

# Village View

The newsletter for residents of Green Hammerton

Winter 2015 edition

## Cycle path on track

by Jon Purday

**There's positive news on our plan for a safe cycle track to link Green Hammerton to Thorpe Underwood and into the National Cycle Network (NCN).**

Chris Lewis, our local councillor, has been very active in getting backing for the initiative and Rebecca Burnett, chair of the Harrogate Cycle Forum and Harrogate Council's cabinet member for sustainable transport, has visited the village to talk about our ideas. After walking potential routes Rebecca said: "I think you have an excellent scheme and will work with you to help in any way I can to see it delivered."

Green Hammerton and Little Ouseburn parish councils, responsible for the two communities at either end of the link, have also committed to the plan. Sustrans, which is responsible for developing the NCN, is also involved. Regional manager, Rupert Douglas, came to Green Hammerton to consider the route. He said: "Sustrans is keen to create links into the Way of the Roses coast to coast route which comes down from Great Ouseburn, crosses Aldwark Bridge and links to NCN route 65. The proposed new track from would be easily accessible from Hammerton station. It would also be very good news for local people who provide catering and accommodation."

Brian Martin, provost of Queen Ethelburga's Collegiate, has shown interest in the proposal and said that he would be willing to support it. This is great news for pupils and staff of the college and others who work at Thorpe Underwood and live in Green Hammerton.

Our next step is to commission Sustrans to draw up a full technical specification which will provide a survey of the best route, recommend the right surface (which suits the rural setting but is long-lasting and properly drained) and set out the quantities of materials needed and cost. At that point we can make a funding bid, fitting it closely to the government's cycling action plan and making sure it meets Harrogate Council's criteria.



### What's Mike up to? See p2

*Also inside ...*

- Win meat from Tancred Farm Shop – p5
- Roll up for big village quiz – p2
- Cricketing memory from 1994 – p3
- School friends raise over £1k – p4

## Village ready for anything

*by Steve Ross*

In recent months a small team of villagers has been in consultation with Harrogate Borough Council and other bodies reviewing the resilience plan which details how Green Hammerton would react in the case of an emergency within or close to the village boundaries.

The basic plan is being updated and will list all of the help within the village that is readily available along with methods of proceeding in the event of plan implementation. The plan covers many scenarios including a major road incident, evacuation of premises, wide scale power failure, wide scale water supply failure, heavy snow, flooding, major fire and severe wind damage. Once the plan is finalised a copy will be displayed on the noticeboard in the village hall and a new page on the village website.

A critical issue raised was the methods of communication to be used in an emergency to keep villagers up to date on its current state. We would put out updates on the village website homepage and also put copies of this update on as many noticeboards and public places as possible. The update would include the reason for the emergency, actions being taken and also a contact phone number that would go through to a pre-recorded message. An email would also be sent out to all who are registered to receive news updates from the village website.

Members of the team have now been issued with some basic items of kit and clothing to ensure that we are partially ready for an event occurring. Mike Powley is pictured on the front cover modelling this season's 'must have' outfit for snow clearing.

If you can assist in any way with the plan, for instance, by supplying equipment or have specialist knowledge that may be useful to us then please email me at [spross32@aol.com](mailto:spross32@aol.com). Other team members are Ian Bailes, Sam Blacker, Jayne Knights, Martin Leather and Mike Powley.

## Questions about table tennis table

*by Chris Turner of the  
Green Hammerton Recreational Charity*

As most of you will know by now the table tennis table has been vandalised. The police are aware of suspects but we would still ask you to be vigilant and if you see anything please call the police immediately.



