

Village View

The newsletter for the residents of Green Hammerton

Oct/Nov 2018

Just champion!

Cricketers fly
the flag for top
leisure facilities



Green Hammerton Cricket Club are champions of the third division of the Wetherby league. They are just one of the organisations and classes to benefit from the facilities provided by the Green Hammerton Recreational Charity which are now about to expand further. Meanwhile, Badapple Theatre and a childrens' karate class are among village hall users with more good news to share.

Turn to pages 2&3 for all the stories.

Work starts on trim trail

by Brian Halling, Chairman on behalf of the Green Hammerton Recreational Charity board

The charity is the organisation responsible for owning, maintaining and improving our playing fields, playground, skateboard park and village hall together with developing the Hammerton Cycleway. We do this with no help from Harrogate Borough Council or North Yorkshire County Council but with our parish council helping with a contribution towards grass cutting for which we are very grateful.

Our last AGM in July was very poorly attended. We assume that's due to everyone being happy with how things are being run! We do, however, need to attract new board members to help us move forward in our next stages of progression. I'm writing this note to bring villagers up-to-date with progress.

We are currently creating and developing a new trim trail around the perimeter of the playing fields. Stage one development will include three exercise stations at strategic points together with track measurements. The running surface will be grass rather than a new surface. Should the first stage be successful and well used we will then be able to move to second and third stages which will include a running surface and additional work station. Headed by Tom Polito, this project has an initial costing of £17,000. We have already received £10,000 from the Big Lottery and pre-site work has already started with hopeful completion in two months. We are already in touch with Park Run for junior park runs to be held here.



Many of you will have seen the new two benches we installed on the playing fields this summer which have been well used. We would now like to add to these to create more seating and

encourage people to watch the sports, admire the view or simply sit quietly. We feel it will give the playing fields a real traditional feel to them. The seats are marketed to last as long as the grass grows and they will not rot nor need painting. We would like to encourage people to gift seats of the same kind perhaps to mark a birthday, anniversary, an event, new life, a loved one or simply as a long lasting gift to the village. For full details please get in touch with me via 331485 or brianhalling@btopenworld.com.

Over winter we will hopefully finish refurbishing the playground by completing repainting the equipment having last year spent £12,000 on this project.

Our proposed Hammerton Cycleway project which is being headed up by Jon Purday has moved forward to the stage where we are now ready to re-cast the scheme to ensure it's in line with funding promises.

Lastly, and for the future, we are looking towards

extending the hall and it's facilities as we now enjoy a high level of usage which is testing for our volunteers. Next year's bookings are already running at a high level so if you have a special date in mind contact us early to avoid disappointment. The hall is regularly used for yoga, karate, Brownies, Rainbows, Pilates, boot camp, keep fit, parties and meetings of the parish council, GHRC, and businesses. We currently seek someone to take over our coffee morning once a month slot to continue this popular Saturday morning event. Other hirers include the Pony Club and York Art Society. Ever popular theatrical and music events also rely on the hall. The playing field is a home ground to Harrogate & District under 13s and 15s and Harrogate Railway under 17s football teams as well as a base for junior coaching and cricket matches (see below).

We have great facilities in the village which are much admired and we work hard to ensure these are the very best. Please help us look after these and keep our field litter-free.

Pitch is secret to cricket team's success

by the editor

Green Hammerton Cricket Club has been crowned champions of the third division of the Wetherby league (see front page pic).

All the players come from outside the village, some from as far away as Leeds, but the backroom staff include locals such as secretary Jane Harden, fundraiser Neil Phillips, both from Meadow Vale, and tea lady Jean Davy from Kirk Hammerton. The club is further supported by match ball sponsors including the Bay Horse, the Anchor at Whixley, Alan May, the Green Hammerton Village Club and Yorkshire Vehicle Solutions. Hammertonians who used to play for the club include William Robinson, Richard Hilton, Ben Harden, Tom Henry and Chris McCulley while the current chairman and groundsman, Stuart Lorrigan, previously lived in the village.

