

CLAPHAM READING GROUP

On November 22nd ten readers filled Brenda and Ken's comfortable living room. Ken stayed upstairs, on the computer. We heard no sound effects, so maybe he was doing something improving, not zapping aliens or winning Grands Prix. Two new readers were welcomed, to discuss Richard Mabey's Nature Cure.

Was it depressing or uplifting to read of depression? Did we prefer reading of the author's life or his musings on nature? Was detail on tens and Chilterns welcome, or would we rather read about our own Dales? Was the erudite writing impressive or irritating? Certainly – all of the above. Did we read the book at all? One found it wasn't worth the effort Two or three were doubtful, but soldiered on. One hardworking reader felt that relaxing minutes

reading before sleep should not require a hefty dictionary or encyclopaedia by the bedside. Still, the book brought sleep more easily.

There were enthusiasts, one who held up Richard Mabey's magnificent collaboration Flora Britannica as their favourite book. Nature Cure gave me many gems of observation: how the snipe makes that haunting sound; how a quirk of the earth's orientation means sunrises arrive later till *after* the winter solstice, whilst sunsets stretch later from *before* the solstice.

The group suggested books for 2008, then dispersed in frosty moonlight, some to go clubbing, some to go home. Readers will spice or spoil their festive season with Claire Tomalin's 500+ pages on Samuel Pepys, and will venture on 31st January to a place called Austwick.

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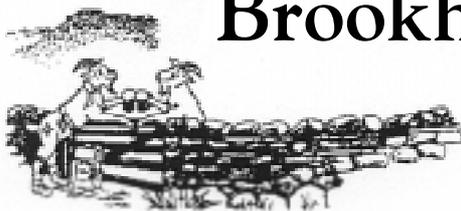
Saturday, 9th February, 2008

"Atonement" (15)

starring Keira Knightley

All shows are in the Village Hall

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Saturday, 15th December at 7pm

Clapham Village Hall

Tickets available from the Village Store

Biodiesel Project Update

With the local Clapham Co-operative Biodiesel Community Project six months and more down the road, it's worth giving a brief "progress" report.

Firstly, it's nice to be able to report that the great efforts of the members of the Co-operative in its startup period haven't gone unnoticed outside of the Parish, and the Project is due to receive an award in October from the Social Enterprise Fund as an Innovative Project in Yorkshire and Humberside area . . . a very welcome recognition for many hours of purely voluntary work for all involved in the project. Indeed, a film crew from the Enterprise Fund already visited the "biodiesel shed" at Growing with Grace to record for posterity the set up and interview Eddie Leggett as to the why's and what ifs regarding the project and its future . . . coming to a cinema near you soon.

Our efforts to find sources of used vegetable oil from local pubs, restaurants etc have certainly been successful to the point where we will soon be able to start processing such "free" waste oil quite regularly . . . we have had a great response from such diverse sources as "Ravenous" restaurant in Settle to a couple of YHA hostels . . . tremendously encouraging, but we have a long way to go before we can consider ourselves 'free' of commercial collectors, so if anyone in the Parish would like to help do get in contact: Ron Wilson . . . mainstay of the collection team . . . would be delighted to hear from you to either assist in collection or to find new sources for donating waste oil to the Cooperative.

Indeed, in the same vein, if you would like to get involved in this very worthwhile local, and now award winning, Community project, do get in touch even to give a few hours of your time per month.

Contact Eddie Leggett on Clapham 51030 for general information on the project

Mike Cornwell

— HELPING HANDS —

If you don't need weekly help but require help with one-off jobs, I could be the person you are looking for.

From taking-down curtains, preparing for a guest, waiting for an important delivery, preparing for the arrival of workmen and helping get back to normal when they have gone, help while you recuperate from an illness, sorting out that overflowing cupboard. Help moving-in or moving-out.

**Contact Cherry Flitcroft
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Clapham Park Association

A great time was had by everyone at the Halloween party at the Village Hall on Saturday, November 3rd. The fancy dress competition was won by Tom Blondel dressed as a Mummy in the under 7 years and Olen Gunn dressed as Dracula in the over 7 years. The best pumpkin prize was won by Megan and Nathan Latimer.

