

# Husthwaite Newsletter

October 2008 Issue 37



## The World's Biggest Coffee Morning

Parents, staff and friends organised a coffee morning on Friday 26 September at Husthwaite School. It happens each year, all over the country, to raise money for Macmillan Cancer Support. This wonderful charity provides support of all kinds (practical, emotional, medical and financial) for people affected by cancer.



Margaret Hewitson, Sheila Mowatt and Penny Spikins enjoy a coffee and chat at the coffee morning

*Husthwaite Newsletter is jointly funded by the Parish Council  
and the Village Hall Committee*

*EDITOR: Jan Coulthard*

*Please send contributions for the next edition by Nov 20th to  
me via email (jancoulthard@hotmail.co.uk) or by post to  
Aletheia House, High Street, Husthwaite or Telephone 01347  
868130. Comments and suggestions are welcome.*

*I would like to thank all the families and individuals who have  
so generously contributed to the newsletter fund. We even  
had cheques from Husthwaite expatriates. All wish to remain  
anonymous.*

*The funding of the newsletter is now secure until April 2009.*

## **Dates for your Diary**

### **October**

- 9th Gardening Club "Fern propagation"
- 10th Open Mike Evening 7.30 pm Village Hall
- 11th Harvest Supper Village Hall
- 12th The Balmoral: The Soba Band 7.30
- 17th & 24th Scottish Dancing 8-10 pm Village Hall
- 26th The Balmoral: Quiz Night
- 27-28th Junior Ranger Club at Gilling Castle
- 28th "The Brontes - a family of writers" A talk by Brian Wilks in  
Village Hall £4 incl. glass of wine. 7.00pm

### **November**

- 2nd 10-4 Book Fair in Village Hall
- 2nd The Balmoral: Fireworks Night
- 4th Christmas Shoebox packing from 9.30 in Methodist Church
- 7th, 21st & 28th Scottish Dancing 8-10 pm
- 13th Gardening Club "Plants and Conservatories"

Jan Coulthard writes: Luca Biason and his brother Matteo, from Pordenone near Venice, have lived with us on and off for many months over the last few years while learning English. Luca has lived in Beijing recently for 9 months with his partner, a human rights observer. He sent this email:

### **Random observations of an Italian Yorkshireman in Beijing**

“Course you can do it!”

That’s what I keep repeating to myself. I am on my own. It’s Beijing. Everything that surrounds me is alien and cryptic; it’s such an immense place that my flat, no more than four miles away, is by now located at a random compass bearing. A fleet of taxis is swarming all around and I badly need to get one...but how?

Hold on, what’s all the fuss? Haven’t I been here before? Not long ago I was in the same situation: an Italian roaming the streets of a Yorkshire city, hardly mumblingly proficient in English and positively deaf to the raspy, throaty utterances of the locals. And yet, after years of hardship on the ears, not only had I managed to identify the human roots of the northern cacophony - let alone make even some sense out of it - but also to interact with those remarkable human specimens. Taxi drivers included. Standard Chinese with its silly tones? Hah! It will be easy-peasy by comparison.

I go for it.

I follow the same pattern and put on display a perfect alchemy of self-induced confidence and hopelessness. I open the taxi door and give the chap my best smile. Presently I get the first shock: he smiles back. Oh! This upsets my plan. How do they train them here? Clearly these folks still have a long way to go! Ok, no panic: switch to plan B: “Ni hao! Dui bu qi, wo bu shuo Han Yu.”, I declare. (Hello, I don’t speak Chinese.)

Or at least those are the sounds I would have liked to emit.

Instead, I have somehow managed to say: “Hello! I cannot see China!”

Too polite to answer intelligibly, the driver returns a withering stare, implying as clearly as any words: “Flippin’ heck! Wot y’ blethering on about, y’ daft lad?”

Finally some progress: yes, now I am at ease...I have been here before! It’s the Yorkshire experience all over gain. Small world, innit?

Luca Biason

## Coxwold & District Surgery Fund

Following the retirement of Dr Sen, the practice in Coxwold has ceased and all patients transferred to alternative medical care. As a result the Coxwold & District Surgery Fund has served its purpose and decisions need to be made about the disposal of the Trust's assets, totalling in excess of £23,000.

