# CLAPHAM & DISTRICT NEWSLETTER Number 48, August, 2007

## A triumph of hope over expectation!

The build up to this years Street Market was dominated by one thing – the weather. Having fried in the heat last year, this year the odds were on us being washed out by the rain. As late as the Tuesday of the preceding week the Lancaster City Council 5 day forecast was still predicting heavy showers. It did not look promising. Nevertheless, as the weekend approached the weather 'boys and girls' started to be just a touch more optimistic and by the Friday you could almost feel the collected sighs of relief as the message came over that we could expect it to be bright and breezy. And so it turned out – it was certainly a lovely bright day and the wind kept the clouds (and one or two gazebos) moving so we had no rain.

Once again the Street Market proved to be a real community event for North Craven. The organisers from Saint James' Church had invited the usual wide range of local groups to take part in the day and there were 17 stalls from different charities and community

groups alongside 11 run by the Church itself. There were quizzes and games, a bouncy castle, face painting, racing ducks and puppets from Bandicoot and Co. The range of items on sale would have challenged any high street - even if some of them might be termed 'recycled' there were plenty of bargains to be had. There was no need for anyone to flag from hunger and thirst – you could begin the day with a bacon buttie, purchase home-made jams, preserves and cakes from a variety of sources and then make your way over to the village hall for excellent refreshments organised by church

Every year the Street Market seems to feature something new. This year

there was the intriguing Lavender stall. This surprised everyone with the range of ways in which this beautiful herb could be employed.

Entertainment was not overlooked. The Craven Accordion Band were back by popular demand and we had the delight of some impromptu busking from Georgie and Mhairi Lockett playing violin and recorder.

The day wound up with 66 tired but happy people being fed by Party Animals in the Village Hall to wind up a really Grand Day Out!

There was only one qualification to everyone's enjoyment. Jean Claughton, who came up with the idea of a Street Market nearly 30 years ago and has been involved in planning and putting on the day ever since, was unable to be with us as she is at present in hospital. We all missed her, wish her well and hope to see her with us in 2008!

The Church itself made in the region of £4600! Sue Mann



Early morning crowds on Church Avenue





offer a discount to Friends and Relations of locals

See Jackie or David for details

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## The Vicar writes . . .

Therefore encourage one another (1. Thessalonians ch.5 v.11) On Saturday, July 14th I set off on my first ever triathlon, swim, cycle and run. We left the Vicarage at 7.15am and headed for Ullswater. The weather was wet and windy and there was no sign of an improvement in conditions. We reached the Patterdale end of Ullswater by 8.20am. I changed quickly, donning for the first time in my life, a wet suit and headed for the water. It was cold and my hands and feet took a good five minutes to acclimatize. I swam past a boat named 'Inspiration' and that really lifted my spirits. About thirty minutes later I clambered out of the water, a small group of supporters, my team of encouragers welcomed me back, gave me a hot drink as I began changing for the cycle ride.

I began riding at 9.05am all round Ullswater. I made rapid progress to Pooley Bridge and reached a small hamlet called Sandwick on the other side of the lake. There I left the road, following the lakeside bridle path back towards Patterdale. This next five miles was hard work, at times having to carry the bike because the path was unsafe for cycling. Anyway eventually I hit a decent surface and reached Patterdale Church and the support team at 11.40am.

Another quick change, a warm drink and a banana before I set off with Tom Robertshaw from Feizor. Tom proved to be an excellent companion and encourager as we headed up to Striding Edge and then on to the summit of Helvellyn. We reached the summit in total mist but then within seconds the mist lifted and we began our descent down to Grasmere. We reached Grasmere Church at five to three with Church bells ringing, to be met by another group of encouragers who had travelled from Clapham and Austwick.

To all who supported my efforts on the day, a special thank you and especially to those who gave sponsorship. The total amount raised will be in the region of £3500.

