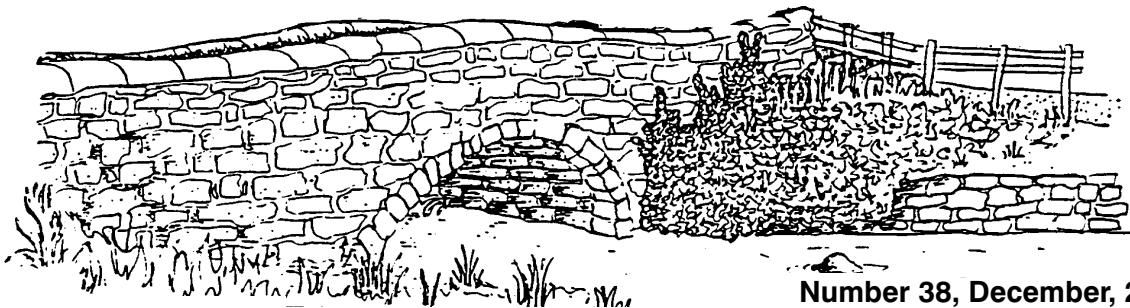


# CLAPHAM & DISTRICT NEWSLETTER



Number 38, December, 2005

## Development Association – News and AGM Report

Since our last contribution in July we have been fairly busy in maintaining our conservation project near the waterfall and have now installed three beautiful seats especially made for us in the village by Wyn Roberts. All the seats have been sponsored, one anonymously and the other two by friends who would like loved ones remembered.

The project has one last stage before completion but we are awaiting final consent from the National Park before we can restart. More information in the next newsletter. Future projects are being discussed and John Norris and Mike Cornwall have agreed to liaise with the rest of the volunteers to compile meeting times and future projects.

I have had a very positive feedback regarding the Clapham Heritage Trails booklet distributed free with the last newsletter, should you want extra copies for family and friends they are available for £2.50 from the village shop.

At the recent Annual General Meeting of the group, James & I have agreed to continue in our duties but Sue Jarman decided not to stand again. Her place will be taken jointly by Lucy McNamara (from the shop) and Ann Brierley who has recently taken over the former National Park Information Centre. I would like to personally thank Sue for her fantastic work on the group's behalf, particularly her contribution before, during and after the festival last year.

The question of a future 'Event' in the village was discussed, we have a subgroup led by Sue Cowgill, in her report she mentioned that it is hoped



that there will be a 'Village' activity during the Summer which could include lanterns, music, food and dancing and should be centred around the village with a possible competitive element, e.g. for the best illuminated garden/area by individual households or village organisations, quizzes, trails etc. We are still looking for ideas and volunteers so if this is of interest please come along to the next subgroup meeting on the 10th January 1.45 in the book shop above the village shop.

We now have two groups working in parallel on the 'Clapham History' project. One is still working on compiling the 'Pictorial and anecdotal stories of Clapham' they are still collecting photographs of 'Old Clapham' along with stories, so any contributions will be gratefully accepted. These should be channelled via Martin at the New Inn or to me at Arbutus House. The other larger project is the very comprehensive 'History of the village and surrounding area' to include the whole parish. Studies

*Continued overleaf*

## *Development Association continued*

are being made using old census records from the turn of the last century along with numerous other research material that is being sought from record offices throughout the county. This is an exciting longer term project and anyone interested would be welcome to join the team under the guiding hand of Ken Pearce.

We had a proposal to change the membership criteria of the association, so that in future once you have joined and paid your initial nominal fee that your membership would continue without further cost, this was to try to encourage a wider membership to the association. This was duly voted and passed by a majority present.

We have not progressed very far with the Victorian Fountain project other than contacting the relevant authorities and are now awaiting clarification and estimates.

Terry from the shop has been in touch with the National Park Authority with regard to establishing an 'Information Point' at the village shop to assist visitors to the village. This has been discussed at a previous meeting as a possibility. It is hoped that this facility could be manned by volunteers on most weekends and bank holidays from Easter to October. When last discussed there were quite a few people who generously offered their names, I know that he would be grateful if they could make themselves known to him so that a rota could be established, we are probably only asking for 1 or 2 half days per year if we can get enough helpers.

We still have the facility on the Village Website of a community page which can be password protected the idea was to publicise regular village

activities or events happening locally, and or meeting applicable only to the residents of the Village or Parish. Just click on the word Community at the bottom of the page, the username is 'clapham' and the password is 'beck'. At the moment we do not have anything in there so please get your copy over to me at Arbutus House and I will forward it to our Web Master who will upload it for us. So don't delay, any event or meeting that you want to publicise just let me know. Just a reminder that this newsletter along with the last three issues are on the Clapham village website so if you mislay your copy or wish to send it to family overseas just pass on the web address. [www.claphamyorkshire.co.uk](http://www.claphamyorkshire.co.uk) and they can download it. Should anyone wish to contact me via email my address is [david@arbutus.co.uk](mailto:david@arbutus.co.uk). Thank you to everyone for your continued support with the association.

*David Kingsley*



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## **The Three Seats**

They appeared almost without serving notice. Positioned and looking good.

It is only when you look closer; or you might have been tempted to lift  
You realise these three seats are special, reminding us possibly of childhood  
But to understand their meaning, one should look at why they are a gift.

