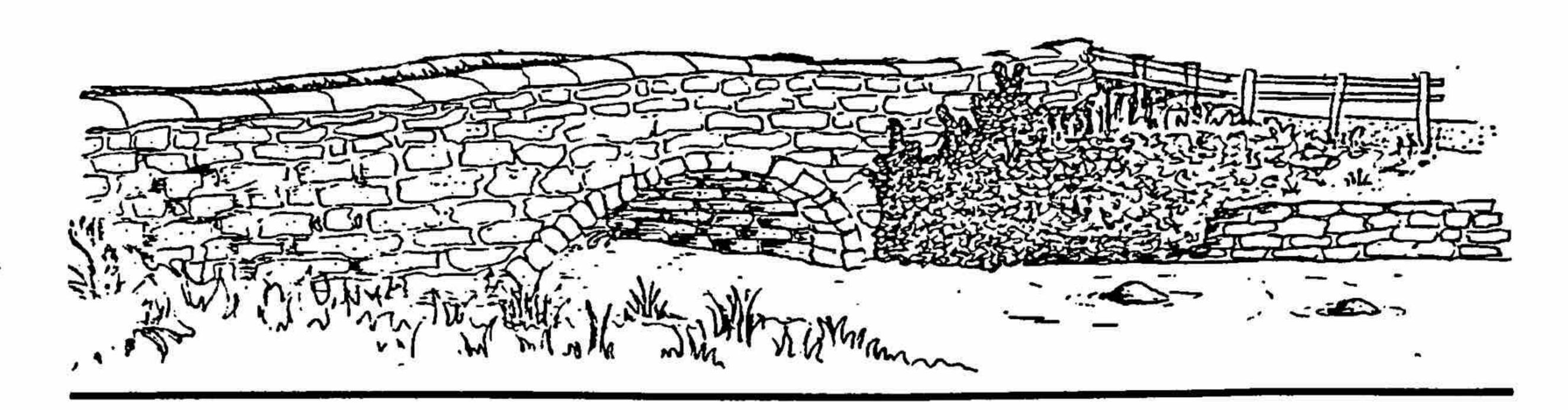
CLAPHAM & DISTRICT NEWSLETTER



RE-OPENING OF VILLAGE HALL

CLAPHAM -CUM -NEWBY VILLAGE HALL
The Village Hall will re-open early in February, following completion of a major
improvement scheme. The Hall will have a
fine new kitchen in a purpose-built extension, fully refurbished toilets (including
new facilities for the disabled), a new
heating system, better access for the disabled, and much needed space to store
things for the many clubs and societies
which use the hall regularly.

To celebrate the occasion, and to give everyone a chance to see for themselves what has been done, the Village Hall will be open to all from 7.30pm until about 9pm on Tuesday 8 February. Bill Mitchell is coming along to give a short talk and to show slides of Clapham and the Village Hall in times past. Light refreshments will also be provided.

This "open evening" is just the first of a whole programme of new events centred on the Village Hall. On Friday 11 February, and reviving an old tradition in the village, there will be a Valentine's Dance for all ages, with a Disco playing a variety of music - from the 60's and 70's to the hits of today. There will be a licensed bar and tickets (just £3.50 which includes a light supper) are already available from Clapham Village Stores, members of the Committee or at the door.

Then on Saturday 26 February there will

be a chance to try "ice skating" in Clapham village! Sheets of special material will be laid in the Village Hall for the day, giving a surface very like that of an ice rink. Tickets available throughout February or at the door, offering an hour's skating for £1.50 between 10am and 3pm. Skates will be on hire at just £1 per pair.

A spokesman for the Village Hall Committee said "Refurbishment of our Village Hall is a major event in the life of our local community. It would not have been possible without donations and tireless fundraising by local people over a number of years, and generous financial support from a number of outside agencies." These include: The European Community Development Fund; The Countryside Agency; North Yorkshire County Council; Yorkshire Dales Millennium Trust; Clapham-cum-Newby Parish Council; Craven District Council; The Harold and Alice Bridges Trust; Settle Rotary Club; The Dales Leader II Programme; The North Yorkshire Small Project Fund. We now have an excellent village hall, but we need local people to use it more. It is very cheap to hire (just £12.50 for up to five hours use, or £7 for the supper room), and is ideal for private parties, clubs, recreational and social events. For information about hiring the hall, and discounts for frequent users, please contact the secretary, Paul Pearce, on (015242) 51071.

