

Village View

The newsletter for residents of Green Hammerton



Bumper Christmas
2018 edition



Bravo!
Village play is a
double sell-out

Ten actors all from the village, a pair of Jane Austen skits, about 140 supper covers, two sold out performances and £1,900 raised for Keep Green Hammerton Green and the Green Hammerton Recreational Charity.

All that added up to a memorable third annual drama weekend last month.

Pictured above are the cast of the second play, *Pride at Southanger Park*. From left they are, standing, Liz Hines, Martin Knights, Paul Kirkwood, Tom Polito and Stephen Cameron and, seated, Loretta Smith, Rosie Powley and Helen Walsh.

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Barry Atkinson reviews (from front page):

Those of you who elected not to come or simply couldn't obtain tickets to Chris Turner's latest production missed two wonderful evenings of supper and theatre.

First up was the world premiere of *Living with Mrs Bennett*, beautifully and especially written for the occasion by Kate Bramley from Badapple Theatre Company. Featuring Claire Jeffrey and David MacDonald, pictured below, as Mr and Mrs Bennett of Jane Austen fame, the story centred around letters written between them. Mrs Bennett is desperately searching for a suitable husband – preferably one with money and a title – for the fourth of their five daughters. Claire Jeffrey's scheming and manipulative Mrs Bennett was played with great conviction while one almost felt sorry for her frustrated and at times bumbling husband. It's not always easy to play a two-hander short play like this but the pair acquitted themselves admirably on tight but convincing set.



The second offering, *Pride at Southanger Park*, was truly a comedy tour de force, written by Rupert Bean and featured in Michael Green's *Art of Course Acting*. This absolutely hilarious romp through the regency drawing room of Southanger Park in Hampshire begins with a delicate, well-modulated performance by Rosie Powley playing Cecily who is in sore need of a husband. Her Aunt Fanny Bottomley, played very forcibly by the wonderful Loretta Smith, is against the dastardly Marcus D'Angelo who, literally and metaphorically, is very sure of himself and thrusts at every opportunity.

Martin Knights thoroughly enjoys himself in this peach of a part as does William Squires, an understated role performed with intelligence by the young, handsome but diffident, Stephen Cameron. He is also in line for the hand of our heroine thanks to his scheming mother in the form of Helen Walsh who doesn't have much to say but gets in the way nevertheless. Paul Kirkwood provides a delightful, bumbling performance as the Revd Giles Henry, insisting on popping up and down in an effort to marry off the young Cecily. Rita Horner, the amazing wardrobe mistress, was unable to find a vicar's costume so the poor reverend has to make do with a full bishop's set of robes including a mitre.

Throughout proceedings Liz Hines' maid, Gladys, is not one to let the few words she is given detract from

the fact that here is a mistress of comic timing, knowing just when to give it out full on but also knowing just when to stop. Well, nearly! A riot ensues when the wife of Tom Polito playing Sir Thomas Bottomley goes into labour, expecting triplets. (Annabelle will be relieved to know that this is all in the script!). Characters fall over themselves to accommodate the shift in the plot while Sir Tom, mobile phone in hand, tries unsuccessfully to take charge of the situation.

Did I mention mobiles in Regency England? So I did. Add chiming doorbells and wristwatches not to mention a Yorkshire Terrier who is regularly sat upon and you've got the picture. On top of this Claire Jeffrey as the theatre manager interjects to sell sweets, cigarettes and ices making for a very cramped stage full of characters. They all romped through their individual and collective roles with enormous gusto, a great feeling of fun and the knowledge that they had brought a huge deal of pleasure to a packed hall.

Director Chris Turner writes:

I'd like to thank everyone that supported us. There were too many to mention. A three-course meal and two plays for £15 seemed to please everyone. Thankfully, we didn't run out of food! We all had great fun (I think) during rehearsals. If you're interested in taking part next time look out for the audition date in September in Village View.

The editor, aka Revd Giles Henry, writes:

I take my hat – or should that be mitre – off to Chris. It's only when you're part of these productions that you realise how much work and responsibility she takes on from finding and casting an appropriate play to cajoling, coaching and mothering the actors, to baking the delicious cakes for breaks in rehearsals, right down to containing Dexter every time Sir Thomas sat on the whoopee cushion. Thank you for a great experience for those both on and off the stage and two very special community occasions.