It has been agreed that a public meeting will be held in Coxwold Village Hall on 28th October at 7.00pm to enable all residents of Coxwold, Hushwaite and surrounding villages to air their views. The Trustees will not make any decision about distribution until after this meeting.

Barrie Ward



## Degree Success for Hushwaite Resident

At an award ceremony at Aberystwyth University in July, Hushwaite resident since 1978, Margaret Scarce, was awarded a BSc (Econ) in Management of Library and Information Service.

Margaret, who is a Medical Librarian at the York Hospital Health Library and Information Service took 4½ years to complete her course by distance learning.

Married to Mark and mother to Rebecca and Heidi, Margaret is now aiming to improve upon her new qualification by becoming a Charter Member of the Chartered Institute of Library and Information Professionals.

Congratulations Margaret - well done! And good luck with your Chartership.

Gerald Crane

### FOR SALE

7ft 6ins long, solid oak church pew in excellent condition. £125, buyer to collect. Tel 868216 (Michael Graham)



## Christmas Shoe Box Appeal

Once again, it's the time of year to be thinking about packing shoe-boxes for deprived children in poorer parts of Eastern Europe and beyond. We work with Operation Christmas Child, the national charity co-ordinating this initiative. Recent contact has been made with a local volunteer who has accompanied one of

the many convoys into E. Europe. Once there, Operation Christmas Child works with local charities to ensure that these boxes reach the children who most need them. She told of the delight of the children receiving the boxes, often the only presents they have ever received.

A full list of suitable items for inclusion in the boxes is in the village shop. Anne and David stock most of the items needed.

If you would like to help, these are the possible ways:

- \* keep a medium sized shoe box with detachable lid and cover it with Christmas paper if possible;
- \* knit a hat or gloves for a child aged 2-4, 5-9 or 10-14 years;
- \* buy any item from the list;
- \* give a cash donation towards the £2.50 a box needed for transport;
- \* come to the Methodist Church on Tues. 4<sup>th</sup> November from 9.30 a.m. to help pack the boxes.

It's great fun.

The children who receive these boxes have nothing of their own. One family last year used the sturdy shoe-box to block up a rat hole in the wall where they were living!

If you have any queries, please ring Bunny Wentworth(868377) or Linda Davison(868449).

# The Brontes, a family of writers.

7.00pm Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> October in the Village Hall.

Tickets £4.00 on the door, includes a glass of wine



Brian Wilks is passionate about the Brontes. He made a film for YTV, wrote a ballet for the Grand Theatre in Leeds and has written three books about them. He's a Vice-President of the Bronte Society. I first met him when he taught at Leeds University and was swept up by his knowledge and enthusiasm for the family and the writing they produced. He's spent a working lifetime since then trying to understand the children and the father, unearthing the evidence about what was going on around them, what they read, what they saw in the newspapers and making the connection with their work. He has retired now, down to Gloucestershire, but he is still researching. The most recent conversation we had was about some correspondence he had just found in Lambeth Palace which threw completely new light on Patrick, the father.

So, when I asked Brian if would do the first of a new series of talks in the village hall, he agreed willingly. He said he wanted to talk about life in their family. What would it be like to imagine a visit, to try to see life as it seemed to them, in their time and in a small, remote woollen village on the edge of the moors, a hundred and fifty years ago? Can we begin to make connections between the life they lived and

the work they all created?

It should be a wonderful evening. I think Brian will talk for about 45 minutes and then we can ask questions, if we wish. If you've read Charlotte, Emily or Ann's novels, you will want to know more about the family life from which they sprang. If, like me, you've reached middle age, seen the film and TV versions and yet somehow never got round to reading a Bronte, then it will be a journey of discovery.

Andrew Coulthard

# Taylor Made

Husthwaite's quality caterers

*specialists in cold buffets*

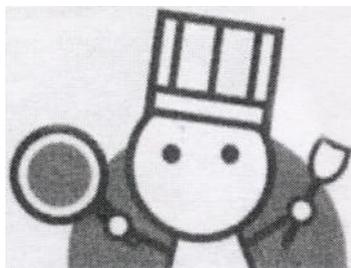
*menus to suit all budgets*

Weddings Christenings

Funerals

Anniversaries Birthdays

Business Functions



Debbie Taylor 01347 868576

Anne Marie 01347 868282

07986 925653

## Village Hall News



Annual  
General  
Meeting  
7th October

It is Village Hall Committee AGM time, the end of an enjoyable year's work with the hall and on behalf of the village community.