Clapham & District Newsletter Group

February 2000

MAURICE BROWN

The sudden death of Maurice Brown on January 19 came as a great shock to his family and friends. Although he had been in hospital for some time, he had at last seemed to be starting on a good recovery. He was cheerful and making his own plans for the future, and especially looking forward to performing a "cutting the ribbon" ceremony when our Village Hall reopens next month. For many of us, Maurice will always be associated with the Village Hall, of which he was a trustee to the very end, and a very active committee member. It was Maurice more than anyone who kept alive the plans to extend and improve the hall, and it is terribly sad that he did not live to see his project completed.

Maurice was born in 1924, and lived his whole life in the parish. He attended Clapham Primary School, before completing his education at what later became the Ingleton Secondary Modern School. At 14, he got a job as a farm lad at Waters Farm, Austwick, before moving on to work (with Bert Cross and Jack Winton) as a gardener at Ingleborough Hall, which by that time was owned by West Riding County Council. Then, after working briefly for the Ingleborough estate, he became a postman based at Clapham Post Office and delivering mail (by bicycle, and in all weather) in Newby and to the scattered farms and settlements in and around Keasden. It was this job which gave him such a wide and detailed knowledge of the area and of the people he met every day on his rounds.

In later years he transferred as postman to Bentham, now driving a van on his rounds. He retired in 1984.

In his retirement, he was a very active member of the local community. As well as his longstanding and devoted work for the Village Hall (he was caretaker and treasurer at different times), he was a very conscientious Parish Councillor, and a leading member of the Reading Room committee. He helped look after Clapham Church and attended regularly as a member of its congregation. He took part in Age Concern activities in the parish, worked for the Clapham Park Association to keep a children's playground in Clapham, and helped set up and organise the Clapham Indoor Bowls Club. He was a keen bowler, often playing at Austwick as well as indoors in Clapham. He also liked a game of snooker, and in his younger days he was a keen cricketer with the local village side.

Maurice took special pride in his award of Maundy Money two years ago, presented to him personally by the Queen in Bradford Cathedral, and testifying to his tireless service for his church and society.

Small rural communities need people like Maurice, working with all those little local groups which bring people together and give a parish its identity. His passing is a great loss to us all, and he will be sorely missed

CHURCH NEWS

Christmas celebrations were happy occasions starting at Newby Chapel with a united Carol Service. On St Lucia's day Clapham Primary School entertained their

older friends, making special St Lucia cakes for the party. They gave their Christmas Concert - Snow White - and held a Carol service in Church. Again on December 18th the children read the Christmas Stories and made gifts to the Children's Society at the well attended Christingle service. Christmas

Eve saw the Church well filled with people from both parishes for the candle -lit midnight Service of Holy Communion.

130 young people from Clapham, Newby and Keasden have received mugs to commemorate the Millennium in this area. Confirmations will be on May 23rd. Classes for all ages will start at Austwick Vicarage on Wednesdays 7pm. *Please see Mr Dalby 51513*.

Pudding Party. We hope to brighten up February days on Monday 14th, St Valentine's Day, with a pudding party starting at 8pm in the newly refurbished Village

hall. Tickets are now available from church members and Mrs Mason at £3.50 which includes wine and a variety of delicious sweets.

Forward Notice The return of the Black Horse Jazz Men, Village Hall March 18th. Details later.

Street Market There will be a meeting on January 31st at the home of Mr & Mrs Mason, Clareson, Cross Haw Lane, Clapham, for everyone connected with, or interested in, the July Street Market. Good ideas welcome!

CLAPHAM CUM NEWBY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING 18 JANUARY 2000

THE FORGOTTEN SIGN

A Newby footpath sign could be Craven's most forgotten landmark, as despite repeated calls it remains undisturbed and has lain neglected in the village verge for no fewer than five years. Calls from parish councillors through the years have failed to see the sign marking the Newby to Cold Cotes footpath raised to its former glory. The Parish Council hopes the new millennium will finally see the day when the sign is re-erected on the popular path.

VILLAGE HALL REOPENS

Councillors welcomed the news that the village hall will reopen on Tuesday February 8th with a special open evening for parishioners to see the improvements. The hall will be open from 7.30pm until 9pm BUS TIMETABLE

Concerns that the revised timetable now provides no bus to Kirkby Lonsdale from Newby are to be looked into. Mr Paul Pearce, the council's representative on the Craven Transport Forum, has raised the issue with North Yorkshire County Council and has been told another timetable is being produced. He will monitor the situation.

MILLENNIUM PROJECTS

Stonemason Fiona Bowley, who will be

creating the Millennium stone, will be running a workshop at Clapham Village Hall on February 12. Everyone is welcome to come and help Fiona produce a felt/fabric hanging which will depict the history of Clapham. The workshop is free and runs from 10am. Please come along and support the project. Bids for funding for the "Clapham at the Millennium" photography project have been submitted, and bids for a basketball net and pond are ongoing.