Memories are always special, precious, personal and sometimes even tender

But these three seats are saying "look, enjoy, please sit on me and relax"  
For we know only too well, life is fast, and hard to control, so enjoy the splendour  
Watch the waterfall, enjoy the view, listen to nature, put down your axe.

Simple, beautiful objects, are to be praised, talked about even, so do not abuse

These three gifts to our wonderful village are an inspiration, for all to enjoy  
So please remember, they are gifts, born out of precious memories, so no misuse  
Sit, watch, listen, even make comment and dream and then; possibly, do not be coy.

*John Sanders, Tinkler's Cottage*

# CHURCH NEWS

## *The Vicar writes . . .*

THE 'CHRISTMAS TRUCE' of 1914.

### **'Prince of Peace' (Isaiah 9:6)**

No one quite knew how it happened. It was somewhere on the Western Front during World War 1 when, on Christmas Eve 1914, firing from the German trenches suddenly stopped. The British stopped their firing. All was quiet – an unofficial Christmas truce. Despite the stern orders against fraternisation, some German and British soldiers, leaving their rifles behind, cautiously emerged from their trenches into 'no-man's land'. More soldiers on both sides followed. Soon they were shaking hands, wishing each other Merry Christmas and exchanging cigarettes, schnapps – even names and addresses. Christmas trees and colourful lanterns were brought from the trenches. The Germans produced a cask of beer, and the Royal Welsh Fusiliers tins of beef and jam. There were even reports of football matches in no-man's land when daylight came. The 'Truce of 1914' lasted all of Christmas Day. On December 26 the captain of the Fusiliers fired three shots into the air and then climbed up onto his parapet. A German officer – who had given this Fusilier a beer on the day before – climbed onto his German parapet. The two bowed, saluted and went back to their trenches. A few moments later, two German shots were fired into the air. The war was on again. Today, especially at this special time of year let us pray for peace in our world. Help us to remember and pray that the Prince of Peace will continue to work in our own lives and Churches, even during the most troubling times. I wish you all a merry and peaceful Christmas.

*Your friend and Vicar*

*Ian*

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## NOTICES:

**Sunday, 11 December** – Joint CAROL SERVICE at Newby Chapel. 7pm

**Saturday, 17 December** – **FAMILY WALK & CAROL SINGING.** You are invited to join us at St. James's Church at 11.45am for a walk of approx. 1.5 miles to Clapham Cave. At the cave we will sing some carols. Families can then stay to visit the cave and Father Christmas whilst the rest of us walk back to church for Hot Chocolate. This is for all in the Deanery so please feel free to join us.

**Sunday, 18 December** – **CHRISTINGLE SERVICE** 11am

**Christmas Eve** – **CRIB SERVICE** at 5pm

**MIDNIGHT MASS** beginning at 11.30pm

**Christmas Day** **HOLY COMMUNION** at KEASDEN at 11am

**Sunday, 1 January** – United Service at AUSTWICK 10.30am

**20 December** – **CAROL SINGING** at Newby;

**21 December** at Clapham; **22 December** at Keasden. All at 6.30pm – Please join us.

**Friday, 6 January** – **TWELFTH NIGHT PARTY** in the Village Hall. Tickets from Eileen Plumridge, Clapham or Sue Mann, Newby.

**15 January** – **OLD TYME MUSIC HALL** in the Village Hall, 7.30pm

## NEWBY CHAPEL NEWS

**4 December** – 11am Family Service led by Val Whistler of Bentham.

**11 December** – 7pm Joint Carol Service with Clapham Church, in Newby Chapel followed by coffee and mince pies.

**18 December** – Newby Carol Service led by Martha Bainbridge of Bentham with help from the Sunday School.

**25 December** – No Service.

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*See Jackie or David for details*

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## Community Transport News

Although we're called 'Bentham Community Transport', we serve the whole area including Clapham. Here are a few of the things we do:

Some of you will have used the Taxibus, which you can use as a 'Dial-A-Ride' from 10.00am to 12 noon and from 12.30pm to 3.30pm Monday to Friday, as well as for the scheduled six-day-a-week service. 'GoCars' is our car share club, and at the moment we have a new Rover 25 which members of the car club can use for as little as an hour up to several days at a time.

We run a car scheme whereby volunteer drivers take patients to the surgery and to hospital and dental appointments. We also occasionally take passengers to meet trains and buses etc. If you would like to use this service, please call us. We don't have any volunteer drivers in Clapham or Newby (you get a 35p per mile contribution to your costs, this rate is currently being reviewed), so if there's anyone out there who would like to join us, you would be very enthusiastically welcomed!

We have two minibuses which can be used by voluntary groups. Again, volunteer drivers would be very welcome, training will be given.

We realise that working out what transport is available can be mind-boggling, so if you want to get somewhere, please give us a ring on 015242 62753 (we're very approachable!) and we'll tell you if we can help.

