

# The Thornton in Lonsdale Community Newsletter

Summer

www.thorntoninlonsdale.co.uk

2011

A country Walk on a Summer Evening...

Come and discover the delights of our verges and hedgerows. Simply turn up and join us on our gentle Nature Ramble on Wednesday 8 June, 7 pm. We meet at St Oswald's, Thornton.

## On the Farm

The weather has been unusual this year being very warm and sunny during March and April, not normal lambing time weather! Working in T-shirts and boots instead of waterproof coats and leggings and no "macs" for the lambs. We have clipped out the sheep and dosed all the lambs.

We turned the heifers out at the end of April and the milk cows went out during the day in the first week in May a fortnight earlier than usual.

Now the fertiliser is on we needed the rain to help the grass to grow especially on the gravel ground down near the Greta. We have closed up the meadows and the Curlews are nesting, hopefully they will have hatched before we cut the grass for silage.

This week we hosted a visit from Ingleton Middle School with 60 children, English and French plus staff. They had a look around the farm at the cows, calves and pet lambs. Malcolm showed them how to shear a sheep or two and one of the French boys had a go. They watched the sheepdog going through her paces although she was a bit distracted by the hens. (They are so much easier to control!) The children also looked at some old farm equipment dug out of the buildings (old ear tattoos, dosing guns etc.) and also more up-to-date equipment including electronic tags for sheep and passports for cows. They were fascinated by an old bottle with a marble stopper and spent quite a time filling and emptying it. Language was a bit of a problem at times but their French teacher is very good at translating!

**Malcolm and Hilary Lund**

## Dog Poo

Our dog warden has agreed to a dog waste bin near the entrance to Edith's Wood at Bankhouse where walkers and dog owners have requested one. Owners exiting below the wood are requested to come up and dispose of their little poly bags in it. (The poly bags have themselves become a problem, haven't they?)

Warden Mary has also advised on the area around the phone box at Masongill which residents are tending, and supplied a bin in Lower Westhouse.


## Library Closure

*Extracts from our MP's reply to our PC:*

'... know what a valuable resource our libraries are and I appreciate your concerns. I have met North Yorkshire County Council, who as you know are responsible for Library services and will make the ultimate decision, to discuss the future of libraries across North Yorkshire, and have represented the views which have been expressed to me...

...I am pleased that North Yorkshire's Chief Executive has given a commitment that the County will work closely with residents and groups to find solutions as part of this consultation over the coming weeks.

I have met with representatives from Masham, Pateley Bridge, Embsay, Gargrave, Ingleton and Bentham to discuss the best way of working constructively with North Yorkshire County Council to create sustainable library services for the future and I can assure you that I will continue to do all I can to find a solution to the problem.



**JULIAN SMITH MP**

Tel: 020 7219 7145

• Email: [julian.smith.mp@parliament.uk](mailto:julian.smith.mp@parliament.uk)

Complete letter viewable on the website.

## When the Vikings came to Thornton cont...

'Ravenray' - a significant place name for us. It is the name of a kink in the river which forms our present boundary with Ingleton ('wray' meaning corner, 'Raven' a Viking Chief's name.) Therefore in the tenth century a Viking boundary existed between two ancient chiefdoms - Bentham, which then included Ingleton, and Thornton. They will have found there the Anglo-Saxon Church of St Oswald long before the Mowbrays built their Norman church with its three arches which still remain today.

**John Hunter**

Best Joke...? Hedgehogs, why can't they just share the hedge? Offerings to 41336 or website

## The Marton Arms

The Marton Arms dates from the time when Thornton consisted of virtually just the church and the pub. So its importance is great, both historically and today socially. The new proprietor, Owen Edge, is keen to point out that the place is now under the management of someone who is determined to restore the pub's fine reputation. He says that it had been left in a low state and that he would not like people to think that it remains so. It needs people to know that they can now enjoy a meal and a convivial drink with friends as much as ever they have in its long history. So fear not! His number is: 015242 41281.

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## North Craven Heritage Trust

We had an enjoyable start to our 2011 walks programme, when we visited Nappa Manor Farm, home of Mr and Mrs George Barch. The weather was kind and were able to stroll by the Ribble whilst Mr Bargh gave us a talk on the river and the surrounding area. Later Mrs Bargh showed us round their old farmhouse and told us about its architectural history before serving refreshments.

The next outing will be on 27 July at Winewall, led by Kevin Illingworth and will concentrate on vernacular architecture. Ring Kevin on 01422 844941 for details.

The following month, 17 August, is the Natural History walk at Malham led by Dr Mike Canaway.

Our next lecture is at Bentham Town Hall on 7 September-'The Romans' Departure from Britain' by Professor David Shotter.