**The AGM takes place at 7.00pm on Tuesday 7th October** and I hope you will attend. The annual meeting is your chance to hear a progress report, to have your say and to vote for 2007/2008's charity trustees. A brief reminder of the make-up of the current committee. Four of us are the elected trustees: myself as chair, Stephen Barker as vice chair, Andrew Coulthard as secretary and Lynn Collins as the bookings secretary. We have one co-opted member, Vikki Nixon, who is treasurer; and a representative of the Parish Council, Ruth Woodhead.

On your behalf I want to thank every member of the committee for a great year's work. They are wonderful colleagues, lots of fun and a hugely committed to the job. A glance at the calendar of events on our web site is one way of reminding yourself of their creativity and the energy.

The AGM elects a new committee. I can tell you that three of the four trustees would be happy to continue, but Lynn is standing down. There are spaces on the committee for you to take up if you are interested in the work. Just come to the AGM and make it known that you are available for election.

Everybody will want to thank Lynn, who has done great work as a committee member for 8 years. She began as secretary "without a computer" and became the bookings clerk. 'I went along to the AGM in 2000 to complain about something,' she says 'and ended up on the committee.'

Thanks also to our regular hall users, notably the Gardening Club, the Scottish Dancers, the Local History Society and the Karate group. An early task after the AGM will be to report to the organisations who funded our car park: Awards for All, North Yorkshire County Council and Hambleton District Council. All three want to know what difference the project has made. It's very satisfying, then, to be able to report the return of the Yoga group (Tuesdays at 9.15am) and our plans for another youth group. Then there is the success of the open microphone evenings. The next one, on Friday 10th October, has attracted high quality visiting performers and enquiries from several more whom we have actually had to turn down. How amazing is that! Those of you who come along as the audience (£3 on the door) will also, of course hear your village favourites.

**Other big village hall occasions coming up:**

Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> October Harvest Hoe-Down. Tickets £5 from Sue Leverton.

Tuesday 28th October 7.00pm - The Brontes, a Family of Writers

Sunday 2nd November 10.00am-4.00pm - Book Fair, including the sale of CDs and DVDs, locally home-made cakes and a visiting children's story reader.

Saturday 6th December 7.30pm - Please Put a Penny in the Old Man's Hat, with local entertainers and guest star David Swann. Master of Ceremonies - Brian Watt. Taylor Made buffet. Let me know asap if you would like to contribute a piece.

For details of all our events visit [www.husthwaitevillagehall.co.uk](http://www.husthwaitevillagehall.co.uk)

Richard Wood

## **MADE IN HUSTHWAITE**

What do you think about a village hall exhibition in April 2009 called "Made in Husthwaite"?

There must be many people in Husthwaite who draw, paint, grow plants, write short stories, make furniture, make jam, make cakes, make things out of metal, collect things, who have a particular area of knowledge or interest which they might want to tell other people about. I think we could make a fascinating day out of watching people make things, talking to them, having a coffee. Would it work? Please let me know what you think.

Andrew Coulthard 868130

# Husthwaite & District Gardening Club

September is the month when we say “good bye” to the summer (what summer?!) and the children go back to school, but for the gardening club it is the start of the indoor meetings. Our season got off to a good start with a well-attended talk by Chris Small.

Chris last visited us in 2006 when he demonstrated winter plants and baskets. He turned up with a horse box crammed full of plants and sold many to our members. This month his topic was Autumn Colour and once again the horse box was emptied out into the village hall. Shrubs, trees and perennials were all demonstrated as this knowledgeable plantsman extolled their seasonal beauty.

The club’s chrysanthemum competition was judged by the speaker. Out of a table-full of yellow blooms he chose Doreen Wells as the winner. Members were given a bag of five Tête à Tête narcissi to grow for judging at our February AGM.

Our next meeting on 9<sup>th</sup> October will have Barry Wright speaking on fern propagation.

