

# Village View

The newsletter for residents of Green Hammerton

June/July 2013



## STEP BACK IN TIME

*by the editor*

**A rare aerial photo of Green Hammerton from around the 1960s has been re-discovered. It centres on what is now St Thomas's Way but was previously the site of Yardley's garage.**

The building in the centre of the shot was the office and the workshop is the long building to the left. A row of petrol pumps stand sentry

beside the road. At the time the A59 passed straight through the village making it an obvious half-way house pit stop for motorists travelling between York and Harrogate. There was a second garage where Harlands is now.

At the rear of the Yardley's, previously Pepper's, is a bungalow occupied by Bob Cooke. He moved there when he got a job at the garage having been discharged from the RAF after the war. The picture was

discovered by Dick Jackson among the possessions of his friend and Mr Cooke's widow, Senga of Meadow Vale, who passed away in January.

The school – looking isolated and rustic compared to today – was just the single building. Girls hung their coats up on the left of the entrance lobby and boys to the right and mobile screen down the middle of the hall separated the sexes for lessons. But they shared the same hearth! There was no playground as such in those days. The children played out the front where the car park is now. At the back was a separate building for the toilets and coal store.

The three houses in the centre foreground on The Crescent were built to house staff working at the former Whixley hospital, now Whixley Gate. The allotments used to extend up to the house in the bottom right as pictured. This area was subsequently used as an additional graveyard by the church.

Quill House is pictured on the left edge of the pic and, above, in place of Ebor View, is Jimmy Mac's cottage. Jimmy McCamish was landlord of The Bay Horse. The field in the top left corner belonged to the Powleys who still live at Elm House Farm on The Green. At the time of the picture the field was much larger but was then cut in two by the A59 and sold for the development of St Thomas's Way which approximately follows the route of the old access track to the field.

*With thanks to Liz Powley and Peter Nixon for the information and picture. To view more clearly see the online version of Village View (see back page for link).*

## Inside the council



*with Chris Chelton of Green Hammerton parish council*

Concerns over the number of potholes around the village were raised at the last parish council meeting echoing those being heard nationally about the state of our

roads and the apparent lack of a comprehensive repair programme.

Numerous letters of appeal to NYCC Highways from our county and district councillors and parish clerk finally paid dividends in the form of an inspection carried out in April. The engineer who examined the various potholes reported that those in Meadowvale, opposite the BT depot on Boroughbridge Road as well as at the exit onto the B6265 as well as the junction by the village hall did need repair and work is being carried out.

Some success, then, but a significant number of other “multiple shallow” potholes were deemed as “not meeting intervention criteria” and won't be repaired at this time. It is tempting to assume that these criteria might include how many of our drivers suffer wheel damage as these holes get deep enough to justify repair! I conclude the engineer had a good time with his chalk, checking each pothole at various locations such as at the A59/York Road junction since the road surface looks like the aftermath of a crazy game of noughts and crosses. Unfortunately that doesn't mean all those so marked are to be filled.

Top of our agenda is the ongoing building development plans for the land behind Stoneleigh gate and Bernard Lane. A lengthy document has been released by the planning department of Harrogate Borough Council entitled ‘Sites and policies development plan document’. Quite a mouthful! This report sets out the criteria against which the Green Hammerton site will be assessed. It is open for consultation and anyone who wishes to make comment can do so until Fri 21 June.

It goes without saying that the parish council will be submitting a detailed response challenging key issues that need to be addressed before any development approval is given. These include the impact on traffic volumes exiting onto the A59, key village amenities (such as the school and surgery) and sewerage and drainage concerns. We aim to circulate some more abbreviated

information to residents in the hope that a significant number of you will also comment individually. Abbreviated since the full document takes nearly two hours and three cups of coffee to read – and that doesn't include the supporting reports.

Given the momentum of his building scheme, the continuing issue of a waste incinerator at Allerton Park and, more recently, the discovery of plans to erect a mini-wind farm at Nun Monkton, one can only hope that the powers that be don't decide that more development ideas are needed in North Yorkshire; it does feel that there is a focus on this part of the Harrogate district at the moment.

Finally, I have been asked by a number of residents to again raise the annoying problem of dog fouling. In recent months this appears to have got worse particularly around the top of The Green and Boroughbridge Road. Not only has dog waste been found in open areas, but even in resident's private drives, both places where children play. Needless to say this is both irritating and a health hazard to the extent that one parent has complained to the council dog warden. Please clear up after your dog as not to do so is an offence and the owner or owners if caught could be heavily fined.