'Therefore encourage one another'

Your friend and Vicar, Ian

# Wenningdale Home Repairs

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#### **CHURCH NEWS**

- Open Air Service and picnic at Ingle-Aug. 5 borough Hall at 11.00am
- Aug. 11 Keasden Church Annual Walk and BBQ starting 6.30pm. at Oaklands Farm, near Bentham. The home of Richard and Margaret Parker. All welcome, more details on Church Notice Boards.
- Aug. 12 6.30pm. Sung Evensong in Austwick Church.
- Aug. 15-18 Soccer School for 7-14 year olds at Ingleborough Hall. Contact Vicar or Bethel Chapel for information.
- Sept. 2 The Friends of Bradford Cathedral on a visit to Clapham have arranged a concert by Slaidburn Silver Band. In Church at 3pm. Ticket £5 including light refreshments.
- Sept. 16 Harvest Thanksgiving Service in Keasden Church 6.45pm.
- Sept. 22 Harvest Supper and domino drive in Eldroth Village Hall for Keasden Church at 7pm.
- Sept. 29 Harvest Supper in Clapham Village Hall at 7pm, with special Photographic display by Colin Preston on wildlife.
- Sept. 30 United Service at 9.30am in Austwick
- October 7 Harvest Thanksgiving Service in Clapham Church 11am.

#### SPECIAL EVENTS: 12–14 OCTOBER

Visit by Bishop of Bradford Rt. Revd. David James. Friday evening a concert at Austwick Hall.

Saturday. Quiet Day at Brettagh Holt near Levens (see Ian for details)

Saturday Evening 7.30. Folk Night at the New Inn. £5 including supper.

On Sunday the Bishop will preach at all services.



Ian, refreshed from his swim about to commence the circuit of Ullswater on his bike



A neck to neck finish in the Duck Race

A BIG THANK YOU from the Cake Stall and the Refreshments in the Village Hall in aid of St. James Church. Thank you to all those who baked such delicious cakes, buns, slices and loaves, and to all those who had to wrestle with the individual plastic boxes to create about 150 sandwiches with assorted fillings. Thanks also to the stallminders and to all the helpers who served food and drinks, set up, washed up and cleared up. We are also grateful to three volunteer cashiers, and those who prepared, encapsulated and erected signage within the village.

Something for everyone on the Settle church stall which raised over £600



The first of many bacon butties



Fundraising for the children's playground by selling cakes raised over £200

## **Get well Jean!**

As I am sure most of you will know she is very poorly at the moment, but is in good spirits generally. My sister Frances and I would like to thank all Jean's friends who have sent her cards and good wishes, and also those who have been kind enough to visit her in hospital.

Jean is obviously missing village life and appreciates hearing all the latest news in her absence. Robert Claughton (Jean's son)

## **Settle Chimney Sweep Services**

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## Samaritans

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We are looking for someone in the **CLAPHAM AREA** who would like to help our Charity Shop in Lancaster.

If you feel you have the time and inclination to work with us, in the gathering, storing and transporting of donated items for sale in the shop, then we would very much like to hear from you.

For more details ring 01524 382058.

## **Newby Methodist Chapel**

There will be a barbeque at Bleak Bank on Saturday, 11th August from 7pm onwards, in aid of the Chapel at Newby. Please call John or Judith on 51350 to advise numbers – all welcome.

**Harvest Supper** in the chapel on 15th September at 7.30pm. This is a very enjoyable evening, please try and make it. After our meal Sarah Towers will sing for her supper.



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## **Clapham & District WEA**

**Autumn Class** 

**Understanding the Palestine-Israeli conflict** 

Tutor: Dr. Steve Cox.

Ten weekly meetings starting Tuesday, 18th September at 7pm in Clapham Primary School. Fees: £46.00 Concessions available.

The course is historically based and runs chronologically, and aims to explain the origins and development of the conflict over Palestine and why it takes its present form.

No prior knowledge required – only a critical interest and curiosity regarding current events.

For further details please phone 51323 or 51324

## WHIST DRIVES

The Clapham Whist Group meet at the Village Hall on the following Friday evenings:

August 3, 10, 24 and 31 September 7, 21, 28 October 5

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## Forthcoming Film Attractions In Clapham

The TRAMPS Film Group is pleased to announce the following programme of Films to be held this autumn in the Village Hall.

Saturday, 22nd September

THE LAST KING OF SCOTLAND

Saturday, 20th October

**CASINO ROYALE** 

Saturday, 17th November

TEA WITH MUSSOLINI

All performances commence at 7.30 pm with the doors opening at 7.00.

Coffee, ice creams and other refreshments will be available in the interval.

Admission is £4.50 for all performances.

For more information and to provide support to the local Tramps team please contact, Don on 51803, Sue on 51405 or Chris on 51610.

The Tramps website can be found at www.tramps.org.uk.