Mike Wells

## **HUSTHWAITE: ITS PAST AND PRESENT.**

A poem written expressly for the Husthwaite Wesleyan Chapel Bazaar 1870

Price sixpence

Printed and Published by Thomas Gill Chapel Street, Easingwold.

*(Angela Ovenston has forwarded this Victorian poem, given to the Historical Society by Brenda Duffield . The original is over 100 lines! I include only a small section here, but am willing to forward the whole poem to anyone interested. Note the complex vocabulary and learned references, thought suitable for a village reading audience in an era when universal literacy was only just beginning to be taught. ie 1870! Editor)*

O’er **Husthwaite’s** vale thick moral darkness hung,  
Long ere the triumphs of the Cross were sung;  
Wild were the wastes which o’er these valleys spread,  
The latent bog the stagnant marshes bred,  
Where oft the hunter in the wild boar chase,  
Slept Lethe’s sleep beneath the green morass.

Thick o'er these rising wolds the shaggy thorn,  
Spread its entangled meshes wild and lorn;  
No smiling sun could send the cheering ray,  
The forest oaks shut out the light of day:  
When genial spring sent forth its rays and smiled,  
Its beams were wasted on a barren wild,  
And Autumn's mellowing gleam no vintage crown'd,  
No clustering fruits on this drear spot were found.  
These vales so rich in Britain's silver fleece,  
And now so vocal with the songs of peace;  
These rising wolds thick spread with golden grain,  
The grassy verdant hill, - the fruitful plain  
Were barren then, - a gloomy wilderness,  
For future ages to adorn and bless.

*The poem continues through the centuries of history, encompassing the defeat of Caractacus, the Norman invasion, Charles I's doom, Cromwell's reign and the growth of science and academia. The last verse brings us back to the rise of Methodism and the whole point of the poem!*

But when again the clouds of darkness rose,  
And the Church slumber'd into mute repose,  
WESLEY stepped forth to stem the downward flight,  
And on the world he poured a flood of light.  
In every village temples now arise,  
And holy incense floats up to the skies;  
Religion gives with Danae's golden fleece,  
The Cap of Freedom and the Palm of Peace,  
Throws wide the portals of yon modest fame,  
Exalts the Saviour and proclaims His Name;  
Sets forth His Truth, to man so freely given,  
And gives his faith an anchorage in Heaven;  
To wandering souls a kindly welcome give,  
To share His mercy, - taste His grace and live.  
The INVITE is to all both near and far,  
Come Aid our Cause and help on the BAZAAR.

*Does this inspire you to write your own poem? Have a go at our Poetry Competition!*



# ANNUAL HUSTHWAITE POETRY COMPETITION

Start chewing the end of your pen now! This competition, sponsored by a local family, is for any kind of poem - serious, humorous, lyrical, romantic, historical, narrative, etc.

There are 2 sections:

**A: Under 16 year olds**

**B: Adult - 16 years and over**

Please state which section you are entering. If you are in section A please state your age. This will be taken into consideration in the judging.

## RULES

- \*the subject of the poem is **Husthwaite** (any aspect of)
- \*the poem should be no longer than 20 lines (brevity is the soul of wit) and your own work
- \*your winning entry will be published in the newsletter
- \*the judges' decision is final
- \*you can enter more than 1 poem
- \*send only a copy of the original, keep your own copy
- \*put your name, address, tel. no or email address on your entry
- \*entries to be in to The Editor, Newsletter, Aletheia House, Husthwaite or via email to [jancoulthard@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:jancoulthard@hotmail.co.uk) by **January 5th, 2009**

## PRIZES

One prize will be awarded in each section.

Under 16: £30 book token

Adult: Trophy carved by the Squirrelman of Husthwaite (this to be engraved with winner's name and retained by the winner for one year.)

**THE COMPETITION JUDGES** are Sue Lake, owner of the famous White Rose bookshop, Thirsk, for the Under 16 section, and Dr. Sue Houseago, a teacher and expert on English poetry who will judge the Adult section. These two ladies, great supporters of local literature, have kindly agreed to give their services free of charge.

We hope to stimulate some exciting entries in both categories. So Mums and Dads - please encourage your children to enter by writing poems

yourselves, and to everyone young and old I say, "Have a Go!"

