

Village View

The newsletter for residents of Green Hammerton

Autumn 2013

Wheel starts turning for Le Tour bonanza

*by Chris Lewis, secretary of
Le Tour village co-ordination group*

An informal group of residents and local businesses have begun sketching out plans for our part in the Tour de France which will pass right by us on the A59.

The village will be a good place to watch the early miles of the stage from York to Sheffield on Sun 6 July. Consequently, we will get many visitors needing food, drink, entertainment and accommodation. The proposals so far are as follows:

- **Beer festival.** Organised by The Bay Horse with associated camping and car parking locally. Visitors will be offered a package of accommodation, car parking and events tickets.

- **Arts/cultural activities.** Badapple Theatre is considering organising a 'Les Voyageurs' mini-arts festival with music, comedy and drama in the week running up to Le Tour as well as children's events and workshops further in advance. Details and funding options are still being explored but the theatre is hopeful that Harrogate Borough Council will support.

- **Village Club.** The club will operate extended opening hours over the weekend with an expanded range of cask ales, ciders

and lagers. Its two large screens will show coverage of the race and there will be live bands on the Friday and Saturday.

continued over ...

Would you buy a second-hand sombrero from this woman? See p2.



▪ **Accommodation.** Since so many visitors are expected there is potential for residents to offer accommodation in the form of B&B or lettings as happens at other major UK sports events such as Wimbledon. Stella at The Bay Horse has offered to liaise with visitors and residents over accommodation if that is helpful to anyone.

▪ **Parking.** Several farmers have offered fields for temporary parking in and adjacent to the village. If residents were prepared to volunteer to assist with marshalling there may be an opportunity to have a share of the car parking fees for village organisations.

▪ **The school, church, GHRC and WI.** All are considering what they might do.

▪ **Craft fair.** One idea needing an organiser is a local craft/food fair showcasing local small businesses and perhaps including children's activities and local exhibitions.

▪ **Traffic management.** It looks like the A59 will be closed for traffic on the Sunday from 4am to maybe tea-time or later. Several ideas for controlling traffic and managing parking within the village were discussed including one-way system and road closures. North Yorkshire Council County highways authority has control of traffic management and once there is greater clarity about what is happening and where the council will be involved and local people consulted on any firm proposals via the parish council.



▪ **Waste and litter.** Extra containers will be needed for rubbish which will be collected by Harrogate Borough Council.

▪ **Toilets.** Temporary toilet facilities will also be required including facilities for disabled people and baby changing. If possible, different groups should co-operate to order

these as soon as possible since the price will be cheaper overall and availability greater now.

The next meeting of the informal Le Tour village co-ordination group will be held on Mon 7 Oct at 8pm at the village club. All are welcome. The meeting will start with a DVD presentation about Le Tour and expected impact on the district.

If you have any specific issues, proposals for events you would like to talk about then please contact me via christine.lewis23@btinternet.com and 339246 or Paul Whelan via paul.whelan201@btinternet.com and 331030. We are still looking for someone to take on the role of co-ordinating village activities for Le Tour so please come forward if this is your sort of thing.

Car boot sale raises over £600

by Martin Leather, chairman of the St Thomas' Church fabric committee

What a great time was had by everyone who joined in with this fundraising event – including Liz Powley on the front page! The sun shone and village residents as well as people from elsewhere came along early in the morning and set up their stalls laden with bric-a-brac, toys, household items, clothes, preserves, plants, etc.

By 9am customers were arriving on the look-out for bargains. A set of stacking storage boxes were an early sale to a young lad who wanted them for his Lego. Plenty of bargaining went on over the course of the morning with stall holders and buyers alike hopefully satisfied with their sales or purchases.

Many remarked during the course of the morning that this sort event demonstrated what the green meant to the village. Without the co-operation of Noel Hetherton and James Leather it would not have been possible and the fabric committee is very grateful to them.