ONE-WAY SIGN NEAR CLAPHAM SHOP AND "CHILDREN PLAYING" SIGN FOR PARK

PC Martin is looking into getting a new one-way sign, and signs for the park. Concerns were raised about parking around Clapham shop and post office as parked vehicles made visibility very difficult from Station Road. However the council agreed that if waiting restrictions were introduced they were unlikely to be enforced, and restrictions may also affect the viability of Clapham shop. It was agreed the clerk is to look into the feasibility of placing a mirror in the area to improve visibility for motorists pulling out of Station Road. It would also help if motorists parked closer to the old post office.

BUS STOP SIGNS

Mr Pearce reported that the long awaited bus

stop signs and timetable cases had been provided by North Yorkshire County Council but needed erecting. The clerk is to contact Peter Buckley.

PLANNING

Coun Plumridge reported on a planning advisory meeting held at Ingleton. Councillors were informed that applications were recommended for approval if they met various criteria. If all these were met, it was difficult for ward representatives to overturn the planning officer's recommendations. Coun Chapman, who serves on CDC planning committee asked councillors their views on the decking at the New Inn, as a retrospective planning application had been submitted in which the officers recommended removal. Councillors were split, with some members in favour of the decking, as it moved the seating further back from the road, covered up the tree stump and may help the viability of the New Inn, which provided employment in the village. However, other councillors were against the decking, believing it was not appropriate in the village, could lead to an increase in litter and may offend some residents' religious beliefs. The issue was put to the vote and the council voted 3 - 2 in favour of supporting the decking, but the clerk would point out concerns regarding litter.

FINANCE Precept 2000 – 2001 It was agreed that the precept should remain the same at £3,000

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Coun Garth expressed concern at the growing number of potholes on Keasden road and the lack of gritting. He believed the gritter had visited only 4 times this winter and on one day gritting was not carried out until 1.30pm. He said conditions were treacherous and there had been numerous accidents. As the road was also a school run he felt action should be taken. The clerk is to contact highways and County Coun David Ireton. Coun Dawson reported that the culvert between Newby Cote and Cold Cotes was still blocked. Coun Plumridge expressed concern at the state of the street cleansing on Station Road, Clapham, as the machine did not go within 2ft of the wall, leaving leaves behind. The clerk is to contact CDC.

The clerk, Susan Marshall, reported that she will be standing down from the post, which she has held for nearly three years. The post is to be advertised in Clapham Shop. A vote of thanks was given to Mrs Marshall.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING The next meeting will be held on March 14th in Clapham Village Hall

A "TAIL" OF TWO CITIES

During the illness of the late Richard Staveley and after his sad, early death, his dog Spot was adopted by David and Anne Ritchie and Anne-Marie Haglund-Heelas (Mia), on a 'care and maintenance' basis until a good home could be found for her.

At midnight on Sunday 16th January, Spot began the journey to her new life. David drove her to the very north of Scotland, where he had hoped to hire a light aircraft and fly her to Kirkwall, to be collected by her new owner, George Rouse, who has a 400 acre farm. Unfortunately, the weather did not permit this, so Spot did not become Newby's first "flying dog" after all. Instead, Spot and her 'minder' boarded the ferry to Scrabster in Orkney, to meet George. Spot will be trained as a sheep-dog and work with some rare breeds and cashmere goats. If she needs a break from sheep and goats, she has mile upon mile of golden beaches on which to run

Spot was rather apprehensive at being left with George, but David has since heard that she has settled in well, is bullying George's two other dogs, and is likely to make a fine sheepdog.

COPY OF LETTER FROM C.SPENCER LTD CLAPHAM STATION

RAILTRACK STATION DELIVERY PARTNERSHIP

We wish to inform you of the planned construction works for the "Regeneration" of Clapham Station, and how these works may affect you.

The preparatory works, including site clearance of vegetation, stone access and compound area, site office installation etc, are to begin the week commencing Monday 17th January 2000. This will involve delivery vehicles accessing the area around Clapham Station during daytime hours.

Following this, the majority of weekday nights, (Monday to Friday) between the hours of 2000 hours to 0530 hours and weekend nights (Saturday evening/Sunday morning) between the hours of 2030 hours to 0900 hours and weekday hours 0800hrs to 1800hrs (Monday to Friday), will involve

various types of construction works. The works will include the establishment of temporary platforms, concrete and masonary works, resurfacing and landscaping.