## **Parking on pavements**

*by Gilly Leather*

Sometimes we are unaware of other people's needs until that need becomes our own. So it is with cars parking on our pavements. I have done it many times thinking I was leaving more space for the free flow of traffic. However, since my husband, James, now relies on his disability scooter to get around the village as does at least one other person, I realise how dangerous it is to keep dropping onto the road because the pavement is obstructed.

Spare a thought too for those who have to negotiate the same hazard with a pushchair or

pram. In fact, there is no need to park on the pavement. Our streets are wide enough to park kerbside. I am sure many of us would appreciate having clear, safe footpaths so please think twice before bouncing up that kerb! This is a personal plea but has the backing of the parish council.

## **Our marathon man's story**

*Last issue we reported on Gary Blackburn's preparation for the London Marathon in April. Here's how it was for him ...*

The marathon was an brilliant experience with people shouting your name from start to finish. The landmarks you pass and the cheers really spur you on. I would definitely recommend the race to anyone considering it. My big tip would be to make sure you train for the distance. I only trained up to 18 miles and it showed. Others say you only need to run up to 18-20 miles and you'll be ready? Maybe. If you can get the distance in then do it.

The start was at Greenwich Park. For the first six or seven miles you are almost jostling for position because of the number of runners. It does not really matter because most of them are pacing themselves at the start. I was targetting under four hours.



At half-way (Tower Bridge) I felt good and was well under two hours. At around the 18-mile mark, though, I cramped in both legs only for the pain to get worse. I tried running at this point but both legs would cramp up and I could only walk for the next six miles. I managed to stretch and get something back for the last two miles and finished in a slow jog.

It was an amazing experience coming towards Westminster by the Thames then onto the Mall and past Buckingham Palace. My legs were very sore and I got burnt in the sun but finishing the race in front of those crowds was truly unforgettable. I picked up a well earned medal at the finish clocking in at 4½ hours.

I have raised nearly £1,000 for charity with £500 needed to meet my goal. I am still collecting so if anyone still wants to sponsor me then go to my page at [virginmoneygiving.com/garyblackburn](http://virginmoneygiving.com/garyblackburn). The money will help support victims of crime via the Crimestoppers charity.

## **£1k (nearly!) start to the year's social programme**

*by Chris Nottingham of the  
Green Hammerton Recreational Charity*

Thanks to all who took part in the first social event of the year. A record 74 villagers gathered at Beck House on April 27 for the bi-annual **Meet & Eat**. Everyone had to either provide canapés, puddings or host starters or mains. It is a real team effort and between us we raised £952. Profits are shared halved between the church and GHRC. Let's try and make it a round £500 each next time!

The biennial **promise auction**, our keynote fundraising event of the year, is set for Sat 15 June from 5.30pm. This time it returns to The Green, a popular, family-orientated and a more traditional venue. Donation of promises is well underway with a very good response from many local attractions. As always, though, further promises are needed, large or small, from a weekend in a holiday home to a

good deed such as ironing. If you wish to donate a promise contact one of the GHRC social committee (see below) who can also supply tickets.

Cost of adult admission is unchanged from 2011 at £7.50 including barbecued burger or sausage, choice of salads and puddings. Children's admission is also pegged at £2.50 and includes sausage, salad and ice cream. To help with the catering it is appreciated if you can buy your tickets well in advance. Don't forget your own drinks, glasses, cutlery, crockery, tables and chairs and, of course, if you feel you need it your gazebo!

Just a week later on Sun 23 June we're holding the annual **sports day** on the playing field. Profits are shared with the church. Make a note in your diary and look out for a flyer nearer the time with full details.

GHRC social committee members:

Sue Holden, 330440

Liz Powley, 330246

Carol Rutter, 331669

Chris Turner, 331306

Andrew Russell, 331104

Moiria Bailes, 330477

Sandra Harland, 330992

## **Normal service continues at St Thomas's**

*by David MacDonald, 330836*

As Helena Leather mentioned in the last issue I have taken over as acting chapel warden which implies something of a temporary nature rather than a chapel warden who does a bit of acting! By the time this reaches you the Whixley Flower & Garden Festival will be in progress (over the Bank Holiday weekend). To those of you who were able to make it to some or all of the events thank you for your support. I hope you all had a good time!

Church services will continue at St Thomas's and Whixley more or less on the existing pattern and details will be posted on the church noticeboard each week. The only change with effect from the beginning of July

is that the Book of Common Prayer communion at Green Hammerton will be on the first Sunday of the month rather than the fourth Sunday. Likewise, the parish praise service at Whixley moves from the fourth to the first Sunday. The times remain the same.

