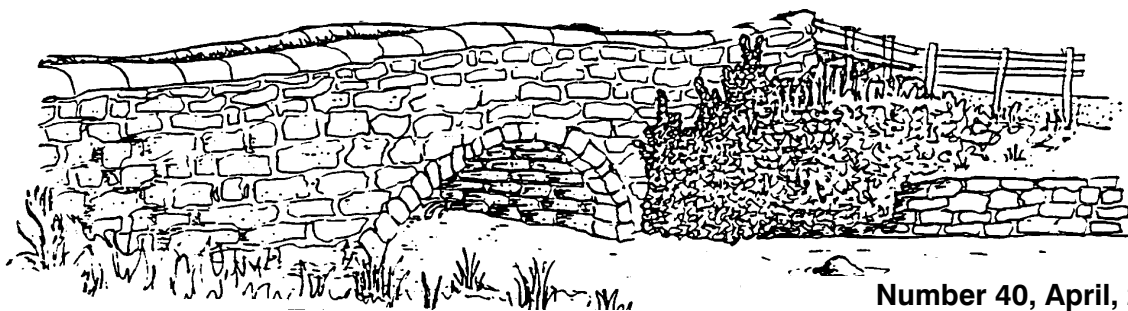


CLAPHAM & DISTRICT NEWSLETTER



Number 40, April, 2006

SUMMARY REPORT: MEETING OF CLAPHAM CUM NEWBY PARISH COUNCIL: 14 MARCH 2006

- Information about a safety-testing service for churchyard memorials has been received from Craven District Council, who have appointed contractors for the purpose. To avoid any possibility of personal liability being incurred by using local volunteers to carry out safety checks, which are now more or less mandatory, it was agreed to approach these contractors with a view to testing the memorials in Clapham churchyard.

Councillors accepted that a contract for testing, and if necessary laying-down at least some of the memorials in the churchyard, would involve substantial costs which would have to be found from the Parish Council's reserves. They also accepted that laying-down memorials was likely to arouse intense local controversy, especially if many were to be declared unsafe. However, in view of the risk of litigation, and to comply with the requirements of the Parish Council's insurance, Councillors felt that they had little choice but to proceed with safety-testing and to accept the implications, both environmental and financial, of so doing.

- Following strong representations from the Parish Council and from several local residents, the County Council has decided to retain the local bus service which runs to and from Ingleton and Settle via Newby and Clapham. The service had been under threat of withdrawal.

- The Post Office will not agree to restore full-time opening at their counter in Clapham Village Store until such time as turnover there reaches a level which would (on their assessment) justify remunerated full-time working for the Postmaster.

- Highway defects: The Parish clerk has been out twice recently with the NYCC Highways Inspector to identify some of the outstanding defects on local roads. Since then, potholes have been filled in as follows: (i) outside Bridge Cottage, Clapham (ii) in the centre of Newby village, (iii) on Henbusk Lane, Newby. Works identified for the Keasden Road

include the clearance of roadside ditches (already started) and repairs to the damaged road edges below the crossroads. Salt bins have been provided and filled, although two have yet to be put in place (on Black Hill, and below the track to Dovenanter).

NYCC also hope to rebuild the worst affected section of the Jack Beck road, and patch less serious defects.

- Following restoration of two former 'West Riding' signposts on the Keasden road, work is to be carried out on two others within the Parish. Replacement 'fingers' have been ordered for a damaged post on Newby Moor, and also for the post in the centre of Clapham village (which is also to have a new 'cap'). Once repaired, both signposts will be repainted on site.

- The County Council have now applied for a Traffic Regulation Order, supported by 'no overnight parking' signs, in an attempt to keep the more troublesome 'travellers' off the disused road north-west of Clapham, and off the wide roadside verges between the A65 and the village. The Parish Council has consulted the Police about this and has found local officers supportive and willing to enforce the Order if necessary. Local farmers have also been consulted.

- Roadside reflectors have now been installed on the road into Newby, where it joins the A65. Hopefully, this will help motorists at night when turning off the A65 into the village.

- United Utilities have been instructed to supply electricity to the new street lamp in Newby village.

- The agreed site for a new noticeboard in Newby has proved to be unsuitable because of underground electricity supply cables. A possible alternative site on the opposite side of the road will now be considered.