As the table is well used – not just by the children in the village, all of whom actually appreciate it – we are keen to repair it. Needless to say the work isn't cheap; we think the cost will be around £800. To

help us raise these funds why don't you join us for the quiz night? It was originally scheduled for Sat 7 Feb but so many people who normally come along are going to spend the evening with Snow White and the seven dwarves in Whixley that night ("oh yes, they are!") we have rescheduled the quiz for Sat 28 Feb at 7 for 7.30pm prompt start. A two-course hot supper will be served and the whole evening only costs £7.50 in advance or £10 on the door. If you are not able to attend and want to support this worthwhile cause please donate a raffle prize. A bar will be available as usual. Tickets from and donations to Carole Rutter on 331669, Sue Holden on 330440 and me on 331306.

Forward dates for your diary include the 'meet and eat' on Sat 16 May, barbecue on Sat 20 June and ghost stories on Sun 1 Nov.

## Grass plan in preparation for spring

*by Chris Chelton of Green Hammerton parish council*

With no council meeting having been held in December there's not too much to report. If like me you caught a bout of that awful cough and cold bug over the festive season you will be on the mend now. Council members will be ready for lively debates into this year without wheezing and coughing too much throughout proceedings.

Thank you to all those who completed the village management questionnaire that was circulated to every household. There was a good number returned and responses to key questions about how the village should look were supported by many interesting individual views and observations.

The message was pretty clear. An overwhelming majority of residents want to see our grassed areas within the main residential centre cut short and tidy throughout the growing season. There was similar strong support for the trial conservation area besides the millennium plinth to be allowed more time to develop and for the grassed area besides the post office to be seeded with poppies in commemoration of the Great War centenary. While some weren't completely sure the majority of respondents said they were happy for verges along New Lane to the A59, Kirk Hammerton Lane and beyond Main Pine to be subject to the more relaxed cutting regime outlined in the survey but with a safety border for pedestrians being cut at the road edge throughout the year. We will consider publicising a detailed breakdown of the survey on the village website and council noticeboard.

Councillors Ivan Andrews and Alistair Taylor are leading on developing the survey response into a management plan that we can get underway in good time for spring. It is a great help that most of you who already keep grassed areas outside your homes cut are happy to carry on particularly given that the county council will stop cutting many verges around the village this year.



## Down Memory Lane: some ladies on page 3

Here's the Green Hammerton ladies' cricket team in a pic taken on 27 June 1994. Back row, from left: Sally Powell, Carol Proudley, Jan Ryder, Sarah Jones, Carol Orton, Sonia Reynolds, Andrew Gowlett (scorer). Front row: Ann Bowman, Melissa Reynard, Julie Mann (captain), Sue Tulley and Chris Bacon.

- Green Hammerton Cricket Club is holding winter nets every Tuesday at 8pm at Tadcaster cricket school. New players welcome. Please keep an eye on noticeboards for news of fundraising events. Contact: Neil Phillips on 07795387441.

## News from the pews

*by David MacDonald of St Thomas' church*

I begin with up to date news about the pews. I'm pleased to say that we now have the necessary approval to remove them from the front of the church to create a larger, more flexible space for us to work with. Before we can make a start, however, we have to decide what to do with the pews when they are removed. We will be exploring what possibilities are open to us over the next few weeks. Then, of course, our thoughts will have

to turn to alternative seating arrangements in the form of stackable chairs which meet the appropriate health and safety requirements (surprise, surprise!). If any of you good people have any ideas which we might be able to work on please get in touch..

As in previous years our crib service was a great success thanks as always to Liz Hines and her team for their hard work. It was also very well supported as was the Christmas Day family service. Thanks to Barry for leading it and to everyone who joined us.

Unfortunately, Liz has had to end her involvement with the Sunday school for work reasons. The torch has been taken over by members of the existing team (with some new additions) under the leadership of Rachael Holloway. They will also assist with the monthly parish praise. You have been a star, Liz. Your hard work setting up and running the Sunday school has been inspirational. Sunday school will now be held on the fourth Sunday of each month at 10.30am in the church.

