

Village View

The newsletter for residents of Green Hammerton

April/May 2019



Namaste! From mountain kingdom to village school

Green Hammerton Primary School hosted a visit from 20 Nepalese children, their teachers and two members of the Harrogate Rotary Club on 22 March. Headteacher Jenny Langley reports.

The children visited the UK as part of a project funded by the club which included a performance of the Monkey Boy concert alongside our choir at the Royal Hall in Harrogate. Our visitors participated in singing, clay modelling, rocket making and Chromebook work. At collective worship Sumit, their music teacher, taught us all a Namaste song, two year six children read a prayer and Revd Sarah Fewster gave a blessing. We also welcomed Barry Atkinson. Our Nepalese visitors were each presented with a pencil case designed by the class four children and their schools gave us two beautiful plaques. The visitors then enjoyed lunch before heading off to their next school visit.

We will all remember the morning for a very long time. The Nepalese children and their teachers were so smart, polite and grateful. Our children and staff thoroughly enjoyed spending time with them and were amazed by their interest, small appetites and very quick maths skills! Thank you to the Friends of Green Hammerton School (see p3) who paid for the pencil cases and lunches.

- We currently seek a volunteer to join the governing body of the school as a co-opted governor. The role is suited to someone from the local community who brings with them skills to support the leadership and development of the school. If you have skills in business and finance, property and facilities, IT, HR or communications and would like to find out more about being a school governor please contact the school office on 330314 for more information.

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Trim trail up and running

by Brian Halling of the
Green Hammerton Recreational Charity

We are now half-way through stage one erection of our new equipment for the exercise trail to keep us all fit and healthy. Check out the trail plan in the car park to find out all about it and the suggested route plus specific instructions at each piece of equipment namely the step-ups, work-out station, parallel bars and multi-net. The steps on the slope to lower field are nearly finished which will ease running especially in wet conditions when the slope can be very slippery.

This first-stage cost is about £20,000. Half of this sum comes from the Big Lottery Fund with our fundraising contributing £1,300 and the parish council donating £1,000. (I'm trying to twist their arms to help in the next financial year with a little more.) The balance will hopefully come from funds deposited with Harrogate Borough Council from the Redrow Development and possibly our own charity funds.

Interestingly, the second stage which is a track can be supported by the Big Lottery Fund and other organisations only when we have shown good usage of the current equipment. The additional cost will be in the region of £45,000. You don't get a lot for your money these days do you! Anyway, thank you to Tom Polito who has led this project. He has ideas for future use including possible registration with junior parkrun. We have had favourable responses to help us in this area should we need it. Build it and they will come!

Visitors to our premises and field can't have missed other ongoing improvements. We have recently installed new security LED lights around the hall while the playground has been refurbished and is now better than ever. We would like to thank Chris Turner and her band of actors for not only giving two great performances last November but generously donating part of the proceeds towards the refurb. Two new benches have been kindly donated. John Hotson is remembered for his support of village sport, here and away, as a football spectator. Thank you, Jenny. Mary Nixon is also remembered for her involvement in village life for many years. Thank you Peter and family.

Lastly *please* help. Our facilities are again subject to minor vandalism, rubbish and soft drug taking and, of course, habitual dog fouling. If you see it don't ignore it. Remind people of what's expected and pick rubbish up. Someone has to do it. If your children visit the fields by themselves please be aware of what they are doing. I've asked the police to stop by occasionally to keep an eye on things.

At a loose end?
Check out regular village
activities and groups on p6

New play plot has familiar ring to it

by Claire Jeffrey of Badapple Theatre

Our brand new comedy, *The Frozen Roman*, comes to Green Hammerton village hall on Sun 5 May at 7.30pm. It is written by Kate Bramley with songs and music by Jez Lowe who also came up with the idea for the play.

