

# Village View

The newsletter for residents of Green Hammerton

Feb/March 2023

## New library outlet set for village hall

by Rita Lister

A new 'library outlet' will be launched in the village hall during half-term week providing the following community facilities:

- A reading room with selected books, a local history collection, magazines and newspapers.
- Homework facilities for young people and students.
- Storytelling and singing for parents and young children.
- Craft activities with Knit and Natter
- A warm hub for residents with home-made refreshments.
- Volunteering opportunities for local residents.

The outlet will be open on Wednesday and Friday afternoons from 1 to 5pm, starting on Wed 15 Feb. It is operated by the Green Hammerton Library Group and supported by North Yorkshire County Council, the parish council, Cllr Warneken, the Green Hammerton Recreational Charity and Stronger Communities.

## Shop talk

by Ingrid Hay of the Havela team

With our builder having completed his previous job and Christmas out of the way, work on the new café is progressing at a rate of knots!

We discovered that the old sorting office cement floor was only an inch thick and as such, decided to lift the floors, put in new insulation and then cement them again. All the drainage for the café is complete as well as for the two new toilets. The builder has also broken through from the shop to

the rear café area and the open plan space looks fantastic. The new rear doors arrive shortly and, once installed, light from the south facing garden will fill the new café with warm, winter sunshine.

Our coffee machine is ordered and we have also booked barista training which is very exciting. Any excuse to taste more delicious coffee!

We are also very busy recruiting a team to operate the café. To apply for the supervisor role or as an assistant please email your application to [info@greenhammertonpostoffice.co.uk](mailto:info@greenhammertonpostoffice.co.uk). Roles can either be part-time or full time depending on candidates and split shifts are also available. The café will be open from Monday to Saturday between 8.30am and 4pm. Closed Sundays and Bank Holidays. We have already received a number of applications and are in the process of making our first appointments but we will need more staff as we move towards summer.

Our target remains to open just before Easter with a possible soft opening prior to test the café service and processes. We can't wait for it all to happen!

## School report

by Mike Smith, head teacher of Green Hammerton Primary School

It's been a busy start to the year. New staff members joined our early years class in January and they are already making a big difference for our pupils. Mrs Marshall teaches the class on Thursdays and Fridays and Miss Bush has taken up the role of teaching assistant.

Our early years outdoor area has also been completely overhauled. The old space was looking extremely tired and very much past its best. The new area provides a broad variety of learning opportunities for our youngest pupils and will help them get off to the best possible start in their schooling. The area was designed very much with an emphasis on developing physical skills as well as enhancing children's language and communication skills. The installation was undertaken by ESP Play who specialise in school playgrounds and outdoor areas. It's fair to say that we are delighted with the final product (see below).

turn to p2



Finally, we're on the lookout for some extra resources to add to what we have available in the early years' class. If you have any children's dressing up clothes or boxes of construction toys such as Lego, Duplo or similar that are no longer used we would love to have them.

## Parish council update

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

We have applied for the precept for 2023/24. Having regard to the financial situation faced by most people, we have set a figure which, because of the increase in the number of households in the village, should not result in any significant increase in Council Tax in respect of the parish council.

As you may know, the Harrogate District Plan has been temporarily delayed because of the withdrawal of some landowners but developers are pressing ahead with the revised planning application. We're working with advisors and other parish councils to lodge considered observations and appropriate objections on behalf of Green Hammerton. We urge everyone to do likewise as individuals.

In conjunction with Cllr Arneken's community fund we have facilitated the generous provision by the Bay Horse of a 'warm space' with free tea, coffee and soup on each Tuesday morning from 11am to 1.30pm.

Parish councillors will be on hand at the village hall book sale and coffee mornings on the second Saturday of each month to hold a surgery so villagers can bend and lend an ear about any matters of concern. The first session on 14 Jan raised several issues. We are pressing Harrogate Borough Council to expedite the relocation of the 30mph signs on Harrogate Road and soon deal with litter on A59 and B6265. We will test the villagers' enthusiasm for a litter picking session in early spring!

Planning consent has been obtained, and planning-gain finance identified to enable the re-ordering of the plinth in the centre of the village (see drawing, back page). Tenders are being invited and it is hoped to undertake the work in spring. The two additional benches are available for sponsorship with a dedication to a

loved one. Alternatively, individuals or businesses may wish to sponsor a bench as a way of contributing to the new scheme. We will seek assistance with and involvement in the planting scheme and ideas for use of the refurbished phone box.

## Situation vacant: Village View editor

*by Paul Kirkwood*

I've decided to step down as Village View editor after 12 years in the role. Is there anyone who would like to take over, either continuing with the print publication or perhaps considering something online? I will provide a full handover. There is just enough money in the bank account to cover the next issue in April which will be my last. Seeking ongoing funds is another aspect of the role. The parish council may be able to help with this. Contact me via paulkirkwood@talktalk.net or 331396.

Meanwhile, the deadline for the next issue is Sun 26 March. Distribution will be the following weekend.