Consent for erecting a notice board on land at Newby has been given only on the understanding

that it shall have hinged clear-glazed doors, which will make it more expensive and create a number of other difficulties. Nevertheless, it was agreed to proceed with the project on condition that (i) the suggested alternative site for the notice board proves to be suitable; (ii) that the necessary consents can be obtained; and (iii) that a board with glazed or clear-plastic doors can be obtained at reasonable cost and without significant problems regarding insurance.

PLANNING:

Planning applications approved:

- Extension of time for the submission of reserved matters for outline planning permission re: proposed development of existing caravan site with 10 self-contained holiday cottages to let, together with manager's accommodation. Land adjacent to Flying Horseshoe Hotel, Clapham.

Planning applications refused:

- Proposed development of existing caravan site with seven self-contained holiday cottages to let, together with manager's accommodation: Land adjacent to Flying Horseshoe Hotel, Clapham.
- Conversion of public house/hotel to eight apartments: Flying Horseshoe Hotel, Clapham.

Planning applications awaiting decision:

- Demolition of existing buildings, and erection of 16 dwellings, craft workshops, children's nursery etc on the former H L Gorner garage site, Old Road, Clapham (see below).
- Erection of dwelling house on land next to Claeson, Cross Haw Lane, Clapham.
- Change of use of former National Park Visitor Centre to form shop, office and bunk-barn accommodation: The Old Manor House, Clapham.
- Change of use and conversion of existing office accommodation and commercial storage unit into three residential dwellings: Old Mason's Yard, Cross Haw Lane, Clapham (see below).

Proposal for three new dwellings in Old Mason's Yard, Clapham: The Parish Council has objected to this scheme mainly because: (i) it involves the loss of another employment site in the village; (ii) the total car parking space allocated for the proposed and existing dwellings within Old Mason's Yard is seriously inadequate; (iii) the scheme is likely to have an adverse effect on use of the Village Hall's car park.

However, in lodging its objections, the Parish Council has intimated that it could reluctantly accept the conversion of the existing offices (but not the warehouse) to form two dwellings, provided (i) that the applicants can demonstrate conclusively that no further business use for the offices can reasonably be expected in the future; (ii) that by demolition of the warehouse, adequate car parking space for all

seven houses in Old Mason's Yard could then be provided; and (iii) that subject to any necessary consents, the proposed development included provision for appropriate resurfacing of such parts of the Village Hall car park as would be required for vehicular access to Old Mason's Yard by the occupiers of all seven dwellings.

Former H L Gorner Garage site: The Parish Council has heard that an amended planning application for this site is likely to be submitted in the very near future. As far as can be ascertained, this will provide for nineteen dwellings on the site, to be laid out in a less suburban style than shown on the previous plans; and because the houses will be smaller, the total built-up area will be somewhat reduced. This will allow for more landscaping, the effect of which may also be enhanced by proposals to incorporate into the scheme (as a planted landscaped feature) the open space immediately to the east of the site.

The proposed children's nursery is expected to be retained in the new proposals, and there will also be floor-space for workshops or some other suitable employment use.

The next Parish Council meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 23rd in Clapham Village Hall, immediately following the Annual Parish Meeting, which will start at 7.00pm. The National Park Authority's Planning Officer for the Clapham area, has agreed to attend the Annual Parish Meeting to talk about the planning process and to answer questions from local residents.

Sunday Lunch

On Sunday, 26th March there was a lunch at the Village Hall. £282.60 was raised, the money has been divided equally between the church and the visiting Belarussian children. Rosie would like to thank all who supported the event and a big thank you to all who helped on the day.

A crafters paradise at the **Sewing Centre, Settle**

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FAMILY AND NEIGHBOURHOOD FUN NIGHT

A fun filled evening of games and activities is planned for Saturday, April 22nd, 2006 at 7:30pm. At the Village Hall. The social evening will feature a variety of games which we used to play before the age of television. Old favourites such as tiddley winks, draughts, dominoes, snakes and ladders, carpet bowls, and many others. There will be a sausage and mash supper provided during the interval, and small prizes at the end of the evening for some contestants. Bring your friends, neighbours and family along for a good night out! The games will be organized into a 'round robin' style of tournament, with teams rotating at timed intervals.