They came, they saw, they built a wall, they went away again or did they? A clandestine meeting at the Phoenix pub gets heated as villagers rack their brains for new ways to fight the imminent housing development that threatens village life as they know it. The discovery of an ancient Roman site underfoot may just throw them a lifeline if they can somehow authenticate their mysterious findings. But things aren't always what they seem. The Green Hammerton performance is part of a 40-date tour supported by a grant of £27,471 from the Arts Council England's distribution of funds from the National Lottery.



Some of the money will be put towards our youth theatre. Talking of which sessions resume at the Village Club on Tues 30 April from 6-7.15pm for the 6-8 year old group and 7.15-9pm for school years 9-11. An additional session for years 7-9 will run at Kirk Hammerton Methodist chapel from 7.15-8.30pm on the same day. Open to all and requiring no experience, the sessions are a mix of confidence building, games and learning parts for our two performances on Sat 29 June. We will also be taking on a play in a week starting on Mon 29 July and culminating with a performance on Fri 2 Aug with rehearsals daily from 10am to 4pm.

For more information or tickets contact me via 339168 or office@badappletheatre.com and visit badappletheatre.com.



Step up to plate - and mic

by the editor

Have you ever fancied participating in the open mic nights at the Bay Horse or Village Club but not been sure how they worked and let your shyness get the better of you? Well, that was the case with me before my son Bertie and I threw caution to the wind and went along to investigate.

Open mic was set up six years ago by singing teacher and musician Arnold Warneken to promote live music locally and act as a stepping stone for local musicians seeking to show their talent at local festivals. The network has led to the formation of several bands. Sessions in Green Hammerton run at the Bay Horse on every second Wednesday of the month from 8.30pm and the back room of the Village Club on second Fridays from about 7.30pm. Just turn up and you'll be allocated a slot to sing up to four numbers and then listen as others step up to the mic. There's a microphone plus amp for guitars, keyboard and backing tracks. Everyone's welcome.

Tony McCulloch, a regular performer and host, said: "You could play the recorder, violin, bongos, read poetry or anything you like really. One of our guitarists would be happy to strum along to a singer and we could even give him or her the lyrics from an app." Locals who have performed include Simon Batchelor from Meadow Vale and Victoria Atkinson from Whixley.

Don't panic about the audience. It will be modest in size and Tony and his companions are a friendly, inclusive bunch. And the audience verdict on my showstopping My Way? "Well, you didn't go wildly wrong or anything," said a bemused and amused Tom Polito at the club. That's as good as four yeses as far as I'm concerned.

More information at facebook.com/wednesdaymic.

Pictured at the Bay Horse open mic in February are, from left: Steve Wood, Mark Kennett, Cliff Lake, Mark Collinson, Tony McCulloch and Bob Croft.

Scarecrow festival returns

*by Annabelle Polito of
Friends of Green Hammerton School*

Children, families, friends and neighbours are invited to our Easter teas and treasure hunt on Fri 5 April from 3.30-5.30pm. The hunt will take place in the school grounds with refreshments and cakes including our legendary simnel cake in the hall. Don't miss the fantastic raffle and traditional games. How do you fancy your chances at guessing how many Easter eggs there are in the jar?

Thank you to all those who donated to our Bag-2-School charity clothes collection. We are still waiting to hear the final amount but contributions from the village certainly helped to boost our tally. The next collection is scheduled for Fri 24 May so please start putting aside your good quality unwanted clothes. We will collect them from outside your house that morning at 8am.

Lastly, we invite you to our showpiece family fundraising event: the Green Hammerton and Whixley scarecrow festival on Sun 19 May. This year the theme will be heroes and villains and the trail will be open throughout both villages including Whixley Gate with drinks and baked goodies along the way and a central refreshments area on the school field. Further details on how to enter your scarecrow coming soon.

Battle lost but war still to be won

by Chris Eaton of Keep the Hammertons Green

We have some good news following the completion of the Harrogate District local plan Examination in Public (EIP). We have received a copy of an encouraging letter from the inspector to Harrogate Borough Council which sets out his current thoughts on the local plan. He emphasises that the examination is not complete but says that the sustainability appraisal and errors in the housing needs calculations, giving an unnecessarily high housing allocation, require further work. Both were significant parts of the action group's case.