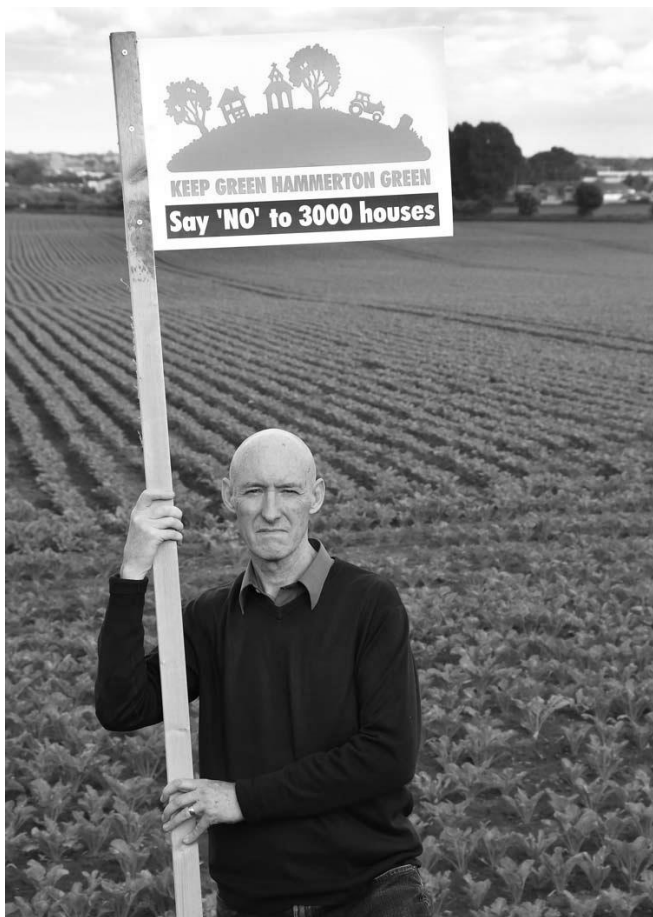
Rally cry for crunch council meeting

by Chris Chelton of Keep Green Hammerton Green

The 16 Harrogate Borough councillors forming the district development committee met last month to discuss the recently released draft local plan. Members of the action group from Green and Kirk Hammerton were there to listen and ask questions. Several councillors also asked difficult questions of the planning officers, some actually speaking in favour of the Flaxby site and questioning the loss of agricultural land building here would cause.

In our most recent newsletter we said that "the council will be making a decision" and that is what we expected to see. Well, surprise ... the council made a decision to *not* make a decision. In this long awaited report and at the meeting it became clear that council planners still want to see a 3,000-house town in the "Green Hammerton area" but are now considering a more flexible outline. Speaking of including some aspects of

the Cattal/Maltkiln proposal we are being led to the conclusion that, if it is approved, planners may want to shift the actual footprint of the town more towards Cattal perhaps sparing the fields below Kirk Hammerton Lane and excluding land on the Boroughbridge Road side of the A59. This move is far from clear as yet but seems to be something planners may be contemplating perhaps as a way of reducing adverse visual impact and the conjoining of Green and Kirk Hammerton.



The draft local plan report clearly discounts the Flaxby option which is very disappointing given the many compelling reasons for that site being the best one. The report has also introduced a degree of uncertainty as to council planners' timescale for building any new town. It now speaks of the new settlement being subject to a report by 2020 and any building possibly not commencing until 2024/25 but still achieving expected delivery by 2035. 'Do the planning officers know themselves what they want?', we ask? They are determined to produce a local plan to avoid government intervention and this might be a reason for them ploughing ahead in the face of good argument and overwhelming objection.

The Green and Kirk Hammerton action groups are now preparing to take our case to the examination in public due to be held next summer and looking into the possibility of further expert advice and support. Options will be subject to scrutiny by an independent planning inspector and we hope to present sound reasons to reject the choice of Green Hammerton and choose Flaxby if the council still insists on creating a new, substantial settlement.

Councillors have their last opportunity this year to review the draft local plan when all 54 of them meet in Harrogate on Wed 13 Dec at 5.30pm. Once again members of the two action groups will be there to pose questions and express our continued dissatisfaction with the direction they are taking. We understand that due to anticipated numbers the venue will be either the Royal Hall or the conference centre as the new civic centre facilities would limit public admissions. It would be great to see as many residents there as possible to listen and protest. There are now so many other campaign groups some who will know will also be present. We expect a large turnout and a variety of banners not just Keeping Green and Kirk Hammerton Green but trying to stop development in a number of other areas. It will be interesting witness both this presence and the reaction of the full council to it. Do come along.

