known having only recently moved into the village (see profile, right). Both members are very committed to our community and will bring added breadth to council proceedings.

The Community Infrastructure Levy is used by Harrogate Borough Council to fund various projects. Cllr Lewis encouraged us to press for the inclusion of the A59 junctions in consultations on expenditure as traffic is already increasing rapidly and will do so even more after completion of proposed building plans along the route from Knaresborough.

Following a question from a member of the public about increasing the number of allotments in the village, the clerk has written to local landowners to see if they have any land available to rent that would be appropriate for such use.

Our leaflet drop produced 22 fabulous volunteer litter pickers. I have been overwhelmed by the response and hope that our efforts will improve the look of the village and also encourage people to think twice before dropping litter in the first place. I wish that some dilatory dog owners would pick up poo particularly on the Boroughbridge Road footpath where dodging it is becoming nigh on impossible!

The Helenfield management sub-committee met recently to decide on winter management plans and discuss ways of encouraging involvement in this very important wildlife sanctuary. Conservation only comes with some effort and hands on volunteers would be very welcome (see story, p5).

Normal housekeeping jobs are ongoing such as pressing for pot hole repairs, updating the community emergency plan, supporting the anti-incinerator proposal, creating budgets and saving the community from death by overhanging buddleia.

Meet the councillor

by Adam Tegerdine



Originally from Leeds, I have spent the last 13 years living in Osbaldwick, York, until I moved into St Thomas's Way in June with my wife Joanne and baby daughter Esmae. I have had a varied career that has included periods employed in estate management, travel and surveying. I have spent the last 14 years in IT and currently work as software developer for a national supermarket chain.

Having recently celebrated my 38th birthday, new to village life and with a young family, I have a vested interest in preserving and enhancing the village and see my appointment as an opportunity to contribute to the great work already carried out by the parish council.

Web watch

*with Steve Ross, webmaster of
greenhammerton.org.uk*

New pages are now online (under the 'Village Life' tab) giving general information about the Tour de France and further information specific to Green Hammerton. Content includes minutes from our Tour de France committee meetings and Harrogate Council factsheets with advice on how to set up things like parking, camping and renting your house out. Incidentally, if any reader is interested in renting out a room or house for the big day then please let me know so that it can be advertised on our website and the council's.

Do you have any old photos, news articles, or other archive material of the village and surrounding area that I could share via our website? If the material is in digital form that is great but if it is a physical print or a negative (remember them?) I can still use them by scanning. All media will, of course, be returned to the provider.

Finally, if you'd like to hear about village news as and when it happens then subscribe to the village email via the 'Village Life' tab. Recent updates have concerned Main Furniture's Christmas plans and the Bay Horse's seasonal opening hours. Forthcoming village activities are listed on the 'Events' tab.

▪ Contact Steve via spross32@aol.com or 07976 268012.

WI raises over £300 for GHRC

by Liz Powley, staff photographer

Kirk and Green Hammerton WI members (pictured, above) were joined at their monthly coffee morning in November by members of the Whixley branch who brought with them a stall displaying their handicrafts. Many thanks to all who came to support this event which raised £306 for the GHRC charity.



Our next meeting will be held at Kirk Hammerton village hall at on Tues 10 Dec at 7.30pm followed at 8pm by a talk by Stuart Beaton of the Ainsty Farm Shop entitled: "Christmas food for unexpected visitors". All are welcome. Please contact Margaret Andrew on 331158 for more information.

Yuletide is perfect time to join the club

by Chris Nottingham of the village club

The months since the last Village View have seen further progress at the village club. Recently we introduced a third cask beer pump with the help of local brewery Rudgate allowing us to widen the variety of cask beers sold.

Our toilet facilities have received significant investment with the gents having a full redesign and upgrade, the ladies being fully redecorated and the construction of a fully-equipped disabled toilet.

From the beginning of November big quiz evenings have been rearranged to fall on the first and third Fridays of the month (including Dec 6 and 20). This allows the fourth Friday to be kept free for the Country & Western, a regular evening that is gaining in popularity. Billy Leonard will be making a welcome return on Nov 29.

Louise Walsh has started running a fitness class at the club each Tuesday between 6 and 7pm. Our regular bingo and Play Your Cards

Right night takes place on Sat 30 Nov from 8.30pm.

We will be holding a senior citizens' Christmas party from on Sat 14 Dec from 1pm. All over 60s welcome! Meanwhile, the Christmas party for members' children and grandchildren will be held on Sun 22 Dec. Please call into the club to put the names of any children attending on the list for Santa who will be making an appearance. The evening of Sun 22 Dec will also see our Christmas draw from 8pm.

