

# Village View

The newsletter for residents of Green Hammerton

April/May 2023

## Hammerton Greenway: into the home straight

by Jon Purday

**The Hammerton Greenway is a proposed traffic-free, safe cycle route linking Green Hammerton and Thorpe Underwood.**

It was first thought of back in 2014 after the Tour de France past the village. Harrogate Borough Council began to set aside money from housing developments in the village to pay for it.

The most recent development in the village, Avant Homes' Ambretone Park, has given the parish council the remainder of the money needed for the route to go ahead. It will run for just over a mile across the fields from beyond the green to Moss Hill Lane in Thorpe Underwood. The surface will be all-season, suitable for cyclists and walkers, buggies, scooters, wheel-chairs and mobility vehicles.

All agreements with landowners have been signed and contractors have recently costed the proposals to make sure we've enough money to go ahead. Both Harrogate Borough Council and North Yorkshire County Council are on board. The final step is for our parish council to formally apply for planning permission.

The parish council is looking for people in the community with planning experience who could help us put together the application. Once we've cleared that final fence we're all set to go ahead.

The Greenway is important for Green Hammerton because we're hemmed in by two very busy main roads, limiting safe cycling for families and young people. The Greenway will improve access to Great Wood and links to quiet lanes from Thorpe Underwood to interesting places like Benningbrough Hall and Aldborough Roman Museum as well as National Cycle Route 65 and the Way of the Roses at Aldwark Bridge.

For further information, or to join the mailing list for news updates contact me via [jonathan.purday@gmail.com](mailto:jonathan.purday@gmail.com).



## Bake off for the coronation

by Jenny Hymas

The great Green Hammerton bake off and coronation community afternoon tea will take place on Bank Holiday Mon 8 May at the village hall and playing field.

There are six categories for bakers to enter: decorated cake, decorated cup cakes, 'free-from' (decorated cake or cup cakes) plus the same categories for bakers aged 10 and under. Each category winner receives a prize. Please ensure all cakes are nut-free.

For an entry form and further details email: [events@greenhammertonvillagehall.org](mailto:events@greenhammertonvillagehall.org). Your completed entry form and payment of a £2.50 entry fee must have been received by Wed 3 May. Entrants will be informed of details and exact timings for delivering their cakes on Mon 8 May once they've registered. A panel of experienced village judges will perform a taste test and select the six winners!

You can set up tables and chairs, gazebos and picnic rugs on the playing field any time from 1.30pm. Winners will be announced at 2.30pm prompt then the decorated cakes will be auctioned and cup cakes individually sold for all to enjoy. You are, of course, welcome to bring a picnic too if you wish. Tea, coffee, soft drinks and ice creams will also be on sale.

All money raised will go to Green Hammerton Recreational Charity Committee towards further recreational improvements.

## Luvvies? Us? Never!



The Green Hammerton Drama Group takes to the stage. See p2.  
From left: Jackie Ayre, Keith Fairbairns, Jenny Hymas, Claire Jeffrey, Helen Walsh,  
Louise Farmer and Stewart Hymas. Standing are Paul Kirkwood and Rita Lister.

## Shop talk

*by Ingrid Hay of the Havela team*

Since buying the post office eight years ago Chris and I have always known that a café would be a great addition. We received our first planning consent for one way back in 2016 but we didn't have the wherewithal to act on it. We reapplied in 2022 and it's now all systems go.

The management team of the Hay, Lange and Veitch families have all put in a herculean effort as have all of our brilliant contractors including Alan Barker (electrics and plumbing), Darren Horsfield (landscaping), Danny Meek (builder) and Andrew Jeffery (decorating).

The cost of the renovations has been eye watering but the café is looking fantastic and we are very close to completion. Following barista and food hygiene training and installation of our stunning coffee machine, we've just started serving take-out coffee, tea and hot chocolate. The café opening will follow in late April once we have planned the menu and installed the oven and seating areas.