*Lin Barrington*

## Ingleborough Estate

In the 1830s the Clapham Beck was dammed to form an ornamental lake some 60ft (18m) above Ingleborough Hall and the village of Clapham. James Farrer (1849–1926) used a Williamson Brothers Vortex turbine to power a bobbin mill, which later became the estate sawmill. Then around 1893 the turbine was used to drive a dynamo as well as the sawmill, and the estate accounts of 1895 refer to the "installation of ten outdoor lamps" in the village and to "repair and renewals of the original plant" (Ingleborough Estate Accounts, August 1895). Gilkes of Kendal took over Williamson's business in 1881, and so in 1907 when the original turbine needed replacing a Gilkes Vortex turbine was installed to drive the sawbench and a dynamo which charged the batteries for electric lighting. This turbine is still in existence but now only drives the sawbench. In 1938 a small power house was built at the foot of the waterfall below the dam to house a Gilkes Turgo

## News from Keasden

### A LITTLE BIT OF HISTORY

A lady was browsing in a Kendal bookshop when she came across a Bible.

Inscribed inside the front cover were the words; This Bible was presented to John Thomas Harrison and Elsie Close by the Church Wardens to mark the occasion of their wedding on June 25th, 1924

St Matthews in the parish of Clapham. Signed JA Gorman, Vicar. James Hird, J Norman Easter 1925 Church Wardens. The Bible is now kept by Carol at St Matthews.

### OBITUARY

The funeral of a well known and well respected local man, James Mason, was held at St Matthews Church Keasden on October 31st. The service was attended by over 100 people. James of Keasden Head Farm was buried at Austwick cemetery.

### CHRISTMAS TREE LIGHTS

Lights for the St Matthews Christmas tree can be purchased for £4 each. The lights are in memory of loved ones.

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## A BIG Thank you to all in the Community

My name is Jayne Lodge and I was diagnosed with Breast Cancer on the 21st of April 2005 age 35. I have a husband, Christian and two children, Matthew age 10 and Amy age 7. As you can imagine the news was devastating for the whole family. I had to have an operation on the 9th of May and then start a course of chemotherapy. Regarding treatment, everything had been going to plan until I picked up an infection and went dramatically downhill, I was admitted into hospital and had to stay for one week having intravenous antibiotics and pain relief. I have to say that I have never felt so ill. I was discharged from hospital under strict instructions to rest for four weeks to build up my strength, and because I was so ill in hospital I am not able to have my remaining four chemotherapy treatments, the consultant had said that basically any more chemotherapy could kill me!

I have written to Clapham Newsletter to say how overwhelmed I have been with the support, kindness and concern that I have received from family, friends and neighbours. Christian my husband has been absolutely fantastic very supportive of all we are going through. The Yorkshire Dales Millennium Trust where Christian works have been great, allowing Christian time off work to take me to my many, many appointments. Our neighbour Frances Buckley has been wonderful looking after the children on

many occasions even until very late in the evening.

When people in the community heard that I had been very ill and needed to have four weeks rest, there must have been people in the community stood over a hot stove because we have had people arrive with delicious food to help out our family and build up my strength. I would like to say a big thank you to Judith Dawson, Eveline Dawson, Kath Dawson, Debby Marshall, Frances Buckley, Rose Whittaker, Denise Townley, Rose Harrison, Barbara Harrison, Liz and David Walton, Lesley Davidson and Annette Bryson. I would also like to say thank you to Jean Davy who gave me some art lessons to take my mind off my illness and the many cards, chocolates, flowers and gifts that I have received. I cannot believe the support that I have had it has been amazing. If you ever get a serious illness there is a lot to be said about having a very, very caring community.

I will be soon moving onto the next stage of treatment which is radiotherapy at Preston hospital, then hopefully making a full recovery and returning back to the job that I love – Science Teaching Assistant at Settle College. Thank you once again I really do appreciate all the support that Newby and Clapham community have given to me.

Yours truly  
Jayne Lodge

## NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

The Clapham Neighbourhood Watch Scheme comprises approximately 110 dwellings and, until recently, the scheme has been run by one Co-ordinator. The usual arrangement for a scheme of this size is to divide the area into a number of smaller, local groups, each group having its own 'street co-ordinator' who would receive information direct from the N. Y. Police and Craven N.W. ('Ringmaster' messages, Newsletters, etc.) and would then, in turn, pass this information to members of their group. This provides a more easily managed and more effective system and a more local contact person for members. We now have four residents (Chrissie Bell, Sue Latimer, John Norris and Ken Pearce) who have offered to act as street co-ordinators so that, including me, we can divide the Clapham scheme into five smaller groups each of roughly 20–25 dwellings. These are:

**Chrissie Bell** (Tel: 51610) – Gildersbank and Church Avenue (inc. New Inn and the three houses on Old Road).

**Sue Latimer** (Tel: 51360) – Riverside (from Saw Mill Cottage down to Village Store and P.O).

**John Norris** (Tel: 51886) – Lower part of Cross Haw Lane up to the Village Hall.

**Ken Pearce** (Tel: 51816) – The Green (and temporarily, Station Road up to and including Bull & Cave Farm).

**Bill Summers** (Tel: 51655) – Top part of Cross Haw Lane, Clapdale Way, Eggshell Lane, Sunnybank and cottages around Village Hall.

The new arrangements above will apply as soon as possible, but we still need to recruit another street co-ordinator for Station Road and possibly a helper for the top part of Riverside.