In total £622 was raised, a splendid sum, which will be used to pay for necessary work on the church fabric. Thanks to everyone who contributed in any way to the success of the event which may well be repeated next year.



There may be some confusion among village residents about fundraising for St Thomas' church. We have to raise money to pay for necessary repairs to the church building which goes into the fabric fund. We also have to raise money for the general fund of the parish of Whixley with Green Hammerton. This money covers running costs of both churches and the contribution we have to make to the diocese every year known as our parish share which, in turn, helps to pay for our priest, currently the excellent Revd Chris Parkin. It also contributes to funds for clergy pensions among other things.

▪ Pics by Steve Ross. For more see the village website (greenhammerton.org.uk).

News from the pews

by David MacDonald, 330836

... and further news *about* the pews! A proposal has been put forward to the Parochial Church Council that the front three

rows are removed to provide more usable space at the front of the church. An open meeting to inform the decision whether or not to go ahead with the proposal has been arranged in the church for Tues 15 Oct at 7.30pm. If you can't make it to the meeting but would like to make your views known please contact me. We are very conscious that issues such as these can be contentious and recognise that our church is there for the use and enjoyment of everyone in the village not just church-goers.

As *Village View* goes to press we will be celebrating our harvest festival but, if you've missed it, there will be a harvest service at Whixley next Sun 6 Oct at 6.30 pm where you can "plough the fields and scatter" with the best of them. On the subject of harvest, don't forget the popular fundraising auction at Whixley village hall on Fri 4 Oct at 7 for 7.30pm where you will hear auctioneering at its most supreme and pick up some superb bargains at the same time! Tickets at £7.50 including supper are available from Barry (331419) or Enid (331031).

Sadly, the quiz planned for Sept was cancelled due to lack of ticket sales but another is scheduled – at Whixley village hall on Sat 19 Oct. See p7 for details.

Shop takes stock

by Mike & Gill Rogers of the village shop

Many thanks to those who provided us with constructive feedback following the last *Village View*. We are considering the various comments and suggestions and looking at what we can do in future.

In the meantime we are now pleased to let you know that we are stocking bakery goods from Gilchrist's Bakery which has a shop in Boroughbridge. Bread, cakes and fruit pies are now delivered daily at competitive prices and we have received very positive feedback from those who have tried these. You can see the full range of bakery products which we can order at bakersleeds.co.uk. We are also stocking greeting cards with local views by

York photographer John Potter. His winter range is now in stock, perfect for friends and relatives who have left the area. Available cheaper than on the internet too!

Thanks also to those who have supported the lottery. While our lottery sales have increased by 25 per cent which is excellent unfortunately Camelot is demanding an increase of 100 per cent which is unrealistic. We are awaiting a final decision on whether the lottery will be removed but this will probably be dependent on whether the post office is prepared to fight to keep it. In the meantime we have now introduced the health lottery which will continue to be £1 per ticket whereas the Camelot lottery will be doubling to £2 next month.

Council in recess ... but potholes filled

*by Gilly Leather of
Green Hammerton Parish Council*

There is not much to report this time as we holidayed in August to recover from the heavy pressures of village politics! However, things do happen even when we don't meet. For example, many of our potholes have been repaired at last due to the dogged persistence of our parish clerk and county councillor not to mention at least one vociferous parishioner so thank you to them. New gates to replace some of our more challenging stiles have arrived and hopefully will be fitted very soon. Plans for the Tour de France continue (see front page).

It was due to be back to business for us last Tuesday when we were due co-opt one new member immediately to replace Lyndon Nicholson while buttonholing another to fill the vacancy left by the resignation of Frances Smith. Unfortunately, in order to comply with the rules of co-option, the latter vacancy cannot be filled until Oct 1. We would like to thank Frances for the time she has devoted to the council over the last 18 months. Thanks too to Steve Ross for taking over the running of the village website (see next story).