The programmed works will run between the middle of January 2000 to the end of March 2000. Although these works will involve some increase in noise and traffic levels, every effort will be made to minimise any undue disturbance.

We apologise for any inconvenience which may be caused during the preparation and execution of the works. In the event of further information being required, or any particular problems you may have during construction, the Site Management will be available at the works' location or contactable on 07939 560111.

Design and Construction Manager Kevin Paylar is also contactable at our York Office on (01904) 522475.

THE FOOTPATH ON STATION ROAD

The roadside footpath from the village to the Station was constructed in about 7 weeks from November 1897 to January 1898. It was paid for by voluntary subscription. Seventy-seven parishioners made donations ranging from one shilling (eleven contributions) to five pounds (one contribution), and raised £22-17s-6d. Twelve people outside the parish donated a total of £6-18s-0d, and included a Mr Willis from Southport (five pounds), "a gentleman" (ten shillings) and an "anonymous traveller" (one shilling). The remainder of the cost was raised by a concert held on 14th January 1898.

Costs included paying the quarry man for getting stones for kerbs (£3-10s-0d), and

70 bags of cement from G&T Earle, Hull, (£15-8s-0d plus rail carriage of £3-14s-0d); the empty cement bags were later returned to Hull and a refund of £3-3s-6d received. Mr J. Slinger was paid £7-13s-1d for making 1050 yards of kerbs. Seven and sixpence was the cost of coke for drying the kerbs. Labour costs amounted to £8-6s-10d, mainly to pay Mr T. Grimshaw for seven weeks work (seven pounds). Among small items of expenditure, 5s-3d was spent repairing picks.

The total cost of the project was £36-16s-2d. Two shillings and eleven pence was left in hand at the end - I don't know what happened to that.

E. Plumridge

CALLING ALL UNDER 18'S (OR THEREABOUTS!)

As a group of mature persons, we are aware that this newsletter may be of little interest to the young people in the area. YOU could rectify this by becoming our Youth Reporter, writing for the newsletter yourself, or encouraging

your peers to contribute.

We would welcome artidrawings and cartoons (if humorous or more seri-

We'd also like to hear fears for the future; how whether it offers you a good controversial nature welcome, as so enlivening the publication.

cles, reports, poems, possibly we can reproduce them), of our content - your choice.

about your aspirations or you regard rural life and quality of life. Anything of a it usually results in a follow up,

let's hear from you. Come on, dare you!

Sylvia Haxell

AGE CONCERN NORTH CEAVEN

It seems difficult to believe, but Age Concern North Craven has been around now for eleven years. Its origins lay in a small group of volunteers who were aware of the fact that there were many older people and their carers in need of greater support. The result of this knowledge was the decision to take a big risk - to set up a charity shop in Settle and use the funds raised to help fund the services needed by older people in the North Craven area.

Well, as you know, that shop was set up and 11 years later the results are there to be seen:

- 21 staff
- 180 volunteers
- services offering transport, relief to carers, social opportunities and information.

Nowadays the shop isn't the only source of funding for Age Concern North Craven.

As time has moved on the group has now become involved with the Local Authority and the Health Authority, who provide some of the funds for the Relief Care and Transport Services.

However, the shop in the Ashfield car park in Settle remains the core part of Age Concern's funding. So when you next have a sort out at home remember that we welcome good quality clothes, household linens, bric-a-brac etc. to sell in that shop. Every penny made goes back into providing the services for older people in North Craven already mentioned. When you bear in mind that the latest government initiative "Better Government for Older People" defines an older person as being anyone aged 50+ it makes you think, doesn't it? Support your local Age Concern group - they're there for you and your family.

Sue Mann

Tel: 01729 823066 01729 825669

MILLENNIUM MOMENTS

As part of Newby's Millennium celebrations, we are holding a short series of evenings which will be of particular interest to local people.

Dr and Mrs Farrer will present "Squire on a Shoestring" which tells, in words and slides, how they became involved in Clapham and how they have seen it develop. Also on display will be a collection of photographs depicting old Newby and district. This will take place in the Chapel at Newby on March 24 at 7.30pm.