Neil, who captained the team last time they were champions in 2002, told Village View: "Many of our former local players have left the village or gone to university and never come back and we haven't had anyone through locally to replace them.

"It's surprising really since we probably have the best facilities in the league and the wicket is particularly good which is why so many of the current side travel so far to play here. We're hoping that such a successful season will encourage more villagers to join the club next season. It would be good to reinstate a second team."

Long serving skipper Steve Wilson added: "There are rules prohibiting youngsters playing with adults these days which has limited team selections right across the leagues. Then youngsters need support from their parents to take them to and from matches which is another obstacle. Changing working patterns also mean that players aren't so available on Saturdays. We

haven't conceded a match because of lack of players which is an achievement in itself. Perhaps switching to 20/20 which requires a lower commitment than traditional 40-overs cricket is the answer."

If you'd like to step up to the crease next season contact Neil on 07795 387441.

- The club holds its AGM on Wed 10 Oct at The Bay Horse and annual dinner at The Anchor, Whixley, on Sat 10 Nov. More information from Neil.

Bad Apple secures grant

by Annabelle Polito (and from the Northern Echo)



A lottery grant has been awarded to a Badapple Youth Theatre which runs weekly workshops in Green Hammerton. Along with Big Lottery funding, the theatre has also secured a £500 contribution from North Yorkshire County Council which will help keep prices truly affordable for its members.

The theatre company is keen to offer more young people aged from 6 to 16-years-old the chance to enjoy local, fun, inspirational after-school acting sessions, saying arts subjects such as drama are increasingly missing from the school timetable.

Badapple's founder and artistic director Kate Bramley said: "Our ambition is to put theatre at the heart of community life. It's a storytelling tradition that goes back to Shakespearian times and beyond. Our youth theatre programmes are high quality, confidence-building courses for young people in rural areas and make theatre a natural skill they can draw on and also a social event they can enjoy throughout their lives.

"We are deeply indebted to Big Lottery, and indeed all those who contribute by buying lottery tickets, for opening up these fantastic opportunities for young people."

Workshops led by professional drama tutors resumed last week at the Village Club. The early session for 6-10 year olds runs from 6-7.15pm while 10 to 16 year olds are welcome from 7.15-8.30pm. All budding young actors are invited to participate in a festive-themed

'play in a weekend' course on Dec 8/9 culminating with a performance on the Sunday evening. More details via 331168 or office@badappletheatre.com.

Kate's First World War-inspired, *The Thankful Village* (pictured left), will be reprised at Green Hammerton village hall on Tue 16 Oct at 7.30pm. Songs featured in the play will be performed by Jez Lowe on BBC Radio 2's Friday Night is Music Night 'Ballads of the Great War' special with the BBC Philharmonic Orchestra in November. Set in Yorkshire, *The Thankful Village* gives an alternative perspective on the war seen through the eyes of three women from the same rural household, both below and above stairs, as they are left behind to cope when their menfolk march off to Flanders.

Meanwhile, Jez's Christmas show, this time with a Viking winter festival theme, comes to Green Hammerton village hall on Sat 22 Dec before concluding six days later with a prestigious concert at the Sage Gateshead. Tickets via 339168 or badappletheatre.com.

Kids get a kick out of karate

by Diane Tee

After a break for the summer the kids karate class is running again in the village hall every Monday from 5-5.45pm. Cris Ingham, our second Dan instructor, would love to see some new faces. All children aged over five are welcome and first taster classes are free. More information from enquiries@martialartsforlife.co.uk or martialartsforlife.co.uk.

Pictured, from left, with Cris are our budding young martial artists, Jack Armstrong, who is training hard to achieve Cho Dan Bo; new starters, Riley and Jacob Nolson, who have recently moved to Green Hammerton; Joe Long, who has trained over the summer working towards his Dan grade; Jason Collins, who also worked hard during the break to achieve his red belt in September; and Freddie Blanchard, who is progressing towards his green belt in December.



