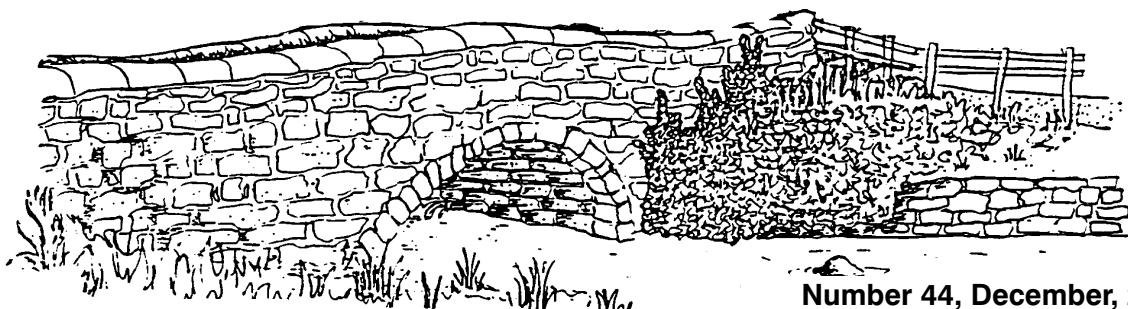


CLAPHAM & DISTRICT NEWSLETTER



Number 44, December, 2006

CLAPHAM cum NEWBY PARISH COUNCIL NEWS – 14th November, 2006

The meeting was interested to receive an address by local police officers, Adrian Hayes and Monika Nagy. They are mainly concerned with community and emergency issues. A police surgery is to be introduced in 2007 and this will be advertised in the village news.

Regarding a parish notice board for Newby, no acceptable site has been identified hence Newby residents have been asked to get together and forward their suggestions to the Council.

Road repairs: The Mewith road tar spraying is scheduled for 2007. Highways: salt bins are now in place at Keasden; winter gritting has been approved on the road from Clapham to the railway station and the Council has approved the design of new signs aimed at travellers, precise locations on A65 to be decided.

Churchyard: Repairs undertaken and an annual maintenance programme agreed.

Parish Council Clerk: The Clerk, Paul Pearce has now retired and has been replaced by Peter Leng with effect from November 1st, 2006. The Chairman, Cllr Plumridge thanked Mr Pearce for his work on behalf of the Council over a number of years during the two periods of his employment.

Precept for 2007/2008 – it was decided to increase this to £3900 in an effort to replenish reserves.

Planning applications:

- Stable block at Turnerford Farm, Keasden, the Council did not recommend approval of the application in its present form owing to the lack of covered storage for manure.
- Regarding the application for eight holiday cottages and manager's accommodation at the Flying Horse Shoe caravan park, the Council

recommended approval of the cottages and manager's house but not the retail outlet as it was felt this would detract from the village shop and post office.

- Erection of domestic wind turbine at Robinson Tent, the Council recommended approval.
- It was noted that the outline planning application for the redevelopment of H L Gorner/Dalesview, Clapham had been withdrawn.
- Pennine Bridleway, Long Lane, Clapham – YDNPA had advised that it would be resurfaced and improved.

Item for next meeting – address on Biodiesel by Mr Eddie Leggett, Acting Chairman, Clapham Community Co-operative.

Dates of next meetings: Tuesdays, 16 January and 20 March, 2007 both at 7.30pm in Clapham Village Hall.

Coffee Morning

A Christmas Coffee Morning was held at Wyvern, Newby on Saturday, 25th November. A wonderful total of £389 was raised.



Benefitting from the proceeds are:

- £200 – St. James' Church
- £50 – Cancer Research
- £69 – Knit & Knatter Group – towards their next project
- £70 – Chernobyl children

We would like to thank everyone who supported the event and especially those who helped in various ways.



Christmas Greetings



The following people send Christmas Greetings to their friends in Clapham & District.
From their donations they have contributed over £100 to the funds of the Newsletter.

Ann & Gus
Eggshell Lane

Margaret & Tom
The Green

Ian & the Girls
Jacques Farm

Rosie & Ray
Park View

Gill & Eddie
Long Barn

David & Jackie
Arbutus House

Martin & Christine
Bedale

John & Ann
Beckfield House

Peter & Elzbeth
Riverside

Richard & Justina
Fall View

Eric & Liz
Clareson

Annie
Hall Garth Cottage

Barbara & Stuart
Old Manor House
The Green

Isabel & John
The Green

Joan & John
Hall Garth

Pam & Angie
Hotpot Supper
Company

Chris & Chrissie
Gildersbank

Lesley & David
Gildersbank

Sandra & Earl
Tamara

Sheila & Stuart
Flying Horseshoes
Cottages

Martin & Renee
The New Inn

Pam & Graham
Church View

Don, Gillian & Hugh
The Green

Ron & Denise
Station House

Sam, Sue, Tom & Barney
Low Lea

Margaret & Dennis
Station Road

Colin & Linda
Lindens

Glenys & Mavis
Gilgen

Pat & John
Tinkler's Cottage

Pat & Ian
Addingham

Anne & David
Eggshell Lane

Jane, Richard, Rachel & Rory
Gildersbank

Sue, Simon, Megan & Nathan
Rose Dean



Next year we will be announcing this feature in the October issue – sorry if we failed to notify everyone this year



Planning a Special Celebration?

