

Village View

The newsletter for residents of Green Hammerton

Feb/March 2016

Step up to the council plate

by Gilly Leather of Green Hammerton parish council

The next couple of years will be very important for the council. Our ward boundaries are being revised and the Harrogate local development plan will be being firmed up which will affect the way our village and its environs develop.

As you know, we have big ongoing development applications in the pipeline already and it is likely that more will follow in the area. At least two of our councillors are not standing for re-election at the May elections so we are looking for new people to take up the baton. If you want to be involved with how our village will look in the future now is the time. Normally there are four years between elections but because of the boundary changes there will be another election after only two years so this is a good time to give it a try. Please contact Paul Whelan for an application pack.

Take heart everyone. We are to have our own community defibrillator. Following a very well researched

report from Jane Bannan, for which we thank her, the council agreed to apply for this equipment which will hopefully not have to be used very often but could prove the difference between life and death should it become necessary.

The surgery has agreed to house it on their outside wall so it will be easily accessible in an emergency. In the main it will be the paramedics who will use the defibrillator. However, as time is of the essence in these circumstances, anyone will be able to use it since instructions on its use are given via telephone link within the unit. Later we hope to get a team of volunteer first responders in the village who would be given full training. If you would be interested in being part of such a scheme then do please let one of us know.

We have nothing to report on the planning front since the last Village View. We await a decision on both sites but it looks as though the smaller one will come before the planning committee fairly soon. As ever, we will keep you posted.



Skipbridge mere during the Christmas floods.
More pics on pages 2 and 4.

School news round-up

by Laura Wells-Law of Green Hammerton School

The key stage two choir enjoyed showcasing their lovely voices to the elderly people at Whixley Day Centre and St John's nursing home at **Christmas**. Well done to all involved and a special thank you goes to David MacDonald for coming in each week to work with the children.

As part of their RE curriculum children in years three to six recently visited a **Sikh Gurdwara and a Hindu Mandir** in Bradford. They learnt a lot about these religions and had first hand experience of different places of worship.

Children in key stage one are looking forward to their **trip to Ilkley Toy Museum** to learn about toys from the past to support our topic lessons while children from classes two, three and four will be taking part in a 'Brazilian Carnival Dance Festival' for our local cluster of schools at the Galtres Centre theatre in Easingwold in February.

We are looking to 'adopt' a granny or grandad or any other willing volunteer to come into school one lunchtime per week to teach **knitting skills** to year six pupils. We would like the children to learn how to knit and, in particular, make hats and booties for premature babies. If interested please contact the school office via 330240 or admin@greenhammerton.n-yorks.sch.uk.

The **collective worship committee** for 2015/16 is comprised of 12 year six pupils who have volunteered to support staff in the planning, delivery and evaluation of our practice in school. This year they are working very closely with Revd Roper to plan and deliver an act of worship each half of term, four pupils at a time. The acts of worship that have been presented in the first two term halves have been very good and demonstrated pupils' ability to use ICT and drama to convey their messages as well as showing excellent teamwork, and collaborative skills.

Fair raises over £1,000

*by Rachael Holloway of
Friends of Green Hammerton School*

Thank you to everyone who attended the Christmas fair which raised an amazing £1,300. A substantial proportion of the sum came from raffle ticket sales. Thanks must go to all those who donated prizes. The children also enjoyed a great Christmas party.

This term sees another disco, a storytelling evening, plus the Easter teas to be served by the year 6 children on Tues 22 March at 2.30pm. Please join us if you can.

Encore for Between Mouthfuls

*by Chris Turner of Green Hammerton
Recreational Charity*

We were very pleased with the turn out for our Christmas coffee morning which boosted our country fayre funds by nearly £300. It was also great to see those of you that came to the meeting about the fayre and for the offers of help that resulted. Many thanks. If anyone couldn't make the meeting but is keen to get involved please contact me on 331306 or c.turner2011@btinternet.com.



We will reprise the Between Mouthfuls one-act play, pictured above, on Sat 19 March. Over 30 people couldn't get tickets for the first performance in November so we decided to repeat it and this is the first date that suited all the participants. Tickets cost £12.50 inclusive of a three-course supper. The play itself lasts about 30 minutes. A full bar (including cocktails) will be available. Tickets from Carole Rutter 331669, Sue Holden 330440 or me. The play is set in the 70s so anyone that wishes to dress accordingly is very welcome to do so! Might be a bottle of wine in it for the best outfit!

Two other dates for your diary. We will hold a quiz on Sat 23 April and an event with Green Hammerton School to celebrate the Queen's 90th birthday on Sun 12 June. More details in next Village View.



Flooding on Nun Monkton Lane on Dec 27.

Win a bottle of wine

We all know who they are and when the pic was taken (still basking in the memories – Ed.) ... but can you think of a witty caption? Entries to the editor at paulkirkwood@talktalk.net by Sun 14 Feb. The prize is a bottle of M&S malbec. Pic by Terry Pearson.



News from the pews

by David MacDonald of St Thomas' church

It was good to see so many of you at our popular Christmas Day service again. Thank you for helping to make it such an enjoyable occasion.

With the busy festive season behind us, the church year continues as ever towards Easter which comes early this year and will be over by the time the next issue comes out. We are hoping to hold the usual parish pancake evening on Shrove Tuesday (9 Feb) at Whixley village hall.

The café church got off to a very good start at the beginning of January. The relaxed and informal atmosphere was enjoyed by everyone who came. There is no meeting in February so the next one will be on 6 March (Mothering Sunday) at 4pm.

