

# Village View

The newsletter for the residents of Green Hammerton

Oct/Nov 2019



Sports day rolls  
back the years -  
see p2 and  
centrespread

12-page  
colour  
special



'Tina Turner'  
plays Main  
Pine - see p3

## Summer gold

Villagers turn out in force to end the season in style ...

... and those cyclists whizz  
close by too – see pic p3



Finding something to  
suit at the car boot  
sale - see back page







*Here come the boys ... Competitors in the men's under 23s race in the UCI Road Cycling World Championships pass over Whitley crossroads en route to Boroughbridge on 27 Sept.*

## Sports day back in style

*by the family of Dougie Mack*

Well what a day! A fabulous village occasion in memory of a very special man, Mr Green Hammerton. As a family we were overwhelmed by the support for such a wonderful event. We would like to thank everyone who helped before, during and after the day. We would also like to thank local businesses and families who donated over £600 of raffle prizes and over 250 tombola prizes. Donations of cakes and biscuits for the sports day were incredible. The generosity of donations and help was extremely humbling.

We would like to thank Dougie for providing an amazing sunny day. He must have known the right people! We would also like to thank everyone who attended the event including fancy dress entrants, all those who participated in the races and everyone who bought a raffle and tombola tickets and sweets and donated money for refreshments. Without you the event wouldn't have been the huge success that it was.

Simon's inspiration for having a sports day was to bring this very special village together like Dougie had done many a time. This was certainly achieved.

We are so very pleased to let you all know that a remarkable profit of £936.68 was raised. This money will be held in trust by the Green Hammerton Recreational Charity to purchase sports day equipment such as bean bags, tug-o'-war rope and hula hoops. Also, the money is now there for a village sports day to continue in Green Hammerton for years to come.

The breakdown of the sports day money is as follows:

Incoming: £1,176.68

Sweet stall and bubble wands £107.10  
Tombola £293.70

Raffle £397.50  
Refreshments donations £288.38  
General donations £60.00  
Donation from the Coffee Shack £30.00

Outgoings: £240

Fancy dress prize money £40  
Race winnings £30  
Floats £100  
Village hall rental £40  
Sweets £30

Profit: £936.68

Below: Like father, like son. MC Simon Mack with sister Katherine. See picture special on centrespread.



▪ The sports day also included a run for children around the new trim trail organised by Tom Polito. Annabelle Polito said: "Following the success of the sports day there is another excellent village sporting event on its way. The inaugural 'GH junior run' takes place Sat 12 Oct at 9am on the village sports field. It is free to enter and open to all children who fancy an active start to their weekend whatever the weather. The circuit for under eights will be two laps of the playing field and over eights will take on three laps. So come along for a bit of fun, walk or run. If the demand is there we hope to make this a regular monthly fixture. The emphasis will be on fun! Meet at the table tennis table by the playground at 8.50am. Any questions, contact Tom or I on 331993.

## Simply the best\*

by Gill Singleton



An amazing £14,000 was raised by the Tina Turner tribute evening at Main Pine at the bottom of the green on 14 Sept, writes Gill Singleton. The money has been split between the charities Myeloma UK and Brain Tumour Research & Support. Thank you to everyone who contributed and supported us in making this a record breaking fundraiser. Your generosity was overwhelming.

- Pic above and on front cover by Susan Goss-Clements.

\*Dreadfully naff headline but I couldn't resist it. Ed.

## Poetry night at the Village Club

Review by Gail Reilly

Around 50 people enjoyed a great night at the Village Club on 28 Sept when they were treated to a slick performance of poetry from Dave Walker. He recited very varied material by several poets including John Cooper Clarke, Roger McGough and Attila, the stockbroker dating from 1974 to the present day as well as some of his own work. Everyone appeared thoroughly entertained during a 90-minute performance. MC Trainspotter, Letter To Men Only and The Day The Taliban Came To Green Hammerton seemed to go down particularly well.

A big thank you to all who supported this event including those who were unable to attend but still made a donation. The evening raised £340 (and still counting) in aid of Breast Cancer Care. Thanks also to all those who generously donated raffle prizes. Jane Kellett did a sterling job selling tickets and Andy from the Coffee Shack kindly attended and served up his delicious burgers. Hopefully there will be a similar performance at some point in the future.