Concerns over New Lane development

by Ivan Andrew of Green Hammerton parish council

Harrogate Borough Council (HBC) still plans to go ahead with its proposal to build 3,000 houses at the greater Hammerton and Maltkiln sites. At the moment it is keeping options open regarding these two sites but has rejected the site at the Flaxby golf course. HBC continues to target delivery of a large volume of houses even though the government has reduced the need from 669 per year to 395. The Keep Green Hammerton Green group strongly encourages parishioners to write to HBC planners and councillors to express their views on these developments and advocate Flaxby as a more appropriate site. We have been told that the owners of the Flaxby site are taking legal advice before deciding whether to submit their plans separately from the HBC plan.

Meanwhile, an application to build five houses in the field down Back Lane has been made by Loxley Homes. The parish council has objected on the grounds that lane is not suitable for an extra 10 plus cars because of its narrowness, the lack of footpaths and the tightness and angle of the head of the lane beside the Bay Horse.

Strata, developers of the field on New Lane, held a presentation at the village hall about their proposal to build 72 houses with access via New Lane. They are willing to meet the parish council to discuss their plans which they hope to submit early in 2018 for completion in 2019. Our current prime concern regards the number of extra vehicles – over 100 – which would use New Lane and, in particular, the junction opposite the village shop. This bend is already dangerous and may, perhaps, become even more so if road access is widened.

Construction of new houses continues to raise concerns around the village. St Thomas's Way is blighted with HGVs which leave mud on the road on departure despite efforts by the builders to regularly clean the road. Some vehicles arrive outside authorised hours or wait on York Road causing other problems. The joining of St Thomas's Way to the new

development has raised additional issues for residents as have road closures by utility companies for those living in houses affected by the ongoing construction. The position was improved with the help of our local district councillor, Ash Teague, who approached the utility company on our behalf. We believe the work is now complete.

We have supported Great Ouseburn parish council in its objection to plans to build an explosives and storage site on Lightmire Lane in Great Ouseburn. Again the issue of heavy traffic on rural roads is the main contention.

We congratulate the Stop the Beet Factory campaign's excellent efforts to highlight concerns about the impact of the proposed sugar beet factory at Allerton. At present the project seems to have encountered several significant delays. We look forward to a rapid and successful conclusion if this application is withdrawn or refused.

We have been informed that the bearings are being replaced on Skip Bridge on the A59 from 8 Jan to 23 March during which a 30 mph speed limit will be imposed. The road will be closed for a few nights and traffic diverted through the layby. When operating as a single lane the A59 will carry traffic bound for York while the layby will be used by traffic in the opposite direction. For further details contact Phil Richardson via bridges@northyorks.gov.uk.

We welcomed two new parish councillors, Sean Harland and John Lambert, at our October meeting (see story, right). All parish councils elect new members next May. Details to follow. Our district councillor will also be elected in May and to cover a larger area than previously. We are adding two villages to our area but losing none.

The date of the next meeting has not yet been finalised but will be next month. Watch the council noticeboard for details.

It is with great sadness that the parish council reports the death of the husband of our clerk, Louise Pink. She was absent at the November meeting since he had been admitted to St James Hospital. He died during the day and Louise informed the parish council late that Tuesday evening after the meeting. All our thoughts are with Louise and her family.

**See back page for COLOUR
PICS EXTRA in your BIGGEST
AND NEWSIEST EVER festive
Village View.**

Wanted: parish councillors

*by Ian Bailes, chair of
Green Hammerton parish council*

Over the last six months we have unfortunately lost four councillors for various personal reasons. We currently have five councillors with vacancies for two more. Each area of the village should have a representative but currently we have none for The Green/New Lane or Boroughbridge Road areas. Please would you consider helping? As residents it is *your* future we are trying to represent. For further information and to find out what is involved Please contact me via 330477 or i.bailes@btinternet.com.

On another topic at the last council meeting the issue of dog poo was again raised by a number of residents. It is obvious that 95% of dog owners are responsible for their dogs but there are a few that disregard the rules. Can I appeal to all residents to act as eyes and ears and let the council know of any offenders so we can report them to the dog warden to take the necessary action? I look forward to your support.