Having considered the submissions from Keep the Hammertons Green and Flaxby Park Ltd the inspector would also appear not to be satisfied with how the council has arrived at designating Green Hammerton for the new settlement. He wants to see the council assess the broad locations around *all* the proposed settlement sites.

This is a significant win for us. We have always said that once we got in front of an independent inspector our objections would be taken seriously. Although frustrating at times (as the council seems to have been ignoring our comments) our/your tireless responses to every consultation has meant the inspector has seen the overwhelming support by *you*, the residents. It has given a consistent message on why Green Hammerton/Cattal as a choice for a new settlement is unsustainable. The inspector's advice for council to undertake additional work on the alternative broad locations cannot be ignored by the council. The inspector has made it clear that he wishes to make further comments and the council should now assess all the potential sites fairly.

The action group is not intending to just wait for the council to announce its findings and is already taking the next steps we feel are needed. We will hold a briefing session within the Kirk Hammerton parish council meeting at Kirk Hammerton village hall on Mon 13 May at 7pm having provided a similar update at Green Hammerton last week.

In other news we are pleased that Harrogate Borough Council rejected the application to erect five dwellings on Back Lane, Green Hammerton. The reasons given for their decision were that the site was out of character with the form of the village and extended beyond the current and emerging development limit. In addition to having an adverse effect on the conservation area and using best agricultural land concerns over works to the highway to make access safe showed the site was not practical.

Unfortunately, not everything we have to report is good news. The planning application by Strata Homes to erect 62 dwellings at the junction of New Lane and Yule Lane in Green Hammerton was approved on 12 March despite three well-reasoned presentations by Ian Bailes for the parish council, Chris Chelton for the

action group and Ann Myatt, Green Hammerton's ward councillor. It was a marginal vote: six to five in favour but it was still a disgrace that the planning officer made no attempt to address the key points of objection raised at the hearing and committee members allowed these points to go unchallenged.

We also need to inform you of more immediate action that needs to be taken. At the EIP public hearings, we were successful in having site GH9 removed from the local plan allocation. This field is located in the north-west corner of the A59 junction with the B6265. When Harrogate Council confirmed its removal the inspector said he also had concerns over the site. This was another win for the campaign as this was the only site to be removed from the local plan during the entire EIP hearings. However, despite this decision, the owners of this site have now submitted a planning application for 63 houses on the field. The deadline for objections is Mon 15 April. Clearly outside Green Hammerton's village development limits, this application must be stopped as it would be considered a stepping stone for CEG's new settlement application. The site's development is also wrong for many of the reasons that applied to the Back Lane application and the other developments that have taken place, perhaps even more so.

Details of the application can be viewed on Harrogate's planning portal: bit.ly/GHplanning. Click on the red 'public access' box then search for 19/01033/OUTMAJ. If you agree this site is wrong please register an objection. We have not got much time to respond but because we have already objected to this site in the local plan and had it successfully removed we are optimistic that we can have this application refused. To help you raise an objection we will distribute an objection template letter for you to adopt in the next few days.

Please look out for further communication on this application on the local noticeboards or via our email mailing list. If you are not already on our email list you can subscribe by contacting info.kghg@gmail.com.

Mineral named after villager

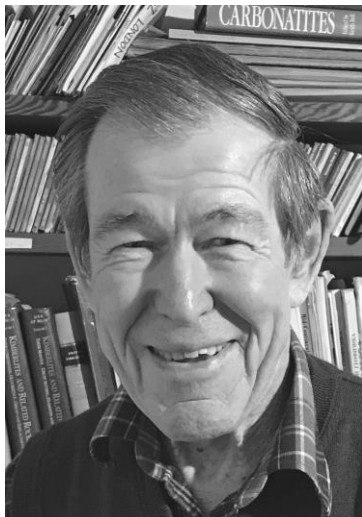
by Penny Russell

I'm sure most older villagers will recognise my dad, Peter Nixon. He has lived in the village with my mum, Mary, on and off for nearly 50 years. Since my mum passed away last year he is often seen walking up to the village shop to collect his paper and more recently his coffee and occasional (or that is what he says to me!) bacon sandwich from Andy in his van.