So with 2015 well under way we are now heading towards the next major event in the church year, Lent and the lead up to Easter. There will be some changes to the normal pattern of services during this period to accommodate special dates such as Ash Wednesday, Mothering Sunday and Palm Sunday so keep an eye on the church noticeboard and the weekly village emails for details of what is happening.

Many of you will by now have met Revd Joan Roper who joined the ministry team at the end of 2013. She will be licensed by Bishop James as assistant curate in the benefice at a communion service at Great Ouseburn church on Mon 2 Feb (Candlemas).



▪ The church fabric committee wishes to thank Martin Helliwell of the Village Club for his valuable assistance in setting up the church floodlighting for the Christmas period. We are planning to install a permanent solution in time for next Christmas. Pic by Steve Ross.

## Helenfield: a special legacy

*by Alistair Taylor, 330330*

Helenfield work days will continue through February and March and are scheduled for Tues 10 and Sun 22 Feb and Sun 8 March subject to weather. We usually work from 10am until 3pm but whether you want to come for the morning or afternoon or perhaps for an hour we are grateful for your help. New volunteers are especially welcome and should contact me as above.

If it wasn't for James Leather who died on Jan 10 the developing woodland at Helenfield would doubtless still be one enormous pile of rubble. Originally the Green Hammerton brick works and subsequently a county council domestic refuse dump, the site was further despoiled by the illegal dumping of demolition materials. When the rogue contractor responsible went bankrupt James stepped in and bought the site from the receivers, complete with planning enforcement orders. He subsequently set in train the series of events which led to it being reclaimed and planted and finally gifted to the parish under a covenant requiring its development and management with the objective of becoming a wildlife haven. As I've previously reported in Village View it was named Helenfield after his first wife.

James took a great interest in Helenfield until the very end and frequently visited on his buggy. He was delighted with the way in which it is progressing and becoming the wildlife haven that he hoped it would be. This village owes James much in many ways but Helenfield is a very special legacy and a wonderful community asset. Thank you, James.

## A thank you and a plea

*from Gilly Leather*

I have been so uplifted by the many cards and messages, offers of help and flowers I have received from people in the village since James's death and I would like to thank everyone especially those who are grieving themselves and have still managed to make time to contact me.

The plea. I will be opening my garage to the public during February. Therein lie a million and one things that were to come in useful one day but to date have not. I would really like to be able to get my car into the garage so please do come and have a rummage amongst the tools, bicycles, leaf blowers, etc. You would be doing me a great favour. Just give me a ring on 330307 if you would like to come and have a look. I do not want any money for anything but if you would feel better making a small donation then please do so to our surgery so that we can all benefit from my dad's and James's treasures.

## School news round-up

*by Laura Wells-Law of Green Hammerton School*

Next month class 2, 3 and 4 pupils are taking part in a 'Dance around the World' global arts celebration and cultural dance festival at the Galtres Centre theatre in Easingwold. This event will bring together children from across our cluster of schools in a celebration and showcase of dance. Each class from our school is busy preparing routines in different styles: class 2 will perform an Indian dance, Class 3 Spanish and Class 4 African.

A number of representatives from each class meet regularly as the school and curriculum council to discuss issues of concern and ways of improving school. At a recent meeting there were hot topics of debate including holding an international day, new toilet facilities, new display boards, sports clubs, book week and school trips. Our children take their roles very seriously and strive to make the school a better place for themselves and their classmates.