Frank Atkinson has now left the business. He will be missed but we wish him well and thank him for his seven years of service. We welcome new staff namely Katie Harrison, pictured above, who joins from the Bay Horse to work full-time in the café and Janet Brown who will work in the post office having previously had a similar role in Stillington.

## Quiz/play combo is a hit

*Plays and quiz nights are among the most popular events to take place in the village hall so a play there about a quiz night by the Green Hammerton drama group was always likely to be a hit and so it proved at the end of March.*

*Review by Jane Kellett.*

The first half of the show was taken up with four Stanley Holloway monologues by Ivan Andrew which made me titter on a few occasions. I was extremely impressed with his memory and comical delivery. Tony McCulloch followed with a short musical performance which I also enjoyed.

After a break The Luvvies, as the play was called, took their place on stage. I thoroughly enjoyed it. The one-act play was about a group of amateur dramatic actors competing against other groups at a quiz night. Each actor owned their character and played it to perfection. It was very funny and kept me engaged the whole time. All the performances were brilliant but if I had to pick out one actor in particular it would be Claire Jeffrey. She had a lot of dialogue and delivered it being funny, serious and, at times, angry.

Director Chris Turner did an incredible job executing this performance. I may want a part myself in the next one! An enormous amount of work was put into the shows from marketing to finding sponsors, costumes, props, selling tickets, and cooking and serving two-course suppers at the evening performances. Look out for the next show and book your ticket as I am sure you will enjoy it.

The sum of £2,277 was raised from three performances for donation to St Michael's Hospice in Harrogate in memory of former drama group member, Liz Hines. See p3.

## New pub ventures

*by Tina Clarke of the Bay Horse*

We continue to operate our warm space in collaboration with North Yorkshire County Council, Arnold Warnekan (pictured below with me) and Green Hammerton parish council every Tuesday morning from 11am to 1.30pm. This has been a great success through the winter months and is well attended. Everyone is welcome to come along for free hot refreshments, soup, biscuits and our wonderful cake donations.

Open mic is back and you will find the Travelling Troubadours playing on the second Wednesday of the month from 7.45pm to 10pm. Our rooms were fully refurbished last November and now have free Wifi as well as brand new bathrooms, furniture, doors, windows and carpets.

We're currently recruiting bar and restaurant staff aged 17 and over. Contact me at bayhorsegreenhammertonoffice21@gmail.com.



## Parish council update

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

As promised in the last edition of Village View, we managed to produce a budget that has led to a reduction in that part of your Council Tax demanded for the parish council. It's a modest saving but an indication that we will do our best to address cost of living problems for residents.

Unfortunately, anticipated funding from Harrogate Council for the plinth has become unavailable. We will look for alternative funding but the project will be delayed. The cycleway is, however, progressing well. See separate report.

The vehicle-activated speed sign is now in place and undergoing testing. We know it has been set for 20mph and is facing towards the school. It can and will shortly be changed both for speed and direction.

We cannot let this edition of Village View pass without expressing our gratitude to Paul Kirkwood, outgoing Village View editor, contributor, commercial and distribution manager, photographer, etc for all he has done to maintain this vital organ of village communication. We welcome our new Village View supremo, Jane Kellett. The parish council will do all it can to support her and her team, and we trust all in the village will do likewise.

## School report

*by Mike Smith, head teacher of Green Hammerton Primary School*

This half of term we have welcomed parents and carers into school so that the children can share some of their learning. So far we have had a stay and play session for early years, class two shared their dance performance for the Sporting Influence dance festival, and class three demonstrated science activities.

Our key stage one and two classes have taken part in the Sporting Influence dance festivals. The children worked extremely hard to learn their routines which included 'Dance through the Decades', a celebration of dance styles from the 20th century. Class two and four pupils received musicality awards for each of their performances.

Children from reception to year six have visited Magna, a science and discovery centre converted from a redundant steel mill in Rotherham. They had a fantastic time in workshop sessions and exploring the four main areas based on the ancient elements of earth, fire, air and water, which are so vital in the steel production process. The water area and fire tornado were highlights.