## Website support sought

*by Chris Holloway*

Our website, greehammerton.org.uk, was relaunched at the end of last year but I'm still keen to populate with fresh and updated content.

If you have a village-based business or a local group you'd like to add to the site then please let me know. Likewise, if you have an event you'd like to promote then get in touch. All I need from you is the exact copy you would like on the site, along with up to four pictures, logos and so on.

I'm also looking for volunteers to help me get up to date with the content, specifically the 'new to the village?' letter and information under the 'About the village' tab. Assistance with producing semi-regular email newsletters would also be most welcome. Don't worry: you don't need to know anything technical about websites. If you can help or have views on what you'd like to see on the website then contact me via contact@greehammerton.org.uk.

## Familiar themes to next village play

*by the editor*

Green Hammerton Drama Group takes to the village hall stage again next month. They will perform a one-act comedy titled The Luvvies about a quiz night arranged by an amateur dramatic society. No calling out the answers! Actors from previous productions are joined by five newcomers, all keen to make an impression – and give you a laugh. The play will be supported by music from Tony McCulloch and monologues from Ivan Andrew.

Dates are Fri 24 and Sat 25 March at 7.30pm with a possible matinee on the Saturday depending on demand. Tickets including supper cost £15 and are available from Sue Holden via 330440 or sue.holden17@yahoo.com. Proceeds will be split between the Green Hammerton Recreational Charity and another charity to be decided.

## Join the club

*by Lewis Hullah*

The Village Club offers a wide selection of drinks from a pint of bitter, Cameron's Smooth, at £3 and Cameron's Surf lager at £3 as well as several gins with a lot of things in between, all at a reasonable price.

With the new year comes membership renewal. It is only £10 for the whole year and includes benefits such as being able to hire our function room for free. New members are always welcome. Just enquire within the Club. We offer plenty to do in the next month such as poker, bingo and pool so keep an eye on our Facebook page for updates of what's going on.

We would also like to take this opportunity to thank the old committee for all the hard work they have done last year in helping the club thrive.





## Silverware comes to cricket club!

by Neil Phillips

Yes, folks. It's not a joke: the club had a very successful season last summer. The 1st XI finished in third place in division one of the Wetherby & East Leeds League with some excellent results and a couple of very close defeats. Meanwhile, the 2nd XI won division three by 18 points. They also won the knockout cup, beating Meanwood in a close final at Green Hammerton, as pictured above.

Next season the club will transfer to the York & District Senior League as the Wetherby League is being wound up. We're always looking for new players. If interested please contact me on 07795 387441 or Stuart Lorrimer on 07807 992921.

## Noticeboard

- A memorial thanksgiving service for **Dicky Black** will be held at the Church of the Ascension at Whitley on Fri 10 Feb at 2pm. Dicky, one of the village's most respected and philanthropic residents, passed away on Fri 13 Jan after an illness.

- British Heart Foundation **CPR courses** are provided periodically at the Village Club. They're run by the patient group volunteers from Green Hammerton and Tockwith surgeries. Courses are free but donations are welcome to cover costs with any excess going to the Foundation. To hear about future dates or for more information contact Toni Ramsay via 322828 or [toni.ramsay@icloud.com](mailto:toni.ramsay@icloud.com).

- Collections around the village for the Royal British Legion **poppy appeal** last November raised £603, report Chris and Dawn Chelton.



- Susan Goss Clements thanks those who have already submitted their details to join the **village email database** to receive local information, events and news plus urgent messages such as road closures. Any adults who are resident in Green Hammerton can join. Simply send your name, address and email address to [susan@greenhammerton.org.uk](mailto:susan@greenhammerton.org.uk).

- Bit of a light issue this time as is often the way in February so we've got room for an **archive photo** courtesy of Paul Evans. Framed in the Village Club, it shows Harlands garage on Boroughbridge Bridge circa 1955. The site is currently being redeveloped for housing. The scene is like something from a model village especially those petrol pumps. Ed.






Phone box renovated and repurposed for book exchange etc.

Low shrubbery planted along boundary of private driveway

Indian sandstone paving with inset brick circle details

Brick and cobble retaining wall, creating a circular planter for a small tree – or other feature?

New noticeboards positioned in front of garage wall



**Yorkshire Garden Designs**  
by Lorna Batchelor

Green Hammerton Village Plinth redevelopment proposal

1:100 Axonometric drawing

Mature oak trees to be crown lifted

Grassy area with some naturalised bulbs and wildflowers.

0.5m wide Brecon bound gravel footpath

Existing litter bin and road sign with cobbles and brick edge

0.6m tread paved steps with central handrail

Existing plinth with a new 1.2m high metal railing

Feature wall created by a local craftsman, using traditional brick and cobbles. This curves around the plinth at approx 0.8m high then forms the backs of 2 timber seats, reducing down to ground level as the ground slopes down.

Low planting with flowers for pollinators

Brick retaining edge for paving. Level areas for benches with gentle ramps, making the seating area fully accessible.

2 new benches in addition to the 2 existing benches. These will include metal rings for dog leashes.

Existing pavement, drop kerb and drains