Tickets for this entertaining night out will be £5.00 per adult, £2.50 per child, or £12.50 for a whole family ticket. Further details may be obtained from Walter Hughes (51583) or Jean Mallaband (51734).

P.S. If you have any table games which you think might be suitable, we would be pleased to borrow and include them. Any of the above mentioned games are also required. These of course will be returned to

owners on completion of the event. Please let us know what you have to loan.

All proceeds will go to the St. James Church Fund

Anthony McMahon

May I take this opportunity to thank this wonderful village for all the support you have given to me and my family during our sad time.

I would like to thank all the ladies who helped to put on the funeral tea and the Bethel ladies for serving us. Ruth for the lovely flowers and Ian Greenhalgh for his tremendous support and friendship.

Also for the many, many cards from everyone, and the donations in lieu of flowers which amounted to £900 for the Air Ambulance.

Nothing can replace my life with Tony, but with your help and the help of my family you have helped to pull me through.

Thank you and God bless

Glenys

CLAPHAM HISTORY PROJECT, ORAL HISTORY

Would you like your knowledge and memories of the Clapham area recorded for posterity?

As part of the Clapham history currently under research it is hoped to include invaluable information obtained from taped interviews with older members of the Clapham community.

We have on loan a digital voice recorder, which can store these on the computerised local history archive. This archive is publicly accessible, which means that future generations will be able to utilise it for research in years to come. Copies can be made on a CD so you will have your own recording to keep.

It is recognised that in the Dalesman era local

people were often quoted without being named in its pages. Any part of your interview utilised in the published Clapham History will be properly attributed to you.

If you would like to take part in this project but would rather not talk to a stranger, you would be welcome to borrow the recorder and talk with a family member instead.

If you would be happy to be interviewed or would prefer to borrow the recorder to do your own, please 'phone me on 51343.

Sue Cowgill

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Timber r r !

Sadly, earlier this month the village lost one of the older residents in the form of the large beech tree in the garden of No. 5 Gildersbank. First spotted after the loss of one of the boughs in the storm of January 2005, this fine specimen was diagnosed with phytophthora, a parasitic fungi that only shows itself externally when the tree is already riddled with infection. Due to the closeness of the tree to the houses on Gildersbank and the road up to the church, the Estate took the decision that for reasons of safety the tree had to be taken down. However, managing to drop a tree of this size in such a confined space was by no means straightforward and the skill of the tree surgeon Mr. Charlesworth of Cowan Bridge, was much admired.



CHURCH NEWS

The Vicar writes . . .

Touch

'Jesus said to Thomas, "Put out your hand, and place it in my side"'

How often do you go into a shop, especially an expensive one selling lots of glassware, and see the sign 'Please do not touch'? And yet how often do our children seem determined to embarrass us in such shops by touching such expensive items? Touching is one of our natural senses. If you've ever watched a baby, it'll constantly touch things because touch is one way a baby learns. Touch is also an important way of showing love to another person and the sense of pleasure from simply holding hands with your boyfriend or girlfriend can make you feel great.

In the Bible, St. John says, 'A Christian is not only someone who has heard all about Jesus or even seen him, but someone who has handled or touched him. He or she knows that Jesus is alive.' Thomas the disciple, the doubter, was a man who couldn't really believe that Jesus had risen from the dead. When Jesus first appeared to his disciples after his resurrection in the upper room in Jerusalem, Thomas wasn't there. When Thomas learnt from the others that Jesus had risen from the dead he said, 'No way, dead men do not come back to life.' And he actually said, 'Unless I touch Jesus, I'll never believe.' A few days later Jesus came back to that room, Thomas was present, and Jesus said to Thomas, 'Come here, see my hands, touch my side.' And we read that Thomas responded, 'My lord and my God'. Faith is as real as touch.

Your friend and Vicar Ian

Sunday, 2nd April – Many thanks to all who supported the Special Service and lunch when we thanked John and Joan Farrer for all their hard work over the past 52 years. We had an excellent day and look forward with renewed hope for the future.

