

# CLAPHAM & DISTRICT NEWSLETTER



Number 32, December, 2004

## COMMUNITY AT WORK

We are delighted to report that the 'Fall View Conservation Project' is now really moving on apace. The ground has been completely cleared of the Snowberry bushes and we think we have also cleared out the root structure, we will find that out in the spring! The dry-stone wall by the riverside has been repaired by Ann Stewart one of our team of *many* volunteers. We estimate that over the months that, at varying times over 30 people have contributed to this project.

The steps have now been completed and it is hoped that we will involve some of the local schoolchildren in bulb planting over the next week or so. The intention ultimately is to re seed the slope with grasses and wild flowers native to this country.

There will be a pathway along the top linking to the new steps and fencing. Part of the project also includes a platform designed so that disabled people even in wheel chairs will be able to enjoy the view of the newly re-discovered Clapham Waterfall.

I would like to thank all those who have taken part so far and to invite any one else who is maybe a little reserved to come forward and join in the fun.

David Kingsley (CDA)



*The overgrown Snowberry bushes*



*Eileen Plumridge, Don Vine and Ann Stewart attacking the Snowberry bushes*



# CLAPHAM-CUM-NEWBY PARISH COUNCIL

## Report of the meeting of Tuesday, 9th November, 2004

Six Councillors were present at the meeting, with apologies from Mr T Lund. Also present were Councillor Carl Lis, PC Laurence Martin and three members of the public.

Opening with items raised by members of the public, Mr Woodburn gave an update on the proposed removal of the telephone box at Keasden. Because of concerns expressed across the area on several proposed removals, the situation is going to be reviewed by BT. The issue of travellers was also raised and it was agreed to look at putting in boulders along the verge to stop access. Troublesome children were reported from Newby and PC Martin agreed to find out and talk to those involved. Dog fouling is also becoming a problem in Newby and residents are reminded that they do need to clear up and then remove the bags; the Dog Warden has been contacted.

Taking up matters arising from the last meeting, Carl Lis agreed to speak to Peter Chapman at CDC about memorial safety checks. Jean Davey was pleased to report that the post box at Newby has now been relocated and is now a free-standing box along the verge from the old location. The third light on the bend in Newby is still awaiting repair and concern was expressed over the long time delay in getting this fixed.

The only report received was from PC Martin with recent crime figures – which show 3 crimes in the parish since September. New Neighbourhood Watch signs were asked for by Mrs Farrer and these will be passed on. A new Sergeant has now been appointed for Ingleton but has not yet started.

On the matter of footpaths and rights of way, an order has now been received from the National Park over the creation of four new paths around Clapham which link in with existing paths. The Clerk has also checked the situation regarding the notice that an application has been received to classify Thwaite

Lane as byway open to all traffic. The National Park currently have no plans to consider this application, it will be reviewed early next year and may or may not be progressed then. Until it does become a priority, it will just sit on file. The National Park also said they were expecting an application for Long Lane and this will be treated the same.

A letter had been received from the Yorkshire Dales Millennium Trust regarding a proposal to employ a Community Warden, similar to the old fashioned lengthsman, to carry out small tasks around the parish. It was agreed to ask for further information at the next meeting.

Items received included the annual play area safety report which is to be passed to Lorraine Wildman; a quote from Malcolm Townson for grass cutting and strimming in the churchyard for 2005 and it was agreed to accept this once again; and requests for donations to Settle Swimming Pool and Victim Support and it was agreed to give the sums of £50 and £30 respectively to these organisations.

Several planning applications had been received since the last meeting for: an agricultural building at Tewitt Hall Farm, an agricultural building at Goat Gap Inn, continued use of premises as offices for the Millennium Trust and temporary siting of caravan for warden at the Flying Horse Shoe. Three granting of permissions had also been received for: a new agricultural building at Keasden Head, change of use to repair and retail facility at Gorners Garage and garage extension for dwelling at Cross Haw Lane. Also received was the Planning Inspectors' decision to turn down the appeal for an extension at Chapel House Cottage, Newby.

Jean Davey also raised recent problems with the caravan repair business at Newby and Carl Lis agreed to take these up with Craven District Council.

The next meeting date was agreed as Tuesday, 15th January, 2005.