▪ One resident who has stepped up to the council plate is John Lambert, pictured above. He told Village View after his first meeting: "I've recently retired having had my own car repair business at Blubberhouses. With more spare time now I'm keen to put back something into the community. I think it's particularly important for the council to deal with residents' requests and queries as quickly and efficiently as possible and I hope to help in this process."

John, who is married to Chris, has two sons and four grandchildren, three of whom live locally. He has lived on York Road in Green Hammerton for 35 years.



And they're off!

by Annabelle Polito with pics by Julia O'Connor

A race night in the village hall attracted a full house and raised £1,487 for Keep Green Hammerton Green. Punters enjoyed six races beamed 'live' at intervals on the big screen with commentary by Simon Hartley and Martin Knights, resplendent in their finest jockey silks. Manned skillfully by a team of experts, the Tote did a roaring trade as people laid their bets in the hope of coming away a little richer. Two hampers were won by Abi Hindmarsh and Mandy Kuunal.

Thank you to Abi and her fellow bartender Nick Coad who kept the drinks flowing for everyone and to Jon and Tina from the Bay Horse who served up a delicious curry supper while Chris Holloway devised a fiendish quiz to keep everyone busy in between races. Congratulations to the winning team, The Ruttells, comprising Andrew and Penny Russell with Gary and

Carole Rutter, who swept the board.



The evening culminated in the presentation of a consolation prize for the last placed team: a bunch of fresh carrots and an inflatable hobby horse!

Many thanks to all those who supported the event including the sponsors namely Be world-class, Alfred Hymas Haulage, Yorkshire Country Cottages, Stephensons, The Alice Hawthorn and the Main Company as well as those who made it happen especially Jayne Knights and Julia O'Connor.

Pictured above, from left, are the race night organisers: Abi Hindmarch, Annabelle Polito, Rachael Holloway, Jayne Knights, Eleanor Renny, Caroline Hartley, Julia O'Connor. Justyn Ashford, below, won a horse print in the raffle and Mandy Kuunal, also below with Jayne Knights, won a drinks hamper. See the back page for a pic of the race compere in their silks! [Martin Knights thus becomes the first – and probably last – villager to appear on both the front and back covers of Village View in colour and comedy outfits. Ed.]



A club for everyone

by the editor



The Village Club has appointed Rory Young as its new manager. He succeeded Mandy Halliwell on November 1. Hailing from Newcastle, Rory has worked in the hospitality trade mainly pubs for over 14 years in Halifax, Darlington, Durham and, most recently, Poppleton. He

lives above the club with partner Kerry Smith and four-year-old son, Leo.

“Working closely with the committee I want to help shed the club’s social club stigma and become a true community facility for people throughout the village,” Rory told Village View. “We’d particularly like to increase use of our function room. It’s a fabulous space that some villagers aren’t fully aware of and is available free to members as well as organisers of charity or community events.” Among the current users are the village’s youth drama group, the Tockwith Show committee and pool and darts teams.

Rory added: “A key part of my role as manager is to listen to members and represent their views to the committee. It’s important for their voices to be heard.”

Membership, which currently stands at 197 ahead of this month’s annual renewals, costs just £15 per year. Non-members are welcome but a small fee may apply. “The club is a non-profit making business. Every penny is reinvested into the club to improve things like seating, lighting and decoration. The interior has been improved no end in recent years. One thing we’d like to consider in the future is smartening up the exterior to make it look more inviting.”

Rory is also keen to further increase the number of events staged at the club. “We have regular events such as the quiz, live bands, Country & Western nights, bingo and Play your Cards Right but I’d like to work towards having some form of entertainment available each and every weekend.”

The club’s locally sourced ales are perennially popular. It has a strong link-up with the Daleside brewery in Starbeck and is currently serving Daleside Blonde.

To find out more about membership get in touch via 330572 or email villageclubgreenhammerton.co.uk.

December programme:

Sat 9, 8.30pm: Music from The Raisers.

Fri 15, 9pm: Quiz.

Sat 16, 1pm: Pensioners’ Christmas party.

Sat 16, 8pm: Folk evening with Martin Heaton.

Sun 17, 11am to 1pm: Members’ children’s Christmas party.