Few people will know of my dad's background and perhaps now is a good time to remedy that as he has just been awarded a special accolade to recognise his professional achievements in the earth science world. Following the discovery of a previously unknown



mineral and in recognition of his lifetime research and input into mineralogy it has been decided that this new mineral should be named Nixonite after my dad.



His love of geology began as a student at Leeds University where, as a PhD student mapping in Southern Africa, he discovered what has become one of the largest diamond mines in the world where some of the biggest diamonds have been found and continue to be mined. His lifetime's work has been in the field of diamond-bearing rocks known as

Kimberlites and this has taken him and my mum all over the world. The writer of countless papers, articles and two books, he has been described by his peers as a visionary on the highly technical interpretation of the scientific processes by which diamonds are formed. My father ended his academic work as Professor of Geology at Leeds University.

He is one of the most unassuming gentlemen and I know that he would certainly not have told anyone of this honour so, as his daughter, I thought I would shout out about it and pop it in Village View. As children when my three sisters and I were out with dad we were always treated to very technical explanations about the formation of various rock outcrops. His love of earth science has always been at the forefront of his life. How lucky is he that his passion was also his job.

Charity nights hit the bulls-eye

by Tina Clarke of the Bay Horse



We hosted the annual Jon Lambert blind darts tournament on 4 March as part of our Prostate Cancer UK charity week. Trophy winners were Phil Jackson and ... me (see pic)! Runners-up were Neil Phillips and Ryan Clarke. It was a close battle between the two

seasoned darts players and my son and I who are novices. The night was a great success with 14 pairs participating. Two nights later we supported the Pub Aid National Quiz for the charity. This proved popular too with competitors coming from our regular quizzers and our regular fishermen customers. The total raised from both events was £300.

We are currently recruiting for part-time bar and restaurant staff aged 18 and over. We also seek a full-time general assistant also 18+ to work in all areas of the pub and its bed and breakfast business. The position would suit someone who has a passion for the pub and hotel industry and is looking to go into pub management as a career. A flexible rota will require five days work out of seven. We will consider applicants who would like to work while gaining a college qualification. For information and an application pack for any of these roles please email at bayhorsegreenhammerton@btinternet.com.

▪ The Bay Horse has been reviewed in the Yorkshire Post. See clipping, p7.

Sam is best in class!

by Steve Ross



Congratulations to Sam Blacker who has been presented with lifetime membership of Tockwith Show Friends in recognition of his huge amount of work for the charity. Sam was chairman for three spells totalling nine years and, as president in 2014, raised over £5,000 for his nominated charity, the Royal Agricultural Benevolent Institution. He's pictured with this year's president Dee Alton.

▪ The Tockwith Show car boot sale takes place on Bank Holiday Monday (6 May) at the showfield off Cattal Moor Lane in Tockwith. Sellers from 7am and buyers from 8am. Cars £7, vans £10 and buyers free but donations welcome. More information from Maureen on 07960 990242.

Karate club gives confidence boost

by Di Tee

The long running kids' karate classes at Green Hammerton village hall are brimming with confidence this spring. An influx of new students meant there has never been a better time for kids who need to burn off some energy and gain some self-confidence in a safe non-contact environment. The class is pleased to introduce a new fourth Dan instructor, Master Andy Moodie. Andy has been with Martial Arts for Life, which hosts the sessions, for about 15 years. He said: "This is a really friendly class with very enthusiastic kids. Everyone is welcome to come along for a free taster class on Monday evenings at 5pm."