The club will be open on Christmas Eve from 6pm to midnight; on Christmas Day from 11 am to 1pm (prompt) then again between 8pm and midnight; and on Boxing Day from 6pm to midnight. Highlight of our New Year's Eve event is the return of the excellent band The Governors. The club opens early for families. There is an optional fancy dress code with a prize of £25. Adults only after 9pm, though, as the celebrations get into top gear!

Finally, we are running an offer on membership for new members in the run up to New Year. New members paying the fee of £12.05 before the New Year will get membership that runs through to the end of next year. That's up to a month of membership free.

Down Memory Lane



The Green Hammerton Christmas fair committee of 1995. From left: Chris Turner, John Carter, Dorothy Ebdon, Sally Morrill, John Foster, Roger Mattock, John Holden and Rachel Holden.

Helenfield volunteers needed

by Alistair Taylor

Helen Field Leather (née Childs) who gave her name to Helenfield would have been 100 years old on Nov 10 if she had lived. To commemorate the date her family planted a thousand native wood anemone corms at Helenfield. It is hoped they will establish and spread to bring early flower and beauty to the wood each year before the trees come into leaf.



Meanwhile, the Helenfield Conservation Group has planned a series of winter working parties and seeks volunteers. The dates are: Tues 10 Dec, Sun 12 Jan, Tues 21 Jan and Sun 2 Feb. The wood is being managed primarily as 'coppice with standards' with the specific objective of maximising habitat diversity.

Tasks identified for this winter include: continuing with the selective coppicing of alders; the location and removal of invading sycamore seedlings/saplings; and the selective cutting back of brambles. The priority is to ensure that the ride is not overgrown by adjacent trees. Following advice from the

Forestry Commission and Yorkshire Wildlife Trust we will selectively remove alders et al with the aim of opening up the ride so that it is at least one and a half times the height of adjacent trees, this being the optimum ratio for maximising biodiversity encouraging more wildflowers and butterflies.

If you would like to help we hope to start at 9.30am and finish at approximately 3pm but please turn up at your convenience. Whether you can stay for just an hour or all day we will be pleased to see you. On the day you will be asked to help 'sned' felled trees (remove small side branches), and to create 'brash and log piles' (good for invertebrates small mammals and nesting birds), cut back brambles, etc. Please wear robust boots. Stout working gloves are essential. The conservation group does not have a store of tools. It would therefore be helpful if you can bring any strong loppers/secateurs and or a bill hook. For more information contact me at Croft Cottage on Boroughbridge Road or via 330330 and alistairgreenhammerton@gmail.com.

Tea towels at the ready!

*by Laura Wells-Law
of Green Hammerton School*

Children in reception and years 1 and 2 are busy preparing for their nativity performance. This year they are putting on a show called "Tinsel and tea towels". Show times are Tues 10 Dec at 2pm and Wed 11 Dec at 6pm. Contact the school office for tickets via 330314 or admin@greenhammerton.n-yorks.sch.uk.

Our open morning was extremely successful with many existing families as well as new ones having a good look around. The key stage two children were excellent tour guides and told people how proud they are of the school. School council members were keen to talk about their role in school and how they plan fundraising activities for charities. The Eco Club were on hand to show how they are saving energy and sending as much as

possible for recycling. FOGHS provided refreshments and some members of the governing body were available to answer questions and talk about their role in school. The Hive provided detailed information about caring for children before and after school. If you missed the open morning and would like to look around and talk to the headteacher contact the school office, as above.

Children throughout school have been learning about the very sad event that has occurred recently in the Philippines. They decided to raise some money to support the DEC by holding a non-uniform day and a book/CD/DVD sale which raised £225.

Action packed December

*by Rachael Holloway of
Friends of Green Hammerton School*

The run-up to Christmas has been very busy with the first big event of the season being a Christmas shopping night in the village hall (see pic, below). Shoppers had a chance to browse and buy from lots of local businesses and crafters and, hopefully, get some of their Christmas shopping done (or treat themselves!) We raised approximately £300. Many thanks to the parents and especially the villagers who supported us.



Another shopping event, this time for the children, has been the ever popular secret Santa room. Children had the opportunity to buy a present in secret for a special person (or persons) and then get it wrapped by our very

own elves (FOGHS helpers!) before attaching a handmade label and storing it away ready to take home at the end of term.

The main event of the season may well be underway as you read this: the Christmas fair which takes place on Sun 1 Dec from 2-4pm in the school hall. There will be all the usual stalls including jarbola, tombola, refreshments and a raffle with some great prizes and of course a visit from Father Christmas. Everybody welcome. Please come along!