- For Village Club programme for Oct/Nov see p9.

## All creatures of our God and king at St Thomas'

by David MacDonald of St Thomas' Church

We were delighted to welcome to the church what you might call a very mixed congregation on 21 Sept. Pets attended a service of celebration of all that they mean to us. It was the first service of its kind in Green Hammerton and we had a very encouraging turn out. Not quite the numbers featured in that memorable episode of Vicar of Dibley but at least we were spared the chaos!

Rev Sarah Feaster spoke to us about the importance of caring for all God's creatures and giving thanks for all creation. Barry Atkinson led us in the singing of some very familiar hymns accompanied by Dorothy Turner on the organ. Then, of course, it was time to meet the pets including two dogs called Alfie, a cat named after the Norse god Odin (who had come all the way from New Zealand though not especially for the service!), two gerbils and a shy guinea pig who had to be persuaded out of his straw nest but seemed to quite enjoy meeting everyone nonetheless. Annabelle and Jess Polito's cat Mimi preferred to stay at home so she sent us a photo and looked very sweet.

A photocall, see below, followed the close of service and everyone (including, we assume, the pets) agreed that it was a very enjoyable occasion.

- See back page for picture special of the church's car boot sale on the green.



## MP goes back to school

*by Jenny Langley of Green Hammerton School*

We welcomed Nigel Adams MP to our school on 6 Sept as part of our Brilliantly British theme during which the children are learning about parliament and elections. Nigel spoke in assembly and visited each class. He explained his role and then answered questions including 'Have you seen Big Ben?', 'Do you have to stand up for a long time?' and 'What do you think about Brexit?'. Thank you to Martin Simpson, our vice-chair of governors, for organising the visit and to Rebecca Jackson, our chair, for joining us at assembly.



We are pleased to be able to offer a weekly toddler session in our EYFS unit on Mondays from 2.15 to 3.15pm. They are open to children who are two years old accompanied by a parent or carer. The sessions will include time in the EYFS indoor and outdoor areas and a story session. Please contact the school office on 330314 if you would like to join us.

We currently have vacancies for co-opted governors. They are non-parent governors from the local community who bring additional skills to support the school's continued development. We are looking specifically for people with marketing and communications skills, bid writing and funding experience or finance skills who would be able to offer time (some within the school day) to support us. If you or your friends may be interested in joining our governing body please contact the school office.

Finally, we're hosting an open day for prospective families on Wed 9 Oct.

Calling all bookworms – page 9  
Archive photo – page 10  
Scouting around – page 11

## A crowd, a host of golden daffodils

*by Brian Halling*

Most of you will recall our wonderful daffodils running down the verge against the playing fields and bypass road to Boroughbridge.

Many years ago I spent four seasons planting this verge with 5,000 King Edwards daffodils. In spring it looked brilliant, prompted many admiring comments and provided a welcome sight coming home. (I call this period B.R. for 'before Redrow'). The verge was dug up by Redrow at the start of the housebuilding programme and the daffodils were buried forever. (I call this period A.R. for 'after Redrow'). Since then we have been trying to get them reinstated but progress was very slow and each season passed us by.

However, this year Redrow has delivered 500kg of King Edward daffs and, as Village View went to press, I heard that they have finally appointed a contractor to plant them. I had visions of me working night and day in snow, hail, wind and rain to get the job done. So this is "perfect"! (Yes: years ago The Darling Buds of May was filmed locally, not in Kent).



▪ Major work started on the A59 last week which involves traffic controls day and night and is due to last another five weeks. We are already suffering higher volumes of traffic travelling down New Lane at over 30mph which is already a too high speed limit. Vehicles include wagons which are prohibited unless making local deliveries. Please take care. Our children use this road frequently as do many walkers and cyclists. If you see dangerous driving phone the police and report it to the parish and Harrogate Borough councils. The increased traffic is a taste of what we can expect for years to come because of the housebuilding in the village.

