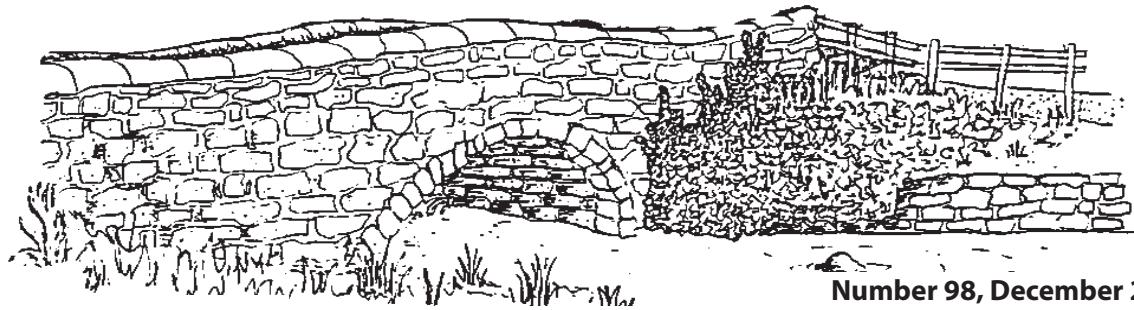


# CLAPHAM & DISTRICT NEWSLETTER



Number 98, December 2015

## OUR VILLAGE SHOP – AN APPRECIATION

As the first year of our new shop's operation draws to a close, I found myself reflecting on how lucky we are. I was involved in helping get the shop ready (remember those cold painting sessions in February?). I've always been determined to support this project as a customer but, like many folk in the parish, I work long hours. So I asked if it might be possible to keep the shop open late on one evening for working people like me, who wouldn't otherwise be able to use it.

From the word go I shopped on our Thursday late opening night. In fact I've done my main shop there every week since then. Thanks to Helen's efforts I eat very well from the varied range of products on offer. I look forward to going there every week, if only for the banter and warm welcome from those behind the counter.

Which brings me to the point of this note. I just wanted to say how grateful I am to all the folk who

volunteer to work in the shop, to make this possible. Your commitment has been first class and is very much appreciated. I'd also like to say a big thank you to the management committee, for setting up and running this project and making it such a success. My intention was never to single out any one person in this brief note but I think it's fair to say that it would not have got off the ground were it not for the guidance and determination of the late Eddie Leggett, whom we all miss so much.

For anyone in the area who doesn't yet shop at Clapham, I can heartily recommend that you give it a try. You'll be pleasantly surprised by what's on offer. I reckon it's the best thing to have happened in the village for a long time, not just for our convenience but also for the many intangible benefits it has brought to the community. We're all very fortunate and immensely grateful.

John Cordingley



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# CHURCH NEWS

## *The Vicar's thoughts . . .*

### **'Generously sharing our gifts for God's greater glory'**

"After they had heard the king, they went on their way, and the star they had seen when it rose went ahead of them until it stopped over the place there the child was. When they saw the star, they were overjoyed. On coming to the house, they saw the child with his mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshipped him. Then they opened their treasures and presented him with gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh." *Matthew 2:9-12*

This time of year always brings with it a sense of wonderment for Christians around the world, as we relive the story of the birth of Jesus. We can easily understand the excitement of the wise men as they followed their path, illuminated by the star of Bethlehem, winding their way towards the tiny Messiah.

As we exchange gifts with each other this Christmas, let's think about the unique gifts that the Lord has blessed each one of us with and reflect on:

- How can you use the gifts God gave you to show your worship and further glorify him?
- How can you utilise your God-given talents to bear testimony that Jesus is Christ?
- How can you use your gifts and talents to bless the lives of those around you on a daily basis?

If you have a musical gift, you could share the gospel through song. Artistic individuals could communicate with the unchurched through painting, drawing or sculpting. Writers could start a blog or a newsletter to share their faith with others.

Even if you haven't discovered your special talent yet, the best gift you can give to another human being is time. Take time to look around you and see who you can bless with a smile, by lending an ear or extending a helping hand.

Let's remember that giving is a privilege – and the blessings from your Christ-like actions will boomerang back to you!

In this season where we celebrate the greatest gift of all, let's continue cultivating our own God-given talents. Nurturing your talents is an act of faith, which involves overcoming your own personal fears and insecurities.

Pray for God to guide you, like a shining star in the night, on how to best use your time and talents to help others and to further glorify His name.