Finally, may I remind members that if you notice any suspicious activity, please telephone the N.Y. Police on 0845 60 60 24 7, but for a crime in progress or other emergency, dial 999 as usual.

*Bill Summers*

## Parish Council meeting – 15 November, 2005

The Parish Council met on 15 November 2005. All the councillors were present, along with 4 members of the public and PC Laurence Martin. Matters raised by members of the public mostly concerned Newby. The additional dog-bin has not been placed, the new notice board is not yet erected and the new street light is still not lit. Potholes in the road were reported in Newby and near Silly Sally waterfall on Cross Haw. Attention was drawn to the cut in the hours the Post Office was open, which was causing difficulties for people wishing to use the service in the afternoon.

The minutes of the previous meeting were signed. Matters arising: – All the salt on the Keasden road had disappeared and it was suggested that Craven D.C. might fund some bins from Community Chest. The two direction signs on the Clapham to Bowland Knotts road had now been restored and were in place. There is still some money available and it was decided to restore the sign at Clapham Bridge pointing to the station. All these are within the Bowland area of outstanding natural beauty.

Police report: PC Laurence Martin reported that it had been a quiet time, with few incidents. There had been one theft of a quad bike, and a person had been arrested and charged with offences of deception. Regarding travellers staying on the old section of the A65, the police rejected the idea of a ‘no overnight parking’ ban. Instead they thought a management policy of providing facilities would be better. The Council were totally against this suggestion, as this would encourage them to stay even longer. The problem is that people feel intimidated by the travellers and their animals and cannot make use of a length of road much favoured for short walks whilst the travellers are there. Farmer’s crops were damaged last year because the travellers put their horses through the gates to eat grass intended for harvesting. PC Martin said he would report back to Sgt. Gill with our concerns. It was decided to contact Bill Isherwood, N.Y.C.C., to see what other suggestions he could make. It was also noted that police cover in the Settle/Ingleton area seemed somewhat sparse. Planning: Plan approved for the erection of a steel portal frame building at Wood Gill Farm, Keasden. Permission has been granted for the removal of one pine tree at Shamba, Clapham. An appeal against the planning conditions regarding the painting of an agricultural building and planting of trees at Ryecroft Farm, Newby was dismissed.

Planning Applications: Outline planning permission for the erection of one dwelling at Cross Haw Lane, Clapham – No observations to make. Change of use of agricultural land to within curtilage of

Beckfield House, Cross Haw Lane – No observations to make. Installation of new windows in the west annexe of Hall Garth, Clapham – No observations to make. New Plans for the former Mercedes garage site in Clapham.

### New plans for the former Mercedes garage site in Clapham

The latest outline planning application for this site proposes demolition of the existing buildings and the “erection of sixteen dwellings, craft workshops, children’s nursery and associated external works”.

**Dwellings:** As illustrated in the application, the outline scheme includes six four-bedroom detached houses, plus ten other three-bedroom houses (six semi-detached and four terraced). In its response to the Planning Authority, the Parish Council took the view:

- that all the houses are likely to be beyond the financial reach of those local people most in need of accommodation.
- that if the houses are not taken up by people living or working locally, they are likely to be taken by outsiders seeking retirement, weekend or holiday homes.
- that it would be most unfortunate if the effect of this was to exclude from the village those working men and women (especially those with young children) upon which its future depends.

Councillors also believe that the applicants have underestimated:

- the amount of space required for car parking within the proposed development;
- the amount of additional road traffic which the scheme would generate;
- the consequent hazard to pedestrians (especially children) both within and outside the site.

**Children’s nursery:** Whilst welcoming, in principle, the possibility of improved child-care provision locally, the Parish Council has no information about what is actually being proposed in this application (which gives no detail at all).

For this reason, Councillors feel it is impossible for them to assess the potential benefit of the proposal to the community as a whole, or to decide whether the provision of a “nursery” would justify, for example, the absence of any affordable housing in the outline scheme, or the loss of floorspace for employment use which was included in the previously-approved application.

The Parish Council takes the view that the applicants must be asked to explain the proposal for a ‘children’s nursery’ in detail; and to demonstrate

that there is sufficient long-term demand for it, as well as firm and committed financial support to sustain it.

**Craft workshops:** As with the nursery, the application gives no detail at all about what is being proposed, so the Parish Council has no information on which to make a judgement as to the merits or otherwise of the scheme. Once again, Councillors feel that the applicants should be asked to explain this proposal in detail and to make a proper case for it.

Councillors are particularly concerned about the long-term sustainability of the workshops, and would like some reassurance that they can be built and offered profitably without becoming a future burden on council-tax payers.

**Public meeting:** The Parish Council is anxious to find a good use for this site, and accepts that the overall scheme now proposed is not without some merit. However, Councillors do not feel that the case put for it by the applicants is strong enough or detailed enough to justify their wholehearted support at this stage.

Councillors also feel that all local residents should be given the opportunity to comment on the proposed

scheme at a public meeting, and have suggested this to the Planning Authority.

**Note:** The full text of the Parish Council's response to this planning application is displayed on the notice board outside Clapham Village Store.