## Parish council round-up

*by Gill Singleton of Green Hammerton parish council*

**Road Maintenance.** The parish council met North Yorkshire County Council (NYCC) to discuss residents' concerns about the state of various village sites including Bernard Lane, Harrogate and York Roads (drainage issues), Meadow Vale and Boroughbridge Road (damaged signs), A59 (pedestrian crossing and obscured signage due to overgrown hedges). NYCC have acknowledged the problems and we have been assured we should see improvements to the areas below shortly.

**Greenhills.** Following submission of our objection letters about this Loxley Homes development, the council, along with Chris Chelton from Keep the



Hammertons Green, met Harrogate Borough Council's Greenhill's case officer, Helen Goulden, to discuss the reserved matters related to this controversial site. While the planning application will not be withdrawn, the opportunity was given to verbally put forward serious concerns as to the suitability of the proposed development particularly with regard to issues of housing density, positioning of affordable housing, visual mitigation, access into Red Lane, impact on residents in New Lane overlooking the site, disruption to the village during building, and implications on increasing numbers to the village school. We are hopeful that amendments to the submitted plan will be forthcoming.

**Strata Homes/New Lane.** The council will closely monitor development of this site to ensure that Strata Homes keep strictly within their agreed terms of reference. Those agreed terms will be put on the parish noticeboard shortly.



**Plinth area.** The council has made a start on cleaning up the plinth area to make it a more pleasurable central meeting place. We would like to upgrade the seating and planters too. If anyone would like to sponsor a bench or planter please contact us. NYCC has offered to at least matchfund any monies raised which is an opportunity not to be missed. Pictured tidying up the plinth area are, from left: Gill Singleton; Ian Bailes, chairman; Andy Paraskos, North Yorkshire County Council councillor for Ainsty ward; and Juliet MacCarthy. Pic by Tina Clarke who was also part of the team.

**Dog fouling and disposal bins.** This is still under review but in the meantime please note that poo bags can be disposed of in general household waste.

**Vacancies.** There are still vacancies on the council. If you would like to help support our village please contact our clerk, Sue Reid, via [clerk.ghpc@gmail.com](mailto:clerk.ghpc@gmail.com)

**Village website.** If you would like to maintain and develop the Green Hammerton village website please contact Sue, as above.

## Huge response to latest consultation

*by Chris Eaton of Keep the Hammertons Green*

We have delivered our formal response to the Harrogate Borough Council (HBC) consultation on the 'main modifications' of the local plan and changes to the 'sustainability appraisal' of possible sites for the 3,000-house new town.

As well as the action group submission we also delivered 892 response forms from local residents. We know there will be many more forms sent directly. This represents an impressive response by the public. It must be seen by the council – and hopefully by the inspector too – that there is an overwhelming rejection of what HBC wants to impose on our villages. To view our response click the 'reports' tab on our website, [kghg.co.uk](http://kghg.co.uk).

The process now is unclear. We expect HBC will produce a summary of all responses and send that with the submissions to the inspector for his review and subsequent report for publication possibly within two months. We hope he finds our response valid and compelling and will be encouraged to require the removal of the new settlement from the plan. Alternatively, if there must be a new settlement, we hope he will agree that Green Hammerton/Cattal is not the right location and recommend that HBC should select the Flaxby site. If, however, he remains undecided then we hope he listens to our call to extend the public hearings and allow us the opportunity to properly challenge the housing numbers and selection process so that we can finally convince him that there is no need for this new settlement.

We have also had further discussions with our MP Nigel Adams. He has advised us that he has sent a letter to the inspector broadly supporting our position by outlining his concerns about the process and noting that HBC has not properly recognised the strength of public feeling.

We would like to thank everyone who completed a consultation response form and everyone who sent the action group their views on the consultation documents. Many of the points were included in our submission. Finally, a huge thank you to all those who helped produce, print, distribute and collect all the villagers' responses. It was a magnificent effort and it is really appreciated.





# What good sports! See report, p2



Pre-school fancy dress contestants: winner Reggie Bradley (pirate on the Jolly Roger), runner-up Adeline Cameron (dinosaur), third place Isabelle Bradley (Tinkerbell) plus Hannah Dacey (pink fairy) and Louie Bradley (Peter Pan).



