

Village View

The newsletter for residents of Green Hammerton

Winter 2014 edition

Here's to another golden summer!



This issue Village View does its best to banish those mid-winter blues and look forward to events that should make this summer one to remember. (The pic dates from 1912 by the way.) First up Chris Nottingham unveils Green Hammerton Recreational Charity's exciting programme for this year.

We start 2014 with a quiz night on Sat 1 Feb. Tickets cost £7.50 and include a supper of cottage pie and fruit pies with custard. Please book your tickets beforehand to help us with catering via either Sue Holden on 330440 or Carole Rutter on 331669.

We have been really lucky to book Stephanie Moon for a cookery demonstration on Sat 17 May. She was

runner-up in BBC TV's Great British Menu, is consultant chef at Rudding Park and has trained and worked all around the world. See stephaniemoon.co.uk. The evening will consist of a demonstration and samples of the food she produces. She will concentrate on producing something that is local and in season which will probably include lamb, asparagus and rhubarb. Wine to complement the food will also be on sale on the evening with canapés to start. Tickets cost £12.50 per head. We are expecting this to be a popular event so tickets will be restricted and sold on a strictly first come first served basis. We expect to sell out quickly. Please reserve your place early by ringing Sue or Carole.

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Sports Day will take place on Sun 1 June and Open Gardens on Sun 15 June. Details in the next Village View. If you would like to open your garden please contact Liz Powley on 330246 now and if you wish to offer your help with the million and one jobs that need doing please contact Chris Turner on 331306.

Looking back to last Hallowe'en it became obvious when talking to the children that they preferred stories that were acted out rather than read from a script. Of course this takes considerably more effort and some of those that have done it in the past do not wish to keep doing it partly since their children have grown out of it. Therefore we are looking for new blood (no pun intended). Have you ever fancied writing a ghost story or acting in one? If so, please speak to Chris Turner.

Thank you for the many positive comments we've had about our Christmas decorations and a big thank you to Helen Perkins who produced the wonderful bunting. Both the tree – provided by the Ainsty Farm Shop – and bunting were donated by a very generous person in the village who wishes to remain anonymous. Special thanks to him/her.

▪ The pic below (by Liz Powley) shows some of the participants in our murder mystery night last November. From left: Chris Turner, Russ Piper, Jenny Hymas, Gary Rutter, David MacDonald, Andy Nunns and Stewart Hymas. Squatting: Sue Ewing (who wrote the mystery play) and Helen Walsh.

News from the pews

by David MacDonald, 330836

Having just returned from a month's leave of absence since just before Christmas I'm still in the process of catching up with events in the village. Hopefully you all had a happy and peaceful Christmas which I understand got off to a lively start with a new look and up to the minute nativity service masterminded by Liz Hines. I gather it was very well supported. (Note to self: don't go away next Christmas and miss out on the event again!) Likewise, the family service on Christmas Day was very well attended, many enjoying the novelty of carol requests.

As ever work continues on maintaining the structure of the church, thanks being due to our dedicated team of helpers on the fabric committee. There's always plenty to do so if you would like to help in any way please let Martin Leather or me know. Don't forget that the church is there for the benefit of the whole community and you don't have to be a churchgoer to lend a hand! On the same subject our sincere thanks go to Croft Builders of Green Hammerton who very generously replaced one of the ridge tiles on the church at no charge.

As you will know money is always tight at grass roots level so our fundraising efforts will continue this year. A hog roast is planned for Sat 14 June and



another grand car boot sale on Sat 25 Aug but more of that anon. Our services at Green Hammerton continue as normal on the first, second and third Sundays of each month.

Fair raises nearly £900

*by Rachael Holloway of
Friends of Green Hammerton School (FOGS)*

Our Christmas fair was very well supported and raised almost £900. Secret Santa was once again a whole school event and we hope all the mums, dads and grandparents liked their carefully chosen presents.

We have many family friendly events planned for 2014, including a re-vamped disco in February and the return of the Great Green Hammerton Bake-off.

The York Bird of Prey centre returns on Thu 20 March to put on another display after school in the hall following a very popular previous visit. Anybody interested in attending this event should contact the school office on 330314 or email foghsmail@gmail.com. Families are also invited to join us for Easter teas on Wed 2 April at 2.30pm in the hall. Year 6 pupils will help serve tea, coffee and homemade cakes with proceeds going to the school.

This year is a very special year for the school as it celebrates its 140th birthday. FOGHS will be helping to create a special day for the children by funding circus workshops followed by a circus performance in the baby big top on Fri 27 June. Finally, we are hoping to be involved with a family fun night at the village club to celebrate the start of the Tour de France on Fri 4 July.



Someone to watch over you

*by Gilly Leather of
Green Hammerton Parish Council, 330307*

At our recent meeting we decided to take the lead on two new initiatives, one somewhat distasteful and the other far more positive.