Finally, a word about the church parish AGM on Wed 16 March at 7.30pm at Whixley church. If you would like to attend and/or would be interested in becoming a member of the parochial church council (or, indeed, joining our existing team of helpers in the running of our church) please let me know.

'Ungainly wobbles' at the WI!

*by Elsie Rymer of
Kirk & Green Hammerton WI, 331641*

Our December meeting was a cosy, homespun affair. Following our business meeting we had our 85th birthday group photo taken and then our president demonstrated how to make a Christmas wreath with materials gathered from her garden. It had a woven twig base instead of moss with a variety of fruits, cones

and ribbon were used to provide colour. Entertainment followed with a collection of amusing poems and ditties and a 'five minute panto' that nearly brought the house down! We then proceeded to the faith supper and ended the evening with more amusing anecdotes, the judging of some splendid Christmas table centres and a surprise grand Christmas raffle.

The festive theme continued two days later when members attended the Marston Moor Group's carol service at Whixley in aid of Dementia Forward. A speaker from the charity told us about their work in supporting families of people with dementia. Members of the Collavoce choir and their organist, Catherine Field-Leather, accompanied our singing which ended with a rousing rendition of Jerusalem, coffee and mince pies.

After all last year's partying our first meeting of 2016 focused on health. Fitness instructor, Janet Dixon, gave us some very useful pointers on health and exercise. We then competed to see who could stand on one leg for the longest time which resulted in much mirth and ungainly wobbles! We stay on the health theme in February with a talk titled 'Life after a Heart Transplant' by Amanda Kennerley on Tues 9 Feb. The following month Colleen Devanney will be speaking about medieval medicine. Both meetings start at 7.30pm in Kirk Hammerton village hall.

Shop talk: Debbie joins the team

by Christopher Hay

New starter Debbie Allan joined the team this month and is hitting the ground running with her wealth of experience and her pleasant demeanour. Regulars have welcomed Debbie and she has fitted well into the team.



New this month in the shop is a taster range of pretty Gisela Graham gifts, one pictured above, which are selling very well. Come and have a look and keep an eye out for something new at Easter time.

Thirsk cheesemaker Shepherds Purse has proved it is world class after beating off competition from round

the globe to win a coveted gold gong at the World Cheese Awards. Shepherds Purse carried off the Super Gold award for its blue mould ripened cow's milk cheese, 'Blumin White', while Yorkshire Blue, one of the dairy's best-selling cow's milk blue cheeses, was also awarded a silver in the British soft blue cheese class. Both cheeses are now stocked in the shop.

Last but not least, did you know that Chopsticks kindling from North Allerton provide work based activities for adults with a learning disability and/or physical disability? Support this great cause by buying your kindling at the shop.

And remember, you can deposit cheques, draw cash and buy foreign currency at the Post Office. Every bit helps and we would love to see you pop in even if only to draw £20.

News in brief

• **Stephensons Estate**

Agents is proud to sponsor this edition of Village View.



• Thanks again to Simon Mack for displaying **Christmas lights** and reindeer outside the old Reading Room and to Green Hammerton School for forwarding their tree donated by the Ainsty Farm Shop. "I haven't seen the electricity bill yet!" said Simon, who spent £50 on additions to the display.

• Pre-season nets for **Green Hammerton cricket club** have now started on Tuesdays from 7.30pm at the Johnny Lawrence Cricket School in Tadcaster (access via A64 only). Transport can be arranged and new players will be made very welcome. The season starts on Sat 16 April. Match ball sponsorship available from £15 per game. For more information call Neil Phillips on 07795 387441.

• The **poppy collection** around the village last November raised £630. "This was a big increase on 2103," reports Rob Hughes. "2014 was a record year because of the centenary of the outbreak of the the First World War." Collectors were Rob, Pat Hague, Gill Blacker, Gerry Reilly and Chris Jackson and collection pots were sited at The Bay Horse, Harlands, the surgery, school, shop, Village Club and Main Pine. If you would like to join the team for this year please contact Rob via roberthughes30@hotmail.com.



• Roger Mattock is compiling a PowerPoint slide presentation entitled 'A year at **Staveley Nature Reserve**'. If you'd be interested in a presentation to your community group at the village hall please contact him via mattockr@talk21.com.

• **Badapple Theatre** presents The Daily Bread at Tockwith village hall on Sun 28 Feb at 7.30pm. See badappletheatre.com for details.

• Here are two more pics of the **Christmas floods** showing Boroughbridge (by Roger Mattock) and the A59 at Skipbridge. So glad we live on a hill – Ed.



Village hall schedule

Here's a quick reminder of current weekly activities at the village hall courtesy of Claire Jeffrey:

- Coffee morning and book exchange. Second Saturday in the month from 10am to noon.
- Karate. Mon 4.45pm. enquiries@martialartsforlife.co.uk.
- Brownies. Mon 6pm. Mandy Kuunal, 330527.
- Pilates. Tues 9.30am and 10.30am. Sessions usually run as six-week course. Claire Morrell, 07789 966759.
- Fit4Fun. Wed 9.30am. Circuits-based class. Ian Salvin, 07827 338775.
- Rainbows. Wed 6pm. vickylabbot@yahoo.co.uk.
- Dru yoga. Thu 6.30pm. jennidruyoga@gmail.com.
- Free one-off taster session on Thu 4 Feb at 8pm.
- Parents and tots. Fri 10am. Jo, 07841 128918.

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All news to paulkirkwood@talktalk.net.

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