By way of a change the fifth Sunday service in June which involves the whole benefice, will take place on the Green at Whixley Gate. It will be a Songs of Praise-style service starting at 10.30am. But don't worry: there won't be any TV cameras there!

Finally, I have early notice of plans for a table top/car boot sale to be held on The Green on August Bank Holiday Monday (26<sup>th</sup>) by kind permission of the owners, Messrs Leather and Hetherton, to raise money for the church fabric fund. Further details will be circulated nearer the time.

Remember: St Thomas's is open every day during daylight hours, so please feel free to call in any time to admire the architecture and stained glass or spend some quiet time. If you need any information about church events, please contact me as above.

## **Village school forges links with Boroughbridge High**

*by Andrea Meynell*

We are very proud to announce that we have received a letter from Nigel Adams MP congratulating us on being awarded the prestigious ICT mark. We are one of only seven primary schools in North Yorkshire to receive this award.

Exciting changes are taking place at our 'outstanding' (according to Ofsted) village school. We are introducing new ways of planning and delivering the primary curriculum. The termly topic is now giving way to a variety of mini-topics based on a wide range of interest areas with pupils having input in the planning process. This will make learning even more exciting, active and meaningful for all our children.

After half-term pupils in years five and six will be going on their residential visit to Kingswood and the rest of the school will be starting the mini-topic theme titled 'the hidden kingdom'. Later in the term we will be visiting Flamingo Land where we will be finding out about animals and looking after the environment. Towards the end of this term the children will be designing and making hats ready for a summer parade.

The children in key stage two have already participated in two exciting days organised by Boroughbridge High School. Last week six year four and five pupils participated in an maths challenge day. A favourite challenge was the Simpsons Murder Mystery in which teams had to solve six different mathematical puzzles in order to eliminate characters and weapons. Other activities included a timed maths trail around school, relay games and building paper bridges.



Just before the Easter holidays children from years three and four also visited the High School for an art day. In the morning they studied some paintings by the artist David Hockney, looking at the patterns and colours he uses and practising some of these. They then began to make hats inspired by the patterns and colours they saw in Hockney's work. They began by cutting out a card template, before drawing their own designs on the card pieces. They then painted these using poster paints and left them to dry over lunch. After lunch the hats were assembled, and then decorated using straws, sticks, feathers and glitter paper. Once all the hats were finished the day ended with a special hat parade.

During the next few weeks this September's new starters will be visiting and getting to know our warm and friendly village school. All new families are invited to attend any of the events leading up to the summer break. Please contact the school office for more information.

## Food theme to fundraising

*by Rachael Holloway of  
Friends of Green Hammerton School*

Despite the weather not being as kind as last year the Easter Teas still proved popular and raised £158. The year six pupils did a great job of serving the lovely homemade cakes and drinks and made sure all the parents were well looked after.

Continuing on the baking theme, we have our third class bake off at the end of May with class three providing the goodies. We are keeping the amounts raised by each class a secret until the end of the year, when we will announce the Great Green Hammerton Bake-off winners!



Other events planned are a curry and quiz night at Whixley village hall on Sat 22 June. This is open to everyone and more details will be circulated soon. We will also be holding our end of year school barbecue on Sat 20 July and squeezing in one more disco!

## Move over Richard & Judy

*by Peter Morrill*

The book club choices for June and July are *Merivel: A Man and his Time* by Rose Tremain and *Sweet Tooth* by Ian McEwan respectively.

*Merivel* is a romp set in Restoration England. Robert Merivel, courtier to Charles II and no longer a young man, goes to France in search of the Sun King and to Switzerland in pursuit of a beautiful botanist who leads him deliciously on until her jealous husband bursts in with duelling pistols. Torn between enjoying himself and making something of his life through medicine and the study of science Merivel gets into all sorts of scrapes as he tries to be diligent but constantly backslides into laughter and laziness.

*Sweet Tooth* sees Ian McEwan return to top form. The year is 1972. The Cold War is far from over. MI5 is determined to manipulate the cultural conversation by funding writers whose politics align with those of the government. Cambridge student Serena Frome's beauty and intelligence make her the ideal recruit for an operation codenamed Sweet Tooth. Serena, a compulsive reader of novels, is the perfect candidate to infiltrate the literary circle of a promising young writer named Tom Haley. At first she loves his stories then she begins to love the man. How long can she conceal her undercover life? To answer that question, Serena must abandon the first rule of espionage: trust no one.

Meetings are at 8pm in the village hall on Thu 13 June and Thu 11 July.