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## CLAPHAM DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION

We have not had a meeting during the last couple of months, but nevertheless the executive have been fairly busy. The full evaluation of the Clapham Festival of Magic, Myths & Legends has been produced with the help of the Yorkshire Dales Millennium Trust. This very comprehensive report will be available for inspection by any members of the community, should you want a personal copy to keep this also could be arranged. Within the report are the statistics and feedback from the open meeting and questionnaires as well as the approved accounts. Also available is a 20 minute Video & DVD showing the highlights of the festival. Again this is available on free loan or alternatively you can buy a copy of the video/DVD at the cost price of £5.00.

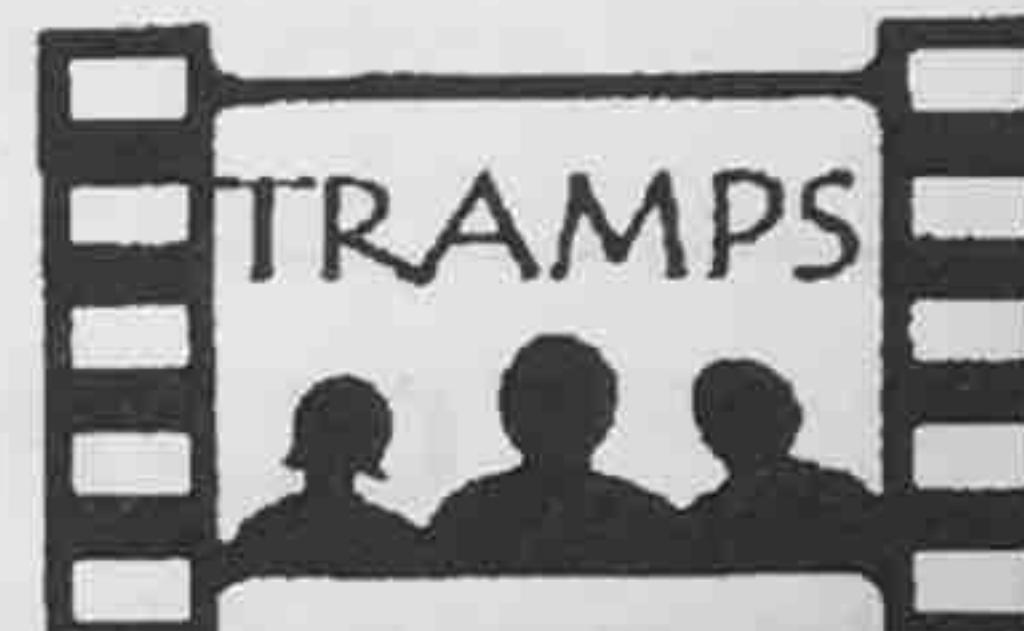
Along with the publications just mentioned we have in co-operation with the Integrated Rural Development Project and Craven Council produced a Heritage Trail Booklet which has been on sale locally. This booklet incorporated three walks in and around Clapham as well as walks in Settle & Ingleton. As part of our project there will be a quantity of these booklets for distribution. Should anyone wish to view or obtain this information please contact me in writing

or personally and I will make the necessary arrangements.

Finally we now have one more task to complete with our main sponsor the *Local Heritage Initiative* to close the account. We can then distribute the surplus money into the community as promised. This should take place early in the New Year, and will be published with full details in the next issue of this newsletter.

Thank you for being so patient, as we are sure you can understand this whole project has been a lot more encompassing than we at first envisaged. However, we now can see light at the end of the tunnel. We will be contacting the successful applicants directly.

*David Kingsley (Chairman)  
Arbutus House, Riverside, Clapham LA2 8DS*



### FORTHCOMING ATTRACTIONS

**The Importance of Being Earnest** (2002) (PG)

Starring Reese Witherspoon, Colin Firth, Rupert Everett, Frances O'Conor, Judi Dench and Tom Wilkinson

Friday, 17th December at Hellifield Institute and Saturday, 18th December at Settle Victoria Hall

**Enigma** (15)

Starring Martin Sheen, Brigitte Fossey, Sam Neill, Derek Jacobi, Michael Lonsdale and Frank Finlay Friday, 14th January at Ingleborough Community Centre and Saturday, 15th January at Langcliffe

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## Raising funds for Age Concern

*I would like to thank everyone who sponsored me on my recent parachute jump, I managed to raise in excess of £1000.*

*Thought you might like to see the evidence!*

*Sue Mann*

## CLAPHAM CHURCH BELLS

I learned to ring in this tower in 1984. Then I rang for special occasions and Sunday services with the help of Mrs Farrer. I then started attending Quaker meetings in Settle with the rest of my family, Mrs Farrer continued to ring on, alone every Sunday for many years. I continued to ring for special occasions at Clapham but practised at Kirby Malham, Settle and Giggleswick. In September 2004 Bob and Gail Cater from Long Preston came to ring at Settle. They offered to teach me how to teach complete beginners to handle a bell. I put out a call for interested persons and had nine replies.