The recycling chaps have sent a message to us via Sean Harland asking that we remember to crush our cans and plastic bottles and flatten our cardboard as much as possible so that the lorry can consume more at each meal, so to speak thus saving fuel and time on extra journeys to and from the depot. We will be tackling the litter problem again at our next meeting but can we remind all dog owners that leaving dog mess on pavements is really not acceptable.

New village webmaster

by Steve Ross

I have taken on the role of managing the village website in succession to Lyndon Nicholson and following the appeal in the last *Village View*. I already manage the day to day running of the Tockwith Show website which uses very similar systems.

Please could all of website contributors trained by Lyndon continue submitting articles and if anyone else wishes to submit, suggest or correct anything else on the site then use the appropriate contact form which will now come to me. One feature of the website that I'd like to build on is the village email system through which important updates, reminders and news stories are distributed to those who have provided their email address. To register in this way please visit greenhammerton.org.uk/village-email.

Who-oooo dares go on the Hallowe'en trail?

*by Chris Nottingham of the
Green Hammerton Recreational Charity*

Our **murder mystery** last weekend was a total sell-out with proceeds being counted as *Village View* went to press. Thanks to everyone who bought tickets in advance and apologies to all those who were disappointed. If you are among them you may be pleased to know that we've kept a note of your name and you will have priority booking for a repeat

performance on Sat 23 Nov. (This event will replace the planned quiz night which will be rescheduled probably for late Jan or early Feb). All ticket enquiries for the murder mystery to Carole Rutter (331669) or Sue Holden (330440). As before the event starts at 7.30pm and the cost is £12.50 which includes a two-course supper.

Don't forget the **Hallowe'en ghost stories** around the village on Sun 27 Oct from 5.30pm starting in the village hall. Tickets cost £2.50 per child and include a hot dog and drink with a selection ghostly goodies for the children. Beer and mulled wine is on sale for adults as well as the food. Please book your tickets as soon as possible as there are only so many places available and this too is a popular event.

Horsing around at the club

by Chris Nottingham of the village club

Members enjoyed a club trip to Blackpool in August followed later in the month by a very popular and successful solid silver 60s and 70s disco with barbecue which raised over £80 for club maintenance funds. Forthcoming events include:

- Fundraising **race night** with horse-related quiz and barbecue (no horseburgers, though!) on Sat 27 Sept. For horse and race sponsorship enquiries contact Neil Phillip on 07795 387441. All proceeds to Green Hammerton Cricket Club.
- The **big quiz** returns to its normal format on the Fri 11 Oct at 9pm and from then on alternate Friday evenings.
- We welcome back the popular cover band **Red on Blond** on Sat 19 Oct which, judging by their last appearance, will be a very popular evening.
- Our **Country & Western nights** are going from strength to strength every fourth Friday. Country artist Billy Leonard is the special guest on Fri 1 Nov.

Brand new show from Badapple Theatre

by Kate Bramley of Bad Apple

Tickets are now on sale for our newest show 'The Carlton Colliers' that comes to Green Hammerton village hall on Sun 10 Nov at 7.30pm. It's an original comedy by Kate Bramley with music by Jez Lowe about village life, love and occasionally football.



Nothing ever happens in Carlton Flatts. Unless you count the time that the Colliers won the Inter-Village cup. But that was before the big strike. Before Jemmy was even born! But you have to dream, don't you? And Jemmy wants to dream big.

Nina hates football. She's got her Zumba classes and a bit part on Corrie as a dancer, which could be her dream ticket to something big as long as her Nana doesn't see it. Nana still thinks a street-dance party is something you'd invite the Queen to open. Chris reckons people are starting to treat him like he's old. But playing the fool has served him pretty well for most of his life so he thinks he may as well just carry on. The great thing about staying in Carlton is that nobody notices that you're doing nothing, 'cause there is nothing for anyone to do.

But there is something welling up from beneath their feet, from deep down in the old pit workings. It's something momentous and the village is starting to grow once again ...

Tickets are priced at £9.50 for adults and £5 for under 16s and available from the box office on 339168.