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- * Christening *
- * Wedding Anniversary, etc. *

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The Vicar writes . . .

Nothing can separate us from the love of God

Romans 8 v 39

Advent Sunday and only 23 days till Christmas. So here it is: Advent.

There's an old Greek proverb that says 'Well begun is half done'. The Church's calendar begins on the first Sunday of Advent, which means we are starting a whole new Church year; and we are also starting to get ready for the feast of Christmas. A good beginning to both of these could go a long way towards a good Christmas and a good year. Christmas seems a bit distant right now, but within a week or so it will seem just around the corner. And things will become busy, even hectic.

Advent is meant to help us keep our perspective. The point is to focus on what is Important so that we can enjoy the feast of Christmas even more. Advent is not meant to take the fun out of this season. It is a wonderful time of year, one that is dear to us, rich in memories and customs, with sights, sounds, smells all around that gladden one's spirit.

May we all be faithful in worship as we prepare ourselves spiritually for the coming of our Lord.

With every blessing for Christmas and the New Year.

Ian Greenhalgh

CHURCH NEWS

Dates for Christmas

Sunday, December 10th at 7.00pm

A joint service with Newby Methodists and everyone in Clapham and Newby. Christmas cards and readings followed by coffee and mince pies.

Saturday, December 16th

Family Walk to Ingleborough Cave to sing carols and return to church for hot chocolate. Meet 11.45am at Church gates.

Sunday, December 17th

11.00am Christingle Service to support the Childrens' Society.

Village Carol Singing at 6.30pm

Wednesday, December 20th – Clapham.

Thursday, 21st – Newby.

Thank you for your support.

Christmas Eve December 24th

United Service (H.C.) 10.30am

Crib Service 5.00pm

Midnight Mass 11.30pm

No service on Christmas Day

We welcome the New Year with an **Epiphany Party on Friday, January 5th at 7.30pm** in the Village Hall – an evening for everyone to enjoy – music and games, fun and food. Do come.

Clapham Whist Group

We meet on Friday nights in the village, raising money for various charities. We donated £100 each to Bentham Community Transport and the Sue Martin Appeal at Settle. Future dates are:

January 12th, 19th and 26th

February 9th, 16th and 23rd

March 9th, 16th and 23rd, all at 7.30 pm.

All are welcome.

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VILLAGE PEOPLE . . . The Kingsleys and the Chained Bull

As I sat in David and Jackie's kitchen, sampling their home grown tomatoes, sipping their coffee and chatting about the idea for this article, I had not made up my mind which one of them I wanted to interview. It soon became clear that it would have to be about both of them because their lives have been so closely intertwined. They were born in the same month in 1949. Their parents were all immigrants who had fled the horrors of Nazi Germany and they moved in the same Leeds social circles, so David and Jackie knew each other as small children.

David was brought up in Chapeltown, a cosmopolitan area of the city where, according to his mum, he 'mixed with the lowest common denominator' and was always in trouble. On one occasion he was punished by a teacher named Harry Patterson for throwing his satchel into a tree to dislodge pears. Had Mr Patterson not been inspired by meeting ruffians like David he might never have gone on to find fame as the thriller writer, Jack Higgins. David was better at talking than writing but he enjoyed school and then went to do Business Studies at Leeds College of Commerce. Afterwards he worked for 30 years at his father's firm which made speciality paint. Initially he was a salesman but later he took over the business.

Jackie spent her early life in Roundhay and was

obviously more conscientious in her approach to school, enjoying success at games and in the classroom. Why is it that girls are almost always more sensible? Please don't write in to answer or there will not be room for anything else in the next newsletter! After studying Hotel and Catering Management at what is now Leeds Metropolitan University, Jackie's first job as a 19 year old involved responsibility for producing 800 dinners each day as a school meals supervisor. Even Gordon Ramsey might have been driven to swearing by such a daunting challenge. It was at this time that a fateful romantic encounter took place in The Chained Bull. The young lovers who chatted each other up over the Tetley's that night later married, had two daughters and lived happily ever after.