Pictured with Andy are Jack and Riley Nolson and Esme Tegerdine who all started the class before Christmas and are now as pleased as punch having achieved their first belt. For more details contact Diane Tee via 568067 or enquiries@martialartsforlife.co.uk.



Village hall weekly activities

by Claire Jeffrey

Here's the annual reminder of regular weekly activities at Green Hammerton village hall:

- Book Club. Thu 8pm (monthly). petermorrill@gmail.com.
- Boot camp. Tues 7-8pm. iamapaululett@gmail.com.
- Brownies. Mon 6-7.30pm. kuunalm@btinternet.com.
- Dru yoga and occasional meditation. Mon 9.30-10.45am and Thu 6.30-7.45pm. jennidruyoga@gmail.com.
- Fit for Fun circuits. Wed 9am. iansalvin@btinternet.com.
- Junior football for 5-9 year olds. Sat 9.30-10.45am. greenhammertonjuniorfootball.org.
- Karate. Mon 5-5.45pm. enquiries@martialartsforlife.co.uk.
- Otago. Fri 1pm. dixon816@btinternet.com.
- Pilates. Tues and Fri 9.30 and 10.30am. claire@goldsbroughphysiotherapy.co.uk.
- Rainbows. Wed 6pm. vickyabbott@yahoo.co.uk.

Noticeboard



• The **Chatty Rambles** group walked around the little known Roman mounds of Pompocali at Bardsey in March. From left: Jane Bannan, Chris Turner, Gill Blacker and Elsie Rymer. Pic by Jayne Knights. New walkers always welcome. Contact Chris via 331306 or c.turner2011@btinternet.com.

• A **yard sale** in aid of the parish of Whixley with Green Hammerton will take place on Sun 28 April from 9am to 2pm. Barry Atkinson said: "Use your own tables and venue such as your drive and we'll provide you with a large number to place near your stall for identification on the map covering both villages which we'll sell to the public. We'll also do all advertising for you for £15 for each table." More information from Barry on 331419.

• Susan Bowe of **Kirk and Green Hammerton WI** reports: "Sam Blacker and Steve Ross gave a very interesting illustrated talk about their Pennine Way walk at our February meeting while in March Stephen Wells entertained us with magic tricks and a talk on the Magic Circle and the great Magicians. John Shackleton will talk about his trip in a ambulance to Romania at our next meeting on 19 April in Green Hammerton village hall and a ladies barbershop chorus will entertain at Kirk Hammerton village hall on 14 May. New members and visitors are always welcome."

• New to the village? Then are you aware of the **village website and email list**? They are the ideal way to keep up with what's on and news in between issues of Village View. It's easy to subscribe to the email list. Just go to greenhammerton.org and click on the link in the 'welcome' section of the homepage. The website includes parish council and councillor details, an events calendar and details of village groups and businesses.

• Jenni Kirkwood is holding a one-off **family yoga class** at Green Hammerton village hall on Mon 15 April at 10.45am. Advanced booking necessary. See jennyiyoga.wordpress.com for more information.

• **1st Hammerton with Whixley Brownies** seek a volunteer helper. No experience needed. The role involves attending Monday evening sessions and termly planning meetings. More information from Mandy Kuunal via 330527 or 1sthammertonbrownies@gmail.com.

• **Darts players are needed** for the Bay Horse team that competes in the York Monday darts league. If interested please call Neil Phillips on 0779 5387441.

• The **Collavoce Collective** has several performances lined up for the spring – at Trinity Methodist Church, Harrogate, on Sat 11 May at 7.30pm; St Wilfrid's Church, Harrogate, on Sun 19 May from 2-5pm as part of a vintage event in aid of Dementia Forward; and at Whixley church on Fri 31 May at 7.30pm in a show title When Frank met Ella. More information from collavocecoro@gmail.com.

• A British Heart Foundation **CPR course** is being held at Tockwith surgery on Tues 4 April at 6pm. Further courses will be held later in the year and at Green Hammerton surgery after construction work is complete. Booking and more information from Toni Ramsay via 322828 or toni.ramsay@icloud.com.