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## VILLAGE PEOPLE - John and Joan Farrer

Which villager has looped the loop in a Tiger Moth? Which happily married couple became engaged within a few short weeks of meeting in an operating theatre? The only *way* to find out is to read on.

Many people know the story of a young doctor and his wife who travelled half way round the world to claim their inheritance but there is much more to the story of John and Joan Farrer, as I discovered when I persuaded them to agree to this article. They were born within six months of each other in the same suburb of Sydney and must have passed one another in their prams on several occasions. When Joan was three her family moved to Brisbane where her father worked as an architect and her mother did voluntary work with people who were arriving in the city to work. At about the same time John's family moved to Melbourne and it could well have been that they would never see each other again.

Joan had three older brothers, one of whom died aged six. She enjoyed her early years at a small private school but did not care for life at the high school because she lacked the competitive streak. She wanted to be a nurse but her father would not hear of it because he thought that nurses drank, smoked and swore. (Is there a job where nobody does these things?) Instead she became a governess to two small boys on a 60,000 acre cattle station and helped in the rounding up on horseback. I think the rounding up was of cattle, not boys. At the same time Joan was developing her secretarial skills by correspondence course and this led to a job in the medical statistics section at the headquarters of the Australian Air Force. Doubtless Joan worked her charms on a young pilot because he took her up in a Tiger Moth to loop the loop. The lift in Marks and Spencers is dangerous enough for me so I am full of admiration for Joan's bravery. Eventually she moved to Melbourne to begin nurse training, having overcome her father's opposition. I did not ask Joan if she ever learned to drink, smoke or swear so I will leave that to your imagination.

John's father came from New Zealand and studied engineering in Leeds before returning to Melbourne where he made traction engines. He would have liked his son to join the business but John was not interested and he preferred the idea of driving the Sydney Express. John's route into the medical profession was more straightforward because both his sisters who are now in their nineties became doctors before him. Joan and John met in the romantic setting of the operating theatre where Joan, now a theatre sister, was helping to clean up the unspeakable debris created by the surgeon, John. Another nurse, doubtless a skilled matchmaker like so many young women, pointed out that Joan's mother's maiden name, Anson, was the same as John's middle name.

This coincidence led to a conversation which led to an invitation to the pictures which led in a week or two to an engagement which led to a wedding a year later which led to the arrival of John Peter and Annie.

Their happy family life and John's successful career were dramatically interrupted in 1953 by a phone call informing them that John's uncle had died and that their inheritance was the Ingleborough estate. Had they decided to continue living in Australia the estate would have been sold and today Clapham would be full of second homes and holiday cottages, with devastating consequences for the life of the village. Fortunately, they took on the challenge and many readers will know the rest of the story as they worked hard to pay off death duties and revive a run down estate whilst John resumed his career to pay the bills. When they first came to Yorkshire they felt numb because their lives and responsibilities were so different from anything they had experienced before. They found it hard to come to terms with the deference that people showed them. On one occasion a lady in a long black skirt curtseyed to Joan and I can remember that when we came to Clapham in 1970 many older villagers would refer to John as The Squire. To someone with my egalitarian views it seemed quaintly feudal. One of their first tasks was to get to know the farmers of the estate so they arranged visits and set off one day with a pocket full of sandwiches to sustain them en route. At the first, John was given an enormous glass of whisky which he struggled with manfully and they were then taken into the other room where the fatted calf had been killed. At the second there was another magnificent spread and this was followed by further generosity to such an extent that the visiting schedule had to be curtailed and they returned to Hall Garth to feed the birds with their picnic.

It took John and Joan time to learn to love life in Clapham but after a period of adjustment they did and they both lived happily ever after.

Stuart Marshall

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## CLAPHAM CUM NEWBY PARISH COUNCIL Report of Meeting held 10th Juy, 2007

Parish Plan – It is a number of years since the Council undertook a Parish Plan and having gauged public opinion, it has been decided to undertake another. At its meeting on 10th July the Council agreed to earmark the sum of £500 towards the cost and to submit funding applications to Yorkshire Rural Community Council and Craven District Council's Community Grants scheme for the balance

A public meeting to describe the plan process was held immediately after the council meeting and Councillor Nicola Saward described the process and the benefit this could bring to the local community. Councilor Saward was followed by Ms Rima Berry, Parish Plan Development Officer, Yorkshire Rural Community Council who gave further information. There was a very good attendance at the meeting and an encouraging level of support was evident with several volunteers coming forward. A steering committee has been formed and it is planned to present the completed Plan at the Street Market in 2008.