NOTICES

Holy Week and Easter Services:

9th April Palm Sunday	Austwick	09.30am
	Clapham	11.00am
	Keasden	02.00pm
	Austwick	06.30pm

10th–12th April Mon–Wed	Austwick	10.30am
	Clapham	07.30pm

13th April Maundy Thursday		
United Service	Clapham	07.30pm

14th April Good Friday	Austwick	09.30am
	Eldroth	09.30am
	Clapham	11.00am
	Keasden	11.00am

16th April Easter Day	Austwick	09.30am
	Clapham	11.00am
	Eldroth	02.00pm
	Keasden	06.45pm

Wednesday, 3rd May

Deanery Service and Visitation at St. Mary's Ingleton.
A very special service – please support this important service.

Sunday, 14th May 6.30 pm

Lambing Service at Wenning Bank – Archdeacon Paul Slater visiting preacher.

Sunday, 21st May 11.00 am

Rogation Sunday and Pet Service. A special service for all the family – to thank God for his goodness and especially for all pets. Please bring your pet to church.

Ladies Study Group – meets every Monday afternoon – all are welcome. Contact Melanie Greenhalgh for information (51313).

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MUSINGS OF A NEWCOMER

Snow falls steadily throughout the afternoon. A wood fire flares and spits its heat into the room. And I muse on the reasons why we came to live in Clapham two and a half years ago.

It certainly wasn't the weather. But it was that Clapham was surrounded by hills, had a local pub, post office and village store. It was somewhere we could live and walk with our dogs, without having to drive a car.

The pub was great. The fells, always alluring, were as good as expected. Most memorable was the warm welcome we received from local village people compared with the frosty reception within the village store. Two and half years later I stand musing in the village store as I wait my turn in the post office queue. Something was different. Lots of people chatting. Smiles, and a warm welcome from behind the counter. A chance to hear the latest news and pass on bit of my own. The experience made me realise how important this place is to the village.

In view of the current Post Office review of rural post offices we have decided to use the post office for as many transactions as possible and to shop more at the store. Best, we think, to support the village post office now than to fight a rearguard battle if closure is threatened.

The store and the post office are co-dependent. You can't have one without the other

Eddie Leggett

BETHEL NEWS

March 3rd, it came, at last. For some, school finished earlier, the sledges were out, and we had the rare chance to enjoy some snow!! Some of us remember days of snow filled fields, of roads with snow drifts almost the height of the car and that wonderful time of not being able to get to school! Nowadays we have to take the chance to enjoy it while it lasts.

How often in life do we miss or not take advantage of opportunities?

In Luke's gospel we read of Jesus passing through Jericho where a man called Zacchaeus lived. Zacchaeus was small of stature, but he desperately wanted to see Jesus, so he took the opportunity and climbed up a tree. Consequently he not only saw Jesus but he had the privilege of having tea with Him. Zacchaeus's life was changed for ever.

Perhaps you are facing on opportunity and you feel uncertain, sometimes we just need to step out and "seize the moment". As Christians we need to rely more on God's strength and go out in faith. Recently we heard . . . "with each opportunity let's not find a dilemma . . . but with each dilemma let's find an opportunity".

Services 11.00a.m. and 6.30p.m.

Sunday School 10.15a.m.

Contact nos. Jonathan 51256 and John 51363
Everyone welcome.

POEMS AND PROSE

A full house of 70 at the Village Hall recently enjoyed an evening of culture and home cooked food.

Poems and prose were also on the menu, over 40 pieces, humorous and serious, some of which were penned by local people, were read by 24 of those attending.

During the interval, delicious meat (and vegetarian) pies made by volunteers were heartily

consumed. Whilst enjoying the supper break everyone had the opportunity to do a bit of composing with the task of completing a Limerick. The efforts were both clever and amusing, professional in fact.

The evening was a resounding success and the sum of almost £300 was raised for St. James' Church.

Jean Mallaband and Walter Hughes thanked everyone for supporting the event.

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This photograph was taken in 1966 when a lorry belonging to Alan Blakey (Haulage) failed to negotiate the bend in front of the New Inn and plunged into the beck.

This brought to mind an earlier accident in the early 1940s when a lorry belonging to either Holdsworth & Hanson or Harrison & Page, lorries from both haulage firms passed through the village on a daily basis.