When they were first married they had a dream that one day they would run their own B&B business and they saved up towards that goal. They came to Clapham one damp, dreary, December day in 1997 and were seduced by the roaring fire in the lounge at Arbutus House so David sold his business in Leeds and a new life began. The daily routine begins at 6.45 and it used to finish late in the evening but these days they have cut down on evening meals so life is a little less exhausting. David, famed for his porridge, is in charge of breakfast whilst Jackie waits on, but in the evening the roles are reversed. Jackie looks after the bedrooms and David does the DIY. They relish the opportunity the job gives them to meet all sorts of guests from places as far apart as Lancaster and Australia. When they have time to unwind they both enjoy reading, walking and turning out occasionally for the New Inn quiz team and when David is bell ringing Jackie likes to curl up with a crossword. They love their life in Clapham. Many people have dreams but only a few are lucky enough to fulfil them,

This is intended to be the first in a series of articles in which I interview people living in Clapham, Newby and Keasden? If several people write in to say that it's boring it will also be the last in the series!

Stuart Marshall

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CLAPHAM BOOK GROUP

Clapham Book Group met on Wednesday, 15th November to discuss our latest read *Brighton Rock* by Graham Greene. Published in 1938 the story is set in the south coast seaside town prior to the outbreak of the Second World War. It is a story of murder, revenge, poverty and the combating forces of good and evil. Our group agreed that the dramatic picture painted of gangland underworld in Brighton during this period was frightening and sordid. There was also agreement about the way in which Graham Greene had managed to convey that atmosphere so brilliantly to the reader. However, for some, the vividness of the physical violence, mainly inflicted by a razor created unease. Graham Greene thought of *Brighton Rock* as "entertainment" a description some of the group found hard to accept and for whom finishing the book was to be a challenge. Not because of the writing, but because of the pervading mood of violence. Despite this there were expressions of understanding and even sympathy for some of the more unlikeable characters in the book, even for the most unpleasant of the protagonists. Disagreement amongst the Book Group always makes for a more interesting evening. So, a lively, evening of mixed reactions to *Brighton Rock*.

I know it has been mentioned before but I would like to emphasise once again the relaxed atmosphere we hope is to be found at meetings of the Clapham Book Group'. We meet in our homes and we always welcome new members. And, we have a gap of approximately two months between meetings, which give us plenty of time to get, hold of and read the next book – we hope!

Our next meeting will be in January when we plan to discuss a very funny book, I have been told, by Marina Lewycka called *A Short History of Tractors in Ukraine*. If you would like to join us on that occasion we will be delighted to see you. Please contact Sue Stark tel. 51684 or Jill Buckler tel. 51030.

Jill Buckler

Workers' Education Association

Brian Birkby of Giggleswick will give a short course of five talks on the effects in Europe of the Enlightenment. This will include music, science and new ideas and will start on Monday, 15th January at 7.00pm in Clapham Primary School. Fees will be approx. £20. Please phone 51324 for details or just come on the first night.

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GREY SQUIRRELS

Squirrels of all types are loveable creatures and many stories about them are enjoyed. Unfortunately it is different when we meet them in the woods. The grey squirrels arrived in Clapham in 1973, having taken 20 years to spread here from Gargrave.

The grey squirrels do a great amount of damage to trees, as this picture shows. They are most attracted to 30 year old beech trees. Also a number of birds' eggs of all breeds are at risk.

The squirrels can be caught in cages, which is the most humane way, but it is the gamekeeper who looks after the cages. Many folk do not like the shooting of "Game Birds" and, because of this, release or damage the cages. To those who feel this way I do ask you to consider before you act. Gamekeepers also act as part of the care of these parts of the countryside.

I am only too glad to discuss these matters of any other items of trying to manage our local environment.

John Farrer

Peter Allen

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BETHEL NEWS

Thanks to all the would-be pirates who set sail with us during the half term holiday. A great time was had by all with real pirates, songs, drama, bible stories, crafts, games and even the odd custard pie!! We even found some treasure!

Thanks also to all who gave of their time and talents to help with all the preparations.

As Christmas fast approaches we often find ourselves snowed under with preparations, parties and presents but let's not forget to remember the greatest treasure, which was given at Christmas in a lowly stable – JESUS – THE REASON FOR THE SEASON.

Here is a list of our Christmas Celebrations, feel free to come along if you can:

Thursday, 7th December 2.30pm

Senior Citizens and Ladies Meeting Carol Service, and Christmas Tea.

Taken by Mr Wilf Capstick and Mr James Law.

Saturday, 16th December 7.30pm

Christmas Celebration in the Village Hall. Refreshments at the close.



Sunday, 24th December 11am

Family Service with a Nativity play by children from Sunday school, 429s, Clapham Tots and Youth Club.

6.30pm – Carol Service.

Monday, 25th December 11am

Christmas Day Service.

Wishing you a very happy and peaceful Christmas and all the best for 2007.

From all at Bethel Chapel

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DREAMING OF A GREENER CHRISTMAS

Firstly the presents

Increasing numbers of us are becoming uncomfortable about our excessive consumption and waste at Christmas and the damage this has on the environment. Last year in the UK we spent over £8bn on Christmas presents and I wonder how many of these ended up stuck at the back of the cupboard or worse broken in the bin adding to the landfill.