Winners will be notified and also the winning names and poems will be printed in an early 2009 edition of the newsletter.

Jan Coulthard



## Scottish Country Dancing

Suitable for all – beginners welcome !

**Hustwaite Village Hall**  
**8pm – 10pm**

Friday 17<sup>th</sup> October

Friday 24<sup>th</sup> October

Friday 7<sup>th</sup> November

Friday 14<sup>th</sup> November

Friday 21<sup>st</sup> November

Friday 28<sup>th</sup> November

Friday 12<sup>th</sup> December

Friday 19<sup>th</sup> December

**No experience necessary**  
**Bring soft shoes and a**  
**drink to refresh yourself !**

**For more information contact :**

**Will Mowatt 868196**

**w\_mowatt@yahoo.co.uk**

**Brian Watt 868499**

**wattclan@btinternet.com**

**Date For Your Diary !**

**Hustwaite Burns Supper 2009**  
**Hustwaite Village Hall**  
**Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> January 2009**





## Junior Ranger Club

Lucy Collins writes of an interesting two days she spent in May with the Junior Ranger Club at the airfield down Baxby Lane, in an event organised by the Wildlife Trust.

*"I arrived at the airfield and they were all making badges. I made two new friends called Lucy and Alice. We started making insect homes, which were quite difficult, trying to fit bamboo into cut-up plastic bottles so insects could climb into them. We got a white net and a magnifying lens*

*so we could see what we had caught. We soon caught a Daddy Long Legs which was a girl, lots of flies and some leaf hoppers! We came back and made small animal traps full of mealworms and muesli and set them so we could empty them tomorrow.*

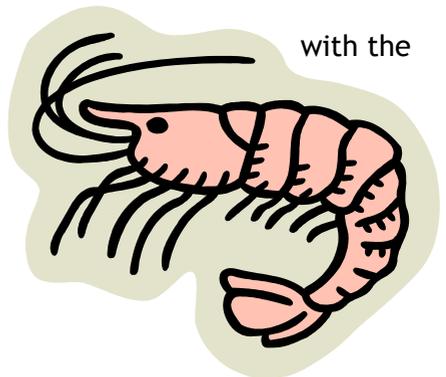
*Next day we emptied the traps and unfortunately we only caught one fieldmouse. We went back and made spiders out of pipe-cleaners and egg cartons and coloured them, then we got an owl pellet to see what it had eaten. We had cocktail sticks to stick into the pellet to see the bones. First of all I found a skull and then a jaw, then some normal bones, teeth, claws and dirty fur.*

*The next activity was Wet and Wild. We started walking down to the beck slowly. We had a net and got into the beck and started searching. We caught fresh-water mussels, leeches and shrimps. After a hard day we had to walk back with water-full wellies.*

*I had a good time for a small price and on our doorstep. A shame I was the only one from our village!"*

There is another chance to have a go, next venue being Gilling Castle near Ampleforth @ £2.00 a session. You need to book, so call or email: Yorkhire Wildlife Trust: tel.01904 659570 or email [info@ywt.org.uk](mailto:info@ywt.org.uk) or tel. Howardian Hills AONB Unit 0845 034495.

Lucy Collins



# The Balmoral

Low Street  
Husthwaite  
01347 868007

*family run traditional pub*

*specialising in*

Ladies that Lunch

Children that Lunch

Early Bird for families

Traditional Sunday lunch  
*All families welcome*

## **Presenting:**

Sunday 12 Oct. **The SOBA Band** at 7.30 pm

Sunday 26 Oct. **Quiz Night** Come at 7.00 for 7.30 start

Sunday 2 Nov. **Fireworks Night**. Admission by ticket only: £5 adult and £2.50 children to include food. Buy early as numbers limited.



## **Ceilidh in the Village Hall Saturday, 27th Sept.**

Fortified by delicious Cottage Pie and Apple Crumble and Custard, 70 adults and children enjoyed many rollicking dances played by a live band, Tiefrung Gleemen, with a caller teaching everyone the steps. Much fun was had by people mistaking left for right, but it all came together in the end! Thanks are due to the Village Hall Committee for organising the event, particularly Vikki Nixon for her mammoth catering effort.