## Friends fair tops a grand

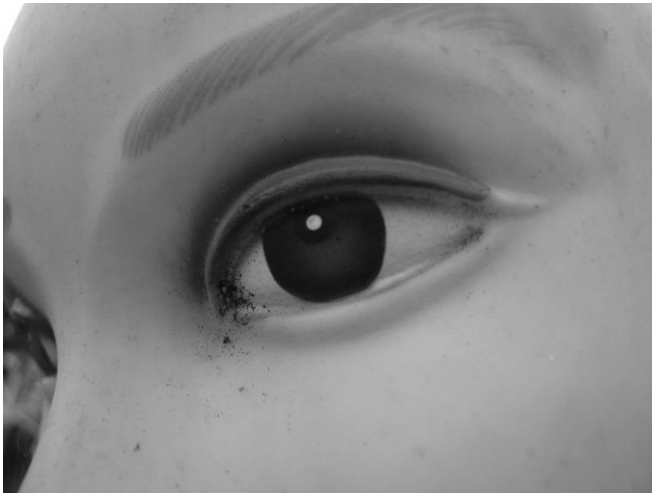
*by Rachael Holloway of  
Friends of Green Hammerton School*

Our biggest fundraiser of the year, the Christmas fair, was a great success with total proceeds hitting £1,030. Thank you to all those who attended and supported us. We also ran a very successful secret Santa room and put on a great party for the children.

Looking ahead into the New Year we have the return of the Great Green Hammerton Class bake off, Easter

teas, another disco and a family magic show at Whixley village hall on Fri 13 March at 6.15pm. We're also aiming to put on an event linked to World Book Day in March so it looks like we're going to be busy!

## Competition: win Tancred Farm goodies



Where in the village would you find this beady eye? Email your answer (one per household) to the editor (see back page) by the closing date of Feb 15. The first correct entry out of the hat wins a 'winter warmer' pack from The Tancred Farm Shop, Whixley. Retailing at just £12, the prize consists of a pork roasting joint, three trays of sausages and a pack of dry cure bacon.

An entry flooded in for the caption competition in the last issue. The sender – and, therefore, winner – was Chris Turner. Her line for the pic of Chris Nottingham having his nails painted at last summer's family fun day was: "Nailed IT!" (as in IT, Chris Nottingham's line of work). The prize was Sunday lunch at The Alice Hawthorn, Nun Monkton.



## Simon's reindeer rescue

*by the editor*

Many thanks to Simon Mack for displaying Christmas lights for the village from the Old Reading Room. Stars of the show this year were a pair of cut-out wooden reindeer.

Simon told Village View: "They previously belonged to the Rotary Club that used them on their Father Christmas trailer. The reindeer were damaged following a road accident and I came across them about to go on the bonfire at Tockwith in November.

The antlers and legs were broken but I managed to repair them. I had some lights and got some more from dad as an early Christmas present!"

Thanks also to the Ainsty Farm Shop for supplying the tree which was previously on display at Green Hammerton primary school.

## Pork and cakes on WI menu

*by Elsie Rymer of Kirk & Green Hammerton WI*

'Ladies in pigs' were the speakers for our December meeting. As well as telling us about their organisation we were treated to tastings of three pork dishes and provided with the recipes. Later that week we hosted the Marston Moor Group of WIs' carol service at Kirk Hammerton church. The collection raised over £200 for the Motor Neurone Disease Association in memory of one of our members.

We started the New Year with a very entertaining yet instructive evening with Jenny Hotson talking about and demonstrating how to decorate cupcakes. We hung on her every word and movement as there is a cupcake category in our group show in September. Demonstration pieces were raffled off at the end of the evening and almost every member went home with at least one beautifully decorated cake. All our New Year resolutions were ruined in one go. We were also pleased to welcome three new members. The icing on the cake, you could say!

'The trials and tribulations of family history with Michael Greatorex' is the subject of our next meeting at Green Hammerton village hall on Feb 10. 'The making of truffles, pickles and gin from sloes with Jonathon Curtoys from Sloemotion' is the subject of the following meeting at Kirk Hammerton village hall on March 10.

All meetings begin at 7.30pm and visitors are welcome at £3 per meeting. Contact either Ann Johnson on 01904 738541 and [anneandwilliam@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:anneandwilliam@tiscali.co.uk) or Elsie Rymer on 01423 331641 and [sunny.bank@talktalk.net](mailto:sunny.bank@talktalk.net) for further details.