A total of £85 was raised for the Park. Special guest appearance was Dr & Mrs Farrer who thought the children looked amazing. Special thanks to all the organisers and to Beverly Locket who painted some fearsome faces.

The next fundraising event is "Clapham's Christmas Cracker" on Saturday, 15th December at 7pm at the Village Hall. See advertisement on page 12 for details.

Lucy McNamara, Secretary



..... Happy Birthday Annie!

Annie Greenbank would like to thank family, friends and neighbours who helped make her 90th birthday an enjoyable and memorable occasion.

Ann Stewart
Dry Stone Walling

Tel/Fax: 015242 51118
 e-mail: ann@eggshell2.demon.co.uk

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 via Lancaster, North Yorkshire LA2 8EP

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Cave Rescue Organisation

LONG SERVICE PRESENTATIONS

Five members of CRO were presented with certificates to mark 40 years of service to cave and mountain rescue and sixteen to mark 25 years at a social evening at the Dalesbridge Centre, Austwick on Wednesday, 21st November. Mike Harding, writer, singer and comedian, made the presentations, in the presence of the Organisation's President, Dr John Farrer, his wife Joan, CRO members, their partners and other guests.

A presentation on behalf of CRO was also made to John Emsley, of Ingleton, on his retirement from the post of Accident and Emergency Manager for Yorkshire Ambulance Service. This was followed by a buffet supper.

COME AND SEE THE PROPOSED EXTENSION TO THE DEPOT

As near neighbours and parish councillors already know, planning consent, to add a second gable to the front of the Depot, was granted earlier in the year. Why not call in and see the proposal for yourself? There are always a few team members there, for maintenance tasks, on the first Saturday morning of the month. Team members will be on hand to show visitors the plans and to provide a tour of the existing building for anyone who has never ventured inside. (This is **not** a fund-raising morning.) If you are interested, speak to a team member or e-mail: secretary@cro.org.uk to arrange a visit at a more convenient time.

SUNDAY CHURCH NOTICES

With effect from January notices will be produced on a monthly basis and copies available at the back of the Church for parishioners and visitors. Anyone wishing to contribute to the notices please arrange to contact the PCC Secretary by the last Thursday of each month.

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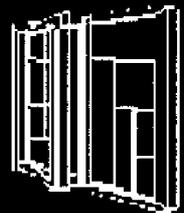
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After establishing an increased customer base in the Yorkshire Dales through word of mouth and recommendations, we decided to open an additional showroom to better showcase our products. A unit in Clapham was subsequently acquired, which provides excellent space, something we have become short of at our Sutton premises, to display a selection of windows, doors, glass designs and secondary glazing products. We also have four fully built conservatories within the showroom, each with their own bespoke features.

We are open from Wednesday to Saturday, from 9am until 5pm, and other times can usually be arranged with our sales team. We can also supply replacement sealed units, greenhouse glass, silicone sealant and other ancillaries for collection at the Clapham branch, and we stock a small selection of fascias and architraves, with larger requirements to order. We can also carry out repairs to your existing windows and doors.

WANTED

for Clapham School

a willing volunteer to be their L. A. Governor.

If you feel you can help our local school community, find out more from:

Judith Dawson
(Chair of Governors)
51350 or:

Rev Ian Greenhalgh
(Foundation Governor)
51313

Womens Institute

The WI raised £125 at their recent Bring & Buy sale. Members volunteered for the annual mince pie making for Clapham's over 70s residents, and a new idea was exploited regarding home-made Christmas cookies for local children.

There will be a meeting in the Village Hall on Wednesday, 16th January to discuss ideas for next year's group show. The speaker was Sue Martin, from the Sewing Shop in Settle. Next month's meeting will be the Christmas party – a Jacobs Join.