*Blessings to you all,  
Ian*

### **DIARY DATES FOR DECEMBER**

**Wednesday, 2nd** – Monthly Prayer Time 11.15 am in the Vicarage

**Friday, 11th** – Carols, Mulled Wine and Mince Pies at Lawkland Hall from 6.30 pm (with kind permission of Giles and Diss Bowring). Tickets £5 available from Michael Southworth or the Vicar.

**Saturday, 12th** – Christmas Coffee Morning at Keasden Church from 10.00 am to 12.00 noon Crisis Homeless Tea Party in Austwick Parish Hall from 12.30 – 4.30 pm.

**Tuesday, 15th** – Carol Singing at Newby from 6.30 pm.

**Wednesday, 16th** – Afternoon Church Fellowship Christmas Celebration in Austwick Parish Hall.

**Thursday 17th** – Carol Singing at Keasden from 6.30 pm.

**Saturday 19th** – Carol Singing in Clapham – meet at 1.00 pm at Church.

**Tuesday 22nd** – Carols on the car park then mulled wine and mince pies inside The Traddock Hotel from 6.30 pm (don't forget a torch).

### **LOOKING AHEAD**

**Thursday, 14th January** – Epiphany Service in Austwick Church at 10.30 am.

**Sunday, 17th January** – Collation of new Arch-deacon at 3.30 pm in Ripon Cathedral.

**Saturday, 23rd January** – Burn's Night Supper in Austwick Parish Hall from 7.30 pm.

**Saturday, 30th January** – Coffee Morning at Wood View in Austwick.

Pocket Panto Proudly presents

## **Aladdin**

Join Aladdin and his hilarious mother, Widow Twankey on this rip-roaring pantomime adventure that is full of fun, laughter and happy ever after.

**At Clapham Village Hall  
on Tuesday, 29th December  
at 1.00 pm.**



**Tickets:** £5 children under 14 £7 Adults  
£20 for family of four.  
Tickets available from Clapham Shop or  
Sue Mann 015242 51792

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## Village Shop opening hours

**From Monday, 2nd November will be:**

Monday to Wednesday 8am–5.30pm;

Thursday 8am–6.30pm;

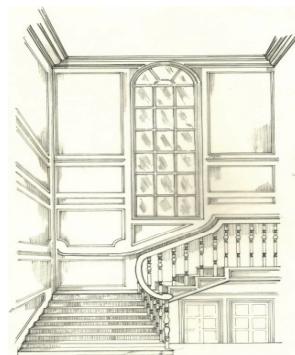
Friday 8am–5.30pm;

and

Weekends 8am–1.30pm.

**Please support your Village Shop**

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# The secret life of Tommy Coultherd

For 40 years Tommy delivered milk to the good people of Clapham and a remarkable service it was because he was so completely reliable. You could tell him that you were going away for two weeks and would like one silver top, one red top, six eggs and a bottle of cream on your return and that you would like it to be left in the shed because you would not be back until the evening. He never made a note but you could be absolutely certain that the delivery would be there when you arrived home and there would be no need to drink black tea that night. At present I am seeking psychiatric help because of a traumatic breakdown in my relationship with BT and their hopeless inefficiency. If only Tommy supplied broadband instead of milk . . . !

The other thing I knew was that he was a keen follower of racing, the jumping type not flat racing, and he would tell us about his trips to Scotland, Ireland, Devon and all points in between. Indeed he has visited every racecourse in Britain so he is your man if you want expert advice.

What I did not know until one of my village spies told me is that he has another secret life as a conservation volunteer in Scotland. I don't normally reveal my sources but thanks, Brenda, for the tip-off and the suggestion that I should interview him for our newsletter. In May this year Tommy and Tim Hutchinson, our resident nature expert who keeps us informed about our local wildlife, worked for the Scottish Wildlife Trust on Handa, a beautiful uninhabited island with superb beaches off Scotland's west coast near Cape Wrath. (That's the top left hand corner if you have just opened your atlas). It is a paradise for bird spotters but can only be visited by a small boat from Tarbet, a tiny hamlet on the mainland. There is no harbour or jetty so the boat has to land on the beach and that is where the volunteers play an essential role as they push out a kind of board walk on wheels under the prow of the boat and assist passengers to disembark from the front of the vessel. After their five-mile walk round the island visitors have to be assisted back on to the boat. On good days there would be about a dozen trips so it was a busy schedule as they walked out in their waders for the next group of ornithologists. Tommy assures me that they did not drop a single visitor in the Atlantic but one lady did drop a very expensive looking camera. He rescued it for her from the sea bed but whether or not she was able to rescue her photos or save her camera will never be known.

