

# Village View

The newsletter for the residents of Green Hammerton

February 2019

## Farewell to

# Mr Green Hammerton

*by the editor*

**Dougie Mack's life was celebrated much as he had lived it: right at the heart of the community. His funeral on 5 January must have been biggest service ever held at St Thomas's Church.**

An estimated 400 villagers, family members and friends paid tribute to Green Hammerton's most widely known and best loved personality who passed away on 17 December aged 74. Audio of the service was relayed to a packed marquee supplied by the Tockwith Show committee. Further mourners stood elsewhere in the churchyard. The Bay Horse which hosted the wake was similarly extended.

The service was led by Revd David Wheeler, who was vicar of the Ouseburn benefice including Green Hammerton from 1997 to 2005 and is currently a House-for-Duty vicar at Pool-in-Wharfedale. He told the congregation: "Dougie wasn't very big in stature but in tenaciousness, spirit and goodwill he was something of a giant. Look at the effect his death has had on this village. Look how many people are in this church and outside it. That in itself is a barometer of the respect that we all hold for Dougie."

Simon Mack was a pallbearer along with James Calvert, Richard Mack, Tim Lambert and Mike Powley. In his eulogy he said: "You have taught us through example to be respectful to one another, to treat others as you would like to be treated yourself, to give and not to expect to receive anything in return, to help anyone in need, to be an active part of the community, to put others before oneself, to be forward thinking and forthright, to look at situations from all the angles, to talk directly and not to lie, to respect money, only have

what you can afford and if not wait until you've got enough. And, most importantly of all not to disrespect the Mack family name."

Dougie's daughter Katharine Calvert recalled her father's fun-loving side and how he enjoyed supergluing coins to the pavement then watching passerby try to pick them up and mimicking waxworks at Madame Tussauds. She also explained how her father was always getting speeding tickets and enjoyed the speed awareness courses usually attended by people he knew. She concluded: "Dad, I will forever be your princess".



The service of celebration had a footballing theme to reflect Dougie's support for York City. Flowers arranged by Jan Jackson included a display in club colours. Neil Phillips blew the whistle as the service "kicked off" fittingly on a Saturday at 3pm and again at its conclusion. Revd Wheeler added a Minstermen scarf to his robes and the congregation filed out of the church to the sounds of You'll never Walk Alone.

Proceedings opened with Right Said Dougie, the song about a tricky removal, which was adapted from Right Said Fred and sung by David MacDonald and George Rowden. In another affectionate tribute Les Hornby recited a poem he had written about his life-long friend.

Dougie was interred in a private ceremony in the cemetery extension next to the allotments where he had a plot for many years. The collection was shared between the Sir Robert Ogden Macmillan Centre at Harrogate Hospital, Green Hammerton Primary School and St Thomas's and a sum will also be put towards planting daffodils around the village to add to those Dougie planted originally.

*Turn to obituary and more pics on p2*

## Obituary: Dougie Mack

Born 18.8.44. Died: 17.12.18

by Katharine Calvert (née Mack)

Douglas Nigel Mack, affectionately known as Dougie, was born at Bulmer Farm at Ryton near Malton on the 18 August 1944 to Norman and Marjorie Mack. He had two brothers, the late Billy and Brian, and attended Old Malton School.

Dougie and his family moved to Kirk Hammerton in 1954 when Norman secured a job with farmer and land owner Mr W Pick. During this time Dougie attended Kirk Hammerton Primary School and later Boroughbridge Secondary Modern where he was a prefect. Aged 11, Dougie went to his first York City match and was a life-long fan from that moment. In his youth he played cricket for Kirk Hammerton and grew into a formidable player. When he was old enough to go into a pub he took up darts and pool.

He left school to become a television engineer and then went to work for Arthur English at an electrical shop in Harrogate. In 1966 Dougie went into partnership with Bob Weatherhead at an electrical and second-hand goods shop called Skindles with branches in York, Selby and Ripon.

Meanwhile, having first met her on a bus to work in Harrogate, Dougie married Sandra in October 1968. They had recently celebrated their golden wedding anniversary. Katharine was born in November 1969, the same year that Dougie held his first sports day in the Green Hammerton, and Simon was born in June 1973 when Dougie started the village produce show. Dougie was actively involved in many other village occasions including Queen's silver jubilee celebrations in 1977 (see pic, below).