Finally, tickets will soon be available for our summer music party 'Picnic in the Park' at Coniston Hall, the home of our president Mrs Ethne Bannister. It's an advance ticket only party so remember to apply early. Details on our website or ring me, Heather Jemson, on 015242 41480

Best Wishes for a good summer! **HJ.**

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## Natural History

After another severe winter we wondered what effect it would have on wildlife. After the ice melted it was apparent that frogs hibernating at the bottom of garden ponds had died and were found floating. Also later on lumps of a white substance were found on pond edges; this is still a mystery but may be unfertilized spawn.

There were good flowerings of Snowdrops on verges which helped the long wait for the first Primroses and our local Song Thrush was late arriving. Nature always catches up - Bluebells were on time and the Sweet Violets were very welcome.

We had Bramblings and Siskins on our garden feeders and frogspawn in our ponds on 11th March. As usual the Heron called in, hoping for a frog meal. We saw our last flock of Fieldfares in March before they returned to Scandinavia to breed. A sunny few days in March also brought out Peacock and Small

Tortoiseshell Butterflies and a Pipistrelle Bat from their hibernation.

The unusual high temperatures in April brought out Orange Tip Butterflies and a very early Red Admiral which had migrated from the continent. We had two Hedgehogs in the garden and Alan Collier reported a Cuckoo calling, the first he had heard for ten years. These, along with Spotted Flycatchers, Nightingales and some warblers are in rapid decline and the British Trust for Ornithology is researching the possible reasons. See more on their website.

On a positive note, we have seen plenty of Green-veined White Butterflies whose caterpillars along with Orange Tips feed on Lady's Smock. We have our usual Willow Warblers and this year a Blackcap singing in the garden for the past five weeks. Have you heard any spring songsters?

The extreme gales and rain this May will make problems for fledgeling birds, which can die in such weather, and we have had parent birds on feeders very near the house taking seeds for themselves and their young.

As for what the weather has in store for us this summer, judging from previous years, we can expect more rain which, although is good for plants, will affect insects and birds. Please let us know how your wildlife fares.

**Liz and Roger Neale.** Tel.41155

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## St Oswald's Parish Church

During Lent Revd Jenny Savage held six lively weekly meetings on the theme of 'Hospitality' which took place in the Village Halls at Westhouse and Burton.

On Monday of 'Holy Week' St Oswald's produced a moving display depicting the Last Supper, the Crucifixion and the Tomb. For 2 hours each afternoon from Monday to Thursday the church was open for people to wander in and "pause for thought."

St Oswald's Easter Day service was especially well attended as a result of our Visitation.

Planned future Church Development:

Fund raising events for the loo facilities over the next three months, include :-

in **JUNE**, on 10<sup>th</sup> Ceilidh Band, 7pm at Westhouse Village Hall. Tickets £10 adult, £4 child, including our popular boxed supper,

25<sup>th</sup> Note-able Girls Choir – 7pm in church, for Cancer Care with donation to St. Oswald's.

Tickets are £5 incl. tea and biscuits.

In **JULY**, 23<sup>rd</sup> Jumble Sale at Ingleborough Community Centre, 2-4pm.

In **AUGUST** on 20<sup>th</sup> Ireby Day - Bring and Buy Sale, 2-5pm at Netherbeck House, Ireby - the home of Carole Scott.

**Jean Bell** 41137

### Ingleborough Archaeological Society

#### **Masongill's Earliest Known Murderer**

Occasionally the internet yields some very strange gems. I found this extract from the records of Durham Cathedral recently:

24 July 1512

*[Memorandum of] petition by Robert Gybson of Masongill, Thornton in Lonsdale par. who came to Durham cathedral and, after the bell had been tolled, asked for sanctuary, for the reason that, on 2 July [1512], because of an assault made upon him by one John Whittynnton, as he claimed, he struck the said John lethally in the neck with a dagger, at a place called Mortstane within Thornton par., from which blow John died that day.*

*Witnesses: Thomas Haughton and Alan Gibson' of York and Durham diocc..*

*Eve of James the Apostle, namely 24 July 1512.*

Ref. Sanctuarium Dunelmense et Sanctuarium Beverlacense, (Surtees Society [5], [1837]), p.62 no.clx. I wonder where Mortstane (presumably meaning "Deathstone") was?

**Meanwhile** the group has been busy with recording remains on the open access land on *Scales Moor* – rather more than 200 ranging from ancient walls and embankments to prehistoric burial cairns and enclosures. The project may take two years to complete.

At *Selside* the major dig for the year is taking place in Upper Pasture. What looked to be a simple medieval rectangular structure is proving to be quite a challenge – it may not even be a rectangular structure but two separate structures. Pieces of worked chert and a flint have been found which suggest that the structure is at least as old as 800BC and possibly as old as 4000 BC. However having found some excellent charcoal pieces immediately below the tumbled stones we can at least date their last use and start to interpret them.