They slept in a small bothy on the island which they shared with the warden who stays there for the summer season. Facilities were predictably less sophisticated than The Dorchester. They had one small gas cylinder stove and a solar panel which enabled them to enjoy three showers per week. They

had to take absolutely everything they needed for their stay because the little boat brings only bird watchers not supplies. Tommy reported with great satisfaction that their milk kept perfectly as a result of being stored in a stream. The warden was afforded the luxury of one trip to the mainland per fortnight to buy food and other essentials. The reward for all their efforts was the sight of thousands and thousands of sea birds, including arctic skuas, gannets, guillemots, kittiwakes and razorbills. I apologise if any of the names in this piece are incorrectly spelt but BT has ensured that I have no internet access. See paragraph one above. What I do have, thanks to the efforts of the engineer at our local magic box, is access to the phone calls of another villager! After spells on Handa in 2014 and again this year they plan to go once more in 2016 after visiting the island of Eigg to work with crofters.

Tommy has done several other stints for The National Trust for Scotland which meant working at Brodick Castle on the Isle of Arran, Castle Fraser and Craigevar, north of Aberdeen, Pitmedden which is in the same area and Culzean Castle on the west coast. Jobs have included planting, protecting young trees, attacking overgrown rhododendrons, clearing paths and making charcoal in a kiln. At Pitmedden they had to prepare for the annual apple festival. That may sound simple but they grow 78 varieties. All apples had to be picked, always with the stalk on, sorted and arranged with great care in baskets one apple at a time. The accommodation was of the bunkhouse variety and the number in the work party would be about ten. The food was provided but they had to cook it themselves and everyone was expected to muck in. Some of the younger volunteers were enthusiastic about nature but not keen on seeing it first thing in the morning so Tommy, who has been up early all his life, became a breakfast specialist and also prepared the packed lunches. When some of the other volunteers eventually regained consciousness they would take responsibility for the evening meal at the end of the working day.

It may come as a surprise to some readers to learn that the volunteers have to pay for the privilege of going on a work camp but Tommy loves it because he is used to outdoor life and enjoys the variety of work they undertake. It is not too expensive and it gives him the opportunity to enjoy more holidays in beautiful locations than he could afford if he had to pay for first-class hotels. He has already sent in several applications for 2016.

Those of us who like visiting National Trust properties and gardens should be grateful that people like Tommy give up their time to keep them looking immaculate. A secret life to be proud of.

*Stuart Marshall*

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## Eddie

I want to take this opportunity, through the pages of the Clapham Newsletter, to publically thank everyone who contributed towards the funeral of Eddie. Your involvement, in whatever way, was truly magnificent.

For me, the most cherished aspect of the day was the coming together of Eddie's friends, neighbours and colleagues in a collective 'Goodbye'. I did not feel alone.

*Jill Buckler*

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**WHAT A FEAST!** When we volunteered to help organise the food for Eddie's funeral tea, we had to approach the people of Clapham to do a little extra.

We were overwhelmed with the response from everyone who came up trumps.

We would like to thank you all for the wonderful food that you all gave, and for making Eddie's 'send-off' a day to remember.

Thank you to one and all. *Glenys and Mavis*

---

## Children in Need

Aimee and Erin Sinclair (Liz and Eric Mason's granddaughters) would like to thank everyone who supported their coffee morning. £358.57 was raised.

## Westby Dairy

Robert and  
Janet Townsend



**We deliver Milk, Cream and Eggs  
from our family dairy farm.**

*Our families have been producing milk for local delivery for generations, and now, along with the help of our son and daughters we are very proud to provide a great British tradition that is the doorstep milk delivery service!*

**We bottle milk from our own herd of cows for delivery to homes and businesses the very next morning.**

**Westby Hall Farm, Gisburn**  
**Tel. 01200 445283**

## Bulk oil buying scheme

For all who belong to the Clapham Bulk Oil Buying Scheme I am sure you will agree that it has been a very good year in relation to the cost of your domestic oil.

We are now into the seventh year of the scheme and of course we all know its success would have been impossible without the commitment of Glenys McMahon. There are now almost 80 households belonging to the scheme. That is 80 members whom Glenys works hard for throughout the year ensuring we can all benefit from the very best deal she can get.