## Village History going well

Researching Clapham's history is proving to be an exciting business, revealing a few surprises. Several ex-residents and descendants of former residents have come forward with information about life in Clapham years ago. We have received photographs, audio tapes, video-tapes, notes and diaries written long ago – as well as letters offering help and details of families living in Clapham in the time of Queen Victoria or even earlier. One person has kindly provided a Clapham family history which seems to trace the very foundation of the village in the 10th century.

A group of 12 residents has come together to research and write up the history of this lovely village and its parish. They will use this information and much more. Through Clapham WEA we are being helped by Dr. Rob David of Lancaster University who has already tutored for us a 10-week course in the history of the landscape and a 5-week course in researching the history of local houses. Now he is leading a series of workshops showing where to find the records of Clapham's past and how best to turn the information in those records into a book which is informative, accurate, interesting and a good read.

Local historians in the area are also helping with information and experience. The various chapters have been outlined and the work of research divided up between the members of the group. We are poring over old maps, looking at all the Victorian census returns and tracking down documents from past centuries. Grants have been applied for, to cover some of the costs.

If you want to help with this exciting project or have information to offer then please contact Ken Pearce on 015242 51816.

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## How to give a cat a pill

1. Pick up cat and cradle in the crook of your left arm, as if holding a baby, position right forefinger and thumb on either side of the cat's mouth and gently apply pressure to cheeks while holding the pill in right hand, as cat opens mouth, allow cat to open mouth and swallow.
2. Retrieve pill from floor and cat from behind sofa, cradle cat as before and repeat process.
3. Retrieve cat from bedroom and throw away the soggy pill.
4. Take new pill from foil wrap, cradle cat in left arm holding rear paws tightly in left hand, force jaws open and push pill to back of mouth with right forefinger, hold mouth shut for a count of ten.
5. Retrieve pill from goldfish bowl and cat from top of wardrobe, call spouse from garden.
6. Kneel on floor with cat wedged firmly between knees, holding front and rear paws, ignore low growls emitted by cat, get spouse to hold cat's head firmly with one hand, while forcing wooden ruler into mouth, drop pill down ruler and rub cat's throat vigorously.
7. Retrieve cat from curtain rail, get another pill from foil wrap, make note to buy new ruler and repair curtains, carefully sweep shattered figurines from hearth and set on one side for gluing later.
8. Wrap cat in large towel and get spouse to lie on cat with its head just visible from below spouses armpit, put pill in end of drinking straw, force cat's mouth open with pencil and blow down straw.
9. Check label to make sure pill not harmful to humans, drink glass of water to take taste away, apply bandaid to spouse's arm and remove blood from carpet.
10. Retrieve cat from neighbours shed, get another pill, place cat in cupboard and close door onto neck to leave head showing, force mouth open with dessert spoon, flick pill down throat with elastic band.
11. Fetch screwdriver from shed and put door back on hinges, apply cold compresses to cheek and check records for date of last tetanus shot, replace bloodstained T-shirt.
12. Ring fire brigade to retrieve cat from tree across street, apologise to neighbour who crashed into fence while swerving to avoid cat, take last pill from foil wrap.
13. Tie cat's front paws to rear paws with garden twine and bind tightly to leg of dining table, find heavy-duty pruning gloves, force cat's mouth open with small spanner, push pill into mouth, followed by large piece of fillet steak, hold head vertically and pour pint of water down throat to wash down the pill.
14. Get spouse to drive you to emergency room; sit quietly while doctor stitches your fingers and forearm and removes pill fragments from right eye, go to furniture store on way home and order new table.
15. Arrange for vet to make a house call.

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## Clapham Women's Institute

Clapham Women's Institute meets on the second Wednesday of each month at 7.30pm in the Village Hall. The group includes members from Eldroth, Newby Cote and Newby. New members, friends and visitors are always welcome. For more information please telephone Moira Ings on 51316.

### Forthcoming programme:

December 14th, *Christmas Party with Jacobs Join Supper*

January 2006, *no meeting*

February 8th 2006, *a Royal Variety Performance by the Northern Pearly King and Queen. Open meeting with members of other branches.*



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## Children's Corner

### Calling all Primary age children

Why not enter our new colouring competition and win a super prize? Simply colour in the picture and tell us in which pantomime would you find these characters. When you have completed your picture fill in your name, age and telephone number, and send it to Clapham Newsletter c/o

Lesley Crutchley, Gildersbank, Clapham.  
Telephone 51433

Deadline for entries is 30th December.

Winners will be notified by telephone.

One winner per issue. Good Luck

Name: .....

Age: ..... Tel: .....

Name of pantomime: .....



The winner of the October art prize was Ruskin

Fox (age 8) who attends Clapham school

(The artist's name was Seurat)

Congratulations!

## Knitting Day at the School

**A big thank you!** To everyone who helped to make the knitting day at Clapham Primary School on October 26th such a success. More than 30 people came through the day to knit squares for blankets to send out to victims of the Asian earthquake. Those who could knit patiently shared their skills with those who could not, picked up stray stitches and expertly got rid of the extra ones that somehow appeared. Wool and needles were generously donated by individuals and a local business, and Clapham School kindly allowed us all to take over the hall and use the facilities there. Some managed to finish their squares on the day, some took theirs away to finish and some nobly took bags of squares away to create blankets. Liz Walton – working with BBC Radio Lancashire – has now sent off around 60 squares to the charity “Feed the Children”, who will make them into blankets, and one completed blanket plus numerous donated blankets to the Preston-based charity, “International Aid”. And another batch of more than 60 squares and a blanket will be sent off in the next few days. While we’re not planning to continue the collection, the knitting goes on, with members of the Clapham knitting group teaching the keen young novice knitters at Clapham School’s ‘Activity Club’. So, WELL DONE and thank you all again!