The programme for the next three months consists of walks as follows:

#### **6 June**

**Thorns:** 'The Rise and Fall of a Rural Settlement,' Dr David Johnson. Meet 6.30pm at the lay-by at Gauber just south of Ribblehead on the Horton road SD771 789 or Ingleton Community Centre, 6.15pm. Approx. 3miles easy/moderate.

20 June: **Brough** 'Life on the Edge!' Margaret Gowling. Meet 7.00pm on the Green at Church Brough, NY795 144, or ICC 6.00pm. Approx. 1mile, easy.

18 July **Leck Fell** – 'From Pre-history to Enclosure.' Carol Howard/Chris Bonsall. Meet 6.30pm at Leck Church

SD6432 7659 or ICC 6.15pm. Approx 3 miles - moderate - some steep, rough fell.

**Jeff Price**

### Westhouse Chapel

**June:** 12<sup>th</sup> - 11am a united Open Air service at Burton. We continue to have good congregations on Sundays with about 18 children in Sunday school:

**July:** 10<sup>th</sup> – Sunday school yearly celebration 11am and 6.30pm. The children play a major part in the services. Lunch for all in the Village Hall.

Week night meetings are usually held on Tuesdays, 7.30pm.

**August:** we hope to have a celebration for the 400<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the King James Bible.

We have put a box containing surplus newsletters. Please feel free to take one.

**Thomas Fawcett** 41222

### Thornton-in-Lonsdale WI

This spring we had a talk on the Air Ambulance, a dabble with paints and the Resolutions discussion meeting. We have now each to find a personal curio to talk about and in July milliner Vena Herbert will explain 'Fascinators.' August is our holiday month and the Summer Outing will be decided next meeting.

**Margaret Owen** secretary 41135

### Parish Council

At the AGM, Chairman David Wiper rounded off the year with a positive summary: the appointment of Dr Sheila Hunter to the council; the superbly produced website by Sam Smith; vigilance and careful thought for planning applications; the imminent Memorial Steps and repair; tubs of flowers on the Green; restful seats for visitors and residents; grants to Causes of importance for electors; pressure letters for schools and library and contributions to social interaction such as the Christmas tree for carols, Film Nights and parish Walk enjoyed by all.

PC meetings are friendly occasions and the council likes residents to come.

The Accounts have been studied by the Internal Auditor Mr Brian Parker, pronounced correct my members, sent to the External Auditor and will be displayed when returned.

There were no matters of interest or concern from residents for the Annual Parish Assembly Meeting. PC members take it that all has been seen to!

The next meeting is scheduled for **Monday 25 July**.

**Christine Jenkinson** 41336

### **Come and Sing! Night**

Come and sing Handel's '**Zadok the Priest**'  
**Monday 13th June 2011 at 7.30 pm**  
St Mary's Church, Kirkby Lonsdale.

*A fun evening, just come along.*

*It's free and open to everyone,*

***no previous experience necessary!***



**Nancy's Sayings**

I wondered if anyone else would like to contribute any sayings for the newsletter? My grannie used to say:

*'Apple Pie without cheese is like a Kiss without a squeeze!'*

*'Add life to your days not days to your life.'*

*'The early bird catches the worm' (or) 'Rise early and you have control of the day - rise late and the day has control of you!'*



*'Never forget small kindnesses, but always forget small faults.'*

*'Early to bed early to rise makes a man worthy, wealthy and wise.'*

There are hundreds of sayings but these are just a few to get you going. So, come on everyone! I look forward to reading your sayings in the next newsletter.

(and weather ones? like *'Button to chin 'til May be in, ne'er cast a clout till May be out!'* )

**Nancy Lund**

**In the Garden**

The hot weather in April caused a few problems for us now. Early growth has been crushed by wind and rain but we must tend what's left and look forward to a promising catch-up this month. Everything should be planted up now and should just need the hoe during the summer. A useful job, now that primroses and polyanthus are finished, is to divide your spring flowers and replant, doubling your numbers and giving them room. Also you can sow seeds of new version now and of Wallflowers too – save you buying later on! Also, lift your tulips, let them ripen and store in the dry away from those slugs.



At the end of this month, top dress crops with fertilizer on a wet day. This will give them a good boost. And outdoor tomatoes taste marvelous – try growing some outside in a sunny, sheltered spot. Overwatering them, especially early on, is a big mistake as it weakens the root system. Rather let them wilt a bit. Little and often from July onwards, too, as it dilutes the flavor of the fruit.

**Alan Collier 41868**

So, as they sang in the 12<sup>th</sup> Century:

Sumer is icumen in, Lloude sing cuccu!  
 Groweth seðe, and bloweth meade  
 And springeth the wurlde nuw.