So, once again I am asking, if you haven't already done so, to kindly give a donation of £1 per household as a contribution towards the costs that Glenys incurs, most particularly on telephone calls. I am sure you will be more than happy to do so. You have all been very generous in previous years.

We have the great advantage this year of being able to collect your £1 offerings in the village shop. There is a box under the counter with a list of subscribers to the scheme. Please ask whoever is at the counter to ferret out the container so you can make your payment and tick your name off on the list.

Thank you all for making Clapham Bulk Oil Buying Scheme such a success.

*Jill Buckler  
Clapham Sustainability Group*

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## Pet rescue Christmas fair

We are holding our Christmas Fair this year in Clapham Village Hall from 10 am until 4 pm on Sunday, 6th December. There will be festive gifts, cards and calendars along with a cake stall, tombola and competitions.

In the afternoon the draw will take place for our annual Christmas hamper raffle, with a host of festive hampers to be won.

Home made refreshments will be served throughout the day, so why not come along and join us for morning coffee, lunch or afternoon tea and cake and help us to celebrate the run up to Christmas.

If you would like to buy our calendars before December 6th they will be on sale in the Reading Room Café in Clapham and in Field to Home Pet Shop in Settle.

*Bentham Pet Rescue*

## The Harold and Alice Bridges charity

Registered Charity Number 236654

The Trustees of the Charity invite further applications for grants from charities local to Ingleton and surrounding areas to benefit local people and organisations.

The Charity is associated with Richard Howarth, who ran a haulage business from Ingleton for many years.

Full details of the Charity, grant criteria and how to apply, are shown on the Charity's website: [www.haroldandalicebridgescharity.co.uk](http://www.haroldandalicebridgescharity.co.uk)

The Trustees cannot guarantee that every application will be successful, but do encourage applications to be made. These will be considered at the meetings of the Trustees which take place three times a year.

Completed application forms should be sent to the correspondent of the Charity, Linder Myers of 21-23 Park Street, Lytham, Lancashire FY8 5LU. The telephone number for further enquiries is 0844 984 6025.

Clapham School

# Annual QUIZ NIGHT

**FRIDAY, 29th JANUARY**  
commencing at 7.30 p.m.  
Clapham Village Hall

**Quiz master Stuart Marshall**  
will be running the show.

**Tickets are £7.50 per person**  
which includes a  
two course meal.

There will also be a raffle and bar.  
Tickets will be available soon.

All funds raised will go towards  
buying resources for the school.

## Village Hall Notice Board

### Clapham Parish Council

4th Tuesday  
Evening of the month at 7.30 pm



Gillian Muir 51775

### Clapham Art Group

  
Tuesday Evening  
Linda Clemence  
01729 823767

### Clapham W.I.



Jill Walker 01729 825358

2nd Wednesday  
Evening  
of the month  
7.00 pm

### Tai Chi

Thursdays  
9 am to 10.30 am  
  
Tony Bennett  
c/o 51240



**Tiny Tots**  
Tuesday Mornings  
9.30 am to 11 am  
Tracey Bilton  
51857



**Bowls**  
Monday  
Afternoons  
1.30 pm to 4 pm  
Mrs. Denne 51617



**Whist**  
Friday Evenings  
7.30 pm  
Elsie Morphett  
07951 295995



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1st Wednesday  
Morning  
of the month  
11 am  
Brenda Pearce  
51816

# DARK NIGHTS

by John Dawson



November at Bleak Bank sees all the cattle inside for winter, which in our case lasts about six months. Grass has almost stopped growing and the nights are dark, long, often cold, sometimes wet, and more often than not all of these. This results in cattle standing about in mucky gateways or behind walls losing body condition which has taken much of the summer to gain. Much better to be inside warm and cosy, where some poor farmer panders to your every whim. I enjoy winter but have some sympathy with a neighbour who prefers summer simply because “warm disasters are preferable to cold ones”.

Our dairy cows are the first to come in as they are our most productive animals and as such they get much of our attention on a day to day basis. The modern dairy cow can produce between 8,000 and 10,000 litres of milk in a year but in order to do this she needs careful management to keep her healthy and productive. Our aim is for each cow to have one calf per year and to achieve this she needs to be in tip top condition. Much of this involves attention to detail with the diet and high standards of welfare.

Heifer (girl) calves we keep and rear with a view to them being our future dairy cattle. As they calve we may sell a few as newly calved at the market in Bentham. Some bigger farms prefer not to rear their own but buy them in as adults and ready for work, which is where the smaller family farm comes in. Not only that but you get to have lunch at the café in Bentham if you have something to sell. Bull (boy) calves we rear to about a month old before selling them, also at Bentham but to farmers who will mature them into beef. Another lunch out.