Flying high at Helenfield

by Alistair Taylor

For the last two years I have observed and recorded butterflies at Helenfield as a part of the national Big Butterfly Count run annually by the charity Butterfly Conservation. The returns are used by the charity and researchers to monitor populations of butterflies across the country. This year 460,000 people took part in the Count and the sunny summer resulted in a significant improvement in butterfly numbers which had been devastated by the previous very wet summer.

The count takes only 15 minutes and in Helenfield is based on a slow walk along the central ride. The species recorded were large and small whites, ringlet, meadow brown, gatekeeper, speckled wood, comma and peacock. Of these species the gatekeeper was particularly plentiful this year. One species which had been observed last year but did not make an appearance this time was the small copper.

Meanwhile, the Helenfield management committee and conservation group welcomes seeks volunteers to assist with the active management of the reserve as a haven for wildlife. From this month to the end of March on dates to be decided we will be organising a number of winter working parties to help carry out various important tasks including the selective coppicing of alders, removal of invading sycamore seedlings/saplings and selective cutting back of brambles.

No special skills are required. On the day you will be asked to help sned felled trees (remove small side branches), cut back brambles and to create brash and log piles (good for invertebrates, small mammals and nesting birds). If you are interested (even if available only for an hour or so) please contact me at Croft Cottage or via 330330 and alistairgreenhammerton@gmail.com. If you have previously helped with this work you will automatically receive the details of the working parties.

Busy bees at The Hive

by Laura Wells-Law

The Hive at Green Hammerton Primary School offers after school clubs from 3.15 until 6pm, five days a week as well as a breakfast club from 7.45am.

Last month we held a teddy bears' picnic. In addition to such special events we also run weekly clubs which, last month, were a games club every Wednesday and ICT club every Friday. In October we will have a science club every Wednesday where we shall be showing the children how to make a volcano plus arts and crafts sessions on Thursdays where we shall be making Hallowe'en masks for the spooky spectacular at the end of the first half-term!

▪ The school is holding an open morning for prospective parents and children on Sat 9 Nov from 10am-12pm.

Christmas (nearly) starts here

*by Rachael Holloway of
Friends of Green Hammerton School*

We are preparing for a busy term in the run up to Christmas. We kick off with a coffee, cake and chat to welcome our new parents and will also be introducing ourselves to prospective parents at the school's open day. The children are looking forward to the first disco of the academic year in October. We are also hoping to hold a ladies' shopping night at the beginning of November.

We are collecting Morrisons vouchers and Nestlé box tops so please pass any you have on to someone at school or drop them into the office. One last plea: if you're doing Christmas shopping online please consider signing up to easyfundraising.org.uk and choosing Green Hammerton Primary as your good cause? The school then earns cash every time you shop with one of the many retailers listed on the website.

Rainbows mark first birthday

by Julia O'Connor

1st Hammerton with Whixley Rainbows is celebrating its first birthday with a party this month planned by the Rainbows. During the last year the unit has grown from eight Rainbows to 15 with a waiting list. The group of 5-7 year old girls (part of the worldwide Guiding organisation) meet in the village hall on Wednesday evenings from 6-7pm. Girls come from surrounding local villages including Long Marston and Tockwith to enjoy fun, friendship and adventures.

During the last year we have been awarded a festivals badge, hosted a teddy bears' picnic for 60 other Rainbows in the division, visited Helenfield for a nature walk, hosted a fundraising coffee morning and raised money for the British Heart Foundation with an Artie's Olympics sports event. We are hoping to attend the Brownie's 100th Anniversary celebrations at Wetherby in the spring and are fundraising for this and activity equipment via the Waitrose Community Matters token scheme this month. If you shop in Waitrose in Harrogate then please add to the support. Contact Vicky Abbott 339401 or Julia O'Connor 330162 for more information.