In our world today it seems only the most up-to-date new goods are deemed acceptable, whilst second hand goods are seen as used and worn out, home made undervalued and cheap. The simple Christmas gesture of goodwill and family traditions are being forgotten in the rush to have the biggest and best.

Below are a few suggestions that could help you on the way to a more environmentally friendly Christmas.

- A subscription to an organisation working to make the world a better place such as the RSPB, RSPCA, Friends of the Earth or a wildlife trust.
- Adopting a tree, endangered plant or animal
- A plant for the garden especially one that will encourage wildlife
- A home composting bin or wormery
- A bird table or feeder
- If you are buying a present that needs batteries include a battery recharger and rechargeable batteries or even better buy a solar powered alternative.
- A home-made present, cookies go down especially well

- A gift of your time, often the simplest and best present anyone can give.

As for the food

Small businesses struggle to compete with supermarkets at the best of times and even more so over the festive season. So try to make the time at Christmas to visit your local farmer's market, support local producers and small shops. Buy foods that are plentiful in the Yuletide season. Winter vegetables include cabbage, cauliflower, pumpkin, beetroot, turnips, parsnips and swede. Meats and fish include wild duck, turkey, pork and sea bass.

Then there's the décor

It's not in a too distant past that all the decorations were collected from the garden or local countryside rather than made of plastic and bought from the local supermarket. Sadly we all cannot go out and cut what we like from the countryside but our gardens can provide us with a wonder of things.

- Ivy hung around picture frames, doorways & the base of the tree
- Prunings from evergreen shrubs can make great wreaths for the door
- Dried fruit, nuts & spices strung onto string and used as garlands.

Plus an advantage of natural decorations is that they can go onto the compost heap after the celebrations have finished.

'Tip of the Month'

Try to cut down on the amount of aluminium foil you use over the holiday season and any that you do use make sure to recycle. We use 35,000 tonnes a year in the UK and only 12% of that is recycled. The production of aluminium from its concentrated form, bauxite ore, is costly and uses large quantities of energy. Aluminium can be recycled indefinitely as the reprocessing does not damage its structure. Recycling aluminium also saves 95% of the energy used in its primary production.

Rachelle Blondel



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MACMILLAN COFFEE MORNING



Up at dawn to make mountains of scones; chairs collected from all over the house; helpers arrived to spread butter on scones – set out cups and saucers – set out stalls, etc. Balloons at the front gate and we were ready for the visitors! !

The cake stall was groaning with so many cakes and goodies supplied by generous guests who proceeded to buy one-another's cakes!

The Quiz was won by Alison Wildman, Settle. Eighty-four attended the coffee morning; a number sent donations, so Clapham was able to send £867.44 to the Macmillan Fund.

Many thanks to everyone who helped make this such a happy and successful event.

Joan F.

North Craven Heritage Trust

The North Craven Heritage Trust is the civic amenity society which works to promote and protect the finest, most interesting and historically important buildings in North Craven, including those in Clapham and its surrounding area. It is a voluntary organisation of about 400 Craven residents and takes an interest in not just the buildings but all aspects of the local environment. The Trust publishes an annual journal as well as books and booklets on places and people of local interest and provides a varied, year-round programme of talks, walks, outings and an annual concert.

The Trust's activities for 2007 will include visits to Austwick Hall, to railway features at Hellifield, to Swaledale, to Oxenber Wood (Austwick) and to Stainforth as well as circular walks in the Keasden area and in the Clapham area. There will be lectures on the archaeology of memorials, the development of tourism in North Craven, the place of grouse in history, and mass murder in Lakeland as well as a choral recital in Kirkby Malham Church with its delightful box pews and a Christmas party in Clapham village hall.

Anyone interested in joining and learning more about the local environment should contact the Membership Secretary, Mary Slater (01729 823205).

K. Pearce

Dates for your diary

The following events are being held at the Village Hall in the next two months:

January 27th Hot Pot or Meat & Potato Pie supper

February 9th Quiz Night

February 10th Pudding Party

February 17th Family Fun Night

As well as the above there are the regular events which are on the noticeboard in the Village Hall.

BEWARE!

The Trading Standards Office are making people aware of the following scam:

A card is posted through your door from a company called PDS (Parcel Delivery Service) suggesting that they were unable to deliver a parcel and that you need to contact them on 0906 6611911 (a premium rate number). DO NOT call this number as this is a mail scam originating from Belize. If you call the number and you start to hear a recorded message you will already have been billed £15 for the phone call.

If you do receive a card with these details, then please contact Royal Mail Fraud on 02072 396655 or ICSTIS (the premium rate service regulator) at <http://www.icstis.org.uk>.