The lorries carried a variety of goods, tinned meats, Spam etc, gentlemens hair dressings, ladies slippers etc. The lorries were pulled out of the beck and onto the road by the heavy recovery vehicles of J.B. Hudson of Sandside and towed away.

Prior to the accidents, the land from the roadside

had iron railings down to the beck and was very well maintained as a rock garden, with a pathway through the garden down to a seat. There was a hardstanding where the guests from the New Inn fished for trout, there was also a diving board for those wishing to swim.

Where the school playground now stands, there was a high wall by the roadside, and the New Inn had a long greenhouse up against the wall and a vegetable garden which was cared for and operated by a nurseryman from Bentham a Mr. Jim Armstrong. This garden provided plants for the beckside garden.

The beckside garden itself was severely damaged as a result of the accidents and never returned to its former glory.



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FRIENDS OF THE EARTH

The scientists tell us that we have to act quickly and radically to save the planet from total destruction in the foreseeable future by the wasteful habits of our consumer society.

Friends of the Earth have published this list of 'Top Tips' to help us do just that:

1. Use cotton cloths for the kitchen clean-up instead of disposable kitchen roll.
2. Shop carefully and don't buy more food than you can eat. Compost garden and kitchen waste.
3. Reduce junk mail by signing up with:
Mail Preference Service, DMA House, 70 Margaret Street, London W1W 8SS, Tel. 020 7291 3310 or www.mpsonline.org.uk.
4. Recycle old curtains or exchange them at www.thecurtainexchange.net
5. Re-use plastic carrier bags – or use a cotton one instead.
6. Buy refills for sturdy packs of washing powders, liquids, salt, etc.
7. Buy loose fruit from local shop or market rather than highly packaged supermarkets.
8. Use a milk delivery service, with glass bottles.
9. Use both sides of paper when you print.
10. Use software to reduce paper usage – visit www.software-partners.co.uk for details of Fineprint, which could save you 25% to 50% of your paper and toner usage.
11. Hire videos and DVDs and borrow books from a library rather than buying them.
12. Use reusable bottles for picnic drinks and reusable airtight containers for food instead of disposable wrappers.
13. Avoid disposable batteries – use re-chargeable ones with solar-powered re-chargers.
14. Oxfam, Action Aid or Rainforest Concern will recycle old mobile phones and resell them.
15. Avoid patio heaters and electric lights in the garden – use citronella beeswax or vegetable based candles to keep insects away.
16. Buy reconditioned electrical appliances from organisations such as CREATE www.create.org.uk.

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ECO-NAPPIES IN CLAPHAM

We are all aware that landfill sites across the country are under great stress as more and more rubbish is produced at a much greater rate than the waste can break down. Disposable nappies are responsible for 4% of current landfill waste and experts have predicted that it may take hundreds of years for nappies to fully degrade.

Many parents are now successfully turning back to the washable nappy, and there is no doubt that as well as saving on waste, this works out considerably cheaper than the disposable. However there are others, who whilst being extremely concerned about the environmental impact of disposables, simply cannot face the idea of more washing! If this applies to you, read on!

Biodegradable disposable nappies are now readily available to buy over the internet or through selected retailers. The technology has moved on so much that these eco-friendly nappies are now just as absorbent as a 'pampers' or 'huggies' alternative. They are, predictably, slightly more expensive - but not by as much as you might think, particularly if you buy in bulk. The Moltex (biodegradable) nappy is made with unbleached materials (better for the environment and your baby's skin) and has a plant based core, which can easily break down. The waterproof liner is the non-biodegradable part of the nappy and needs to be pierced before being disposed of so the rest of the nappy can rot around it.

Clapham Community Playgroup are joining with Growing with Grace to provide a nappy ordering service for the village and wider community. Growing with Grace will order the nappies through the Yorkshire co-operative SUMA and sell them on to us at cost price, charging only a small handling fee. This will enable us to offer the cheapest possible price for biodegradable nappies. Are you interested in this scheme?