Council round-up

by Rod Aungier of Green Hammerton parish council



Welcome news: we have a new clerk and finance officer, Julie Eshelby. She said: "Originally from Lancashire, I've lived in Hemingbrough near Selby for over 15 years and have two children. I have been a parish clerk since 2012 and work for three other councils in North Yorkshire. As clerk and finance officer I'm available to speak to residents about any concerns

and difficulties and will do everything I can to resolve problems and take information to the parish council for its consideration." Julie works Monday to Friday and can be contacted via 01757 630077 or greenhammertonpc@gmail.com.

Among the issues we're currently addressing is a significant concern regarding the amount of water cascading off the Redrow Churchfields development site in Harrogate Road. After just short bursts of heavy rain large amounts of water collect at the junction of Harrogate Road and York Road opposite the pub. The water then runs down Boroughbridge Road where the drains clearly cannot cope. Councillors are co-ordinating their responses to North Yorkshire County Highways, Harrogate Borough Council and Redrow.

Rubbish in the verges in Red Lane is also causing concern and needs to be kept an eye on. Equally, rubbish on the A59 seems to be building up. A sighting of Japanese Knotweed at the junction with New Lane may be reportable to DEFRA. Alan Smith has taken on the job of grass cutting outside the churchyard following the departure of Daniel. Redrow is intending to plant daffodil bulbs to replace those damaged by its vehicles and workers.

A new welcome pack is being prepared for new residents. The old version will be brought up-to-date and uploaded to the village website and people informed of how to access it.

We are calling for support for the installation of a second defibrillator in the village. Recent events in the village have demonstrated the need.

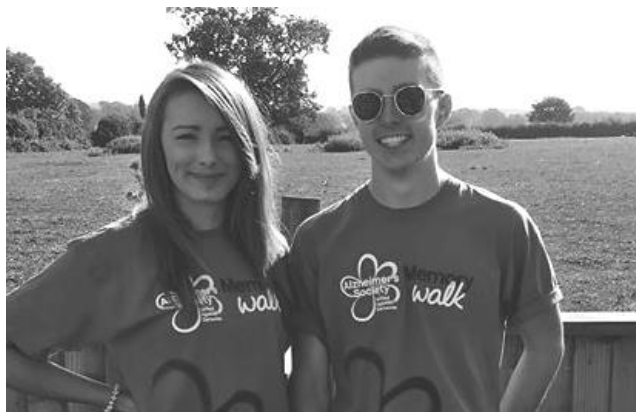
We expect three entrances to the village to be resurfaced by end of next March. The county council has informed us that the salt bin in Meadow Vale is to be removed as it does not meet the criteria to remain. There is an option to for the parish council to take over the running of it at a cost of £75. We currently seek clarification on the criteria.

Finally, we are looking for residents to be co-opted to the council as there are only four of us at present.

Charity on the menu

by Tina Clarke of The Bay Horse

A team of our staff and customers is taking part in the Shine Night Walk in York for Cancer Research UK on Fri 12 Oct. Donations welcome via fundraise.cancerresearchuk.org/page/tinas-giving-page-108. We will also hold a fund-raising event for the same charity with musician Beth Armitage on Fri 5 Oct. Tickets at £10 include a curry supper. Meanwhile, our son, Callum, pictured with friend Katy Graeme who also works at the pub, raised £100 for the Alzheimer's Society from a sponsored walk in York last month.



Two years after our arrival the business continues to grow I've now retired from my teaching post at St Aidan's in Harrogate and have joined Jon and Callum in the pub full-time. Ryan will still be helping during university holidays. He is completing a masters in Geography at Liverpool and will embark on a PhD from January.

We're currently recruiting part-time pot washers (aged 15+) to work evenings and weekends and part-time bar and waiting staff (aged 18+) for various hours. Contact us via 330338 or bayhorsegreenhammerton@btinternet.com. Our fisherman return this month for their weekend breakfasts. We apologise in advance for the chaotic parking. Finally, please don't use the bins in the car park for recycling. The communal bins operated by Harrogate Borough Council were removed in February. We pay for the current bins and they are for our use only.