Women's Institute

We, the Clapham WI, would like to welcome our four new young members, Lucy, Ruth, Emma and Rachelle to the club.

It is thanks to them that we won the Show Table at the Ingleborough Group Show. Since we are always on the lookout for new members, anyone and everyone is welcome to come to our February and March meetings. Come along and give us a try.

14th February A Valentines Day Special Quiz
Speaker: Peter Marshall

14th March Fabric Stained Glass
Speaker: Margaret Holdgate.

“The sounds of Clapham”

In the city our ears are bombarded by noises of sirens from police cars and ambulances and the unrelenting roar of traffic. No one could live in a small, rural village without being aware of the contrast of noise and bustle to the sounds of the countryside.

From December to February we miss the most delightful sound of all the children playing in the playground, suddenly, the year springs to life with their shrieks and laughter as they discover the joys of ‘playing out’. The bleating of lambs will come soon as they are released into the fields just outside the village. The farming year advances and the farmers cut their first crop of grass; balers add their own distinctive sound.

Tractors provide another sound – not particularly melodious but they are vital ‘tools’, as stock, hay and farming equipment is moved from one part of the area to another.

On Monday night the bell-ringers are in the church tower, determined to coax a peal from the three bells. The older treble bell bears the *inscription* ‘*Time deum nosce te ipsum respice finem 1594*’ (‘Fear God, know thyself, look to the end’). The other treble bell is inscribed: ‘*Venite exultemus Domino 1720*’ (O come let us sing unto the Lord’). The tenor bell is inscribed in English: ‘*My crack is cured now aloude I cry come pray repent heare beleve learne to dye cpwc ss fecit 1662*’.

The waterfall at the head of the village is not only a fine sight, especially when the lake is full, but at Christmas when the area is floodlit. The sound of water ‘crashing’ over the rocks is familiar to local folk and spectacular to visitors.

The congregation at Bethel Chapel sings lustily – old hymns and new – at services throughout the week and on Sundays. To add to this, there is always the murmur of voices as the friendly gathering meets outside the chapel.

Yet another sound – the organist is rehearsing in the Church of St. James – for the weekly service, a wedding or a funeral.

Sounds . . . these make the “Music of Clapham”.

Joan F.

Newsletter AGM

Following the Annual General Meeting of the Newsletter Group, Lesley Crutchley continues as Chairman, Ray Hull as Editor, Chrissie Bell as Treasurer and Eileen Plumridge as Secretary. Other members are John Sanders, Valerie Potter, Elga Balmford and Mike Cornwell. The group thank Rosemary Jenkins, Sylvia Haxell and Laurie Penrose who help with the distribution.

The bells, the bells

No, this is not Quasimodo reporting, just some of your regular ringers wanting to say a big thank you to all those people who enjoy our ringing. We also thank those who find that sometimes our practising gets a bit tiresome, but we can assure you that we are getting better. We have been told by those who know!

Until a couple of years ago our only regular ringer was Mrs. Farrer, who valiantly managed to ring one bell on most Sundays, assisted by Jessica Hart on special occasions. Our merry team now numbers eight, and if our hopes and prayers are answered our aim will be to increase the number of bells in the tower to six. ‘What horror!’ do I hear you cry? What will it sound like? Ironically it will be a lot more tuneful for a start. We are very restricted in what we can play on three bells, whereas on six the number of possible permutations is vastly increased.

With more bells one learner can ring with a group of more experienced ringers so the mistakes are not so obvious. Plans are in the process of being drawn up, and shortly we will be hoping to raise funds for this ambitious venture, along with other projects for the church. We hope that the village residents will join us in this community venture. Thank you from your regular ringers.

David Kingsley

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Sybil Bishop 1916 – 2006 A Life of Four-Footed Companions

Sybil was born in Leeds, where her parents ran Parker's Hotel. It was at that time that her life-long series of doggy friends started with a German shepherd. Fortunately she met Bill Bishop while at Leeds University, who was not deterred by Sybil's dog. Fitz (the dog) had a habit of attacking young gentlemen she was interested in! They married in 1940 and Bill soon left for service in the army. The succession of dogs continued: an Airedale who unfortunately chased and bit the postman, was replaced by a spaniel then a loveable mutt, Brownie. Later on, while living in Lincoln, toy poodles joined the family (which by now included five children). The poodles were still with Sybil and Bill when they came back to their beloved Yorkshire Dales in 1977, and built 'Bishopswood' in Clapham. They always said that one of the best years of their life was spent living in a caravan on site while the house was being built! In 1982, Lucky the spaniel joined the family and spent many happy years gardening with Sybil, who loved her garden and spent every available minute of the day in it, bringing her dreams to fruition. The final four-footed friend who became such a huge part of Sybil's life following Bill's death, was dear

little Holly the cocker spaniel. Holly always enjoyed her walks and insisted on stopping to say 'Hello' to everyone she met around the village! In the last few weeks after Sybil broke her hip, Mandy (Sybil's carer and youngest daughter), would take Holly to visit her in the hospital, and then the nursing home in Cambridge, where she was allowed to sit on her bed so Sybil could stroke her. Very sadly, Holly was suddenly found to be very ill and had to be put to sleep, just three weeks after Sybil died.