The cost of Moltex nappies when ordered in bulk and a price comparison for 'pampers' from the local chemist are as follows:

MOLTEX

MINI 52 NAPPIES £8.15 (16p per nappy) Minimum order 4 bags

MIDI 48 NAPPIES £8.45 (18p) Minimum order 3 bags

MAXI 44 NAPPIES £8.62 (20p) Minimum order 3 bags

JUNIOR 38 NAPPIES £8.77 (23p) Minimum order 3 bags

PAMPERS (Moss Chemist, March 2006)

MINI 38 NAPPIES £5.95 (16p)

MIDI 32 NAPPIES £4.99 (16p)

MAXI 28 NAPPIES £4.99 (18p)

JUNIOR 24 NAPPIES £4.99 (21p)

In addition, Growing with Grace will charge a £7.50 handling charge per group order. This means that if three parents are ordering together, each will pay an extra £2.50. If six parents are ordering, the additional cost will only be £1.25 (and so on).

If you are interested in ordering eco-nappies, or have any questions about the scheme, please speak to Jo Williams (51186). I will try and arrange an order once a month and nappies can be collected at the school or village hall.

Thank you

CLAPHAM by CANDLELIGHT

In the evening of SATURDAY, 26th AUGUST a local event is being planned under the auspices of Clapham Development Association involving (so far) the following elements:

- Decorating the becksides through the village from the waterfall to the A65 tunnel with candlelit lanterns
- A barbecue in the grounds of Ingleborough Hall with music
- A lantern procession round the village with music
- A ceilidh in the Ingleborough Hall grounds

The event is intended to be for the local community i.e. those living within the Keasden, Clapham and Newby area and aims to utilise and celebrate our own skills and resources. This means we'll only be looking outside the parish if we cannot access what's needed within it.

The hope is that individuals, households and village organisations will take on a section of the becksides to decorate – please contact Jean Mallaband on 51734 if you or your group would like to 'claim' an area.

Lantern making workshops both at the School and for the rest of us will be organised later in the year, if

you want to learn how or be reminded how to make the withy and tissue paper lanterns used at the Myths and Legends festival in 2004. If you could save jamjars and screw-in bottle tops they would come in handy to! Collection will be arranged nearer the time, but if you're short of storage space please phone Sue on 51343.

THE NEXT PLANNING MEETING IS ON
TUESDAY, 18th APRIL AT 7pm
IN THE VILLAGE HALL MEETING ROOM.

If you cannot attend but would like to get involved in any part of the event or have ideas to enhance it, please contact Sue on 51343. It is intended that after 18th April there'll be separate subgroups taking on the organisation of different aspects of the event ...
... So the more ideas, offers and bodies the better!

The **DALES DOODLERS** join the
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WORCNET MEMBER

TRAMPS FORTHCOMING FILM SHOWS

*'Wallace and Gromit: The Curse of
the Were Rabbit'*

Friday, 7th April – 6.30 for 7.0 pm.
Austwick Parish Hall

Saturday, 8th April – 7.00 for 7.30 pm
Victoria Institute, Low Bentham

'The Titchfield Thunderbolt'
Saturday, 22nd April – 7.00 for 7.30 pm
Victoria Centre, Settle

'Pride and Prejudice' (2005)
Friday, 5th May – 7.00 for 7.30 pm
Langeliffe Institute

Saturday, 6th May – 7.00 for 7.30 pm
Clapham Village Hall



The winner of the February Art Prize was Stephanie Houghton, a pupil at Sedburgh Junior School. Congratulations Stephanie

Art Competition

A special competition for children up to the age of ten

Simply colour or paint this picture and send it to Lesley Crutchley, Gildersbank, Clapham . Competition closes 28th April. Super prize for the winning entry. Good luck!

Name:

Age:

Tel:

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News from Keasden

Help required!

If anyone has any information about Keasden School then Laurie Penrice would like to hear from you. He is hoping to write about the history of the school and would value your stories and photographs.

Laurie has been the Keasden correspondent for the past three issues of this newsletter. He is always on the lookout for news and events to report from the Keasden area.

Security

It seems that several people have experienced burglaries or attempted break-ins on their property. Advice about security can be obtained from local neighbourhood watch co-ordinators but a few simple precautions can save a lot of anguish.

- Keep doors locked even when you are inside.
- Take keys out of doors and keep them in a safe place, out of sight.
- Deadlock Yale locks.
- Close all windows when you leave the house.
- Don't be paranoid, just be careful!

