

# Village View

The newsletter for residents of Green Hammerton

Dec 2022/Jan 2023



Green Hammerton Archaeology Society committee members, from left: Rachel Woods, Andy Woods, Beth Tracey, Linda Wallis, Chris Holloway, Nicki Halliday, Aidan Lowe, Andy Benson, Paul Evans, Tony Hunt, Nova Lee.

## Something old, something new

*The village has a lively, new group, Green Hammerton Archaeology Society. Committee member Beth Tracey explains who they are and what they're up to.*

We are a new community run group formed last summer with the aim of looking for evidence of a Roman road running through Green Hammerton and to bring the village community together in the process.

Tony Hunt, at the time Chair of the Council for British Archaeology charity, had been interested in the route of the Roman road from Poppleton to Whixley and, after reaching out, discovered there was interest from the residents of Green Hammerton too. So much so, that on

a sweltering July evening, over 50 people gathered in the Village Club to see and hear about what had already been found and the possibilities for the future.

From this event about 10 of us formed a committee to get this project going! We have a range of ages from students to retirees and a variety of experience from finance to theatre to archaeology. We're in touch regularly but try to meet face-to-face about once a month to discuss next steps. Since it's a community run project we're responsible for dictating the direction the investigation takes, how we want to get the community involved and fundraising to cover costs such as equipment and fees.

So far we've researched surveys carried out from each of the new build sites in the area and, last month, held a finds day where we asked people to

bring anything of possible interest they've found locally so we could map and date it. We had a brilliant turnout from young children to long time residents. Items brought in for us to assess included slate pencils, ceramic marbles, a shard of late medieval pottery, other pottery including parts of a teapot, several glass bottles from the late 19th/early 20th centuries, and even a geological nodule brought to Green Hammerton from a glacier (see back page)! Toys like clay marbles and the leg and head from a china doll really caught our imagination.

We're still collecting and processing the finds so please keep your eyes open for more information as well as news of future events which will hopefully include field walks, digs and even research if you don't want to get your hands muddy!

*turn to p2*

For further information see our page on the village website, [greenhammerton.org.uk](http://greenhammerton.org.uk), search for us on Facebook or check GreenHamm ArchSoc on Instagram. Our email address is [greenhammertonhistorical.society@yahoo.com](mailto:greenhammertonhistorical.society@yahoo.com).

## Parish council update

*by Martin Simpson, chair of Green Hammerton parish council*

We have joined with five other local parish and town councils to respond in detail to the Harrogate District plan which proposes at least 3,000 homes on our doorstep, centred on Cattal. We have also made representations as Green Hammerton parish council and individual councillors.

A planning application is still outstanding from Caddicks. We will make representations about that shortly. Don't be fooled into thinking that has been withdrawn. The withdrawn application is an old out of date application. The new one is being pursued with vigour by the developers. We will strive to ensure that the identity of Green Hammerton is not compromised. We will again be canvassing your support. Everyone, not just the parish council, has the right to object and/or make representations.

One planning application that we are pleased has been granted is that for the renewal and redesign of the plinth area opposite the Bay Horse. Likely funding has been identified and applied for, so the cost to village council tax payers should be minimal.

The new litter bin regime appears to be working well apart from near the village hall. We successfully persuaded Harrogate Council to provide an additional large bin outside the Village Hall and usage is being monitored.

The gate entrance to Helenfield has, thanks to the Ambreton developers, been improved to facilitate wheelchair access. Further improvement of stiles fencing and signage are in hand.

Your parish council is keen to support the proposal for a pop-up library and community facility. The village hall has been booked by the prospective organisers, supported also by NYCC library services, for planning meetings in December with a view to launch in the New Year.



A lovely sunny afternoon to visit a castle. At Allerton are, from left: Liz Powley, Paul Evans, Chris and Dawn Chelton, and Diane and David Craven.

## Eclectic castle

*by the editor*

The Hammerton Heritage Group didn't have to travel far for their fourth outing - just a few miles down the A59 to Allerton Castle. Many of us had been there in some shape or form, often years ago, but few had been on a guided tour. What a fascinating house it is with a very chequered history from its origins in the 12th century right up to the fire in 2005 and subsequent, no-expense-spared restoration by owner and millionaire US business-man Gerald Rolph.

The guides presented the castle very engagingly. They told us that it has the highest ceiling of any country house in England and that a new giant marble fireplace was carved in China. They also showed us one of the world's first jukeboxes among several

automatic music playing machines in Mr Rolph's collection. Afterwards the 25 Hammertonians in our party enjoyed a chat with a cuppa and slice of cake and a wander around the garden.

Individuals can book onto castle tours on Wednesday afternoons in summer. I can't recommend a visit enough. See [allertoncastle.co.uk](http://allertoncastle.co.uk). I'm considering the rhubarb forcing sheds in Wakefield in January for our next outing.

**A happy Christmas to all readers from the editor and festive thank you to correspondents and distributors.**

**Next issue out: Sun 5 Feb.  
Deadline for news: Sat 23 Jan.  
[paulkirkwood@talktalk.net](mailto:paulkirkwood@talktalk.net)**



# Advent calendar is back

by Daniela Hutchinson

The living advent calendar has become a popular village tradition over the last few years. What started out as a way to cheer each other up during that Christmas lockdown in 2020 has now become a firm favourite for many families who love making it a daily mission to find the next window display around the village. The number of volunteers asking to be a part of the advent calendar has been growing year on year which is so, so super but it meant that we have had to start a little waiting list for those who are not getting a turn this year. I have been supported by the lovely Lynda Bate this year.