## The unknown Warrior

The tomb of the Unknown Soldier in Westminster Abbey is where we honour a grave to the Unknown British Warrior. Soon after the end of the First World War, it was decided to inter an unidentifiable British serviceman who would otherwise be buried on the battlefield. The unidentified serviceman was most likely, statistically, to have been a soldier, but could have been an airman or a sailor, so any grieving mother, wife or sweetheart, could imagine that their beloved might be the one buried among kings.

The black marble slab over the grave was quarried in Belgium, the inlaid brass inscription was made from spent cartridge cases collected from the trenches, the earth within the grave came from the French battlefields and the coffin was made of English oak given by George V from his Windsor estate; thus symbolically uniting the Western nations who fought that war from its beginnings. The site of the tomb is the only grave in Westminster Abbey never walked on.

### Family announcements

If you wish to place an announcement regarding births, marriages, deaths etc. please contact any of the committee or leave your copy at the Village Store.

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## Christmas Party Menu

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Home-made Soup of the Day

Melon Fan with Fruit Sorbet

Garlic Mushrooms in a white wine  
cream sauce

\* \* \*

Roast Turkey with chipolata sausage,  
seasoning and cranberry sauce

Roasted Lamb Shank with rosemary and  
mint gravy

all with fresh seasonal vegetables and  
the chef's potatoes of the day

\* \* \*

Christmas Pudding with Rum Sauce  
Apple, Cinnamon & Sultana Crumble  
Raspberry Pavlova

\* \* \*

Coffee and Chocolates

## BETHEL NEWS

As Christmas approaches it is easy to get caught up in the preparations that come with the season: parties, presents, school concerts and family gatherings. But if that is all Christmas means then we are missing the real meaning. Take time to sit back and remember the birth of a special baby in Bethlehem and what that occasion meant to Joseph, Mary and the shepherds then, and what it could mean to you today. That baby grew up, died on a cross and now lives! The indescribable gift of God's own Son.

We would love you to join us as we celebrate this special time, starting:

Thursday, 1st December – Christmas Tea and Carols,

2.30pm taken by the Cornall family.

Saturday, 17th December – at 7.30pm. Christmas Celebration followed by supper in the Village Hall, taken by Mr Peter and Helen Stobart.

Sunday 18th December – Carol Service at 6.30pm taken by Mr Brian Woodhouse.

Sunday 25th December – Christmas Day Services: 10.30am taken by Mr Peter Close, 6.30pm Mr Jonathan Townley.

**'Christmas starts with Christ!'**



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## KEASDEN MOOR POND

From Keasden cross roads there is an area of land bounded by the Slaidburn road and the Bentham road which is a Triple SSI (Site of Special Scientific Interest), this means that it has interesting flowers and also a variety of habitats of a high value to wildlife. Some thirty odd years ago there was a pond in this triangle of land which was large enough to skate on. The oblong stretch of water highly recognisable as a pond gradually became overtaken by a variegated Glyceria grass of garden origin which is incredibly invasive. From the road, water was replaced by a light green smudge.

On Saturday, 3 September heavy duty work began. All that could be seen in the slight hollow of moorland at 10am were eleven heads and above them on the moor a pickup truck and a man loading vegetation onto a pallet. As I got nearer there was no water to be seen but already, great tussocks of Glyceria were forming a mound on a pallet. John Osborne of English Nature explained to me that over the weekend as much Glyceria as possible would be removed and taken to 'Growing with Grace', who had agreed to compost it. As it is a Triple SSI great care had to be taken. As the weekend progressed there was no let-up in the energetic work. Bit by bit water was revealed and by late Sunday afternoon Keasden moor once more had a pond

The background to this activity was that English Nature had enlisted the help of the British Trust of Conservation Volunteers (BTCV). The latter is based in the stables of Elizabethan Kiplin Hall, near Catterick and it is through their very helpful secretary that I was sent some photos taken by the volunteers. It was by the newsletter of the Craven Conservation Group that I knew the date of the clearing.

It maybe asked why a small pond on the moors is important? It provides diverse habitats for species and gives variety to an area; amphibians are becoming scarce and certain birds are water dependent and use reeds as a shelter and a pond is a food provider for some of them. The other interesting question is how an alien vegetation occurs. There can be deliberate introduction in the belief this is giving variety, or dumping of unwanted plants. It is possible that the age old theory that birds feet could carry viable vegetation does happen or maybe bird droppings could carry seeds which germinate

*Maureen Ellis, Keasden*

## Attention all knitters

Sue at the Sewing Centre in Settle is trying to reach a total of £1,000 by Christmas, raising funds for the Oncology Department at Airedale Hospital. She is selling long, hand-knitted scarves. If you wish to help she will be pleased to provide the yarn.