## Helenfield open day

*by Angela Taylor of the Helenfield parish council sub-committee*

Helenfield, at the bottom of Red Lane, is owned and managed as a semi-natural oak/ash woodland by Green Hammerton parish council councillors and volunteers. Following its reclamation and planting it was given to the parish with a covenant stating that it would forever be used and preserved as a haven for wildlife and not any commercial, industrial or agricultural purposes.

Commuted sums for Open Spaces have funded our new information board at Helenfield featuring photography by Roger Mattock and the restoration of the damaged boundary fence. This brand-new fence has now been cut down deliberately by trespassers from the adjoining privately owned field. There's no right of way at this point. This is criminal damage, wasting public money. There is a permissive footpath that leads to the pond and a fork to a stile leading to a public right of way, clarified by the map on the information board.

We will hold an open day on Sun 21 May so that we can learn how visitors use the field and understand how they would like to see it develop further as a haven for wildlife. We will show visitors what is there with a BioBlitz and/or butterfly count depending on weather.

Helenfield is accessible to all but we ask all visitors to follow the Countryside Code. Please keep to the permissive footpaths. Dogs should be under your control and never allowed into the pond. Pick up and remove all dog poo. We welcome new volunteers to our team and are particularly keen to recruit a new generation.

• Angela is pictured above next to the new notice. Other members of the Helenfield committee are Alistair Taylor, John Lambert and Stella Craven.

## Out with the bins

*by the editor*

Allerton Waste Recovery Park was the destination of the latest visit by the Hammerton Heritage Club in February. There's not much heritage involved since the facility opened five years ago but it's a local place of interest open mainly to pre-booked groups so otherwise met the criteria for an outing.

We had an engaging and lively talk about recycling in general and then viewed some aspects of the plant on a guided tour. The morning finished off with a light lunch at the Punch Bowl in Marton-cum-Grafton.

The club's next outing will be to Sion Hill House, an Edwardian stately home at Kirby Wiske, on Fri 26 May at 2pm. If you'd like to come and/or join the mailing list for future trips please email me at paulkirkwood@talktalk.net.

## Obituary: Liz Hines

*by the editor*

Liz Hines, one of Green Hammerton's biggest and best loved personalities, passed away in February, aged 55. She lived on St Thomas' Way with husband Paul and children Ellie and Evan before moving to Knaresborough three years ago.

Liz was born in Westow in Ryedale near Malton not far from what will be her final resting place at Weaverthorpe. She grew

up in York with her mother Marion and elder brother and sister Dave and Alison. She began studying advertising at Newcastle University, switching for her second year to York College where she met Paul. They married in 1998 and initially lived in Leeds.

Liz worked as art director and deputy creative director for two of the largest advertising agencies in Leeds. She had a career break to raise the family then gained qualifications in executive coaching and began a new career, coaching and training in the IT sector. Unfortunately, just as she decided to start her own business Liz was diagnosed with secondary cancer and took early retirement.

Liz acted with the Green Hammerton drama group and was an enthusiastic supporter of community events but is perhaps best remembered in the village for masterminding a fundraising week in 2011 when Green Hammerton became Pink Hammerton. Over £13,000 was raised for Breakthrough Breast Cancer, St Michael's Hospice and the Yorkshire Cancer Centre from a series of events. In memory of Liz and that week pink ribbons were displayed around the village on the day of her funeral. It was held at Stonefall Crematorium and followed by a wake at the Green Hammerton Village Club.

Paul told Village View: "Liz was always positive and full of life and so much more than the illness that she lived with for 15 years and which eventually cut her life short. We were a good team, although Liz was the star player. A light that burns twice as bright, burns half as long."

Di Tee, one of Liz's friends, said: "It was a privilege to be friends with Liz and she will leave a big gap in our lives. She was the most positive, courageous and completely outrageously fun person to be around and was never without her amazing smile. Liz would always make us laugh even on the many hospital trips that we made during her treatment. Her family meant everything to her and they were always her top priority but she always had time for those people that she met along the way who needed support."