Modern cattle sheds are usually light and airy. They allow freedom of movement between the feed fence and the cubicle beds where the cow can sit on a rubber mattress and straw bedding. We like our cows to eat plenty as it demonstrates health, a bit like teenage boys. My Dad used to say “you’ll never have any trouble wi’ owt that eats”.

Routine work dominates the farm much of the year but especially in winter. Feeding and cleaning out is done twice a day. Throw in the odd frozen water pipe, or maybe a tractor not starting and the day is full. Cows have a unique way of dealing with an interrupted water supply which involves banging their head on the trough until something breaks, and it is never their head. This trick is a particular Sunday morning favourite. Grass is stored in summer under plastic where it is pickled and becomes silage. This

is the basis of winter diets on our local farms. The faint aroma of silage tends to follow the farmer around for all of the winter months, the warmer the room the more aromatic he becomes.

Another favourite cow trick is to sit too far forward in the cubicle and leave herself short of lunging room when she comes to stand, resulting in half a ton of cow wedged at the front of a cubicle. They are heavy animals to push backwards, especially as she wants to keep going forwards.

The younger cattle (followers) can stay out for a month longer than the milkers as they are only looking after themselves and not yet old enough to be producing milk. About 30 of these have been “running with the bull” and (hopefully) will calve next July and August at about two and a half years of age. They are then adults and can, at last, start contributing to the farm economy. Incidentally, myself and the bull have an understanding, he thinks I am in charge, I know he is in charge but we never discuss it. He has his own purpose-built shed to keep all one ton of him safe and secure.

Of course, with all the cattle inside, the sheep have the great outdoors to themselves. “Tupping time” (breeding season) is winding down, having dominated much of November. Sheep have been mated and the evidence is all the brightly coloured bottoms. In order to get the colour on the sheep we put it on the tup every day, who puts it on the sheep. The colour is changed each week and the theory is that those tupped (mated) in the first week are due to lamb first, in our case yellow followed by green and finally blue. Each tup gets put to about 60 sheep, each sheep comes into season every 14 days, the occasional one will not hold to the first service, hence the different colours.

The flock will be pregnancy scanned in January when we get a good idea as to the possible lamb crop – but be careful not to count your chickens, or in this case lambs.

Tups are now beginning to relax and sit about in a rather self satisfied smug sort of way, one or two with a few more aches and pains.

We continue to sell the lambs born in April on Wednesday evenings at Bentham. About 15 buyers attend, some buying for independent butchers and some for supermarkets. Between 4,000 and 5,000 a week can go through Bentham. The latest we have sold is about half past 11, but it’s not so bad as we get supper in the café.

KEV



UNIT 1  
OLD RO  
CLAPH  
Teleph

## Treasure hunt

Eddie Leggett had been treasurer of Clapham Playpark for a few years, and he will be sadly missed, so we now need someone to fill that role. It's not very onerous but we could do with a new volunteer to help spread the load of managing the playpark. Someone whose children use the playpark would be ideal!

Fundraising is going well, with donations being collected through the Village Store, the Vintage Shop and the Bunkbarn, as well as at Eddie's funeral. Clapham Parish Council has kindly covered the cost of the annual safety inspection.

The next meeting will be at the Bunkbarn on Saturday, 12 December at 4pm. Come and join us for a festive drink!

*Tracey Bilton  
Clapham Park Association (015242 51856)*

If you wish to advertise in the Newsletter  
please contact Ray Hull at  
Park View, Church Ave, Clapham LA2 8EA  
If you have an article or some interesting  
news that you would like to appear in the  
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hull365@btinternet.com or phone 51492



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and find us on  
facebook, Tweet to @ClaphamShop



## Congratulations

Congratulations to Rory-Joe Daniels and Kayla Halstead who were married at the Castle Green Hotel in Kendal.

On a beautiful sunny day in surrounded by friends and family, the couple tied the knot in hotel garden's gazebo.

Rory and Kayla started dating while in the sixth form at Settle High School and they became engaged after they both graduated from university.

They have now settled in Clapham at the Flying Horseshoe Cottages.