## CLAPHAM COMMUNITY PLAYGROUP – 35 YEARS OLD

The Village Hall was packed to capacity on the evening of Wednesday, 16th November, as members of the community came together to celebrate the 35th anniversary of Clapham Community Playgroup. Parents of current playgroup children organised the event including wine and nibbles, a variety of stalls to browse, a playgroup display with photographs to view and reminisce and a fabulous raffle.

Mrs Farrer kindly gave a short presentation on how the playgroup started in 1970, describing the efforts to get some funding together and the weekends spent making wooden toys for the children in the wood yard. From the early days in Barbara Marshall's living room, playgroup has moved around the village including meeting in the Potting Shed and then the upstairs rooms of Dr and Mrs Farrer's home, to Ingleborough Hall, to the Village Hall and now currently also to the School Hall.

To run continuously for 35 years is a marvellous achievement for our small community and it could not have been achieved without the support of the many Playleaders, committee members and parent volunteers, who have taken their turns to plan fun activities, do duties and fund raise in order to keep the group thriving for the next generation coming along. Today, playgroup continues to provide a happy, friendly environment for our own local preschool children and it also attracts children from further a field by the quality of what we have to offer. The availability of government funding for the 3- and 4-year-olds has led to the development of the Early Years Group, running at the school, while the younger children, accompanied by their parents, are still catered for in the Village Hall. Both groups operate under the umbrella of Clapham Community Playgroup.

Without a crystal ball, we are unable to say what playgroup will look like in a further 35 years but sincerely hope that in 2040 it will still be a flourishing group in the centre of our community. On behalf of the Committee, our sincere thanks to everyone who contributed to the event and joined us on the evening – a total of £420.00 was raised for our funds. We very much appreciate your continued support, thank you. The picture shows some of the organisers at the end of a lovely evening.

From January 2006 Parent and Toddlers meet in the Village Hall:

- Tuesday and Thursday 09.15 to 11.15hrs

Early Years Group (2.5 years to 4 years) meet in the School Hall:

- Monday and Thursday 13.00 to 15.25hrs
- Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday 09.00 to 11.25hrs

New children are welcome to join us. Please contact Libby Morrison (51011), Sarah Symonds (51304) or Vicki Lewis (51766) for more information, or for older children, speak to our EYG Leader, Janet Monaghan, or EYG Assistant, Rachel Brownsord, who run the sessions in the School Hall.

*Libby Morrison  
(Chairperson, Clapham Community Playgroup)*

### News Update

In the New Year, Clapham Community Playgroup will be looking to appoint a new assistant to work alongside the Early Years Group Leader to help with the running of this group in the school hall. Watch out for the job advertisement. Informal enquiries can also be made to any of the above Committee members.

### Children in Need

On this the 18th year of Kingfield Heath and friends Children in Need charity walk, the theme was a 'high ridge' challenge. Twelve groups, 110 brave folk set off to conquer some of The Lakes highest ridges.

Each year the 'team' of walkers who give their time and effort to raise money for the annual Children in Need Appeal hope for good weather. 2004 was perfect, those memories of blue skies and clear crisp snowy conditions did not bless them this year. The wind blew in gale force blasts and the rain hit the small areas of exposed faces with bullet-like force and had a good try at blinding the good folk on the mountains. Ask any of the 110 who walked on Friday, 11th November and they will all have their amazing tales to tell. It was exciting, exhilarating, sometimes frightening, definitely 'challenging'. Boy did they earn their sponsorship this time. And how successful they all were.

Following so many demands for charitable giving this year, the Tsunami in Asia, the earthquake in Pakistan/Kashmir and a multitude of tragedies, it seemed likely that this year's total would not climb to the height of last year but this group of hardy and determined folk are indefatigable in their ambition to raise the odds for Children in Need. It seems to catch the spirit of most people to give. The total raised by the whole group of 110 walkers was £58,163. Just phenomenal. Thank you all.

*Kirsty Rothwell*

### WHIST DRIVES

Whist Drives will be held in the Village Hall, Clapham, commencing at 7.30pm on: 16 December and 13th, 20th and 27th January.

## CLAPHAM READING GROUP

If you enjoy reading a variety of fiction and non-fiction, why not join us?

We are a small group (usually 6–8 people) who meet every two months in each others homes for a cuppa and a chat about a book which we have all read. It's a good opportunity to learn about books recommended by others in the group, and also exchange information about films and exhibitions.

Although there has been general enthusiasm for some books, for example everyone enjoyed Kate Atkinson's *Behind the Scenes at the Museum* and *Small Island* by Andrea Levy, other books have provoked more varied reactions, e.g. *Eats, Shoots & Leaves* by Lynne Truss, *The No. 1 Ladies Detective Agency* by Alexander McCall Smith, and *Saturday* by Ian McEwan.

The book most recently reviewed by the group has been *Fever Pitch*, by Nick Hornby. This is Hornby's atypical memoir of his life as an obsessional Arsenal fan. Told not throughout chapters but within a series of football reports, it portrays a reflective and insightful account into the effect football has had on his life. Although not as well written or as witty as his other novels I did find the book enjoyable. However with no tension or suspense between reports it is not always the easiest book to continue to pick up and read. Perhaps for this reason, despite an interest in football amongst some members of the group, the book was not generally well received! However, for serious football fans who can empathise with Hornby's situation this is probably the book for you!