Mixed ages fancy dress joint winners, from left: Mia O'Connor (Lego), Liz Hines (Elastigirl), Harriet Hymas (Violet), Paul Hines (Mr Incredible), Evan Hines (Dash) and, front row, Emilia Hymas (egg) and Lucas Ashford (Pinochio).



It's a wrap for Paul Dacey and family of Meadow Vale.











## Chilly theme to Badapple programme

*by Claire Jeffrey*

Badapple Theatre's *The Frozen Roman* returns to the area in October. Performances are set for Kirk Hammerton village hall on Thu 10 Oct and Hunsingore village hall on Sat 26 Oct. Meanwhile, the theatre company hosts the Green Hammerton coffee morning on Sat 12 Oct from 10am until noon with proceeds going to its youth group (see pic, above).

Badapple will be back in the village on Fri 20 Dec with its Christmas family production titled *The Snow Dancer*, "an eco-tale with a furry tail"! Jez Lowe and the Bad Pennies also take to the village hall stage with their *Ice Cold* in Alnwick show on Sun 22 Dec. More information on all these shows and booking via [badappletheatre.com](http://badappletheatre.com) or call 339168.

## Bags2School coming soon

*by Helen Sargent of Friends of Green Hammerton School*

At our AGM we welcomed on board some new committee members and said goodbye to two members who have done so much for our school over the years, Annabelle Polito and Charlotte Dean.

There will be a Bags2School charity collection on Wed 23 Oct and so if anyone is planning a pre-Christmas clear out, please put aside your good quality unwanted clothes and shoes (tied together) and we will collect them from outside your house that morning at 8am. We've also launched a second-hand uniform shop with all proceeds going to FOGHS. Thank you to Kirsten Henry for organising this initiative. Finally, we cordially invite the village to the school's Christmas fair on Sun 1 Dec from 2-4pm.

## Roger's nature notebook

*with Roger Mattock*

This year saw a once in 10-year phenomena: the mass migration of the painted lady butterfly, pictured below. In 2009 11 million of these butterflies were recorded migrating on a 7,500-mile round trip from Africa to the Arctic circle, stopping off in the UK to breed. By early July this year some 30,000 had already been recorded arriving. Before this year I have rarely seen this butterfly in the UK. Although there is an annual migration, it is usually much smaller. This year they have been present in large numbers at every reserve I've visited including Helenfield. I've also had many in the garden.

I will be giving an illustrated talk titled *Britain's wildlife* at Green Hammerton village hall on Mon 28 Oct at 7.30pm. Over the years I have been photographing wildlife I've amassed photographs of hundreds of species. I would like to share these with you as well as provide interesting facts about the species and information on where you can find them. Admission is £5 which includes tea/coffee and biscuits. Proceeds to the village hall hearing loop fund.





## Book club welcomes new members

*by Pete Morrill*

As the evenings draw in the attractions of a good book start to pull a little more strongly. If you enjoy reading, why not try Green Hammerton's book club, GH Readers. It's a great way to meet people and get more out of your reading. You read things that you wouldn't normally choose and mostly find that you enjoy them. You can share your favourites with other people and find out what they think.

Some books just ask to be discussed. Is the tiger in *Life of Pi* real or imaginary? A book club discussion might just change your mind. It's not all about the books. Meetings are a social event and there's a fair amount of chat mixed in with discussion. We like to keep things lively and informal.

The group meet monthly to discuss a book chosen by members. There are no restrictions on the books we read. They are mainly contemporary fiction with some classics, personal favourites and non-fiction thrown in for variety. Meetings are held in the village hall and last about an hour or so. We source most of our books from the local library so often there is no need to buy them although there is an annual subscription to cover the costs of the hall and library reservations.

If you think that you'd like to join the book group why not come along to one of the next meetings? On Thu 17 Oct we will discuss *Swan Song* by Kelleigh Greenberg-Jephcott followed on Thu 21 Nov by *Middle England* by Jonathan Coe. The group meets at 8pm in the small meeting room at the village hall. You'll be sure of a warm welcome and have a chance to see what the group is like before deciding whether to join. For further information contact me at [peter.morrill@gmail.com](mailto:peter.morrill@gmail.com) or 07837 412296.



## Get hot to trot for big club night

*by Lisa Watson of the Village Club*

The Club in association with T R Otter Pig Racing brings a piece of culture to the village on the evening of Sat 19 Oct or I could be telling you a porker!