Dougie and Bob closed their shops in 1984 with Dougie opening the warehouse on Bernard Lane and starting house clearances. He also worked for Harland Garden Machinery initially in the short-term but ending up

staying 13 years. He also helped Paul Johnston with auctions at Boroughbridge and Whixley while continuing his removals and second-hand goods business. Dougie semi-retired in September 2017.

Dougie has been a school governor and parish council member and served on the fabric committee of St Thomas's Church.

He was a considerable contributor to the greater good and a community award winner, helping anyone who needed it including his own and Sandra's family. A very proud dad, he supported Simon and Katharine through university and life itself, always being there in time of need. He loved working alongside Simon and watching York City with Katharine and enjoyed his family holidays to the east coast and Spain.

Dougie was a wonderful husband, an amazing dad to Simon and Katharine and adored grandpa to Anna and Lucy, brother, father-in-law, brother-in-law, uncle, cousin and godfather and friend to many. We would like to thank everyone for their overwhelming support in recent weeks.



## Four-figure fundraisers

The total sum raised in the village for the poppy collection last November was a fantastic £1,112 which is up £350 on the previous year, reports Rob Hughes. Thanks to all donors and collectors including Pat Hague, Gill Blacker and Gerry Reilly as well as Brian Halling for organising the village hall event. Collecting boxes were sited in the village shop, school, Bay Horse, surgery, village club and Harland's.

Meanwhile, £1,537 was raised by the village play, Last Panto in Green Hammerton, last November, reports Chris Turner. Proceeds have been split between the Green Hammerton Recreational Charity and Keep Green Hammerton Green. Thank you to everyone for their support.

Finally, the Christmas tree collection by Boroughbridge Young Farmers Club which included Green Hammerton generated £1,545 for Macmillan Cancer Research and club funds.





## Crêpe expectations

*by the editor*

Green Hammerton's new coffee and crêpes van is going to be doing exactly what it says on the side of the van on Shrove Tuesday (5 March): serving crêpes.

Andi Reeves, who owns the business with wife Dawn, told Village View: "We'll be serving them with several sweet toppings from 9am to 6pm to thank residents of Green Hammerton and surrounding villages for their support since we opened. Crêpes along with coffee are originally what the van was for but so far most of my customers including the builders have been after bacon sandwiches. I'm having a lot of positive feedback especially from parents taking their kids to school. If I can arrange some more events like the pancake day special it should all work out really well. In summer I could do some nice, old fashioned teas with cream scones."

Ordinarily, the van is open weekdays from 8am to 2pm serving fresh barista coffee and sandwiches. Andi and Dawn have also recently sourced some high quality fruit and herbal teas which are sold in Michelin star restaurants.

Andy used to be a car paint sprayer but gave up the job due to occupational health issues together with a desire for a greater quality and slower pace of life. He bought the van, sold his house in York and currently rents the house beside the post office while he decides on a long-

term pitch. He has taken an instant liking to village life. "I'm really enjoying being here," he said. "I've got to know many people in the village and already feel part of the community. I don't want to leave now!" He expects to trade in Green Hammerton until at least the autumn.

## Patience plea from parish council

*by John Lambert of Green Hammerton Parish Council*

Two new councillors, Tina Clarke and Gill Singleton, have been co-opted onto the council and were duly welcomed at our latest meeting on Jan 30. They have joined at a very difficult time. The council has seen the resignations of two consecutive parish clerks, both for personal reasons. The departures have seriously disrupted council work. However, issues highlighted at the meeting are being dealt with and any previous problems occurring due to the loss of the clerks are also being addressed as quickly as possible. We therefore apologise if any outstanding issues appear unresolved. Could we please ask for your patience at this time? Our parish is currently being advised under the umbrella of the York Local Councils Association who are guiding us through procedures and undertaking clerk duties until a new one is appointed.

**Local boy done good –  
see back page feature**

## An inspector calls

by Chris Eaton of *Keep the Hammertons Green*

As you may know, the Examination in Public of the Harrogate Borough Council Local Plan has now been underway for over two weeks. The Action Group and its professional representatives have been heavily involved. Of course, it is not wise to speculate about the outcome, but we feel that in the early part of the hearings we have made strong points against the proposal to build a 3,000-house new town on the edge of our villages.

In particular, forensic text and number analysis of hundreds of pages of documents by our team has enabled us to demonstrate major flaws in the council's assessment of numbers of houses required. We established that the council had "double counted" an important number leading to the housing number requirement being wrongly inflated by 950 houses. We also exposed another arithmetic error in the council's figures which had led to inflation of the required house numbers by another 670 houses.