## Strong start for cricket club

*by Neil Phillips, 07795 387441*

The season has started very well for Green Hammerton. The first team has won three out of the four games played and only just lost the other game on the last over. We again have had to drop plans for a second team game due to a lack of players. If you can help and play the odd game it would be most helpful. There's no need to commit to playing all the time. Call me or come down on Saturday for more details.



## Fancy a trip to the theatre ...

*by Chris Turner, 331306*

We try and organise several theatre visits in a year giving everyone a chance to see something that perhaps they wouldn't normally go to. This year already we have organised trips to York to see 9-5 and The Mousetrap and to Leeds to see The Great Gatsby (a ballet). We have plans to see Warhorse in Bradford in June next year.

If you would like to hear about what trips we are booking please let me or Dicky Black (330207) know and we will add you to the list.



## ... and have you space for one?

*by Kate Bramley, Badapple Theatre*

We're now half way through our 60-date national tour of Lights Out Land Girls. A huge thanks to all of you who supported the shows at our village hall and gave the actors such a warm reception.

We're already well into planning for our autumn season with three touring shows between September and December. Watch this space. It also now looks likely that next year will see two co-productions with York

Theatre Royal as they develop some of their own touring for rural venues. All very exciting.

Now. A quick question: do you have some dry storage space within the village or nearby where we can store some costumes, puppets and some admin documents boxes? We are happy to consider renting a small corner of somewhere albeit on a limited budget! We are insured of course. We simply need a space to plonk stuff. We would only need occasional access for which we can provide advanced warning to minimise inconvenience. If you can help please do get in touch on 339168 or via [office@badappletheatre.com](mailto:office@badappletheatre.com). Thanks!

## Polski futbol!

*by the editor*

International football came to the Green Hammerton playing field on Sun 19 May ... in the shape of a full match between teams of Polish motorbike enthusiasts from the East Riding of Yorkshire. See pic below.

The game was the centre of a lively fundraising afternoon including barbecue, raffle, games and face painting in aid of a brain tumour sufferer.

To book your event or match contact Claire Jeffrey via [marljeff@btinternet.com](mailto:marljeff@btinternet.com).



## Security website worth visiting

*by Bill Smith, village neighbourhood  
watch co-ordinator, 331461*

Do you know that Harrogate District Neighbourhood Watch has a website? Well they do and, more importantly, it has some great advice on a whole range of topics. Go to [nwatchharrogate.org.uk](http://nwatchharrogate.org.uk) and click on the 'security advice' tab on the top left hand menu. This provides a list of topics including, home and buildings security; doorstep crime; identity theft; scams; investment fraud, etc. The advice is obviously the very latest, based on Home Office and police recommendations. You can even discover what 'smartwater' is!

## Family feast is recipe for fun

*by Lisa Moore, 330020*

Kirk Hammerton Playgroup is hosting a family feast event on the afternoon of Sat 22 June. The event is open to everyone and will be held on the playing fields at Kirk Hammerton. There will be lots of yummy food, drinks, a bouncy slide, face painting and lots of fun and games for everyone. This year we will also be holding a series of fun races for all the family to take part in from egg and spoon to the three-legged race. For more details please contact me as above or visit our website: [kirkhammertonplaygroup.co.uk](http://kirkhammertonplaygroup.co.uk).

## Kirk & Green Hammerton WI

David Shaw will talk about 'My Chinese adventure' on Tues 11 June at 7.30pm at Kirk Hammerton village hall. The competition will be 'a Chinese ornament'.

The July meeting is on the **third** Tuesday of the month, July 16, at 7.30 p.m. in Green Hammerton village hall. Please contact Margaret Andrew on 331158, for further details.

## Will that be oil?

*by Jane Bannan*

The order dates don't seem to be getting on the website lately and I am still waiting for my session on how to do it myself. All good things come to those who wait! Anyway, the next two order dates are July 17 and September 11. Summer is approaching and oil usage is reduced so we order less often over the summer months. But oil is usually cheaper when demand is low. I've noticed that the canny are topping up their tanks in the summer! Terry has been getting us some very good prices and long may it continue.

## A word from our sponsor



The Ainsty Farm Shop is proud to announce we have achieved the standards for the Butchers Q Guild, one of the meat industry's highest endorsements of excellence.

We would also like to thank all of our customers for their continued support. From: Stuart & Lily Beaton and the team at Ainsty Farm Shop, York Road, Green Hammerton. 331897 and [sales@ainstyfarmshop.co.uk](mailto:sales@ainstyfarmshop.co.uk).

## Village View

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