Pupils will perform “The DIY nativity play” at St Thomas’ Church nativity service on Sun 22 Dec at 4pm. The play is charming and humorous – with a few surprises in store for the audience! Mulled wine and mince pies will be served afterwards.

Hop along to Grasshoppers

by Neil Phillips

I am hoping to start our previously popular football sessions on Tuesdays at 6.30pm from mid-April. I’m looking for people to give an hour of their time each training session. If you would be interested in helping in any way please call me on 07795 387441. Without your help we can’t run these sessions.

Comedy for all at village hall

by Kate Bramley

Badapple Theatre is back in Green Hammerton on Sat 28 Dec with a brand new Christmas show, ‘The mice that ate Christmas’. Folk of any age will enjoy it just as they enjoyed our Farmer Scrooge’s Christmas Carol although this time we’re saying it’s suitable for five-year-olds upwards as from that age children will definitely be able to follow the story.

It’s 1818, and Edna and Wilbur are having trouble getting into the Christmas spirit. That’s because they are two particularly hungry village mice who find themselves on

an extraordinary winter journey. Seduced by newspaper cutting that reads ‘Switzerland: Land of Cheese’ they set sail for that mystical place where the streets are paved with cheese, where the rivers run brimful of chocolate and the mountains themselves are made of Toblerone.

Sheltering in a village church on Christmas Eve, the hungry mice eat through the church organ bellows by mistake, leaving the kindly young priest without a note of music for Midnight Mass. Edna and Wilbur have to hurry to make amends, and in doing so inspire the writing of a brand new Christmas carol.



Meanwhile, Jez Lowe will be hosting a Geordie Christmas beach party in the village hall on Sun 8 Dec at 7.30pm. Jez is joined on this night of festive, folk fun by the Bad Pennies and special guest Benny Graham. Expect a journey through the best of Jez’s original songs as well as some seasonal classics from across the north-east. Slap on your sun cream, sand down your surfboard, uncrease your cossie and get ready for a real Winter warmer!

Both shows start at 7.30pm and tickets cost £9.50 for adults, £5 for under 16s. A family ticket at £25 for two adults and two children is also available for ‘The mice that ate Christmas’. Book by ringing the box office on 339168 or via badappletheatre.com.

Hall about weekly activities

by Claire Jeffrey

As well as major events like theatre productions (see p7), the village hall has regular weekly activities. Here's a quick reminder:

- Mondays, 4.45pm: children's karate. 568067 or enquiries@martialartsforlife.co.uk.
- Mondays, 6pm: Brownies. 331527 (Mandy). NB There is currently a waiting list.
- Mondays, 7.45pm: Zumba. £5 per session.
- Wednesdays, 10am: circuits. 07966 223096 (Ian). £2 per session.
- Wednesdays, 6pm: Rainbows. 339401 or vickylabbott@yahoo.co.uk.
- Fridays, 10am: parent and toddler group. 07715 421688 (Caroline).

Singers in concert again

Kirk Hammerton Singers will perform a Christmas concert at St John's Church in Kirk Hammerton on Sat 7 Dec at 7.30pm. Tickets cost £5 on the door or in advance from Nigel Robertshaw on 331081.

Beat the Christmas crooks

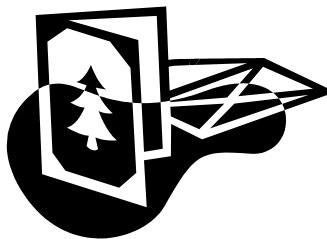
from Bill Smith, village neighbourhood watch co-ordinator, 331461

Across the country police see an increase in burglaries during the run-up to Christmas. Criminals know that homes will be full of desirable Christmas gifts and will take any opportunity to steal them. Although huge progress has been made by the police and partner agencies over the past ten years with burglary down by 48% across England and Wales, it still presents daily challenges for the

police service and causes great distress to victims.

Assistant Chief Constable Paul Kennedy of North Yorkshire Police, said: "Even the simplest crime prevention measures go a long way in helping to deter crooks and reduce incidents. Locking your doors, investing in a light timer switch and hiding valuables out of sight will help deter an opportunist burglar."

A word from our sponsors



Many thanks to the following readers who have sponsored this issue of Village View in exchange for a greeting:

- **Ian & Dicky Black** wish all our friends a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.
- **Brian & Lindsay Cuncell** wish a Happy Christmas to all their friends in Green Hammerton.
- **James & Gilly Leather** wish everyone in Green Hammerton joy at Christmas and contentment in 2014.

Seasons greetings to all readers from Village View correspondents and the editor.

Village View

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