The council has publicly conceded these two mistakes but has, typically, brushed them aside. It has said, in terms, that it stands by the original numbers as, even if they are inflated by mathematical errors, it simply gives a more comfortable "buffer" in the plan. We shall have to see what the inspector makes of this but it is shocking that paid officials made such basic errors, endorsed by elected council members.

Another positive development is that during the hearings the council's barrister stated that, having reviewed the grounds of objection to site GH9 (the piece of land at Green Hammerton immediately west of the B6265 at the junction with the A59) the council had decided to withdraw it as a housing allocation. This is very welcome and the first time, as far as we are aware, that the Council has backed down on any housing allocation in this whole process.

We reached the critical stage of the hearings on Tues 29 Jan when the inspector reviewed the Green Hammerton/Cattal Broad Location for Growth (in other words, the new town proposal). The inspector, as in many of the previous hearings got stuck in to the grassroot issues, revisiting the sustainability appraisal and trying to get the council to explain reasons for changing from the most sustainable option (expanding major urban areas) to the least sustainable option (new settlement). He also questioned the council on how our villages could possibly support a new settlement in the early stages. The council had no proper answer for either of these questions which must not have impressed the inspector.

The developers, Oakgate and CEG, swooped in to the aid of the council and made promises about infrastructure improvements and new schools. This gave our barrister the opportunity to expose the

developers' proposals as not being viable or deliverable. He went on further to explain to the inspector that the competition between the two developers would not work, and that the council would not be able to manage conflicts of interest between the developers. He also said that the approach that the council is taking will end up with mass housing and a lot less services and infrastructure that is currently being promised. This pretty much went unchallenged as the inspector tended to agree with what our barrister was saying.

The Flaxby developer continued to pursue the legality of the selection process, highlighting flaws in the sustainability appraisal and how some of the scoring of the site assessments was factually incorrect. It was difficult to gauge how this was received by the inspector but what it certainly did was highlight that the plan has not been positively prepared as the council have been claiming.

The day was difficult. It was hard to predict what the inspector still needed help in understanding bearing in mind that we have given him much to consider already. It was also difficult to know where we stood at the end

of the hearing as the inspector has a good poker face. What we do know is that we gave it our best shot, our barrister was well prepared and we have presented a strong case for not needing a new settlement.

The inspector is taking a week long break from the hearings during which he plans to drive around the areas where he still has concerns. We are

certain that he will have another tour of the Hammertons and Cattal, visiting all the places that we have raised in the hearings including the stations, village shop, schools, heritage sites and along the A59. There isn't much we can do other than make sure our signs and banners are visible.

The last hearings the action group will attend take place on Tues 12 Feb at 10am in the Civic Centre, St Luke's Avenue, Harrogate. The public area accommodates around 40 people and if you plan to come then you will need to arrive around 9.30am since seating is on a first come, first served basis. This hearing is about heritage and place-making. As such it may not be specifically about the new settlement but we do feel there may be opportunities for our views to be heard.

### Oakgate Application

You may also be aware of this application which refers to the area around Cattal Station called Maltkiln Village. Outline planning application is sought for the construction of up to 4,000 residential dwellings, employment land, a mixed-use local centre, two primary schools and associated infrastructure including site preparation, landscaping, open space, drainage, access roads, highways works and utilities with all matters reserved. (Full details available on [harrogate.gov.uk/publicaccess](http://harrogate.gov.uk/publicaccess) then search for application reference 19/00017/EIAMAJ.)



This is the first time Oakgate have submitted an application proposal for a new settlement and it is critical that we make objections as we did with CEG. The action group is now working on guidance notes on this and we will issue these shortly by email and a letterdrop. The deadline is around 24 Feb so we do have a little more time to prepare and we plan on distributing a draft objection letter in the next few days.

## March completion for new-look surgery

*by Dr Richard Tatham of Springbank Surgery*

As many readers will be aware there is significant refurbishment work going on at the surgery. Work is on schedule and is due to be completed in late March. The building interior will be transformed giving us much improved, updated facilities. It will increase the number of consulting rooms we have, allowing us to offer more appointments in the long term. Accessibility will also be better, with wider doorways, lift access to the first floor and a powered front door. There will be improved confidentiality at reception and the building will be more energy efficient.



It is certainly an exciting project and we are confident that any short term disruption will be worth it. Thank you for bearing with us whilst the building work is underway. Of course, if hundreds of new homes are built in the area, we may have to start again with a whole new building, but we are hopeful of staying where we are for the foreseeable future.