**St James' Parish Church** – the Council has been contacted about the trees in the churchyard for which

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it is responsible. Some are growing out of control and the Council has, subject to the approval of the Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority, agreed to have some cut back so that they do not hang over or too near the church The timber that will have been cut down, will be left nearby for local people to use as they think fit. On the matter of the **Street Market**, the Council agreed to donate the sum of £75 to the year's event.

**Newby Notice Board** – the Chapel authorities have offered the use of their notice board and the Council has been pleased to accept the offer on an experimental basis.

Next meetings or the Parish Council – these have already been arranged for Tuesdays,

18 September and 20 November, 2007 and another meeting has just been arranged for Tuesday, 15 January, 2008.

All meetings are held in Clapham Village Hall and start at 7.30pm Everybody is welcome to attend.



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We will be holding a charity raffle for the Chernobyl Children's Project, and we are asking local businesses to donate prizes.

If you would like to get involved in any way, or know of any local businesses which may wish to donate, please give me a call on the number below.



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To be held at 'The Reading Room' at the old Manor House on Thursday, August 16th at 6.30 pm.

Tickets are £2.50 and are available in limited numbers from Witherspoon's Emporium, Kitten Fever at 2 Church View or the village shop. Anne and Esther would love you to come along for a fun and enjoyable evening.

## Sincere thanks!

I wish to sincerely thank all the friends and neighbours who kindly sent cards and flowers. I am glad to say that I am making very good progress and should be back to full strength very soon.

Sheila Maywood

## - HELPING HANDS -

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

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

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## **CLAPHAM'S OWN BIODIESEL - A WINNING FORMULA!**

I have to admit that when I agreed to take on the role of Treasurer of The Clapham Community Cooperative Ltd Biodiesel Project I was somewhat sceptical of its chances of success. How wrong I was!

From their base at the rear of The Growing with Grace Nursery the biodiesel pumps were ready to deliver the new environmentally friendly fuel early in June. The first dozen shareholder customers tentatively put small amounts of the carefully tried and tested fuel into their tanks at a price set 2 pence per litre below local fossil diesel prices. Since June

others have joined in to purchase the Clapham biodiesel, notably The Bentham Community Transport for each of their 4 buses, at a special price agreed for VAT registered customers, currently 82 pence per litre.

The first month's sales were a modest 260 litres but from this humble beginning I am now confident that around 2000 litres will be sold by the end of September, as more of the 50 or so shareholders gain in confidence and increase their proportion of biodiesel usage to fossil fuel. One user reports that he is now filling his vehicle with up to 80% of the new fuel and has already had his filters checked out with a favourable outcome.

Recently a number of 30 litre barrels have been purchased for the use of any hotels, restaurants and other organisations which can supply the Project with used vegetable oil from their kitchens.

Please call Eddie or Jill on 51305 if you know of any suitable supplier or if you want to discuss how biodiesel is produced. Also you can join as a shareholder at £10 each even if you drive a petrol vehicle and get involved with any part of the activity The next informal meeting of the Project will be held in the Village Hall on Thursday 9th August at 7.30 pm. It promises to be an upbeat sociable occasion even for any remaining sceptics!

Chris Bell

"During my first training session I thought I should demonstrate confidence in the bio-diesel and added 10 litres to the 40 or so of normal diesel in my Peugeot followed three days later by another 20 litres. I have not used bought 'normal' diesel since. After nearly 1000 blo-miles I have not noticed any adverse consequences of the switch to 100% biodiesel, and it is good to know that my car runs on a waste product.

It has gone from 50mpg to 200 mpg in terms of climatechanging emissions, and uses a fuel that bio-degrades if spilt. The one essential service has been to change my fuel filter after about 800 miles of bio-diesel use, and it will be done again in another 3000 miles, then revert to normal service intervals my car has recently been through its MoT test with no change in the smoke levels from last year, and the feedback from my garage has heen that the workshop staff developed a craving for chips whilst testing my car!"

Steve Lane

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## **Slaidburn Silver Band**

The Friends of Bradford Cathedral will introduce the accomplished Slaidburn Silver Band at an Informal Concert to be held in St James' Church on Sunday, 2nd September at 3pm.