Sun 17, 9pm: Christmas draw.

Thu 21, 7.45pm: Eric Corser darts and dominoes memorial evening.

Christmas Day: open from 11am to 2pm.

New Year’s Eve: Disco.



Paul unearths historical nuggets

Village Club committee chairman Paul Evans has discovered many additional details about its history. For instance it is believed that when William Alexander Todd purchased the property in 1875 he also acquired the two-acre field where the houses in Harrogate Road were subsequently built in the 1930s. There is also evidence to suggest that a five-time lord Mayor of York once owned the building. Documents show that the British Legion purchased the property for £750 in 1946. See the club page on the village website, greenhammerton.org, for more information.

Someone to watch over you

Green Hammerton has a new Neighbourhood Watch Coordinator, John Lange, and needs more street coordinators. John explains what's involved and how the scheme works.



The ethos underlying Neighbourhood Watch is support for the vulnerable in society and in particular improving quality of life for all by reducing crime and the fear of crime. In Green Hammerton we have Neighbourhood Watch signs on each road into the village. The idea is that potential villains will think twice as the signs indicate that we look out for each other and report suspicious behaviour. Although our village is very safe we do suffer from occasional petty crime. I had a parcel stolen from our carport earlier this year shortly after it was delivered. Although we had a good mugshot from CCTV the police never caught the thief.

We originally had 11 Neighbourhood Watch street coordinators in Green Hammerton, each covering one of the main residential streets. The list was last updated in 2013 and, as some coordinators have since moved, we need some new volunteers. Basically, a street coordinator will be aware of who lives in or visits the street regularly and be on the look-out for anything suspicious. The coordinator's neighbours may also let it be known when they are on holiday so any suspicious activity can be reported. If you'd like to volunteer for your street please contact me via 313185 or penny_john@hotmail.com. The current confirmed street coordinators are:

Ebor View: Jimmie Martin, 07732 221511.

York Road: Moira Bailes, 330477.

Back Lane: David MacDonald, 330836.

Stoneleigh Gate: Andrew Russell, 331104.

St Thomas's Way: Jane Bannan, 339442.

There are vacancies for Kirk Hammerton Lane, New Lane, Ebor View, Meadow Vale, Boroughbridge Road and The Green.

Of course, Neighbourhood Watch in no way replaces the need to report to the police who issue the following advice: All suspicious activities should be reported to the police. If you see someone breaking into a house or car dial 999 and ask for the police. If the actions are less specific such as unknown person taking an unwarranted interest in someone else's property then ring the police direct on 101. If there is any suspicious activity that villagers should be aware of then Steve Ross via the police or village coordinator, will send out a circular email to everyone on the village list. So, make sure you register on the village website to receive these updates and other village news!

On a personal note, Penny and I moved to Green Hammerton two years ago. We fell in love with the village the moment we saw it and were lucky enough to find a house on The Green! We already feel very much part of the community. Everyone has made us feel so welcome. Previously, we lived in Asia for 25 years. Although I've retired I keep active with occasional police IT and communications consultancy work in Hong Kong. We have twin boys in the third form at St Peter's School in York.

Helenfield is wildlife haven

by Alistair Taylor

A rare type of butterfly has been spotted at Helenfield. One of the nature reserve's recorders, Stella Craven, observed a white-letter hairstreak near the pond. The species, which is protected and of high conservation value, breeds and spends most of its life in the canopies of elm trees but comes down to ground level to nectar on bramble and thistle flowers. It declined dramatically in the 1970s when its food plants were reduced significantly by Dutch elm disease. Helenfield is registered with the United Kingdom Butterfly Monitoring Scheme and has a large number and variety of butterflies.

If you want to help keep Green Hammerton really green then volunteer to help with the winter management programme at Helenfield. The main tasks again this year are continuing work on widening the ride and further thinning of sections of woodland. Planned task days are Sundays 7 Jan and 14 and Thursdays 1 and 8 Feb from 10am to about 3pm. We will be pleased to see you whether you can come for an hour or stay all day. Please wear robust boots and bring stout working gloves. Tools are provided but it would be helpful if you have long handled loppers that you can bring with you. Simply turn up on the day or if you need further information please contact me or Angela Taylor at Croft Cottage on Boroughbridge Road or on 330330.