## BUS SERVICES (581)

### Clapham to Settle (weekdays):

0734 0909 1109 1309 1509 1719

### Saturdays:

0734 0909 1109 1309 1509 1719

### Settle to Clapham (weekdays):

0930 1130 1330 1530 1740 1830

### Saturdays:

0930 1130 1330 1530 1740 1910

# Clapham village store news

Your village store is now an award-winning business! As mentioned in the last newsletter, we were shortlisted for a North Yorkshire County Council Community Award for the best community project and a Craven District Council Community Champions Award for the best social enterprise. Decisions were announced in October and we were delighted to be joint runner-up for the county council award but over the moon to win the Craven award! There was lots of media coverage of the two awards events and so the shop was well publicised and this reflects brilliantly on the whole of the community. Eddie would have been very pleased.

Why not avoid all the hustle and bustle of the supermarkets and visit the village store for all your Christmas holiday shopping? We are taking orders for turkeys, meats, pies, locally sourced beef and lamb, all to be delivered to the shop anytime up to 24 December. We can also supply all your fresh vegetables and dairy on a daily basis. Just order any quantities and we will have it packed, ready for you to pick up and simply take home.

Stuck for any Christmas shopping ideas? Our Christmas Hamper could be just the ticket! Come in and choose a readymade hamper or put your own together from our own range of delicious Christmas goodies and the new Herdy range of gifts.

We also now have our own bag for life, created by our local artist, Marley Atkin. The pupils at Clapham Primary School were asked to draw a picture depicting Clapham and our shop and Marley's design was chosen for being bright, colourful and fun. We love it and we think you will too. The ideal Christmas present for the person who has everything! They're selling very well so get yours now.



*Ruth, Helen and Sue celebrate winning the Craven District Council award*

Now that winter is here we are stocking logs, kindling and coal. As ever, if there's anything you'd like us to stock please let us know and we'll see what we can do.

Clapham Village Store (015242 51524)  
[info@claphamvillagestore.co.uk](mailto:info@claphamvillagestore.co.uk)  
[www.claphamvillagestore.co.uk](http://www.claphamvillagestore.co.uk)

## Christmas opening hours

Christmas Day	Closed
Boxing Day	Closed
Sunday 27th	8.00 – 1.30 p.m.
Monday 28th	8.00 – 1.30 p.m.
Tuesday 29th	8.00 – 5.30 p.m.
Wednesday 30th	8.00 – 5.30 p.m.
New Years Eve	8.00 – 2.30 p.m.
New Years Day	Closed

## S O S ! – Clapham Age UK Group

The Age UK group meets on the first Wednesday of every month in the Village Hall at 11 o'clock. After the meeting we go to school at 12.45 pm for lunch, which is always delicious and with choices. The Thursday of the week following the meeting we have the use of the Age UK minibus, which seats thirteen passengers, to go for a day out to a place of our choosing. We are very lucky to have this facility, which is only one of the many ways in which the local branch of Age UK is able to help older people with later life problems.

At the monthly meeting we start with coffee/tea and biscuits and a discussion of where we would like to go for the trip the following week, and any other news we need to know. After that we usually

have a speaker who, if possible, joins us for lunch for an opportunity for further chat.

The point of this article is that for various reasons (mostly to do with age!) our membership has dropped and we need, and would very much like, more people to join us who are slightly younger and more recently retired. We have a lot of fun and members appreciate the opportunity to be taken out to places they would not otherwise be able to get to. It would be a great shame if the group were not able to continue so please, if you fall into the category mentioned, do have a think about joining us. My telephone number is 51816. Give me a ring! I would love to hear from you.

*Brenda Pearce*

## Church coffee morning

At the coffee morning held at the Village Hall on Saturday, 28th November, just under £600 was raised. Many thanks to everyone who attended.

## Wreath making

Get into the festive mood and make your own beautiful wreath with the help of Melanie Greenhalgh.

She will lead her annual class at Austwick Village Hall on Tuesday, 9th December from 10 am until noon, please bring any special extra trimmings and greenery. Telephone 015242 51313 to book your places. The cost is £8.

## Thank you

A fundraising event was held early in November at Clapham Village Hall for Derian House Children's Hospice.

I would like to say a big thank you to everyone who helped or donated to this worthy cause, and helped to raise just over £400.

*Rosie Hull*

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## Clapham has heart!

Brenda and I would like to thank all those lovely people who sent good wishes following my heart bypass operation in September. The number of cards and phone calls really was amazing, truly heart warming. Many thanks to all of you.

Now I am well on the way to a full recovery, walking further and faster each day and returning little by little to my usual range of activities. I am eagerly looking forward to the day when the consultant signs me off as 'Job done'!