On 11th October, 2004 we had our first ringers meeting in 15 years. Due to the small number of bells and only two tutors we are staggering the lessons for the beginners. The four we started with have done

well and three already swing chime for Sunday services.

Last Monday, David and Eileen both rang their bells 'solo' which meant Gail and I just stood in front of them ready to catch the rope if anything went wrong.

We practise on a Monday evening from 7.30pm till 9.00pm usually on 'silenced' bells though there will be occasions when the bells will be rung 'open'. This will make setting the bell to rest easier to learn from a beginners point of view. As we progress, visits to eight bell towers will be part of the training. The result of all this will mean Clapham bells will ring out every Sunday and on special occasions rung by Clapham trained ringers.

*Jessica Hart*

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17 Princes Crescent, Morecambe

## Victorian Cost of Living!

It is easy to become obsessed by the extent and nature of late Victorian poverty, more particularly when it is seen as contrasting sharply with the record of industrial innovation and commercial success, the growth of the national wealth and upper- and middle-class affluence, the age of the *Pax Britannica*. There were the poor certainly, but there were also the millions of working men and women whose conditions stood comfortably above the poverty level, people who could afford days by the sea, buy books, flowers and other little luxuries, and still save a pound or two towards a rainy day. The personal accounts of a London typist kept over a 52-week period in 1909-10, included in a report made by the Board of Trade's Labour Department, are revealing in this respect. The woman lived at home and paid 10 shillings a week for her board and lodging, which left her 15 shillings for her fares to work, extra food out, dress and all other items. Her fares to the city cost 3s. 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. a week, extra food 6s. 7d., and dress only a little over 2s. (The low cost of dress arose partly because some items were run up at home).

From the remaining 3s. a week and an annual Christmas box from her boss of £1.10s., the typist was able to go away on holiday once a year and make frequent visits to theatre, picture galleries and concerts and purchase records for her 'talking machine', subscribe to a literary society, purchase 11 books in the course of the year and take the *Windsor Magazine* regularly, as well as buy birthday presents and other gifts, flowers and other miscellaneous items, and also contribute to charities.

## WHIST DRIVES

There will be Whist Drives held in Clapham Village Hall at 7.30p.m. on:

December 17th, 21st and 30th

January 14th, 21st and 28th.

Proceeds in aid of the charity fund.

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## • Childrens Christmas Party •

on Saturday, 11th December  
at Clapham Village Hall  
from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m.

For further information please ring  
Frances on 51591

## Dog fouling

Residents are reminded that it is an offence to allow dogs to foul any public area if the offensive material is not immediately removed and disposed of in an appropriate manner. Used poop-bags should not be left lying around. Dogs do carry disease which can be passed to children playing on contaminated grass.. Dog wardens do patrol the area and can impose an immediate fixed penalty. Fines can be up to £1,000. Free poop-bags can be obtained from Post Offices or from the offices of Craven District Council. If anyone is aware of particular problems, the dog warden can be contacted through Craven District Council on 01756 706203.

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The Dales Railcard Winter flat fare offer of just £3 for all travel on both the Settle to Carlisle and Leeds to Morecambe lines started Monday, 22nd November and runs through to Sunday, 20th February, 2005 (inclusive). This year Christmas and New Year are included, but please check train times over the holiday period.

Take advantage of the offer and visit one of the great destinations these two railway routes allow easy access to. Or you can use the train to take a trip to the countryside, enjoy the views or go walking. Local bus connections will take you further afield. Call the Traveline on 0870 608 2 608 for more details of bus connections and National Rail Enquiries on 08457 48 49 50 for all rail service enquiries.

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You can take 1/3rd off the price of most local rail tickets if you live between Skipton and Carlisle or Skipton and Wennington.

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from Brampton to Carlisle and all stations south as far as Gargrave to Leeds/Bradford. From Skipton to all stations north to Carlisle.