The funeral of Gilbert Proctor took place early in March, the service was held in Keasden Church.

The Village Hall

The rates for hiring the Village Hall are:

£17 per session for the whole Village Hall

£10 per session for just the Supper Room

All the equipment, tables, chairs etc. in the hall are available for hire for your own private event.

If at anyone has left any containers etc, at previous functions and would like them returned please contact:

Rosie 51492 of Sheila 51566

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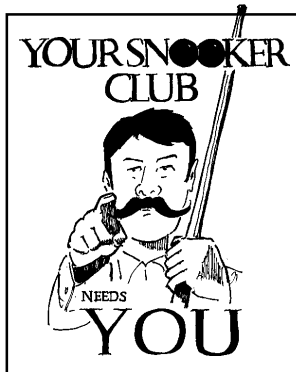
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YOUR SNOOKER CLUB NEEDS YOU!

The 'Clapham Reading Rooms' go back over 100 years in the village, and as many will no doubt be aware the 'Old Manor House' has recently been sold by the Yorkshire Dales National Park. The Old Manor House and Reading Rooms were originally owned by the Ingleborough Estate and were sold in the mid 60's to the then West Riding County Council as an information Centre. The building was then passed to the Yorkshire Dales National Park when



it was formed. The ground floor originally housed the 'Reading Rooms' and the Clapham Snooker Club. In the later years with the advent of better communications and information in the home, the necessity for the Reading Rooms dwindled but the Snooker Club has carried on.

The new owners of the building have paid the fair market price, especially considering the very poor state of the building and its listing status. They have discussed with the Snooker Club the future funding of their section which represents 25% of the building. There is no question of the club being evicted, but the rent which had been nominal for over 40 years would have to rise to a more realistic level.

Here is 'our' dilemma; in a market led economy no one can expect a small company to subsidise a village snooker club, but as a Village, the Club represented an amenity going back over a hundred years, "ARE WE PREPARED TO LOSE IT?" The answer is in your hands, i.e. the community. We have done some research and besides the actual Clapham Snooker Team of six there are another 10 or so people who regularly use the facilities. To keep the club viable we need nearer 80-100 people to commit to the idea, and be prepared to join the Reading Room's Committee, (yes they are still called that) to keep the club going. The cost is estimated to be about £25. per year per family unit. The new owners are prepared to negotiate the costs and even run the facility if there can be an established need. The members and families will then be able to use this facility on a pre booked system.

The existing members of the Clapham Snooker Club approached the Development Association for help at the

last meeting and we offered to coordinate an awareness campaign to inform as many of our friends, village residents and sympathisers of the situation.

"What Next" I hear you cry, "What Can I do?" If you would like to join the club as a member of the 'Clapham Reading Room Committee please contact David Kingsley at Arbutus House, Riverside, Clapham, and I will include your name on our fighting list of names to preserve this facility. If you consider that the suggested figure is a little too high but you would still like to support the project please contact us as it is important to measure the interest in this issue. Thank you all in anticipation David.

Clapham Reading Group

For the January meeting we read *Birdsong* by Sebastian Faulks. It was published in 1994 and is mainly about the First World War as seen through the eyes of Lieutenant Stephen Wraysford, about his relationship with a French woman and the efforts of their granddaughter fifty years later to find out about them. The descriptions of the horrors of life in the trenches are specific but restrained and are the more powerful for that. The fears and suffering of the men and officers are contrasted with the incomprehension back home about the true state of affairs, and even the boredom of the British public with news of the progress of the conflict.

The book brings to life the full cruelty of war, the unnecessary deaths and the ruination of so many maimed young lives. *Birdsong* is deeply moving and beautifully written but not an easy read. It questions leaders' motives and criticises decisions which bring devastating consequences to thousands of men. But it is a life-affirming book, which shows that the triumph and heroism of the human spirit can manifest itself in even the most desperate of circumstances.

For the March meeting we are reading a much lighter book, *Toast*, by Nigel Slater. Nigel is the food writer for the Observer and this book is the autobiography of his childhood and early adulthood.

The group meets every two months in members' homes. If you are interested in joining please ring Sue on 51684 or Jill on 51080.