## Stage whispers

by Annabelle Polito of Badapple Theatre

Congratulations to our youth theatre students who twice performed 'Treasure Island - the panto' at the York Theatre Royal studio. There were pirates, talking mice and wooden legs plus all the songs and terrible panto jokes the audience could handle! We could not have done it without ongoing support from local county councillor Arnold Warneken and his locality budget.

Places are still available for youth theatre next term so, if you are between 7-14 and fancy learning more about theatre as well as making new friends. Classes run on Tuesdays during term-time in Green Hammerton village hall from 18 April.

Meanwhile, registration is open for our popular annual play in a week-long summer school for 7-14 year olds that runs from Mon 31 July to Fri 4 Aug between 10am and 4pm. Sessions will culminate in a performance of Hammerton on Sea. The course cost is £130.

We're celebrating after securing crucial 11th-hour funding of £24,000 from Arts Council England. Badapple Artistic Director Kate Bramley said: "After two unsuccessful requests for funding support across last autumn and winter we were looking at having to close the company this year. So this support means a huge amount to us and the small communities that we serve right across the country where we can spread a bit of theatre joy and bring folk together."

On that note don't miss the return of Kate's popular 1960s-inspired comedy, Eddie and The Gold Tops, at Green Hammerton village hall on Tues 13 June at 7.30pm. This will be the final performance of our 25th anniversary tour and, to celebrate the milestone, we're serving a free glass of fizz on arrival.

For tickets or to book places on the summer school contact Claire Jeffrey via

331304 or [clairebadappletheatre@gmail.com](mailto:clairebadappletheatre@gmail.com) or visit [badappletheatre.co.uk](http://badappletheatre.co.uk).

## Scouting around

by Andrea Cayton of Gauntlett Explorer Scouts

We spent the early part of the year planning for our Duke of Edinburgh expeditions. Our weekly meetings have covered route planning, emergency aid as well as safety and survival techniques. To put the skills into practice we've also had a couple of days out hiking, one in the snow. pictured below! Our first expedition for the bronze award will take place in early April.

We also had a very entertaining visit to Urban Circus in Harrogate which runs fitness classes based around aerial hammocks, hoops and poles. Meanwhile, we took a creative challenge: pancake art. Using pancake mix with food colouring, the teams created a solar system, full English breakfast and beach scenes!

Explorer Scouts is open to all young people aged 14 to 17. For more information email [gauntletttesu@gmail.com](mailto:gauntletttesu@gmail.com).



## Noticeboard

- The Green Hammerton Recreational Charity holds its AGM in the village hall on Tues 4 April at 6.30pm. All welcome as the charity enters a new era.
- Ivan Andrew is collecting information and stories about Green Hammerton from the Second World War (or even earlier) to 1990 so that they will not be lost and future village residents can find out how the village has developed. He may also use some of the information in future talks about the village. Please pass any information to him at 2 St Thomas's Way or email [ivan.andrew@btinternet.com](mailto:ivan.andrew@btinternet.com). Archive photographs will be copied and returned.

## Putting the paper to bed

by Paul Kirkwood

As you will have read this is my last issue as editor after 12 years. I've enjoyed the role but am now ready to do new things. Many thanks for the support of correspondents, sponsors, proofreaders and distributors and to readers who have told me how much they enjoy Village View. Good luck to the new editor Jane Kellett who takes over from the June/July issue. Look out for a feature on the Ukrainian people who moved to Green Hammerton nearly a year ago.

Jane's email address is [pinkhammerton@gmail.com](mailto:pinkhammerton@gmail.com). Deadline for the next issue is Fri 26 May (to be confirmed) with distribution the following weekend. Please give her all the help you can as she builds her village network. Meanwhile, Chris Holloway is issuing regular email news updates via the [greeshammerton.org](http://greeshammerton.org) website.