*Elizabeth Greenbank*

To find out more about us phone Sue 51684 or Jill 51030. Watch this space for regular reviews of our current title, or if this whets your appetite our next book is *Birdsong* by Sebastian Faulks. Our next meeting is on Monday 30th January, 8.00am. To find out more about us phone Sue 51684 or Jill 51030.

## History of Clapham

The following information was received from David and Barbara Clapham living in Cyprus asking if we could publish it in our newsletter.

"I am interested in sharing knowledge about the history of the village with anyone who is like-minded. The first recorded Clapham (my direct ancestor) according to St. James church records was William born in 1578, died 1618. My grandson, Daniel is the 14th generation on that line! Before William, there was John de Clapham mentioned on the Millennium plaque, and various others who have been professionally researched for us. I am writing the history of the family and I am particularly interested in village life before 1780 when the family moved to Slaidburn. Any information will be credited in the book and modestly paid for if appropriate

Many thanks

David & Barbara Clapham  
POB 53191  
Limassol 3301 CYPRUS  
Tel + 357 25 773807  
Email; [davidclapham@cytanet.com.cy](mailto:davidclapham@cytanet.com.cy)

## Welcome to Gabriel

Gabriel Cassian Hector Williams was born on 7th October, 2005. He arrived four weeks early and weighed 5lb 5oz. All is well, Joseph and Tallulah love having a little baby brother. Stephen and Josephine would like to thank everyone for their kind wishes, cards and gifts.



## INDIAN NIGHT



An Indian night held in Clapham Village Hall was a sell-out. A group of 56 people enjoyed the sights, sounds and tastes of India. The scene was set with a slide show presented by Peter Sharp of Malham, which conveyed the atmosphere of the sub-continent. Guests then tucked into Indian food, catering for all tastes. Volunteers decorated the hall and individuals entered into the spirit of things by dressing in authentic Indian costume. The best-dressed man was Ian Greenhalgh, the best-dressed woman was Moira Ings and the best-dressed child was Rosalind Walton. The evening ended with dancing to Bollywood and Bhangra. A total of £335 was raised for St James' Church funds.

## WILDLIFE IN CLAPHAM

Summer visitors were still being seen around the local area until the middle of October. The last House Martins were seen at Clapham on 30th September, though the Swallows stayed around a bit longer with the last being a small flock flying south over Clapham station on 14th October. Migrant birds moved through the local area from the end of September and throughout October, these included one Merlin near Cold Cotes at the end of September seen by Simon Gresswell.

On October 2nd a small flock of Linnets and Goldfinches with four Twite were on Newby moor; one Tree pipit on Newby moor; one Chiffchaff on Newby moor and two Chiffchaffs on the old railway line; and Skylarks flying south over Newby moor and Hardacre moss, also seen on the 22nd.

The first winter Thrushes to arrive were three Redwings near Nutta Farm on 9th October and the first Fieldfares also flew over Nutta farm on 22nd October. Also on the 22nd large flocks of Chaffinches were seen around the local area and with them were two small flocks of Bramblings and several flocks of Redpolls and Siskins. Another Brambling was seen at Crina bottom plantation on 6th November.

Two Yellow browed warblers were seen this autumn locally. They were part of a national large influx of Yellow browed warblers (over 1,000 seen across the UK). The first was seen at Meldingscale farm with a mixed Tit and Goldcrest flock on 22nd October and the second was at Ingleborough hall on the 29th.

Red admiral and Small Tortoiseshell butterflies were still flying around Clapham and Ingleborough hall at the end of October, but amazingly one Red admiral was seen in flight near Lawsings farm on 13th November. This is the latest I have ever seen a butterfly in flight.

One Water rail was first heard giving its squeaky pig call from a boggy area with long grass on Hardacre moss next to the Bentham road. It called constantly for a few minutes and I only saw it once as it moved through the grass, but most of the time it kept to deep cover. I can only think that it arrived in the local area with the strong westerly winds we had the day before, maybe flying from Leighton moss which has a large breeding population of Water rails. It was seen and heard calling on the 13th. One Snow bunting was seen on the summit of Ingleborough on 17th by Jess Hart. A flock of about one hundred Lapwings were in a field next to the A6 at Newby on 20th and with them were seventeen Golden plovers. Records by Tim Hutchinson, Smithy cottage

### Clapham Village Hall

The Hall is available for hire at £17 per session: morning, afternoon or evening. e.g. 8am to 12 noon, 12 noon to 6pm and 6pm to 11pm. We also hire out tables, chairs, crockery, table cloths, etc. To hire the Hall please phone the Booking Clerk: Rosie Harrison on 51492.

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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. An advert costs as little as £3 per issue.

For Advertising your products and services, please contact Ray Hull on 015242 51492

Articles, News and Ideas PLEASE! for the next issue by **25th January, 2006** to  
the Village Shop, Lesley Crutchley [lesley@gildersbank.co.uk](mailto:lesley@gildersbank.co.uk), Chrissie Bell [ChrisHarte@aol.com](mailto:ChrisHarte@aol.com),  
Sylvia Haxell, Ray Hull or David Sharrod.

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