It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas

by Laura Wells-Law of Green Hammerton School

We're getting into the festive spirit with a range of Christmas events and activities. Children have enjoyed an advent craft afternoon with activities including the creation of advent candles and wreaths. Thank you to Rev Feaster for helping us with the crafts and leading a lovely collective worship on the theme of advent.

Classes are taking part in a reverse advent calendar. In addition to opening a door on the traditional class advent calendar an item of food or toiletries will be placed inside a box for delivery to Positive Action for Refugees and Asylum Seekers by Rev Feaster who has explained the concept to children.

Reception and key stage one children are putting their dancing shoes on and getting glammed up for a glitzy

performance of Lights, Camel, Action. The choir are in also in full rehearsal swing learning seasonal songs for performance at St Thomas' Church in Green Hammerton and the Church of the Ascension in Whixley.

Finally, a huge thank you to Friends of Green Hammerton School for helping coordinate and run the Christmas fair (see below).

Friends pop to Popp Co-op*

by Annabelle Polito of Friends of Green Hammerton School (FoGHS)

As Village View went to press we were about to hold another successful Christmas fair featuring all the traditional stalls selling festive crafts and food. Children had the chance to have elfies (as opposed to selfies!) taken with Father Christmas in his grotto and fun playing a new game, Santa's Socks, to win a treat! News of the grand total raised in the next edition.

Thank you to everyone who joined the Co-op membership points scheme through which we've raised money as one of this round's chosen charities. We were delighted to attend an event at Co-op's Poppleton store (see pic, below) to meet fellow fundraisers and be presented with a very generous cheque for £1,808.

Our ongoing fundraising efforts means we have been able to give school £1,000 for new reading books, £250 to each of the four classes to buy something of its choice as well as fund a beautiful new wooden crucifix for the school hall.

**Try saying that after a few Christmas brandies. Ed.*





Charity, fish and chips and Christmas specials at the Bay Horse

by the editor

A music night at The Bay Horse on 11 Nov raised over £700 for Epilepsy Research UK. Organised by Simon Batchelor the concert included performances by Simon, Borderline 909, Loki, The Raisers and Kurt Faraday. "Thanks to the pub for hosting and everyone who came along and bought raffle tickets," said Simon, who's son, George, 12, has epilepsy. Donations can still be made via justgiving.com/bayhorseinn. Tina and Jon from the pub are working with Simon to make Epilepsy Research UK its official charity for next year. A quiz night and another musical night are planned for the spring. Pictured above, from left, are Ralph, Lorna and Simon Batchelor with pub staff George Tee, Callum Clarke, and Bethany and Ali Jackson.

The Bay Horse is now serving take away fish and chips every Thursday from 4.30 to 7.30pm for £5 per portion. Pre-ordering is advised on 330338.



A Christmas party night on Sat 23 Dec with three-course dinner and live entertainment from Richard Upton for £25 per head is the highlight of the pub's festive programme. For full details and seasonal opening hours see bayhorsegreenhammerton.co.uk.

Youngsters take on Dick Whittington

by Annabelle Polito

Folk songwriter Jez Lowe's Christmas tours have become something of a tradition in the north-east over the last eight years and, once again, he's about to set off



on a festive winter-tainment night of songs, banter and seasonal Scrooge-like tomfoolery. Also featuring the Bad Pennies and guest folk balladeer and actor Benny Graham, the 'Yule Do' tour includes Green Hammerton village hall on Sun 17 Dec at 7.30pm. Tickets cost £12 for adults, £10 for concessions and £6 for under 16s.

Meanwhile, rehearsals have begun for Badapple Youth Theatre's next major production. All are invited to support our young actors for a bespoke performance of Dick Whittington complete with technical support from Badapple on Fri 9 Feb at 7pm in Whixley village hall. The panto has been written especially for the students by theatre skills leader Richard Kay (ex-Emmerdale). Tickets cost £6 (under 3s free) including tea and cake. We welcome all children aged 7-16 at the weekly acting sessions on Tuesday evenings in Green Hammerton. The cost is just £6 per session. Contact us as above for more details.

To book all shows either call 339168 or visit badappletheatre.com.

Ideas for winter outings

by Chris Turner

New members are welcome at the Green Hammerton theatre visiting group. If you would be interested in joining ring me on 331306 or Dicky Black on 330207. We arrange about eight to 10 visits every year to Harrogate, York, Easingwold and Leeds with occasional forays further afield.