The following poem was published in a book of gardening poems called '*Behind The Spade*'

Bishopswood – a poem by Sybil Bishop

There is so much life In this garden of mine,
And it's not only me... When the weather is fine
I'm out with the hoe, The spade and the fork,
Full of plans to dig deep But I'm tempted to talk
To my gardening neighbour; And commiserate over
Snail-ridden beans And lawns covered in clover,
Roses smothered in aphids, Pigeon devastated crops,
Mole hills everywhere And peacock nibbled phlox –
And yet - I hear the thrush Beat the snail on stone
And blackbirds are Busy on the rowan.
In the deep, green moss On the old stone wall
The restless wrens forage. In the bright blue borage
The lively bee works And the ladybirds crawl
Tirelessly on leaves Of lemon balm growing tall.
This lively little world – Of which I am so fond –
Is a mirror, yet happier, Than that greater one beyond.

On a more personal note, I would like to thank my very good friends in and around Clapham for their unwavering support and shoulders to cry on over recent months (and years!). By the time this is published, I shall be back in Australia with my husband and our two little Cavalier King Charles Spaniels. Time for a new life.

Thank you again, love Mandy xx

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IN PRAISE OF THE SIMPLE APPLE

It's been one of our favorite fruits for centuries, inspiring, albeit inadvertently and somewhat painfully if historical stories are to be believed, Sir Isaac Newton to make one of his greatest scientific discoveries; was used as target practice by William Tell, and on Saturday, 21st October we celebrated it's continuing presence in our lives with National Apple day.

Our own organic farm *Growing with Grace* marked the occasion with a small exhibition presented by Rod Everett, a local farmer who owns Backsbottom farm, part of the site for Middle Wood Ecological Trust, an environmental centre and community situated in nearby Roeburndale.

Here Rod not only grows organic fruit and fruit trees, but on a wider scale has been teaching permaculture, a lifestyle which tackles how to grow food, build houses and create communities, and minimize environmental impact at the same time, for over 18 years . . . definitely a man who should know his apples.

The exhibition, although small, had a mass of information on display about the apple, proper name *Malus domestica* and Rod, obviously quite an aficionado on the fruit, had also brought along quite a selection of his own produce. He indeed proved to be quite a mine of information on the apple. Apparently in his orchard at the farm he gradually cleared out the existing apple trees whilst introducing in their place different varieties (well over 80) which, although not necessarily originating from Lancashire, would flourish in this part of the world.

There are reputedly over 7000 different types of apple world-wide, a scale Rod couldn't possibly hope to compete with or explore, but even so the varieties on display were amazing for such a small event.

Both **eating** and **cooking** apples were on display . . . Britain is singular in producing special varieties for the sole purpose of cooking . . . and Rod had even brought along a very much older variety named *Lemon Pippin*, a small fruit about the size of a plum, which was grown exclusively as an 'ornamental' fruit.

Such well-known names as Pippin (red and beeley), Spartan and Jupiter were there together with much less well known varieties such as *Ladies Delight*, *Yellow Inglestrue* and *White Paradise*. The apples not only came in a differing number of names but also in an equally large variety of, colours, sizes and even textures, ranging from the more familiar common green 'cookers' down to the older style small russet 'eaters' . . . quite a display.

In apple terms this means old favourites like Golden Delicious (a misnomer if ever there was one) and other well known varieties such as Spartan, Gala and Granny smith etc, some of which in fairness aren't totally tasteless, but are pale comparisons when you bite into the "real thing" . . . it really was not only a delight but also quite a poignant reminder of what even something as simple as the humble apple can taste like, to sample Rod's selection, from Pippin through to White Paradise. He even had some "young" trees for the budding "orchard" enthusiast to purchase for a few pounds and start to produce their own fruit!

Altogether a really enjoyable and interesting display, and also a timely reminder on Apple Day of what a pleasure such a simple and common fruit can be.

Some Basic Apple Facts:

The word **apple** comes from the Old English word **æppel**. Apples originated in the Middle East more than 4000 years ago; fruit and vines have been grown in the UK since the Roman occupation, with specially cultivated apple varieties spreading across Europe to France, arriving in England at around the time of the Norman conquest in 1066

The apple tree was perhaps the earliest tree to be cultivated, and apples have remained an important food in all cooler climates, apples store for months while still retaining much of their nutritive value.