To deal first with the former: dog fouling. We have tried cajoling and pleading with those who persist in allowing their dogs to make walking within the boundaries of our village (including Helenfield) so unpleasant and cause a health hazard to our children. The beauty of our own nature reserve does not happen spontaneously. A dedicated group of people led by Alistair and Angela Taylor spend many hours doing hands-on conservation work

there and should not have to contend with standing in, kneeling in or touching such mess. So, as all else has failed, members of the council will now report anyone they see allowing their dogs to foul the village to the dog warden and they urge everyone else to do the same. Culprits should note that the fine for contravening this law is up to £1,000.

Now for something of a happier nature. We are concerned about vulnerable residents. Elderly folk living on their own are, of course, our priority focus but there may be many others of any age who perhaps live alone or care full-time for someone else who would appreciate knowing that they have someone they can call in an emergency or, indeed, who will ring them or call in on as regular or irregular basis as that person would like. We certainly do not wish to push in where we are not wanted but would like to be able to offer this sort of help within our community.

As a carer myself, I am pretty well at home most of the time so have volunteered to co-ordinate this venture. Please call me if you would like some help in this area or if you wish to volunteer to provide the service. We would not divulge the name of anyone who would like our help except to their volunteer and would aim to twin them up with someone they know and like. We see this purely as a low key, background security blanket. It is what communities used to do: look out for each other. We would also advocate getting in touch with social services about their red button scheme which James and I have found of great help.

I saw a man digging yet another hole near my house not long ago and he informed me that he was laying the wires for superfast broadband. Most of us have had a postcard from North Yorkshire County Council telling us about this provision but we know some have not. Looking on their website, superfast northyorkshire.com, it would seem that our village is ready to go but not yet connected. Hopefully all will be revealed when Superfast North Yorkshire give a presentation about superfast fibre at the village hall on Wed 19 Feb at 7pm.

Finally, please remember that you elected us to serve you. You are most welcome to come to our meetings and would always get the opportunity to raise any concerns you may have. Alternatively, please approach any of us if you have concerns or ideas but either cannot or do not wish to attend our meetings. I look forward to my phone being red hot!

Busy Christmas at the club

by Chris Nottingham of the village club

The club had a very busy festive period with members and guests of all ages enjoying a series of events. The first of these was the children's Christmas party and draw. Some £800 worth of prizes were distributed to lucky winners. Our New

Year's Eve party with local group The Guvnors was also extremely successful.

On the sporting front our pool 'B' team finished first in Boroughbridge District Winter League Two gaining promotion while the 'A' Team finished third in the same league. Creditable performances all round. Congratulations also to both Steve Ross and Eric Corser for winning the Jimmy Jenks memorial pool and dominoes competitions respectively.

Mandy and Martin Helliwell celebrated their first year of club stewardship on Jan 11 with a party featuring Elite Entertainment, a duo from Knottingley, offering a mix of songs, music quizzes and karaoke. Our AGM combined with a Burns supper snack was due to take place as *Village View* went to press.

We recently extended the selection of real cask ales with the installation of a third hand pull pump. Now the John Smith's cask pump is complemented by beers from the local Rudgate brewery on one pump and a variety of guest cask ales from around the country on the third pump.

Moira's knitting for Wiggo

Moira Bailes is among the knitters knitting mini-cycling jerseys as bunting to festoon across the district for the Grand Depart of the Tour de France in July. The idea came from the Harrogate Council Parks Department and was inspired by the green and yellow jerseys associated with the race. The target is 3,000 mini-garments. Our nearest drop-off points are Boroughbridge and Knaresborough libraries. For more information and patterns see www.bit.ly/1ek2AIw.



Pupils' trip to the stars

by Matt Burland of Green Hammerton School

Year three to six pupils visited the Yorkshire Museum in York for an exciting space day at the start of this term. We took part in three amazing activities to learn more about our solar system and universe. The first was a journey into a giant inflatable star dome. Once inside we saw our solar system projected onto the ceiling and travelled between the planets, learning lots of interesting

facts about each. We then travelled further afield to observe constellations and learn about the origins of their names in Roman mythology.

We also had the chance to look around the observatory in the museum grounds where we learnt how telescopes work. The final activity was telescope making. We're now spending the next few weeks learning more about space in school, including composing space music, writing shape poems about space and designing our own constellations.

News in brief

Green Hammerton Cricket Club is looking for new players for next season which starts on Sat 19 April. Nets are held every Wednesday from 8-9pm in Tadcaster. Lift shares available. More information from Neil Phillips on 07795 387441.

Women's Institute. Jenny Stacey will talk about making paper flowers at our next meeting which takes place on Tues 11 Feb at 7.30pm in Kirk Hammerton village hall. The theme of the competition will be 'an arrangement of artificial flowers'. Linda Macrow will talk about the work of food banks on Tues 11 March at 7.30pm in Green Hammerton village hall. The theme of the competition will be 'a nutritious economic recipe'. More information from Margaret Andrew on 331158.

Three new websites have been launched covering village activities. They are:

- villageclubgreenhammerton.co.uk
- greenhammerton.org.uk/neighbourhood-watch
- greenhammertonvillagehall.org.uk

The oil syndicate continues to achieve good prices so if you're not part of it you're missing out! Order dates for this year are listed on the village website. The next two are Feb 2 and March 12. More information from Jane Bannan on 339442.

Village View

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