• Jane Bannan reports that the defibrillator has been relocated to the left of the surgery (looking from the road).

## In the bag for school friends

*by Annabelle Polito of  
Friends of Green Hammerton School*

A big thank you to all who supported our Christmas fair. We made a grand total of over £1,230 which was fantastic. Events to look forward to this term include the Valentine's disco on Thu 14 Feb with the help of DJ Ollie followed by an Easter treasure hunt in April.

We're organising another Bag-2-School fundraising collection on Thu 21 Feb where the more donations of unwanted clothes we get the more money we earn for school. We invite all villagers to participate by donating the following unwanted items: 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

donations in a bin bag outside your front door by 8am on collection day.

## Youngsters prepare for panto

*by Annabelle Polito of Badapple Theatre*

Badapple Youth Theatre has kicked off the year busy as ever with rehearsals well underway for its forthcoming monster big panto from the pen of Richard Kay. Snow White and the Babes in the Wood is the mash-up of the season involving 29 young actors, two stages and two pantos as Snow White heads into the woods once more. Robin and his Merry Men are having trouble with dwarves not to mention the evil Queen and dastardly sheriff. Let the mayhem commence! Performances take place on Sat 16 Feb at 2 and 6pm at Green Hammerton village hall. Tickets cost £5 which includes refreshments. To book call 339168 or visit badapple theatre.com. The production is kindly supported by the Big Lottery and North Yorkshire County Council.

And save the date: Kate Bramley's brand new comedy, The Frozen Roman, comes to Green Hammerton on Sun 5 May. More on that in due course but expect a double dose of Badapple comedy as the situation goes ballisticus maximus!

## Jez Lowe & The Bad Pennies at Green Hammerton village hall, 22.12.18

*Review by the editor*

Green Hammerton's very own Jez Lowe and his Bad Pennies once again played to a packed and lively audience at our village hall on the Saturday before Christmas. Occasionally joined by Kate Bramley, the five-piece band featuring Northumbrian bagpipes, five-string fretless bass, cittern, melodeon, acoustic guitar and violin created a beautifully balanced, mellifluous sound along with plenty of banter between songs, the audience and themselves.

As Jez explained the set spanned the band's full repertoire dating back to its formation in 1990 when he wrote the plaintive The New Moon's Arms as recently covered, he explained, by veteran guitarist Wizz Jones. A more recent song and one more typical of the largely upbeat set was Don't Spend Christmas in Australia, which contains probably the only lyric that rhymes 'beverages' with 'Everages' (as in Dame Edna). Humorous, ingenious and intricate wordplay was frequently to the fore in, for instance, Scandinavia (rhymed with 'euthanasia'), one of three songs about the region as reflected the show's title Thor'd Out. Further travels took us back to ancient Rome in a song about the discovery of Roman ruins in Newcastle city centre with a Latin chorus that, to our surprise, we all kind of understood just as Jez said we would! The audience including what sounded like many regulars enjoyed singing along to Mistletoe on Tyne (love it) and Walking in a Winter Sunderland. One of my



personal favourites was a folk treatment of In the Bleak Midwinter.

This was a good old fashioned, foot-tapping, cosy, feet-in-front-of-the-fire sort of show and the perfect way to ease yourself into the festive season. Close our eyes and we could've been in a rural Durham or Tyneside pub in a snowstorm. We're so lucky to have such talent emanating from our village and that Jez choose Green Hammerton as the final pre-Christmas show of the group's 20-date tour. It concluded at the Sage in Gateshead the following week.

## Scouts in the thick(et) of it

by Alistair Taylor



The parish nature reserve, Helenfield, is 20 years old this winter. We feared a potential loss of trees as a result of the very dry summer. However, this was not in the end significant and the woodland continues to make excellent progress towards becoming the "haven for wildlife" which James Leather envisioned when he gifted it to the parish. The summer did see a significant drop in the pond water level which has yet to recover.

Four of the planned six work days have been supported by our usual loyal volunteers. Additionally, for the two days last month we welcomed volunteers from the Kirk Hammerton-based, Gauntlet Explorer Scout unit (see above). These young people worked hard and enthusiastically to the extent that we are well into the scheduled work programme for this winter. As a result, we can cancel the session scheduled for 7 Feb and will have one last work day on Sun 24 Feb at 10am.



I am sorry to be boring but dogs remain a significant problem at Helenfield! There continues to be fouling, which some irresponsible owners do not clean up. Many owners also allow dogs to run free. Helenfield is intended to be a nature reserve and we ask all dog owners to stick to the 'permissive' path through the site, to clean up their dog's mess and to keep your dog on a lead. Thank you.