Know your Ascot winners from your nags? Well try your luck with three little piggies or, more correctly, the eight oinkers in each race. In the first seven races have a flutter on the pig you think can go like the trotters. Own your pig for only £2 and if your charge is first over the line claim the prize. Don't think your piggy can bring home the bacon? You can always bet

on one of the other trotters. The final race will be an auction. More details on the night.

The rest of the club programme is as follows: Fri 11 Oct, open mic; Fri 18 Oct, quiz; Sat 19 Oct, pig racing; Fri 25 Oct, Country & Western; Fri 1 Nov, quiz; Fri 8 Nov, open mic; Fri 15 Nov, quiz; Fri 29 Nov: Country & Western. Bar staff required. £8.25 per hour. Apply at the club or to Paul Evans via 330572 and [paul.evans@barclays.com](mailto:paul.evans@barclays.com).

• EXTEND classes are being held by Marilyn Rogerson at the Village Club on Thursdays from 10 Oct between 1.30 and 3pm. The exercise is gentle, both seated and standing, and followed by tea and biscuits. Marilyn is a trained EXTEND tutor with nine years teaching experience. Contact her via 408748 or 07989 753828.

## Wraps off pub festive programme

*by Tina Clarke of the Bay Horse*

Over 30 pensioners enjoyed a 'taste of Italy' at the Bay Horse's latest pensioners' lunch on 11 Sept. The pensioner's Christmas lunch will be held on Wed 4 Dec at 1pm. Enjoy a three-course meal for £12.50 per head. Booking is essential. Please email Tina at [bayhorsegreenhammerton@btinternet.com](mailto:bayhorsegreenhammerton@btinternet.com) for a menu and pre-order form.

We will offer a pre-bookable Christmas fayre menu from 1-23 Dec and Jon is planning a steak and curry evening on Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve. We will be open for drinks only on Christmas Day from 11.30am to 1.30pm. We are open for bed and breakfast all over the holiday period with a discounted rate for local families in the area who have relatives visiting.

Please note that there may be a slight change to our usual opening hours, food services and room availability during the week commencing 3 Nov as Jon and I will be away on annual leave. Details will be posted on the village website and 9.pub Facebook page.

Finally, we now have a new games table donated to the pub which includes over 60 retro games. This is available to play outside of busy restaurant hours for a donation. This month's charity is Cancer Research UK.

Village View is published bi-monthly and distributed free to every household in Green Hammerton. Also available at [greenhammerton.org.uk/village-view-newsletter](http://greenhammerton.org.uk/village-view-newsletter). For more news subscribe to email alerts via the same website.

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Next issue out: Sun 1 Dec. Deadline: Sat 23 Nov.

## Noticeboard

▪ Glorious weather saw crowds flock to the annual St Thomas's Church **car boot sale** on the green, writes Steve Ross. We decided to do our own catering this year to maximise profit and this certainly paid off with just over £1,000 being raised. The money will go to the upkeep of the church fabric such as repairs to stonework and windows which can run into the thousands of pounds even for small jobs. Many thanks to sellers and buyers and particularly to Chris and Jo Nottingham, Alison Ross and Gill Blacker for their help on the day. Thanks must to the owners of the green without whose co-operation events like this would not be possible. See picture special, back page.

▪ The annual **quiz night** in aid of the parish of Whixley with Green Hammerton and organised by Dave and Sally Walker takes place on Sat 12 Oct at 7.30pm in the village hall. Tickets (only a few left) at £12.50 including two-course supper from Helen Walsh on 331066 and 07837 858961.

▪ Do you have any **unwanted computer equipment**? Then get in touch with Julia O'Connor via [robandjuliaoconnor@btinternet.com](mailto:robandjuliaoconnor@btinternet.com). She is collecting items on behalf of African Pride, a Poppleton-based tour operator, that is working with the Turing Trust to recycle old computer equipment to deliver a digital education to schools in Africa.

▪ The **letter As** that mysteriously went missing from the sign on the village hall have been found by Stella Craven and reinstated on the building.