The UK apple market is now worth over £320M but only 30-35% of the eating apples sold in the UK are home-grown. Supermarkets sell 70% of all apples



in the UK. Many supermarkets sell about eight varieties, double the range they carried five years ago. More than 140,000 tonnes (£78M) of *Bramley* apples are sold annually, with the fresh market (65%) still dominating supplies to the consumer. Only 78% of shoppers recognise the *Bramley* as being British, whilst nearly 60% think the *Granny Smith* (which is not grown in the UK) is.

The fermentation of apple juice to produce an alcoholic beverage dates back at least 2000 years and is recorded as a common drink at the time of the Roman invasion of England in 55 BC. In the 4th century, St Jerome used the term *sicera* to describe drinks made from apples; this may be the word from which 'cider' is derived

The Celtic word for apple, *abhall*, persists in many place-names, and some towns and cities have particular associations with fruit trees. Norwich was described in Tudor times as 'either a city in an orchard or an orchard in a city'.

Mike Cornwell

Clapham Primary School

The children will be presenting their Christmas plays on Wednesday 6th and Thursday 7th December. The infants are having a Nativity Play and the juniors are performing Scrooge.

Tickets are free and available from school. There will be fundraising, with the proceeds going to a charity chosen by the children.

Monday, 11th at 2.00pm. The over 60s are invited to school for a St. Lucia bun and tea. The children will wait on and entertain.

Wednesday, 13th. Childrens' Christmas Dinner.

Thursday, 14th at 2.00pm. The school Carol Service at Keasden Church.

Friday, 15th. Children make the Christingles. In the afternoon they go on a trip to the Brewery Arts Centre, Kendal to see Robin Hood.

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Clapham Playground – Family Fun Night

Thanks to everyone who supported our family fun night on Saturday 18th November. The evening was a great success and we raised a total of £113.21 for Clapham Playground.

A special thanks to James Atkins who sang his mega hit "unbelievable". Due to popular demand we will be holding another fun night on Saturday, 17th February, 2007.

Several parents are very keen on improving our local playground and this is the first of many events we will be holding to raise funds. Other local villages have recently improved their playgrounds and now have superb facilities. It is a great shame parents have to travel in order to use other parks when Clapham play park has such a lovely setting but lacks modern playground facilities.

With everyone's support and a concerted effort this could be a project that will bring people together and be a major achievement for Clapham as a community.

*Lucy McNamara, Rachelle Blondel
and Terry Jenkins*

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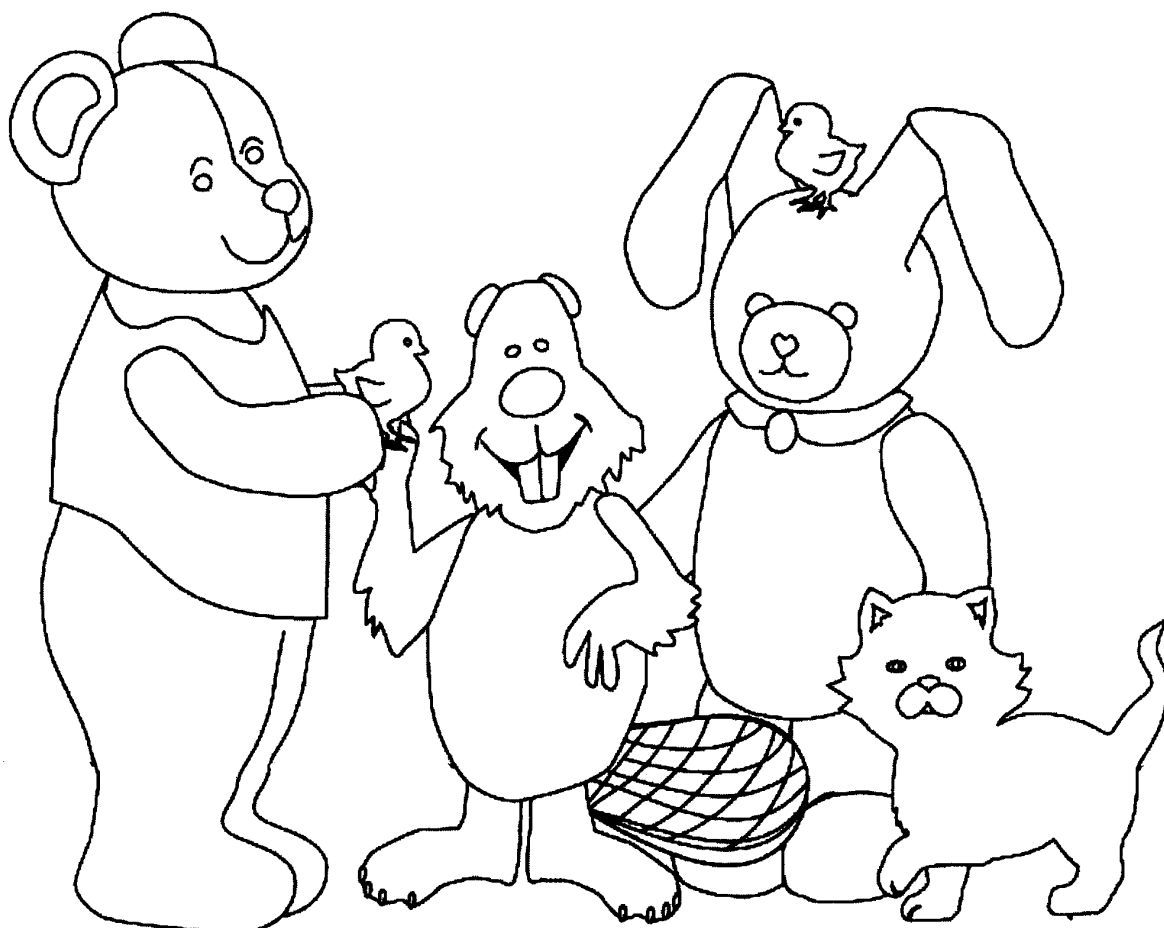
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Congratulations to Zara Coultherd, winner of the August prize. She wins a magnetic drawing tablet.