## Roger's nature notebook: the Green Hammerton murmeration

by Roger Mattock

The common starling will spend the day out in the fields around the village feeding or massing on garden feeders. As evening approaches they look for somewhere warm and safe to spend the night, gathering in large flocks called murmurations. Sometimes these flocks contain thousands of birds flying in extraordinary patterns. There is safety in numbers and the behaviour will confuse predators. They also use these gatherings to exchange information about good places to feed.

Our village has its own mini-murmuration. Look to the sky around dusk and you may see small groups of starlings start to gather, forming into a larger group of around 200-300 birds. They will continue to fly around the village before together dropping into trees and bushes on the streets and in gardens. There are times when it's mayhem on my fat feeders and a great photo opportunity. This picture amused me. My caption is: 'he went that way'!



## Noticeboard

- **The Bay Horse** hosts the John Lambert darts trophy night on Mon 4 March at 8pm, reports Tina Clarke. You do not have to be a darts player to enter. There will be a raffle on the evening and a charity donation box for Prostate Cancer UK. The charity will also benefit from the Pub Aid big quiz on Wed 6 March. Entry is £5 entry per team. Our menus are now available for Mother's Day and Easter Sunday. Our next pensioners' lunch will take place on Wed 17 April. Cost is £12.50 per head for three courses. For a menu please email me at bayhorsegreenhammerton@btinternet.com. Advanced booking necessary.
- This year's **Meet & Eat** organised by the Green Hammerton Recreational Charity social committee will take place on Sat 18 May. More details to follow in the next issue. To find out more now or book call Jenny Hymas on 331544. All profits to be shared between GHRC and the St Thomas' Church.
- For personal reasons Ivan Andrew is postponing his **village history talk** until later in the year.



- **Sunday school** meets on the fourth Sunday of the month from 10.30 to 11.15am at St Thomas' church. This month we learnt about the celebration of Candlemas and considered how different light sources can help us to understand how Jesus is the light of the world. For example he can show us the way like a torch or be a comfort to us like a night-light. We then made some edible candles and completed some colouring and word searches. Pictured above are, from left: Sam, George, Alexander, Evie and Grace. If you would like to come along or find out a bit more about Sunday school please email Rachael Holloway at rachael.holloway@sky.com.

- A bench in memory of **Malcolm Horner** has been added to the playing fields. Brian Halling of the Green Hammerton Recreational Charity said: "Please go along and sit with Malcolm for a while, smile and remember. Thank you Rita Horner for giving the village this opportunity."

- I need two new deliverers for **Village View**. One round covers 34 houses on Boroughbridge Road and the other is Churchfields. Please contact me via paulkirkwood@talktalk.net or 331396. Ed.

- The cricket season starts in mid-April. Following on from last season's promotion for the first team **Green Hammerton Cricket Club** hopes to re-establish a second team. Players needed! The club also seeks extra matchball sponsors at £20 per game. Proceeds will help fund the higher umpire and scorer costs that come with playing in a higher division. For more information call Neil Phillips on 07795387441.

- Collavoce Choir, which rehearses each week in Green Hammerton village hall has rebranded as **The Collavoce Collective**. Julie Robinson said: "We'll continue to perform all our favourite sounds like swing, jazz and sacred but we're now excited to introduce musical theatre too." The choir is available for weddings, concerts and other events. Follow them on Facebook (The Collavoce Collective) and Twitter (@collavocecoro) and enquire via collavocecoro@gmail.com.

- **The Village Club** programme for the next two months is as follows: Fri 8 Feb, open mic; Fri 15 Feb, quiz at 8.30pm; Fri 22 Feb, Country & Western with Nigel Head at 8pm; Sat 23 Feb, bingo and Play your Cards Right at 8pm; Fri 1 March, quiz at 8.30pm; Fri 8 March, open mic; Fri 15 March, quiz at 8.30pm; Fri 22 March, Irish music evening with Dave Lesley at 8pm; Fri 29 March, Country & Western with Dave Ingles at 8pm; and Sat 30 March, bingo and Play your Cards Right at 8pm. The club charity soul night held in December in memory of Keith Horner raised £1,079 for the British Heart Foundation.

## Down Memory Lane

*by Roger Mattock*

Did you know that the pond in the grounds of Bensons furniture shop beside the A59 is the site of a military air crash?