*Ken Pearce*

## Thanks from Audrey

Audrey Dewhirst would like to say thank you to everybody who has sent her cards, gifts and get well messages following her recent fall, which resulted in a broken hip.

She is currently in Lancaster Royal Infirmary where she is progressing well and keeping in good spirits, and will be transferring to Castleberg in Settle, as soon as a bed becomes available. There she will have further rehabilitation before she can return back home. Many thanks to everyone for all your support and best wishes.

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# Christmas Greetings

The following readers send Christmas Greetings  
to their friends in Clapham and District

Don, Gillian & Hugh  
Sunnybank Cottages

Pete & Bren  
Greenacre

John & Jane  
Hall Garth

Barbara & Nigel,  
Grace, Bethan,  
Joe & Edward

Annie  
The Beeches

Isobel & Flo  
Bridge Cottage

James & Sue  
Gildersbank

Gus & Ann  
Eggshell Lane

John & Ann  
Beckfield House

Margaret & Tommy  
The Green

Anne  
Park House

Chrissie  
Gildersbank

Chris Hart & Family  
Honeywood

John & Diane  
Crooklands B&B

Sheila & Lara  
Sunnybank

Janet & Muppet  
Clapdale Way

Martin & Christine  
Yew Tree Cottages

Richard and Jayne  
Gildersbank

Ruth, Simon, Zara & Ben  
Beck Cottage

John, Lorraine & Fred  
Station Road

Sam & Sue  
Low Lea

Linda & Colin  
The Green

Betty, Jane & Anne  
Cross Haw Lane

Simon & Angela  
Keasden

Helen & Staff  
Clapham Village Store

Vesta  
West Avon

Pam  
Clapdale Way

Dave  
Gildersbank

Barbara & Stuart  
Bramall

Richard, Justina &  
Edward, Fall View

Glenys & Mavis  
Crossshaw Lane

Chester, Kaye &  
Poppy, The Green

Alan, Paula, Lorna &  
Connor, Bishopswood

Susan & Norman  
Limefold

Ron & Denise  
The Station House

Brenda & Ken  
Stonegarth

Rosie & Ray  
Park View

Liz & Eric  
Clareson

Stuart & Sheila  
Flying Horseshoe  
Cottages

Ian & the Girls  
Jaques Farm

Rory, Kayla & Ozzy  
Flying Horseshoe  
Cottages

The above greetings have raised nearly £200 and easily cover the cost of one issue of the Newsletter.

Also, many thanks to all our advertisers for their support over the past year.

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*A Paradise for Crafters*

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 significant amount to produce, and advertising  
is a very necessary aid to the finances. An advert  
costs as little as £3.50 per issue. To advertise your  
products and services, please contact Ray Hull on  
015242 51610 or by email below.

Articles, news and ideas please for the next issue

by **28th December, 2015** to

Chrissie Bell: [ChrisHarte@aol.com](mailto:ChrisHarte@aol.com)

or Ray Hull: [hull365@btinternet.com](mailto:hull365@btinternet.com)

# Clapham cum Newby Parish Council News

**The parish council met on 27th October and 24th November.**

Simon Peach from Clapham Hyperfast gave a presentation outlining the progress made by the broadband project. The core route for high speed fibre optic cable serving Mewith and Keasden has been laid. Work will start next year on the route into Clapham and Newby. The estimated cost of the project is £144,000, to date £124,000 of funds have been pledged and work is proceeding ahead of budget. More volunteers are needed to raise funds for contractors and materials, map out and lay the Clapham and Newby routes and complete the Keasden and Mewith spurs. If you are interested in accessing faster broadband and/or volunteering, please go to [www.claphamhyperfast.net](http://www.claphamhyperfast.net) for more information.

Craven District Council funding for Settle Area Swimming Pool is to end in April 2016. The parish council believes the pool delivers a vital, value for money service that benefits the health and well-being of the local community. It has written to Julian Smith MP and all Craven District Councillors in the local area to urge them to campaign for the pool to continue to receive the revenue funding it needs to stay open. In a show of support, the council has doubled its annual donation from £100 to £200.

There have been many drainage issues this month with the recent heavy rains. If you wish to report any blocked drains please contact the Clerk (details below) or North Yorkshire County Council Highways department directly by calling 08458 727374 or emailing [Area5.Skipton@northyorks.gov.uk](mailto:Area5.Skipton@northyorks.gov.uk).