From tango to panto

by Chris Turner

Remember Last Tango in Green Hammerton? Our intrepid thespians (Gordon, Bernard, Joyce and Margaret) are now rehearsing their latest foray into pantoland. Will it be Dick in Boots or Pussy Whittington? It's anybody's guess! Come along and find out on Fri 23 and Sat 24 Nov in the village hall. Tickets will be on sale soon at £15 including a two-course meal. To reserve please contact me via 331306 or c.turner2011@btinternet.com. Funds will be divided between the GHRC and Keep the Hammertons Green.

Campaign group preps for exam

by Chris Eaton of Keep the Hammertons Green

Harrogate Borough Council has now submitted the controversial draft local plan to the secretary of state. The next step is the appointment of an independent inspector and start of the Examination in Public (EIP) process. We still believe that our arguments against the choice of this area for a 3,000-house new town are strong and based on good evidence. We are now reviewing the submission to identify changes made by the Council since the February 2018 consultation and then commence preparations for the EIP which we expect will be held early next year.

We also recently wrote to all borough councillors urging them to suspend consideration of the current CEG outline application and others that are similar, pending finalisation of the draft plan. It is clearly wrong for an application of this scale to be considered when there is no approved strategic plan.

To make detailed preparations and representation at the EIP we need to build up campaign funds. The campaign is run by volunteers many of whom have given generously to pay for printing, postage and the work of our planning consultant. Members of the action group have also put on fundraising events at their own expense so that all the takings go to the campaign. To give it the best chance of making a meaningful challenge during the EIP and fight off opportunistic developers' applications it is important that our fundraising events are well supported. So please do come and enjoy an evening out knowing you are making a contribution to a worthy cause.

The Proms on the Green in Kirk Hammerton last month (see pic, below) was a fantastic evening with the audience treated to some truly talented singers and the amazing York Institute Band. The sense of community spirit was terrific and the evening raised almost £1,000. A huge thank you to all those who supported and help make this event a success.



Forthcoming events include the Castlelean Ceilidh band at Kirk Hammerton village hall on Fri 12 Oct and a performance at the same venue by the renowned folk harmonicist Will Pound on Fri 16 Nov. Tickets at £10 for each event from Les and Janice Hornby on 330154. Donations will also be gratefully received via our treasurer, Sally Newman (339388) or website, kghg.co.uk.

My! Haven't you grown?

by Jenny Langley of Green Hammerton School

Here's a picture of our gardening club and their harvest. The club started last year and they now have a raised bed and some small plastic greenhouses. They meet after school on Mondays and have worked hard throughout the year. They returned after the summer holiday to find that sunflowers, courgettes, beans, tomatoes and cucumbers had grown. Run by Mrs McLelland and Mrs McCully, the club has just been awarded the Royal Horticultural Society Schools Award, level two.



Friends have new leader

*by Annabelle Polito of
Friends of Green Hammerton School*

The school year has begun with lots of fresh fundraising ideas and a new chair of FOGHS. Jo Tegerdine has kindly taken on the role. Big thanks go to Helen Gardner, Charlotte Dean and Dianna Bamforth who gave their time to do the job so ably last year. We raised a splendid £8,441 during that time, giving over £7,550 to school to help towards IT equipment, new reading books as well as making donations to the gardening and baking clubs amongst other beneficiaries.

A forthcoming fundraiser is the Bags2School scheme. The more donations of unwanted clothes we receive the more funds we earn for school. The following items are accepted: good quality adults' and children's clothes, shoes (tied together please), hats, handbags, scarves, ties, jewellery, socks, lingerie, belts, household curtains, towels, bed sheets, pillow cases and duvet covers. Please leave any donations in a bin bag outside your front door for collection by 8am on Fri 26 Oct.