Village Hall

SPECIAL CELEBRATION. There will be a special celebration on Friday, December 22 as it will be 80 years since Sidney James Farrer gave the Village Hall to the community. The occasion will be marked with a celebratory party, including a carving buffet and a quiz.

A wall hanging made by the “Knit and Knatter” group will also be unveiled during the event. It is a copy of the millennium stone made in raised embroidery and stumpwork.

There are still a few tickets left for this event and must be purchased from Rosie 51492 before 15th December.

BOOKING FEES. Unfortunately we have had to raise the booking fee for the Village Hall, and from 1st January, 2007 the prices are as follows: £20 per session for the Hall and £15 for the Supper Room, this does include the use of the kitchen and heating etc.

The increase is due to the rising costs of fuel, electric, insurance etc, and we cannot run the hall at a loss. It is a lovely hall, one of the best in the area and is appreciated by all who continue to use it and we thank you for your continued support.

A very happy Christmas and a prosperous new year to all the users of the hall.

Village Hall Committee



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to wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy new Year**



WILDLIFE AT CLAPHAM

Winter has finally arrived and with it came the Redwings and Fieldfares. The first Redwing flew over Ingleborough Hall on the 8th October and the first Fieldfares were seen at Ingleborough Hall, Nutta Farm and Meldingscale Farm on the 3rd November. By the end of November large flocks of both species can be seen around the local area. The first Brambling of the winter was found on the old railway line near Nutta Farm on the 20th October and one flew over Ingleborough Hall on the 3rd November.

At the beginning of October a pair of House Martins was still feeding young in a nest at the Millennium office, they were last seen on the 10th October.

Swallows left the local area on the 27th September, but one late bird was seen flying over Ingleborough Hall on the 14th November.

One Hummingbird Hawkmoth was seen feeding around the gardens of Clapham on the 1st October and it was last seen at Pete and Brenda Everson's house on the 2nd October.

One Marsh tit was found with a mixed flock at Dave and Leslie Crutchley's house on the 2nd October, it was then seen about three weeks later at Ingleborough Hall on the 26th October.

Several Blackcaps and Chiffchaffs have been seen around the local area throughout October and November. Two Cormorants flew over the Flying Horseshoe on the 8th October and on the 12th one Cormorant was seen flying over the Green by Brenda Everson; it was seen later by Jess Hart on the road

bridge at Clapham. Other highlights seen during October and November have been - one Green Sandpiper at Meldingscale Farm - 8th October, one Long Eared Owl at Newby Moor on 8th October, one Jay at Ingleborough Hall on 13th October, four Crossbills flying south over Newby Moor on 13th October, one male Hen Harrier hunting over Hardacre Moss on 3rd November and a flock of thirteen Reed Buntings at Newby Moor on 16th November.

One Comma butterfly was seen at Ingleborough Hall and lots of Red Admirals were seen flying around the local area on the 13th October. Two small Tortoiseshell butterflies are hibernating for the winter at Smithy cottage.

Tim Hutchinson, Smithy Cottage

Dog Fouling

With new legislation now in place it is pleasing to see that most people diligently scoop up the mess their dogs leave and place it in the containers provided for this purpose. Sadly, however, there are a few people who have yet to get the message and some of these let their little hounds perform in the same area every day. The dog warden has been informed and extra patrols are being carried out at various times of the day. As you are aware the penalties are high for the owner, so let's keep that money in your pocket and have a poo-free Christmas.



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

Articles, News and Ideas PLEASE! for the next issue by **25th January, 2007** to the Village Shop, Lesley Crutchley lesley@gildersbank.co.uk, Chrissie Bell ChrisHarte@aol.com, Sylvia Haxell, Ray Hull ray_rosie@btinternet.com or Don Gamble.

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