Singers in concert

The Kirk Hammerton Singers will be performing at Great Ouseburn village hall on Sat 5 Oct at 7.30pm. With a 'stage and screen' theme, the concert includes songs from Oliver, Les Miserables, Breakfast at Tiffany's, Chess and Disney. Tickets at £5 are available from Great Ouseburn village stores or choirmaster Nigel Robertshaw (331081 or nigel.nhko2@tiscali.co.uk). Proceeds will be shared between Ouseburn and Kirk Hammerton village halls.

Formed initially for the Diamond Jubilee, the informal choir is always on the look-out for singers from the local villages. It rehearses at Kirk Hammerton village hall on Thursdays at 7.30pm.

News round-up

▪ Congratulations to **Rachael Pearson and Robert Kelly** who were married at St Thomas's Church on Sat 14 Sept. Revd Chris Parkin walked from church to meet Rachael, her father Terry, and the bridesmaids. They promenaded through the village, eagerly watched by friends, family and residents. A 1948 red London bus transported guests from and to The Parsonage at Escrick to Green Hammerton.



▪ Green Hammerton **baby and toddler group** meets every Friday morning in term time from 10am to 11.45am at the village hall. The sessions are a chance for mums, dads and grandparents to come and have a cuppa and chat and let the kids roam free with toys in the company of other like-minded roaming toddlers. Call Caroline Hale if you need more information on 07715 421688 or just come along. We're very friendly!

▪ The popular **Christian Aid quiz** returns to Whixley village hall on Sat 19 Oct at 7.30pm. The event includes a chilli and jacket potato supper, a bar with fair trade wine and soft drinks and raffle. This function is organised by Christian Aid supporters from Green Hammerton and Whixley to support the work of this high profile charity both in relieving

poverty in the developing world and in their campaigning on major issues such as fair trade, climate change and changes to international taxation laws. Tickets priced £8 are available at the door or by contacting Helena Leather (330694), Angela Taylor (330330) or Enid Fisher (331031).

▪ A hard season saw the 1st XI of **Green Hammerton Cricket Club** finishing mid-table in division three of the Wetherby league and the 2nd XI fifth in division six. Future events include our AGM on Wed 16 Oct at 8pm at the village club and annual dinner on Sat 16 Nov at 7.30pm at the Anchor Inn.

▪ A ‘**stitch and bitch**’ evening in aid of the Children’s Heart Surgery Fund takes place at the village hall on Thu 3 Oct at 7.30pm. Ideal for experts and novices alike. Tickets cost £5 (includes wine and nibbles) and are available via morag.caunt@btinternet.com and 07974 859733.

▪ Despite a prolonged cold start to the year most **allotment holders** have had a productive year and some have done really well. We are going to tidy up hedges and trees around the plots at the end of September now the birds have stopped nesting and will be upgrading the main paths in the next few weeks. Currently there are 18 holders gardening on a quarter, half or whole plot. There are no vacancies at present and a small waiting list. If anyone is interested in putting their name down please speak to Amy Lax, Paul Kennedy or Jane Bannan, as below.

▪ Next order dates for the West of Ouse **oil syndicate** are Oct 16, Nov 27 and Jan 3 with delivery usually a week or so afterwards. Free to join, the 85-strong syndicate gets between 2p and 6p off the on the day price of a litre of oil. For more details please contact me at janebannan@btinternet.com.

▪ **Kirk & Green Hammerton WI** reports that Ken Humphries will give a talk on the music of Andrew Lloyd Webber on Tues 8 Oct at 7.30pm at Kirk Hammerton village hall. For the competition please bring an object to remind us of one of his shows. The

members’ AGM will be held at the same venue Tues 12 Nov at 7.30pm. Please contact Margaret Andrew on 331158 for further details.

▪ The Kirkwood family wishes to thanks those who bought their **plums** raising £48.32 for St Michael’s Hospice in Harrogate. Pickers and packers pictured are Polly Anna and Bertie, cousin Mads and aunt Beck.



▪ **Editor’s note.** Thanks to correspondents for the bumper load of news this issue – and apologies for having to make more cuts than usual to cram it all in.

Village View

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