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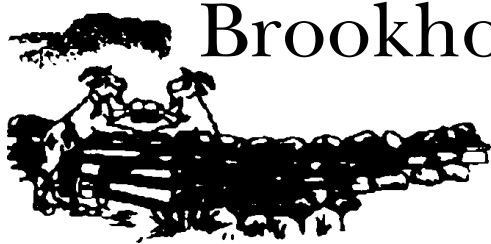
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St. George's Medieval Banquet

on Friday, 28th April, 2006

Four courses only £16.95

Devils on Horseback *on a bed of saffron rice*

Dragon Eggs – *spicy baked egg in a nest of salad leaves*

Home-made Pea and Ham Soup

Peppered Mackerel – *with a lime and vodka caulis*

* * *

Wild Strawberry Sorbet

* * *

Chicken Elizabethan – *diced chicken breast in a mustard, pepper and cream sauce*

Game Pie

Lamb Henry

Poacher's Salmon – *with a wild mushroom cream sauce*

Somerset Pork – *cooked in cider and apples with a garlic cream sauce*

all served with fresh vegetables and the chef's potatoes

* * *

Selection of Desserts

Tea or Coffee



Fancy hat to be worn
ie crown, jesters, etc.

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Mediterranean Evening

on Friday, 26th May, 2006

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* * *

Prawn Kebabs

Tomato and Green Pepper Andalucian Soup

Salad Nicoise – *tuna and green bean salad*

Flat Mushrooms *with tomato, onion, garlic and mozzarella cheese*

Chicken Wings in Piri-piri Sauce

* * *

Weiner Schnitzel – *bread crumbed fillet of veal*

Chicken Pizziola – *an Italian chicken casserole*

Fruit de Mer – *medley of fish in a cream sauce*

Trio of Sausage *on a bed of Cannellani Beans*

Moussaka – *minced lamb in a tomato sauce, layered with aubergines and a cream sauce*

all served with croquet potatoes, game chips and roasted vegetables

* * *

Selection of Desserts

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WILDLIFE IN CLAPHAM

Snow drops are fading, Daffodils are just about to flower and songbirds are singing, but this year we have had the coldest March for twenty years. Despite the cold weather Lapwings started migrating through the local area on the 2nd January and by the 19th March there were one hundred and seventeen around the local area. One Oystercatcher flew over Crina Bottom farm and two Oystercatchers were at Meldingscale farm on the 11th March, they increased to five birds by the 19th March. One Redshank was at Crook Beck and one Redshank was seen at Meldingscale farm on the 11th March.

The first Curlew was heard calling near Ingleborough Hall by Jess Hart on the 9th March. On the 11th March there were seven Curlews seen around the local area, these had increased to twenty-two by the 17th March.

One Skylark was singing on Hardacre Moss on the 11th and 19th March, and another was seen on Newby Moor on the 18th, and a flock of 11 Skylarks flew over Meldingscale Farm on the 19th March.

A pair of Ravens, one Buzzard and one Snow bunting was seen on the summit of Ingleborough by Jess Hart on the 29th Jan. A flock of twenty Pink footed geese flew over Lawsings Farm towards Lawkland Moss on the 1st February. Two Jays were seen at the Flying Horseshoe on the 11th February and the wintering Jay that has been around Clapham was seen at Ingleborough Hall on the 19th March.

At least seven Song thrushes were singing around the local area by the 24th February. Two male Reed

Buntings were seen in a garden on the 6th 7th and 8th March at Brooklands, Newby by John Richards and his wife. One Long eared owl was found in bushes on Newby Moor on the 18th March. It is the third time I have found a Long Eared Owl in the same group of bushes on Newby Moor.

One Green Woodpecker called from the Lawsings Farm area on the 19th March and the first Woodcock of the year was seen roding over Ingleborough Hall on the 19th March.

On the odd mild days we have found six species of moths, they are Early moth, Dotted border, Chestnut, March moth, Pale pinion and Oak beauty.

The first swallow of the year was spotted by Colin Price towards the end of March.

Tim Hutchinson, Smithy Cottage

Wenningdale Home Repairs

Here are some of the many home repair, maintenance and improvement jobs we have completed:

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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 May, 2006** to the Village Shop, Lesley Crutchley lesley@gildersbank.co.uk, Chrissie Bell 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.