A word from our sponsor

Redrow's new homes at Churchfields off Harrogate Road offer an opportunity for villagers to trade up, down or sideways into a newer property. Existing homeowners can tap into Redrow's Help to Sell incentive which helps find a



buyer and contributes to selling fees while first-time buyers or those sold subject to contract can use the government-backed Help to Buy equity loan and may only need a 5% deposit. In certain circumstances you may be able to use both schemes together. Current prices are from £242,950. Call 01423 586905 or see redrow.co.uk/churchfields.

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News and pics to paulkirkwood@talktalk.net.

Next issue: Sun 2 June. Deadline: Sat 25 May.

Yorkshire Post, 16.2.19 pub of the week

with Elaine Lemm

BAY HORSE, GREEN HAMMERTON, YORK

Oh, that all welcomes in pubs were as warm as at The Bay Horse in Green Hammerton near York. It takes little effort and does make all the difference. The village pub has only been in the hands of Jon and Tina Clarke for a couple of years, and in that time, they have built a reputation for their pub food and letting rooms, but that has not stopped this being also a well-loved, and busy drinking pub.

There is a large central bar for the many different rooms around it – some set more for dining – but there is also an extensive area with two open fires and a TV for drinkers and eaters alike. The well-stocked bar has changing hand-pulls currently with Ruddles Best, IPA and Old Golden Hen, and the usual support acts of lagers and the rest. There is a premium Gin collection on offer as well as a decent pub wine list, but with only four whites and three reds to choose from.

As mentioned, food features heavily here, and Jon's curries are legendary (I heard of them at my hairdressers). Jon pops in and out of the kitchen while we are there for a word or two with customers and the plates of food he comes out with look enticing indeed.

Expect darts, open mic night, quiz nights and special "Elderflower Lunches" for the over 60s.

A proper village pub.

■ **The Bay Horse, Green Hammerton, York, North Yorkshire, YO26 8BN**
Tel: 01423 330338

■ **Open: Mon to Thurs: noon to 10.30pm, (Food served 12 to 8pm); Fri and Sat: noon to 11pm (Food served 12 to 9pm); Sun: noon to 8pm (food served until 6pm).**



PUB OF THE WEEK RATINGS

WELCOME	5/5
DRINKS SELECTION	3/5
ATMOSPHERE	4/5
FOOD	4/5

Meet & Eat



We are organising our TENTH 'Meet & Eat' to raise funds for Green Hammerton Recreational Charity and the Church on

Saturday 18 May

For those of you who have not taken part before, the information below will hopefully tempt you – we also look forward to meeting up with all those of you who have joined us on the last nine occasions.

All those taking part will 'Meet' at the village hall and have a welcoming drink together along with some (hopefully) delicious home-made canapés.

All those NOT hosting a starter course will be asked to collect an envelope telling them where they will be 'Eat'-ing their first course.

All those NOT hosting a main course will be asked to collect an envelope telling them where they will be 'Eat'-ing their second course.

At a certain time everyone will be asked to leave and head for the home of their starter hosts. At some point later, when everyone has finished, they will then leave their starter hosts and make their way to the home of the main course hosts. Thereafter everyone will meet in the village hall for puddings.

Everyone taking part must either

1. Be a starter host OR
2. Be a main course host OR
3. Provide canapés for 10-12 people OR
4. Provide puddings for 10-12 people

AND

5. Buy a ticket at a cost of £12.50

Please ring Jenny Hymas (331544) or email on jennyhymas@outlook.com or Claire Jeffrey (331304) to obtain your tickets and discuss with them which of the above four options you would prefer. If any of the above is not clear please contact one of us for further information.

The more the merrier. This can only work if enough people are prepared to host – no-one needs to prepare anything elaborate – this event is about mixing, socialising, having fun and raising funds for two good causes. We look forward to hearing from you.

Green Hammerton Recreational Charity Social Committee