Church Christmas fair

St James' Church raised more than £1,200 at the Christmas Fair. There are still tickets available for the concert by Steeton Male Voice Choir in church on Saturday, 15th December at 7.30pm. They are available from Sue Mann on 51792. There will be a coffee morning at Wyvern in Newby, home of Sue Mann and Marilyn Galpin on Saturday, 8th December, between 10am and 12 noon in aid of church funds and the children of Chernobyl.

"Music from the Shows"

Most people will remember our highly successful 'Victorian Music Hall' with Valerie Bauland and her group of singers. The highlight of the evening was the costumes worn by the audience.

Valerie has offered to come again; this time we are to have 'Songs from the Shows'. That gives us great scope for costumes, so shall we try to do better – if possible – than our last effort?

February 23rd at Clapham Village Hall.

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Art Competition

A special competition for children up to the age of ten

Winner of the October competition is Tallulah age 5, well done for colouring the hedgehog and the rabbit so beautifully

Simply colour or paint this picture and send it to Lesley Crutchley, Gildersbank, Clapham.

Competition closes 4th January. Super prize for the winning entry. Good luck!

Name: Age: Tel:

WHERE IS THE HISTORY OF CLAPHAM?

It was in the Clapham & District Newsletter of June 2005 that it was first announced that a group of residents is working to compile a history of the village. By December that year another article in the Newsletter was able to announce "Village History going well". Later articles gave tempting insights into the sort of information that was coming to light about Clapham and Newby in centuries gone by. Since then – nothing! 'Where is the history', what has happened to it?

These are the questions which some residents are beginning to ask. Even visitors from far away are ringing up and asking when they can buy their copies.

Well, it's a little like a swan. On the surface all is peace and tranquility, not much action to see. But below the surface there is furious activity.

About a dozen residents innocently launched themselves into the task of researching Clapham's long history. And what a task that turned out to be. We soon discovered that the old records have become widely scattered. Some remain here in Clapham, a few in Settle and Skipton. But the bulk have gone to Northallerton, to Sheepscar in Leeds, to Wakefield, to Preston, to Kendal, to the Yorkshire Archaeological Society, to the Borthwick Institute in York, even to the National Archives in London. The job of tracking these records down has been painstaking and laborious while that of consulting them has involved a great deal of travel, has been very time-consuming and has been costly. Fortunately we were able to obtain £3,500 in grant aid to help to meet these costs. Awards For All, Craven District Council and Clapham's own Development Association have provided tremendous support, enabling us to spend a total of 62 days in distant record offices – so far.

The result of all this time, money and effort has been over 1,500 pages of notes and web downloads,

over 1,400 records photocopied, 54 maps and over 30 specialist reference books purchased and 1,060 old photographs gathered together.

The word has spread and we have been contacted by former residents, their descendants and people who have visited and known the village over many years, some from as far away as Cyprus, Australia and the USA. In addition we have joined networks of local historians who have given information and support. Our early faltering steps were also much helped by staff from Lancaster University.

Along the way we have lost one or two of our original team, as other activities have become more pressing for them. But we definitely feel that we can at last piece together a good outline of the parish's history as well as putting in many of the details. For instance we now have a very good idea of what Clapham village looked like 200 years ago, when it was so very different from the way it is today. The research has been thorough and fascinating maps and documents have come to light.

What remains to be done now is the completion of the writing up – some of the team have already made a good start though there is still a long way to go. Meanwhile a little research continues as fresh discoveries bring to light interesting new avenues which demand to be explored. So watch this space but please be patient – it will be well worth it!

K. Pearce

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SCHOOL NEWS

Football for Class 2 at Long Preston School was organised by cluster sports Coordinator Ian Parker. Both Clapham's teams played really well, winning all but one of their matches. Year 5, accompanied by Emma Nelson, met others from the area for fun French activities at Ingleton Middle School. Achievers of the week were Ewan Maloney and Zara Coultherd. The school has been successful in the reassessment for the 'Investors in People' award.