Tickets £5 each available from Colin Brindle on 51426

## **History of Clapham Church**

A revised and updated edition of the "History of St James' Church" will be available for sale in the Church from the beginning of September.

Surplus proceeds from the sale of the book will be put towards the building of a new kitchen and toilet at the rear of the Church.

Further information about the revised "History" and planned building work can be obtained from Jim Hall on 51232.

#### **Newsletter**

The Newsletter stall at the Street Market raised £125 selling second-hand videos etc. Amongst this was a donation of £10 from a lady who lives mainly in America who enjoys reading the newsletter!



## Springfield Clocks



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## 'Green Clapham'

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**Sawmill:** Water turbine powered the saw for cutting local trees for roof repairs and general joinery in the village.

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**The school leavers** – *back row:* Claire Hanson, Anna Marshall and Holly Pickup; *middle row:* Thomas Addison, Ellys Crozier, Arona Morrison and Megan Lattimer; *front row:* William Dawson, Flora Ashcroft and Ruskin Fox, and *inset* Sheena Minnitt.

The school leavers service was held at the church on Wednesday, 18th July. Clapham Primary also said goodbye to Sheena Minnitt who has retired as headmistress. Sheena was thanked for her hard work and commitment over the last ten years and was presented with flowers and a cheque. The children had made a felt collage wallhanging which they presented to her at the service.

Each of the school leavers received a Bible given by the 'educational fund' of Clapham United Charities. In the evening the children enjoyed a leaver's party.

## **Thomas Redhead**

Clapham's Solid Fuel & LPG gas supplier supports British coal

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#### WILDLIFE IN CLAPHAM

At the beginning of April, summer migrants started to arrive back to the local area. The first Chiffchaff of the year was heard singing at Ingleborough Hall by Jess Hart – 1st April. Two Sand Martins flew over Hardacre Moss and one Sand Martin flew over Clapham station – 6th April. The first two Swallows of the year flew over Meldingscale farm towards Austwick – 9th April and the first Willow Warbler was heard singing at Clapham – 11th April. By the end of April all the above were being seen and heard singing around the local area.

On the 12th April forty-one Wheatears were seen at Clapham Bottoms, the Allotment, Norber and Thwaite Lane. One female Ring Ouzel flew over Hardacre Moss and Newby Moor towards Ingleborough on the 13th April.

The first Blackcap was heard singing on the Nature Trail – 12th April and by the middle of May they were being seen and heard singing on the Nature Trail, Ingleborough Hall, Clapham, Crina Bottom plantation and Meldingscale farm.

At Trow Gill Three male Redstarts were back on the 20th April and on the 18th May two pairs of Redstarts were seen, also at Trow gill the first Spotted flycatcher was seen on the 18th May and by the 20th two Spotted Flycatchers were seen on the Nature Trail, five were at Trow gill and one Spotted Flycatcher was seen on the old railway line near Nutta Farm. The first Swifts were seen over Clapham by Dave Sharrod on the 20th April.

On the 27th April one Grasshopper Warbler was heard singing on Newby Moor and by the 5th May at least three Grasshopper Warblers had been found in three different locations on Newby Moor and Hardacre Moss. Also in April a pair of Dotterels were seen over Newby Cote, one Dotterel was seen on Ingleborough on the 28th April and a party of eleven Dotterels were on Ingleborough during the middle

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Elephant Hawkmoth

of May. One Dotterel was found on Little Ingleborough – 20th May. One Cuckoo was heard calling at Green Close by Chester on the 14th May; it was also heard calling there on the 19th May.

The first Lapwing chicks were seen at Meldingscale farm on the 12th May and two pairs of Stonechats have successfully raised young on Hardacre Moss and Newby Moor, these were seen on the 19th May.

Throughout April and May butterflies were seen around the local area, they were Large White, Small White, Green Veined White, Orangetip, Peacock and Small Tortoiseshell. One Brimstone was seen at Ingleborough hall – 26th March, it or another Brimstone was seen at Dave and Leslie Crutchley's garden – 14th May. One Holly blue was found at Ingleborough hall – 2nd May and the first Red Admiral was seen at Ingleborough Hall – 12th May.

Tim Hutchinson, Smithy cottage

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

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

An advert costs as little as £3 per issue.

Articles, News and Ideas PLEASE! for the next issue by **25th September, 2007** to the Village Shop,

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



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