▪ **Otago exercise classes** take place in Green Hammerton village hall on Fridays from 1.15-2pm. £5 per session. More information from Janet Dixon via 330867 or 07916 344727.

▪ **Green Hammerton Cricket Club** had a great season fielding two teams for the first time in three years, writes Neil Phillips. The first team finished runners-up in the second division of the Wetherby league which secured promotion to the first division for the first time in the club's history. Meanwhile, the second team finished a creditable mid-table in the fourth division. Cricket ball sponsorship was a great success this season and we would like to thank all sponsors. Our AGM takes place on Sun 8 Oct from 7.30pm at the Bay Horse and our annual dinner is scheduled for Sat 23 Nov at 7.30pm at the Anchor in Whixley. Tickets £15. Ring me for more information on 07795 387441.

▪ **The Collavoce Collective**, featuring several Hammertonians, will sing at Harrogate library on Sat 12 Oct and the Old Swan Hotel in Harrogate on Sun 20 Oct, the latter in aid of Dementia Forward. The choir has just reconvened following the summer during which it sung at two weddings. It can be booked to sing at events – in ensembles ranging from a quartet to a full throng of 40. Contact [collavocecoro@gmail.com](mailto:collavocecoro@gmail.com).

▪ **Buddy, the cat**, is missing. Grey with white feet and bib, he was last seen in the garden of owner, Susan Goss-Clements on 12 Sept. If you've spotted him please ring Susan on 07719 569088. £500 reward.

*Always a bit of a struggle to stretch to a 12-pager. Anyway, the bumper edition means I can finally use this pic of the Wesleyan chapel. It was built in 1823 and re-built in 1903. Ed.*







## Hammertonian Scout attends world jamboree

*The Gauntlett Explorer Scouts, drawn largely from Green Hammerton and Whixley, have been venturing far and wide, as Owen Martin of St Thomas's Way, reports.*

Following a selection process and 18-month fund-raising drive I attended the World Scout Jamboree in West Virginia in the USA along with 45,000 other Scouts from 130 countries.

Our base camp neighbours were from Taiwan and USA. This was to be a digital jamboree and we were each given a Novus wrist band which allowed us to swap contact information with other scouts at the click of a button. The jamboree site was full of many different activities like archery, shooting, stand up paddle boarding, big zip lines, mountain biking, a high ropes course, a water obstacle course and white water rafting. It wasn't all about adventure activities. There was also a global development village which covered sustainable development and learning and teaching skills to create a better world. Experts from national and international agencies gave talks and led discussions on a wide variety of issues.

The Centro Mondial was an interactive area which looked at how scouting values can be taken forward to improve the world we live in. There were areas to discuss faiths and beliefs and explore countries across

the world. One whole day of the jamboree was dedicated to culture with every country and unit sharing dance, food, music and customs from their countries with scouts from other places.

After the jamboree finished the Yorkshire Terriers, as our unit was called, visited Washington DC, watched a baseball match featuring the Baltimore Orioles and were hosted by a Scout group in Toronto. It was a fantastic and life-changing adventure. Thank you to everyone who helped me on my journey.

Closer to home the Gauntletts summer camp this year was actually a sailing adventure from Southampton. We sailed in a 50ft oyster ketch initially to the Isle of Wight in a near gale force wind. It was a challenging introduction to sailing on seas in very choppy conditions. All of the explorers excelled themselves, hauling sailing, tacking and gybing and keeping lookout for ferries, container ships, jet skis and all manner of craft. Who knew it would be so busy! We later sailed to Alderney in the Channel Islands, arriving at 3am due to a late departure to suit tide times.

- The Gauntletts seek volunteers to help run the regular weekly sessions. If you can spare a couple of hours every week or every couple of weeks and you'd be interested in helping local young people achieve skills for life please email Andrea Cayton via [gauntlettessu@gmail.com](mailto:gauntlettessu@gmail.com). Absolutely no experience or special skills required.



# Bargains galore on the green. See report, p10



Left: O'Connors peddle their wares – from left: Ben, Julia, Mia and Rob.



Right: Not for sale – Spit, the dog ... or Dave Walker.

Below left: Gill Singleton and Fliss Chaffer open for business.

Below right: Beaming in the sunshine ... Helena Leather.