School Dates to remember:

- 1st Dec.** PTA Christmas fair
Great for Christmas shopping, especially crafts and cards
- 10th Dec.** School open afternoon
- 13th Dec.** Whole school Christmas presentation in Clapham Church 2pm & 6pm
- 16th Dec.** Christingle service in Church 11am

CLAPHAM CHURCH OF ENGLAND SCHOOL CLUB

As from Thursday, 10th January, and every Thursday during term time, we will be running an after school club from 3.30 – 4.30pm.

This will be a church run club including games, crafts, singing, Bible stories, light refreshments and lots of FUN!!!

The club is open to all children attending Clapham Primary School.

If you would like your child/children to join please complete the attached form and return to school as soon as possible.

Anyone who is interested in helping out (on a rota basis) please indicate on the form, or ring The Vicarage for more details on 51313.

Thanks, Ian Greenhalgh

✂

I would like my child/children to join the After School Club

Name(s).....

Age(s).....

Contact No (after 3.30pm)

Signature of Parent/Guardian

.....

Craven Schools Sports Cross Country Final

Following the North Craven Cross Country Event at Ingleton School in September, the first six finishers in each year group, boys and girls were asked to represent North Craven at the Partnership Cross Country Final.

The final took place at Airville School in Skipton on the 16th October and included pupils from North Craven, South Craven, Skipton and Upper Wharfedale. All the children ran brilliantly with Ruskin and Richard both winning 5th places in their groups.



Caitlin Storry, Richard Burns, Jake Blondell and Nathan Latimer



Ruskin Fox finishing in 5th Place

WILDLIFE IN CLAPHAM

Large flocks of Siskins and smaller flocks of Bramblings have been seen around the local area, they are both part of a large influx of these Finches that have arrived in the UK. The first Siskins were seen at Ingleborough Hall on the 4th October; and by the 16th October the flock of Siskins was up to about fifty birds. Between ten and twenty Siskins were seen around Clapham Station and Meldingscale Farm from the 19th October and about twenty Siskins were seen at Crina Bottom plantation on the 18th November.

The first Brambling was seen at Ingleborough Hall on the 21st October. One Brambling called as it flew over Clapham on the 9th November. A flock of about twenty Bramblings was seen at Ingleborough Hall on the 11th and 16th November and one Brambling flew over Clapham Station on the 16th November.

Another Finch that migrates to this country in large numbers is the Crossbill and there have been small flocks seen around the UK this year. A flock of about thirty Crossbills flew west over Ingleborough Hall on the 3rd November.

Late summer migrants were still being seen at the beginning of October. A small flock of Swallows flew over Clapham on the 4th October and a very late Swallow flew over Clapham station on the 13th October. The last House martin of the year was seen over Clapham on the 6th October by Neil Marshall. One Chiffchaff was at Ingleborough Hall on 4th October and one Chiffchaff was seen at Clapham on 13th October.

Two Jays have been seen and heard calling around the local area, one was seen at the Flying Horseshoe and Clapham Station – 13th October and one has been around Ingleborough Hall and the Nature trail since the 21st October.

Two Cormorants flew over Clapham station – 5th October, four Cormorants were seen on Clapham lake



Kingfisher was seen by Crook beck at Calterber bridge – 11th November.

by Jess Hart – 10th October and one Cormorant flew over Ingleborough Hall – 19th November.

Two female Wigeons were seen at Meldingscale Farm – 18th November.



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This free Newsletter aims to keep everyone in Clapham, Keasden and Newby in touch with what is happening in our community. It does, however, cost a not insignificant amount to produce, and advertising is a very necessary aid to the finances.

For Advertising your products or services, please contact Ray Hull on 015242 51492.
An advert costs as little as £3 per issue.

Articles, News and Ideas PLEASE! for the next issue by **25th January, 2008** to the Village Shop,

Lesley Crutchley: lesley@gildersbank.co.uk,
Chrissie Bell: ChrisHarte@aol.com,
Mike Cornwell: mike_corn@tiscali.co.uk
Ray Hull: ray_rosie@btinternet.com

Articles submitted but not included in the present publication will be put in future newsletters.



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