The parish council has agreed a budget for 2016-17. The annual precept has been set at £7,835. Please contact the clerk if you would like to see details of the council's planned expenditure for the next financial year.



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**The following planning proposals are still pending:**

- C/18/65P: full planning permission for erection of two-bedroomed bungalow, Old Mason's Yard, Clapham
- 18/2015/16216 external alterations to existing premises and erection of a new detached dwelling associated with the café premises, former Little Chef, Henbusk Lane, Newby
- 18/2015/16232 Conversion of Adjoining Barn Section to Dwelling House. Part Demolition of Attached Lean-to Shippion to Form Additional On-Site Parking, The Laithe, Lower Hardacre, Bentham
- 18/2015/16278 Change of use of derelict former Church Hall to form a Camping Barn, Temperance Hall, Keasden

For more information on the work of the parish council please click on the 'parish council information' link at [www.claphamyorkshire.co.uk](http://www.claphamyorkshire.co.uk).

The parish council meets on the 4th Tuesday of each month, except August and December. Meetings take place in the Village Hall starting at 7.30pm. Everyone is welcome to attend. Parish Clerk & Responsible Financial Officer Gillian Muir can be contacted by email: [claphamclerk@btinternet.com](mailto:claphamclerk@btinternet.com) or by telephone 015242 51775.

## Clapham School PTA News

The PTA is running fundraising events in December and January.

The Christmas Fair is being held in the school hall on Saturday, 5th December from 10 am to 12 noon. Many festive treats will be on offer including cake and craft stalls, an auction of promises, raffle prizes including the wheelbarrow of booze (and non-alcoholic drinks of course), a name the teddy competition, a chocolate tombola and lots, lots more, so do please come along. Admission is £2 which includes a brew and a mince pie, what more can you ask for!

The annual **Quiz Night** will be held on Friday, 29th January from 7.30pm in the Village Hall. Quiz master Stuart Marshall will be running the show. Tickets are £7.50 per person which includes a two-course meal. There will also be a raffle and bar. Tickets will be available soon.

All funds raised will go towards buying resources for the school.

# Wildlife in Clapham

## **Gannet – *Morus bassanus***

Firstly you might be wondering why I am writing about a large seabird that breeds on steep cliffs in this month's nature notes, (no I haven't gone off my rocker). A single juvenile gannet circled over the lake and Ingleborough Hall on the morning of November 9th then disappeared over to the east. This juvenile must have been pushed up Morecambe Bay during the very strong gale force Westerlies we had the night before and then carried on flying inland. This is the first gannet to be seen around the local area. Several gannets tend to be seen inland around east, west and south Yorkshire most years. These birds get pushed up the Humber estuary and then they move inland from there.

Adult gannets are a large all white seabird with black wing tips and yellowish head, juveniles are a very dark grey-black and they take up to five years to get to full adult plumage, so from juvenile to adult they can be a mottled colour of blacks, greys and whites. They breed on steep cliffs and islands around Scotland and Wales and the only English breeding colony is at Bempton cliffs near Bridlington.

Several large flocks of pink-footed geese were seen flying west over the local area towards the Ribble marshes between the 27th September and 10th November.

One yellow browed warbler was found on the old railway line near Nutta Farm with a large flock of tits and two chiffchaffs and several goldcrests on 4th October. There was a very large influx of yellow browed warblers on the East Coast between late September and late October and this bird would have been part of this influx. Several more were seen inland throughout Yorkshire and Lancashire during October.

The first two bramblings of the winter were seen on the old railway line near Nutta Farm on



*Gannet (juvenile)*

the 9th October. Several were seen and heard calling at Ingleborough Hall throughout October and November, but the best sighting was a flock of about 50 bramblings near Crina Bottom Farm – 25th October.

The last six swallows of the year were seen over Clapham on October 2nd. A late house martin was seen at River Bank Cottage on the 4th and 11th, and on the 9th a late spotted flycatcher was seen on the old railway line near Clapham Station.

A single snow bunting was seen on Little Ingleborough by Chris Hart – 13th November and another was heard calling as it flew over Ingleborough Hall on the 17th.

One short-eared owl was seen hunting over Hardacre Moss and one, daytime hunting, barn owl was seen at Meldingscale Farm on the 21st.

A chiffchaff was seen in the garden of River Bank Cottage on the 21st, this bird could be wintering around the area. And one first-winter male black redstart was found feeding around Ingleborough Hall for several hours on the 23rd.

*Tim Hutchinson, Smithy Cottage*



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