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CA16 6ZZ

#### You will need:

Proof of your address and identity (eg driving licence – a photocopy if sending through post)  
Payment of £10, £12 from January 2005 ('Please note up to and including Saturday 11th December, cheques should be made payable to

Arriva Trains Northern. From the 12th December cheques will need to be made out to the new franchise operator, Northern Rail Ltd.

## Women's Institute

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

### Forthcoming programme:

**December 8th:** *Members' Evening with Jacobs Join Supper (plus continuation of bring-and-buy auction of gifts with an aroma) and visit from Stephanie Fort, Chairman North Yorkshire West Federation.*

**January 2005:** *No meeting*

**February 9th:** *The Flying Vicar*

Speaker: Rev. Ian Greenhalgh of Austwick

**March 9th:** *Poetry Night. Members bring favourite poems.*

## Clapham Weather

Like the rest of the country, we are having the wettest year for some time .57 ins. (1450 mm) since 1961 (59 ins).

August 7.74 ins; September 4.8 ins; October 5.88 ins. One week we had just on 4 inches and the waterfall is still running high to drain off the water from the peat. The lowest rainfalls were Aug. 95 with 0.49 ins; Aug. 97 with 1.83 and Aug. 2003 with 1.64 ins. Are we getting as warm as it is said? In a way yes and in another way no! The totals of units for growing have remained much the same 1428 in 1995 and 1447 in 2004.

But, the winters have become less cold! Before 1990 there were no heat units in January, February and even sometimes, in March but this has changed (not by much but changed all the same). However, time was when a tractor could go on frozen ground each winter for several weeks; this has not been the case for some years now!

## Knitters !

It is time to get those needles busy these dark evenings. Since our appeal earlier in the year for donations of wool to make jumpers etc. for the Chernobyl children, we now have plenty of wool and patterns, so if anyone fancies knitting sweaters or perhaps just squares to be sewn-up into blankets for the orphanages we will gladly supply you with the wool and patterns.

Please ring Rosie on 51492

## AVAILABLE AT THE POST OFFICE:

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So if your pension or benefit is paid into a current account at one of these banks you can withdraw cash free of charge at the Post Office.

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## A view of Clapham in 1932

The village of Clapham, which is a mile from the Midland Station, four miles from Ingleton, and five from Giggleswick and Settle, is situated in the neighbourhood of mountain, caves, rocks, streams and woodland scenery. The residents delight in cultivating flowers, in their efforts to make their dwellings models of neatness and floral beauty.

The village is divided by a mountain stream, which runs within the banks of trees and shrubbery intersected by small plots of cultivated gardens. The stream is crossed by the County bridge opposite the New Inn, a little lower it is crossed again by the new ornamental Jubilee bridge, erected by the inhabitants, it is also crossed near the Church by a Township bridge.

The village abounds with lovely trees, some of which are wrapped with ivy and evergreens, which adds a greater charm to Clapham than streets crowded with shops. By the quaint old Church and burial ground, the waterfall, brushwood, and overhanging rocks give a lovely view to one of the nicest parts of the village.

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## CHRISTMAS GIVING

I read recently about an old European custom, still practised in some parts, of laying an extra place at the table on Christmas Day as a recognition that Jesus is welcomed into the home at Christmas time. Many of us will welcome guests into our homes over the Christmas period; some of us will be the guests of others; sadly, some people will be on their own, and an increasing number of people will find themselves without a home at Christmas time.

At the heart of the biblical story of Christmas is the temporary homelessness of Mary and Joseph. The lack of accommodation in the Inn meant that the first Christmas was spent in rather sparse conditions, and, of course, there will be many for whom Christmas this year will be equally sparse. I should like to think that, as a community, we might seek to help those in need at Christmas time. There are a number of ways in which this could be done. You could give away some of your money, either to a charity of your choice or through the Church, where any gifts would be put to good use amongst the poor and needy. Alternatively, you might look around in our own community. You might know of someone living on their own to whom you could extend an invitation to share Christmas with you. Perhaps there is someone who is housebound who would welcome some of your time and perhaps a small Christmas gift.

The giving of gifts is special. Our gifts should be tokens of our love. At the centre of the Christmas story is the good news of God's gift of His Son, Jesus Christ – an expression of HIS LOVE for the whole of humanity. That old custom of laying an extra place at the table is, of course, a symbolic gesture. It is saying that Jesus is welcome in our homes. At a season of gifts, I wonder whether we are open to receiving God's gift to us – Jesus Christ. Will He receive a welcome in our homes?