Finally, we cordially invite the village to the school's Christmas fair Sun 9 Dec from 2-4pm. More details next issue.

Roger's nature notebook: LBJs explained

by Roger Mattock

LBJ's is how we birdwatchers refer to 'little brown jobs'! These are the small brown birds you find in the gardens and on bird feeders in Green Hammerton. The most common of these is almost certainly the house sparrow but, if you look carefully, you may spot the rarer tree sparrow. The easiest way to distinguish the two is to look at the cheeks. The tree sparrow has a black patch in the middle of its cheeks. Hopping around on the ground below the feeders you will find the dunnock (pictured - sorry it's not in colour. Ed) or as it's sometimes known, the hedge sparrow. The head and the breast are blue-grey and they have pink legs. The most elusive and smallest LBJ is the wren. This little bird with its cocked tail is usually found in the shrubs and hedges around the garden.



A word from our sponsor

This issue of Village View is sponsored by Redrow Homes. The company is currently building two-, three- and four-bedroom homes at Churchfields in Green Hammerton from £249,950. They include the three-bed detached Ashbourne with en-suite to every bedroom. Priced from £429,950 it's one of a new breed of 'lifestyle homes', ideal for active downsizers, families with older children or those who like to entertain. Ground floor space is comparable with a four-bedroom property. More information from redrow.co.uk/churchfields or 01423 586905.



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News and pics to paulkirkwood@talktalk.net.

Next issue: Sun 2 Dec. Deadline: Sat 24 Nov.

News in brief

- A very successful **car boot sale** on the green on August Bank Holiday raised £646 for St Thomas' Church Fabric fund. Martin Leather said: "We would like to thank all the helpers on the day especially Jo and Chris Nottingham, Roger Mattock and Alison Ross. Thanks too to all the stall holders who came along. Business looked brisk! Fortunately the weather was kind to us and everyone seemed to enjoy a very pleasant day."

- **The Village Club** raised £1,294 for the Alzheimer's Society from a soul night in September. "Thanks to all who donated raffle prizes, and people that attended on the night," said Sue Evans, treasurer. The programme for the next two months is: Fri 5 Oct: quiz; Sat 6 Oct: pig racing; Fri 12 Oct: open mic; Fri 19 Oct: quiz; Sat 20 Oct: 60s/70s disco; Fri 26 Oct: Country & Western; Fri 2 Nov: quiz; Sat 3 Nov: bingo and Play your Cards Right; Fri 9 Nov: open mic; Fri 16 Nov: quiz; Fri 23 Nov: Country & Western; Sat 24 Nov: bingo and Play your Cards Right.

- Rob Hughes (07740 944408) seeks door-to-door collectors for the **poppy appeal**. The commitment is just an afternoon or couple of evenings. There will be a particular focus on remembrance this year as it marks the centenary of the armistice of the First World War.

- British Heart Foundation **CPR courses** are held throughout the year by patient group volunteers from Green Hammerton and Tockwith GP surgeries. Forthcoming dates are Tues 13 Nov, Tues 15 Jan and Tues 12 March at 6pm at Green Hammerton surgery. Sessions are free but donations to cover course costs are welcome. For more information or to book a place contact Toni Ramsay via 322828 or toni.ramsay@icloud.com.

- New **boot camp sessions** have started this term at Green Hammerton village hall every Tuesday and Friday from 7-8pm. They are run by Paul Ulett of Kirk Hammerton who served in the Royal Logistics Corps and was based at Dishforth airfield for four years. More information via 07396 492593 or iampaululett@gmail.com.



▪ Village View reader Julia Dean writes: “After reading with interest the **Down Memory Lane** article about the shop that used to be on the Boroughbridge road I would like to add that this shop closed in approximately 1967/68. I did and still do live in Green Hammerton and remember it closing. During my lifetime at least the shop has never been a post office.” Well, just for you, Julia, here’s another archive shot of the premises. Due to the ‘Alexeieff resigns’ on the placard, I can date it to May 1917 which is when, a quick google reveals, a former commander-in-chief of that name resigned from the Russian army.