## Goldsmith winners

*by Steve Ross for the Village Club*

Congratulations to our recent winners. They are Mary Kirby who won the Dot Jenks knockout domino match in memory of Dot Goldsmith and Scott Brown who won the Jimmy Jenks knockout pool tournament in memory of Jimmy Goldsmith. Runners-up respectively were Neil Phillips and Dave Walker. Both events are organised every year by the Goldsmith family in memory of Jimmy and Dot Goldsmith with any surplus money going to the children's Christmas party which this year will benefit from £30.

- The club has altered its opening hours, closing an hour earlier on Saturdays and Sundays. The new opening hours are: Mon-Thu 6-11pm, Fri 5.30-midnight, Sat 4-11pm and Sun noon-11pm.

## Walking the talk

by Jane Bannan (incl. pic)



Chatty Ramblers, a new Green Hammerton walking group, are pictured on their second walk. Seven walkers and three dogs completed a local 4½-mile route which was enjoyed by all. From left are Lisa Evans, Jayne Knights, Julia O'Connor, Chris Turner, Gill Blacker and Liz Powley. The next walk takes place on Thu 26 Feb at 11am. All welcome. Meet at the millennium plinth/phone box.

## News in brief

- Two new pages have been added to the **village website** ([greenhammerton.org.uk](http://greenhammerton.org.uk)). They show local village website links and the resilience plan (see p2). If any of the younger members of our community wishes to contribute content to the site or has any suggestions for it please contact webmaster Steve Ross via [spross32@aol.com](mailto:spross32@aol.com). Don't forget to check the regularly updated events calendar.

- North Yorkshire Police is seeking to recruit more **special constables** reports Bill Smith, Neighbourhood Watch co-ordinator. Specials are volunteers, who commit at least four hours of their time per week to keeping communities safe. They go through a rigorous training programme before they qualify to go out on the beat working alongside regular police officers. Visit [nypspecials.com](http://nypspecials.com) for more information.

- **Kirk Hammerton Singers** start rehearsals for their summer concert on Thu 5 March at 7.30pm at Kirk Hammerton village hall. More men particularly welcome. Contact: Nigel Robertshaw on 331081.

- Next **oil order dates**: Feb 4 and March 4. Contact: [janebannan@btinternet.com](mailto:janebannan@btinternet.com).

## Cures for cabin fever

by Claire Jeffrey

Desperate to get out and do something in the grottiest month of the year? Well, here's a quick reminder of the ongoing weekly activities available at Green Hammerton village hall together with contact details for more information.

- Baby and toddler group. Fri 10am. £2 for over 1s and £1 for under 1s which includes a snack and drink. Next session: Fri 6 Feb. The group plans to hold a toddler session during half-term (Fri 20 Feb) with older siblings welcome (£2 per child). Contact: [ghtoddlers@gmail.com](mailto:ghtoddlers@gmail.com).

- Book club. Thu 8pm (monthly). Peter Morrill, 331162 or [petermorrill@gmail.com](mailto:petermorrill@gmail.com).

- Brownies. Mon 6pm. Mandy Kuunal, 330527.

- Dru yoga. Thu 6.30pm. Jenni Kirkwood, [jenniyoga.wordpress.com](http://jenniyoga.wordpress.com).

- Fit4Fun circuits-based class. Wed 10am. Ian Salvin, 07827 338775.

- Karate. Mon 4.45pm. [enquiries@martialartsforlife.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@martialartsforlife.co.uk).

- Pilates. Tues 9.30am. Claire Morrell, 07789 966759 or [claire@goldsboroughphysiotherapy.co.uk](mailto:claire@goldsboroughphysiotherapy.co.uk).

- Rainbows. Wed 6pm. Vicky Abbott, [vickyabbott@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:vickyabbott@yahoo.co.uk) and 339401.



*Love in the snow – down St Thomas's Way. Pic by Jane Bannan.*

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