Our Christmas services are diverse and you will be made welcome at any of them. May I take this opportunity to wish you all a very Happy Christmas.

*Ian Greenhalgh*

## Clapham Village hall

Hire charges for the Village Hall are being increased slightly from 1st January, 2005.

The Main Hall will be £16 per session and the Supper Room £10.

This includes use of the kitchen and all the equipment.

## CHURCH NEWS

There is a box at the back of the church for gifts of tinned, bottled or dried food; and blankets and warm winter clothing, which will be distributed to homeless people by the churches in Lancaster. The box will remain there until December 18th.

### SPECIAL SERVICES FOR CHRISTMAS

#### Sunday, 12th December – St. James'

11.00a.m. Holy Communion

7.00p.m. Service of 9 lessons and carols. This is a service for everyone in Newby and Clapham. Refreshments afterwards.

#### Wednesday, 15th December – St. James'

2.00p.m. School Carol Service.

#### Sunday, 19th December – St. James'

11.00 a.m. Christingle Service in aid of the Children's Society. The children will take part in the service along with Giggleswick and Settle Band.

Keasden. 6.45p.m. Service of 9 lessons and carols.

#### Christmas Eve – St. James'

5.00p.m. Crib Service. This is especially for children & families.

Austwick. 11.30p.m. Midnight Mass

#### Christmas Day – St. James'

11.00a.m. Holy Communion.

#### Boxing Day, 26th December – Keasden

10.00a.m. United Holy Communion Service.

### CAROL SINGING

#### Thursday, 16th December – Keasden

(meet at Church) at 6.30p.m.

#### Tuesday, 21st December – Newby

(meet at the Chapel) at 6.30p.m.

#### Thursday, 23rd December – Clapham

(meet by the bridge) at 6.30p.m.

### NEWBY METHODIST CHURCH

#### Sunday, 19th December, 2.00p.m.

Sunday Club Prizegiving.

#### Sunday, 26th December, 2.00p.m.

Methodist Service.

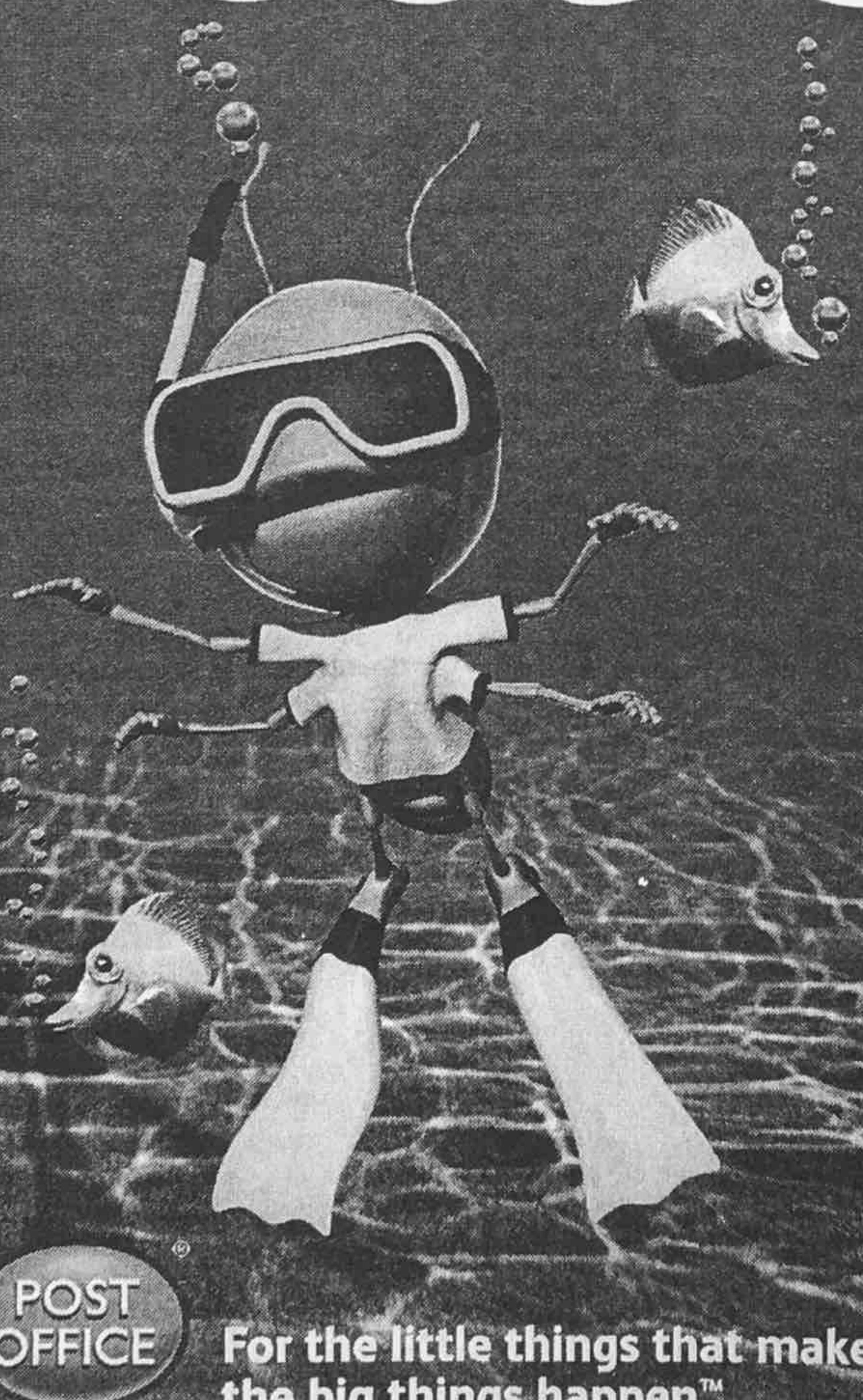
#### Sunday, 2nd January, 10.30a.m.