▪ **Chatty Rambles**, pictured below, continued to thrive and welcome new members. Eleven walkers recently hiked around Staveley Nature Reserve then had lunch at the village’s Royal Oak pub. The group meets on the second Tuesday in the month. Contact Chris Turner for more information via 331306 or c.turner2011@btinternet.com. Pictured below, from left are, Felicity Evans, Margaret Andrew, Gill Blacker, Jane Bannan, Chris Turner, Toni Ramsay, Liz Powley, Tina Clarke, Chris Wallbank and Jayne Knights. The dogs are Lucy, Sadie, Dexter, Friday, Alfie and Rolo.





Fancy a half-term bike ride? Do Ask'!

by the editor

A bike ride benefits from a feeling of discovery. This route provides a frisson of that in a very local sense at Rufforth just down the road from Green Hammerton.

The first couple of miles follow a cycle path that opened four years ago but has to yet to be charted by the Ordnance Survey. The route then passes through Knapton and Acomb before heading east and out into the country via Askham Bryan and, the highlight of the ride, idyllic Askham Richard. Allow plenty of time to have a nose around here. The village reminded me of Nun Monkton with its vast green and duck pond overlooked by an inviting pub. The other main feature of the settlement is a women's prison in the former Askham Grange. I can think of worse places to be incarcerated. I loved the little hexagonal former pump house now converted into a shelter (pictured above) with five individual seats and an inscription within reading 'Thirsty, Drink, 1908, Weary, Rest, W. F. W-F' (the initials of an owner of the grange). There are plenty of alternative spots to stop including three pubs and two tea rooms not that you'll need much sustenance on such a short, flat outing. This is cycling at its simplest.

Distance: 9½ miles (plus an extra 1½ miles if arriving by rail, see below).

Parking: Rufforth, for example down Milestone Close on the left just after the church.

Directions: Leave Rufforth to the south on Wetherby Road. Soon as it bears right turn left onto a bridleway signed 'Knapton 2.5 miles'. The route is better described as a Tarmac path which leads past a shooting centre and then becomes a track for the last section. *Cross over the York ring road using the traffic island and turn right (southwards) on a cycle way then left on the road to and through Knapton. At the t-junction at the end of the road in Acomb turn right onto Beckfield Lane. Go straight over the first roundabout, pass St Aidan's Church and turn right at the next roundabout down Askham Lane. Keep following this road until you approach the ring road. Just as you see the sign for the junction turn right down a cycle path, cross the ring road then continue south past the Yorkshire Activity Centre. As the lane bears left towards the ring road turn right. At the end turn right on Askham Bryan Lane into Askham Bryan. Towards the end of Main Street turn left down Chapel Lane. At the end turn right on York Road passing the agricultural college. Take the first right to and through Askham Richard. Just after leaving the village turn right up Low Moor Lane to return to Rufforth. If you have time and an inquisitive child with you then you might like to check out the gliding club airfield in Rufforth. The best access is via an unsurfaced road and track on the right just after the 40 mph signs as you leave the village to the south. A public right of way runs beside a runway but cycling is strictly prohibited.

Map: Download to your phone from bit.ly/Rufforth.

Rail access: You can easily do this bike ride without a car. Take the train from Hammerton to Poppleton. Turn south from the station towards the A59. Cross over, pass the Wyevale Garden Centre and continue to the end of the road. From this point follow the directions from the asterisk in the directions.

Refreshments:

- The Red Lion, Knapton.
- The Nag's Head, Askham Bryan.
- The Rose & Crown, Askham Richard. Mon, Wed and Thu 5-11pm, Tues closed and Fri-Sun noon to 11pm. See inset pic.
- The Grange coffee shop and garden centre, Askham Richard. Mon-Thu until 4pm and Fri-Sun until 2.30pm.
- The Old School village store and tea room (with garden), Rufforth. Tues-Sat until 6pm and Sun 10am-4pm.