Chatty Ramblers meet on the second Thursday every month. Most walks start at 10.30am from the map plinth in Green Hammerton. Other times we drive to the start and enjoy lunch at a pub. We have become experts on value for money for sandwiches, soup and chips. For those that don't want lunch there is usually a car coming back to the village straight after the walk. Ring me for more information.



• Chris is pictured above at the Macmillan coffee morning in October. Just over 50 people attended, raising a total of £800. She said: "This is an outstanding amount. Very many thanks to all who came, who donated cake and/or money and gave raffle prizes."

News from the pews

by David MacDonald of St Thomas' Church

By the time you read this preparations for Christmas will be well under way. We've just celebrated advent at our carol service at St Thomas's with some lovely singing by Collavoce followed by mulled wine and mince pies. Delicious!

I hope by now you have all received one of the church Christmas cards with details of all the services and other events taking place over the next four weeks to which you are all warmly invited, be they in this Parish or elsewhere in the Benefice. The ever popular crib service will take place on Sun 17 Dec at St Thomas's with a carol service at Whixley on Thu 21 Dec at 7pm. The usual family service on Christmas Day will be at Green Hammerton at 10.30am so if you're not too busy peeling sprouts and basting the turkey we'd love to see you there!

Round-up

• Simon Mack seeks volunteers to illuminate the outside of their properties with a view to creating a **Christmas lights trail** in aid of charity. Displays large and small are welcome. If you would like to participate please contact him by calling at the Old Reading Room, emailing simon@sjmackofficefurniture.co.uk or texting 07711 129310. All he needs to know is your address and if your display will have a theme. He will then display a map of the trail on an A-board outside the Old Reading Room. Collection boxes will be placed here as well as at the last house on the trail, 9 Harrogate Road (see pic, back page). All proceeds will go to the Yorkshire Air Ambulance.

• Many thanks to the following villagers who have donated a sum to Village View in exchange for **Christmas greeting**:

Brian & Lindsay Cuncell wish everyone a very happy Christmas and peaceful New Year.

Ian & Dicky Black wish all their friends and neighbours a very happy Christmas and prosperous New Year.



And a merry Christmas from all the Village View correspondents and editor.



▪ Young Hammertonians Finn Perkins-Hill, pictured above, and Evan Knights appeared on **BBC TV's Countryfile** programme with Helen Skelton, also pictured. The lads are members of Tockwith-based 1st Marston Moor Scouts who have adopted a stretch of the Cleveland Way to maintain. The programme was broadcast on Sun 3 Dec and is available on iPlayer.

▪ The **map plinth** and surrounding area opposite The Bay Horse have been spruced up thanks to the efforts of Brian Halling, Dougie and Simon Mack, Anna Calvert (Dougie's grand daughter) and Alan Smith. The team scrubbed the plinth, cut the grass, cleared rubbish, trimmed back low branches, applied weed-killer to the stoned area and planted bulbs including some left-overs at the junction by the village hall before it was turfed. "It now just leaves the parish council to arrange for the broken flags and missing bricks to be repaired," said Brian.

▪ Ann Johnson has stepped down as president of **Kirk & Green Hammerton WI** following a three-year term of office. Her successor, who took over at last month's AGM, is Sue Bowe. Also at the meeting Carol Wake received the Dorothy Lumley Cup for her kindness and assistance throughout the year. The competition that runs through the year was won by Sheila Hornby with Christine Bonnett and Gillian Mayes as joint runners-up. The evening concluded with a quiz organised by Christine. Susan Goss-Clements spoke about her business, Yorkshire Coastal Cottages, at the October meeting. The group next meet on Tues 12 Dec at Kirk Hammerton village hall when Bob Hirst will talk about bees and demonstrate how to make beeswax candles. The competition is something unusual beginning with the letter 'j'.

▪ I need a new delivery person for **Village View** to take over the round that includes 66 drops along Kirk Hammerton Lane and York Road. Please let me know if you'd like to take it on. Thanks to Elsie Rymer for doing it previously. Ed.

Down Memory Lane

by the editor

I end the year's issues on a topical and poignant note with a photo on the back page from the early 1960s showing part of New Lane before the current houses were built and an area of the allotments that has since become an extension to the church graveyard. Pic courtesy of Simon Mack.

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NB Schedule subject to change pending news about the housing development.