Covenant Service at St. John's, Settle.

**Memorial Book.** The Memorial Book in Church is soon to be up-dated. If you wish to add names of family or friends to record them in this way please speak to Owen Walton (tel 51685) The cost is £15 for each insertion.

**INDIAN NIGHT** Sue and Marilyn are planning to do an Indian Night in the Village Hall on 29th January. It aims to be informative and fun. There will be more details nearer the time.

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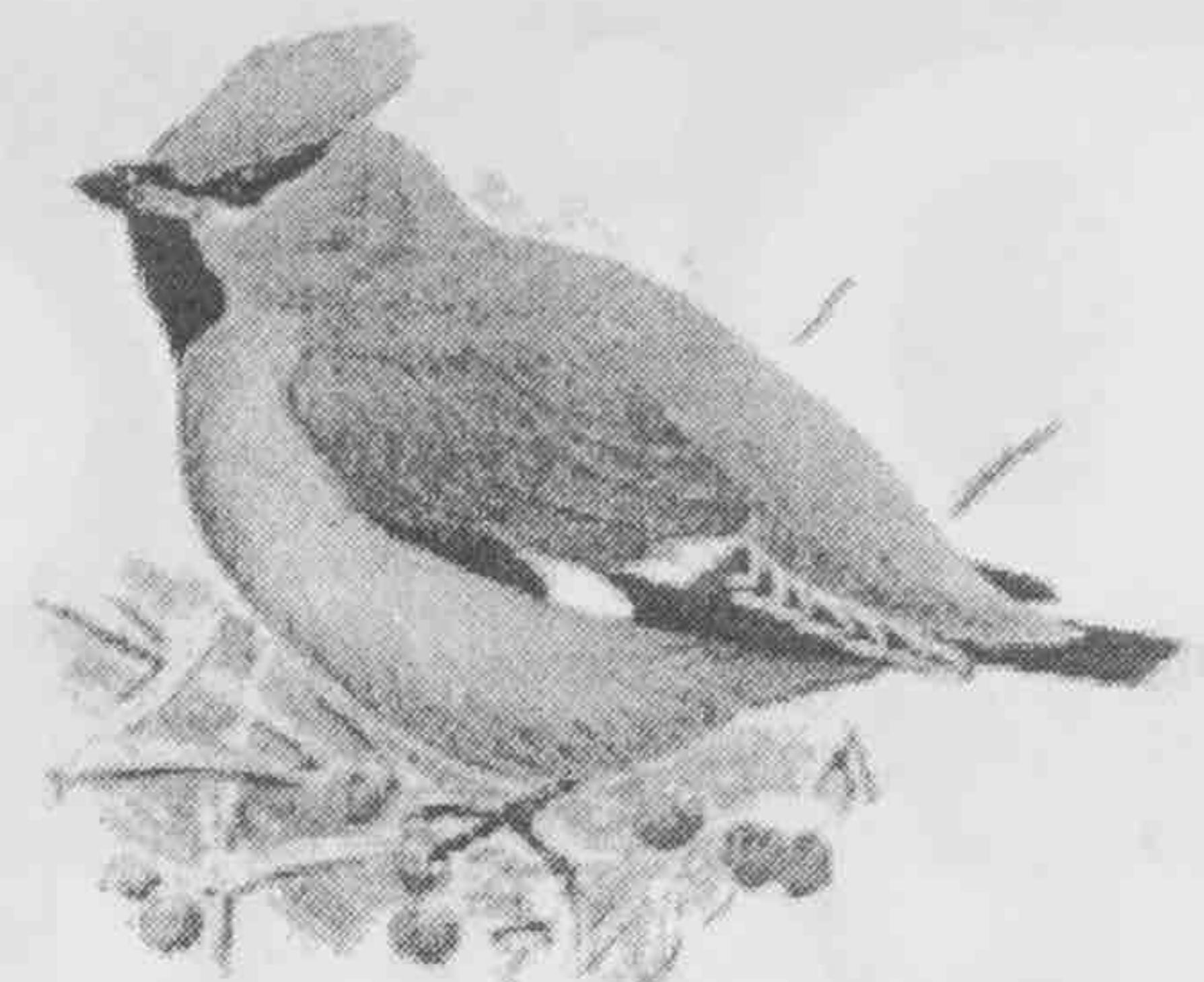
## WILDLIFE IN CLAPHAM