John Dawson (Tel: 42035)

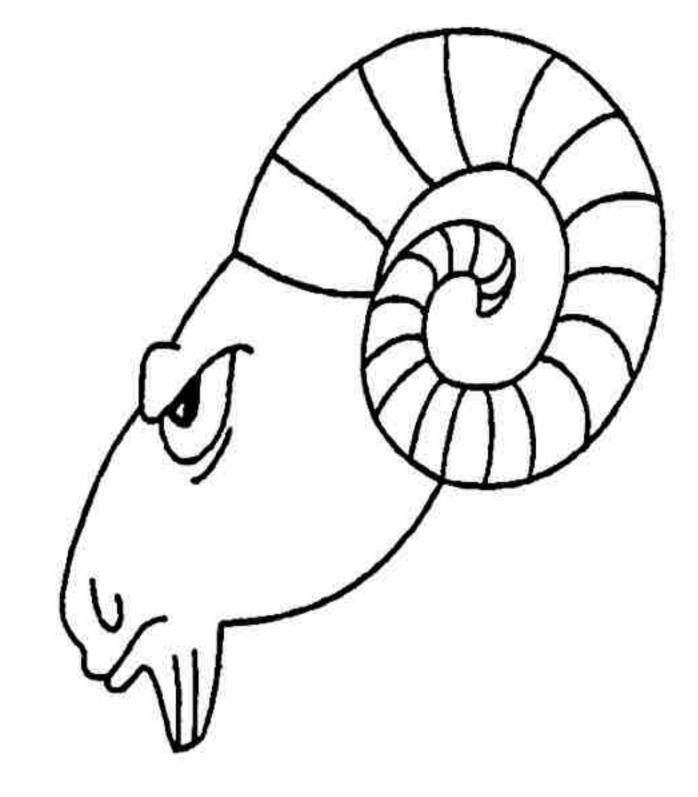
OF COURSE THE SUMMERS WERE BETTER

220 A.D. A great frost in England lasted 5 months 1699 After seedtime a long drought occurred, lasting until July 23rd

1799 A wet, unprofitable year. Heavy rain in August with cold easterly winds reduced fields to mire and rotted hay

1899 Hot, dry summer from May-September. Earliest harvest on record - all crops of excellent quality

1999 After a very wet spring, the dry conditions commencing early in July were responsible for considerable improvement in crops in the north of England. Rainfall July 1998 7.5" July 1999 1.5" Temperature 72-80 F



J Farrer

THEN....

WINTER BIRDS IN CLAPHAM

Despite a colder winter than we have had for a couple of years, winter visitors have been thin on the ground so far. Small flocks of Redwing and Fieldfare have moved through, but only one or two Snow Bunting have been seen on Ingleborough compared with the flock of thirty there last year. The highlight was undoubtedly a Great Grey Shrike seen flying over Clapham Station on January 1st. Known as "Butcher Birds" due to their habit of storing prey impaled on thorns, Shrikes will usually winter in the same place every winter so it will be worth keeping an eye out for this one. There have been no reports of any Short-Eared Owls on Newby Moss this year, but the rarer Long-Eared Owls are back at their roost site just outside the Parish. Tawny Owls have been noisily active around Clapham Village, as anyone who got up for the lunar eclipse at 4am on January 21st will testify! A nationwide invasion of spectacular Waxwings escaping a harsh Scandinavian winter did not quite reach here - 3 seen in Tesco's carpark at Keighley were the closest!

A pair of Stonechat have stayed around on Hardacre Moss, and it is good to report Sparrowhawk, Raven and Buzzard increasingly seen flying over the area. Even now in January Mistle Thrush, Robin and Dipper are singing, and any sunny day sees Blue and Great Tits searching for nest sites.

Spring is out there somewhere......

Records from Tim Hutchinson

PASTURES NEW

The Editorial Team regrets that, in the report under the above heading in the last Newsletter, there was a failure to mention that Alexis Pelling has gone to Birmingham University to study for a degree in music and German. Apologies for this omission.

For Advertising Your Products and Services

Please Contact - Sylvia Haxell

Tel:- 015242 51603

Rates: £3 per issue or £15 for six



James Marshall Joiner & Carpenter

Unique handcrafted kitchens, bedrooms, dressers, Upvc windows, stairs and repairs All aspects of joinery work, Tel Clapham 015242 51687 Mobile: 07970 882605





CLAPHAM VILLAGE STORE & POST OFFICE

Offer a friendly service
The shop is open 7am/7pm seven days a week.
Post Office hours – 9am/5.30pm Mon to Fri.
Sat 9am/12.30pm

Julie and Paul are pleased to announce that in addition to their new Post Office facilities, they can now offer Dry Cleaning/Laundry and Film processing services.

We also have a selection of groceries, green grocery, frozen food, bread, pies & cakes, newspapers, videos, confectionery, cards & stationery available. Off Licence.

015242 -51212

This FREE newsletter aims to keep everyone in Clapham, Keasden and Newby in touch with what is happening in our community.

Articles, news and ideas PLEASE! For the next issue by March 15 to the Village Shop or any of the "Editorial Team"

Mark Simpson, Liz Andrew, Rosemary Jenkins, David Sharrod.