Here's the list of roads to go down each day in December to admire the next window display for the Green Hammerton Village advent calendar:

Sat 3: Boroughbridge Road  
Sun 4: Hughlings Close  
Mon 5: Meadow Vale  
Tues 6: St Thomas's Way  
Wed 7: Harrogate Road  
Thu 8: Stoneleigh Gate  
Fri 9: Boroughbridge Road  
Sat 10: The Green  
Sun 11: Bernard's Lane  
Mon 12: Meadow Vale  
Tues 13: St Thomas's Way  
Wed 14: Hughlings Close  
Thu 15: Harewood Close  
Fri 16: New Lane  
Sat 17: Boroughbridge Road  
Sun 18: The Green  
Mon 19: Harewood Close  
Tues 20: Hughlings Close  
Wed 21: Boroughbridge Road  
Thu 22: St Thomas's Way  
Fri 23: Harewood Close  
Sat: 24: York Road.



## Stage whispers

with Annabelle Polito  
of Badapple Theatre

Our new festive show, The Marvellous, Mystical Musical Box, pictured above, comes home to Green Hammerton village hall on Fri 23 Dec at 7pm. When a battered old ballerina box in Niki's attic lights up a secret way to the frosty world of Koliada (the mystical Land of Christmastide) it starts to look like this Christmas will be unlike any ever experienced. The show is suitable for all ages and with a spectacular spinning dance hoop on stage. Prepare for magical puppet creatures, splendid songs, tall tales and jokes galore.

A few seats are still available for Jez Lowe's Snow Joke gig at Green Hammerton village hall on Sun 18 Dec at 7.30pm. Part of his annual Christmas tour, the show is a mix of folk concert and music-hall revue and promises to be a musical feast of guitar, cittern, fretless bass, fiddle, melodeon, piano, whistles plus harmony vocals with special guest actor and balladeer Benny Graham. Tickets £14 (£12 concessions). Details of both shows at [badappletheatre.com](http://badappletheatre.com) or call 331304.

Finally, our youth theatre actors are busy preparing for their panto performance next March. It will comprise two shows at the Theatre Royal studio theatre in York. Classes are now full but we have a waiting list and will reopen for new students aged 7 to 15 in mid-March. Email [claire.badappletheatre@gmail.com](mailto:claire.badappletheatre@gmail.com) or call 331304 to register interest.

## News from the pews

by Annabelle Polito, Helen Walsh  
and Sam Blacker

Looking for a New Year's resolution? There is a rota of people who clean our village church a couple of times a year each but we are currently very short of helpers. You do not have to be a churchgoer to help. All offers of assistance would be very much appreciated! If you think you could spare an hour occasionally to volunteer, please contact me via [annabellepolito@gmail.com](mailto:annabellepolito@gmail.com) or call 331993.

One of the bells at St Thomas' got stuck in the upright position due to the enthusiasm and energy of the bell ringing team who rang for an hour to mark the death of the Queen. Alan Barker of Hammerton Electricals was brought in with his hydraulic platform to free the bell. He can be hired to deliver presents down chimneys on Christmas Eve if Santa can't make it!





WI members gather at their annual garden meeting back in July.

## WI getting festive

by Lindsey Evje  
of Kirk & Green Hammerton WI

We will hold a soup and sweet luncheon with carols, readings, surprise guests and a raffle at Kirk Hammerton village hall on Tues 13 Dec at 12 for 12.30pm. Members of Acomb, Whixley and Poppleton WIs will join us. Contact for more information is Gill Blacker at gillblacker@aol.com. We meet every second Tuesday of the month. Full details of membership from me via lamevje@gmail.com or lsbowe@btinternet.com.

## Noticeboard

- Many thanks to the following villagers who have made a donation to Village View in exchange for a **Christmas greeting**. Brian and Lindsay Councell wish all their friends and neighbours a very happy Christmas and peaceful New Year. Ian and Dicky Black wish all their friends and neighbours a happy Christmas and prosperous New Year.

- I'm creating an **email database** to relay village information such as events, news and any urgent messages such as road closures, to residents, quickly and efficiently, writes Susan Goss-Clements. If you wish to be included, please email your details to me at susan@greenhammerton.org.uk. Can Green Hammerton residents please send their name,

postal address and email address? In keeping with data protection legislation, by passing on your details you are agreeing to be part of this database and to receive information. You can unsubscribe at any time. Please be assured that your email details will remain private. Emails will be sent 'blind' i.e. no-one except the administrators will be able to see your details nor will they be shared in any way to third parties.

- Thank you to everyone who donated to this year's **British Legion Poppy Appeal**, write Chris and Dawn Chelton. Also thanks to the following for having poppies and collection boxes: Springbank Surgery, Green Hammerton School, the post office shop, Jane's Hair Design, the Village Club, the Bay Horse and Brian Halling for supporting the charity at the village hall coffee morning. We have yet to receive details of the total amount raised from the poppy appeal area coordinator but will publicise in the next edition of Village View.

- St John's care home Christmas fair** takes place on Tues 6 Dec from 1.30 to 3.30pm at Green Hammerton village hall. Teas, coffees, cakes, tombola, etc. All welcome.

- A **Pilates** balance class takes place at Kirk Hammerton village hall on Thursdays from 11.30am to 12.30pm. Details from Janet Dixon on 07916 344727.

## A word from our sponsor

by Neil and Carol Phillips



On 1st February 2023 NWP Private Hire Taxis are celebrating 10 years of operating a taxi service in Green Hammerton and surrounding areas. We would like to take this opportunity to thank you for supporting our venture over the last 10 years. This has been a difficult 10 years especially with Covid affecting the taxi business drastically. About 25 per cent of Harrogate taxi operators unfortunately haven't survived but with your fantastic support we have just managed to survive. Thank you all and we look forward to your support in the future.

*Just room for a pic of the 'nodule' reported on the front page. (Looks like an M&S muffin to me. Ed.)*