Highlight of the winter so far is the presence of Waxwing around the parish, exotic visitors brightening up the grey November days. 9 were seen on Egg Shell Lane on Armistice Day by P. Mellor's brother – the first he had seen in 65 years of birdwatching. Next day they were by the Home Barn shops and as I write there are at least 3 still knocking around – usually feeding acrobatically on berry bushes, perched in the high treetops, or flying around 'trilling'. A failure of berry crops in Scandinavia and northern Russia has led to a mass influx this year, with hundreds reported across northern England including 60 in Settle one day.

Other classic winter birds included Brambling in Newby Oct 10th, Ingleborough Hall 15th, by the (ex) Flying Horseshoe 29th, and on the nature trail Nov 21st. Three Snow Bunting and 20 Golden Plover seen on Ingleborough by Jess Hart Nov 18th and by Nov 21st there were at least 10 Snow Bunting on 'the hill'. A very large flock of Redpoll and Siskin (and another Brambling) were in the alder trees by the Wenning Nov 20th. On the 16th October a Peregrine Falcon was seen feeding on its prey on Clapdale Lane.

The bleak winter landscape of Hardacre Moss and Newby Moor has been blessed with the evocative sight of two Short-eared Owl regularly seen hunting by the Bentham road – on Nov 6th one was seen to catch a rodent but was immediately harassed and robbed by a Sparrowhawk. Back on Sep 26th their relative, a Long-eared Owl, was flushed in that area from the same bushes as four years ago – these notoriously elusive birds are faithful to roost sites and so it is probably there each winter. Even more remarkably a stunning male Hen Harrier was hunting on Hardacre Oct 29th – almost certainly one of the 'Bowland' birds. With seven pairs breeding on the North-West Water owned land around Stocks reservoir we have all but two of England's total population of this persecuted species this year.

Other 'oddities' include a Mediterranean Gull by the sewage works Oct 15th, the fourth local record. A first for the area was a Little Grebe on Clapham Pond Oct 17th – some migrate south and towards



*The Waxwing*

the coast in winter, and half a dozen winter on the River Lune at Arkholme.

Hard to think back, but the House Martin roosting at Smithy Cottage left on Sep 23rd and the last was seen on the 29th, with a last flypast of 6 Swallow Oct 10th. Strange to think that they could well be skimming around elephants in southern Africa now. Meanwhile the first of many Redwing arrived Oct 2nd, followed by big mixed flocks of Redwing and Fieldfare blown in on an icy east wind a week later. A trip to Spurn Point on the Humber that week was a chance once again to marvel at them battling in over the waves.

A Red Admiral at Ingleborough hall Oct 29th was almost certainly doomed, but one of these mild winters one will survive – and so they will move north as the climate continues to change.

*Records from Tim, Smithy Cottage*

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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.

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

Articles, News and Ideas PLEASE! for the next issue by **25th January, 2005** to  
the Village Shop, Chrissie Bell, Sylvia Haxell, Ray Hull or David Sharrod.

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