Halifax bomber DG230 attached to the 1652 Heavy Conversion Flight at Marston Moor set off on 14 November 1943 for an air test but only three minutes after take-off the aircraft's two starboard engines failed and the plane aircraft crashed into a brick-lined pond behind what was then the Vale of York Hotel. The unit records for this date state that the weather was too poor to undertake any instructional flights day or night. Of the five people on the aircraft one was fortunate to have sustained only minor injuries while his four crew mates were sadly killed. Their bodies were taken into the pub as was the survivor prior to being taken to hospital. One of the men who died that fateful day was a flight officer from New Zealand who is buried at Harrogate Stonefall cemetery. The other three fatalities were from England.

Much of the aircraft remained in the pond for many years along with scrap cars and rubble. Some pieces of the Halifax were dug out and were left on the site during the pond's excavation and conversion into a wildlife area in the mid-2000s.



## Farmer's boy in the commentary box

*Sam and Gill Blacker's son is a top football commentator. In a feature especially and kindly written for Village View Phil looks back on his journey from farmers' fields to football fields.*



It probably wasn't the most likely career path growing up on a remote farm in North Yorkshire, both parents coming from traditional farming families going back generations. I loved the farm house at Wilstrop, the countryside, the privacy. My only problem was I didn't love

farming. In fact, I had very little interest in it. I saw first-hand the hours my dad had to put in in the cold and the wet and it didn't seem like much fun but football, now that was fun.

My first hazy footballing memory was watching the World Cup in Mexico on TV in 1986 (the Maradona Hand of God and all that) and it fired my imagination somewhat. But that was nothing compared to a few months later when, for my eighth birthday I was taken to my very first match – at Bootham Crescent to watch the (not so) mighty York City with a few of my friends from Kirk Hammerton Primary School. And we didn't just get to see the game. A few strings had been pulled and we were given a behind the scenes tour even ending up in the dressing room before the game.

The match didn't go well: York lost 3-1 to Mansfield Town. It was something I would get used to (and I won't go into the current state of affairs). but I had *my* team and I was stuck with them for life, sometimes as a curse but every so often as a great source of pride and identity. They certainly fuelled my love of football.

But here I had another problem: it turned out I wasn't all that good at playing football. Initially I put it down to the fact Kirk Hammerton didn't have the best of teams because there were only six of us in my school year. Tockwith had hundreds to choose from. So on Sunday mornings I started going to extra training but I wasn't getting much better. Competitive as I am I didn't particularly enjoy something I wasn't very good at so it was time for plan B: telling those who were better than me at football where they were going wrong!

I'd always had a love of radio growing up. I used to record my own programmes on an old stereo in the living room and, aged 16, utilised this method to record an entry tape for BBC Radio York's Young

Commentator of the Year competition describing some footage I was watching on the TV. Having been shortlisted for the final I went to the studios, did something similar using rather more professional equipment and won.

That's where it started. The prize was to commentate on a York City match which was an incredible thrill. I had the buzz. I was offered a part-time job off the back of it covering (whisper it quietly) Scarborough. I went from university studying Broadcast Journalism to the bright lights of London. I left York station bound for the capital with a couple of bags, staying in a less than salubrious B&B in Paddington while I settled into my first job at Capital Gold radio. It took me to World Cups and Champions League finals before in 2010 I moved into television. I'm lucky enough to be a regular at Premier League grounds these days working for Sky Sports and covering games globally but I often think back to Bootham Crescent, the playing fields at Kirk Hammerton and the farm. It's been quite a journey so far.

## A word from our sponsor

This issue of Village View is sponsored by Redrow Homes which is building two, three and four-bedroom homes at Churchfields, Harrogate Road, from



£242,950. Step inside the Ashbourne show home, taking luxury living to a new level. Downstairs features a large open plan kitchen/dining room plus separate lounge and utility room while upstairs includes a master bedroom boasting an en-suite with both bath and separate shower. Visit [redrow.co.uk/churchfields](http://redrow.co.uk/churchfields) or call 01423 586905.

## A final word from our founder

This issue of Village View is dedicated to the memory of Dougie Mack. He came up with the idea and name for a Green Hammerton newsletter and, as you can imagine, was never short of a story for it either. Ed.

Village View is published bi-monthly and distributed free to every household in Green Hammerton.

Also available (including back issues) at [greenhammerton.org.uk/village-view-newsletter](http://greenhammerton.org.uk/village-view-newsletter).

Edited by Paul Kirkwood, 331396  
Printed courtesy of Mick Harrison  
and Arena Group ([arenagroup.net](http://arenagroup.net)).