

Newsletter Snapshot

Boxes for Romania



Linda Davison (left) and Bunny Wentworth with some of the 94 Christmas-wrapped boxes of gifts sent to needy children in several countries, including Romania. Contributions were received and packed at the Methodist Church; as well as from Husthwaite, they came from Easingwold and from other local villages

**EASINGWOLD
TAXIS**

07763 23 46 66

KATHERINES CAKES & BAKES
Love good food but too busy to cook?
Enjoy home-made bread, cakes,
puddings & quiches freshly baked to
order.

01347 869003

Deadline for your material in the next Newsletter: Sunday 13th March

Husthwaite

Newsletter

Edition 1

5

Parish Council Meets Housing Officer

The absence of houses that can be afforded by local people all over rural Britain, including in Husthwaite, was discussed by the Parish Council at its January meeting.

Fiona Coleman, an Affordable Housing Enabler employed by Yorkshire Rural Community Council to work with Hambleton parishes, was the PCs guest. She explained a recently introduced scheme of home ownership through shared equity. Someone buys a home at a percentage of its market value; the rest is paid by a housing association, which retains the freehold.

Houses under the shared equity scheme, already beginning to work in several local rural parishes, are built on exception sites. Fiona Coleman explained that these are areas where planning permission is granted in order to create affordable housing on land where development would not normally be permitted. The type and number of homes are tightly restricted and must reflect local need. The scheme is only offered to people with local connections; immediate family members, for example, or people with permanent jobs in the area. Fiona Coleman said that Husthwaite households had been identified and that there were sites in the village that merited exploration. She will return to a later Parish Council meeting.

A quotation has been accepted for work to start promptly on the cemetery memorials. This project has been delayed by a death in the family of the previous contractor.

Voting slips have been returned for the choice of approach to the cutting of Kendrew Green. The closing date will be 31st January. Voting slips to any Parish Councillor or Barrie Ward, the Clerk.

Charles Pearson has been commissioned to paint railings and seats throughout the village. He will also do some repairs.

HDC has put a preservation order on the sycamore between Kilburn House and 1, West Terrace, opposite the school.

Husthwaite Newsletter

Advertising rates for the next issue: 1 adults, 50p kids

Businesses: please phone.

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Next Edition: late March

Readers from places as far flung as Bristol and America have commented that this columns interest in the weather is not the most fascinating feature of the *Husthwaite Newsletter*. In the main, these readers are city types who lack genuine appreciation of our rural values and the closeness of our lives to mother nature. For an hour or two the winds we experienced earlier this month



llage. Not enough
to compete with the

ven with Carlises flood,
but a lively

g our dog walkers.

Speaking of

the tsunami, last

One of the many Husthwaite trees felled
by Januarys winter winds

Coffee Morning in the

Methodist Church raised

2500, with further

contributions

promised. These

funds will be sent to the British Red Cross, who have trained people on the ground in all the areas most affected by the tsunami. In the shocking circumstances of this disaster we have to be careful not to overdo the



NEWS FROM THE PEPPER

From the 15th January to 30th April

The roasted pepper will be taking part in the eat out for 5.00 promotion with The Times & the Sunday Times. Please refer to either paper for further details.

Valentines Day Monday February 14th

Share that special evening with your loved one

25.00 per person includes a glass of pink champagne & chocolates

Mothering Sunday Sunday March 16th

Dont forget Mums special day!

24.95 per person (4 course lunch)

Includes a special gift for the mums and grandmas on your table

Dates for the popular Sunday night quizzes:

30th January, 13th march, 24th april,

5.00 per person includes entrance to the quiz,

History Corner

Last Will and Testament of Robert Moncaster (1796-1854) Schoolmaster

In Edition 13 but of the *Newsletter* I wrote about Robert Moncaster, who died in January 1854. He lived in Laburnum Cottage, now part of the Hobbits. This property he inherited from his father, another Robert, a carpenter, who died in 1823, and his mother Mary, who out-lived her husband. Here is the younger Roberts will:

Last will and testament of Robert Moncaster of Husthwaite in the County of York schoolmaster and I first give devise and bequeath to my dear wife Ann and my trusty friend Thomas Merrill both of Husthwaite my goods and tenements whether freehold copyhold or whatsoever tenure the land and tenements wheresoever situate together with all money whether bills bonds in fact all my real estates and personal effects for the use of getting education for the use of my children and getting each of them some trade they paying all my debts funeral and testamentary expenses and I hereby nominate and appoint my dear wife Ann and my trusty friend Thomas Merrill joint executrix and executor of this my last will and testament. In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand this third day of December in the Year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and fifty one.

Robert Moncaster

Signed by the testator his last will and testament in the presence at his request who in the presence of each other have hereunto set our names as witnesses. John Ash, Peter Wimp. Passed 26th July 1854.

* Thomas Merrill was born at Bagby in 1806. He had farmed 80 acres at the Flower O May since at least 1841. His wife was Ann (ne Ridsdale), a native of Colton and 5 or 6 years older than her husband.

* John Ash does not appear to have been a resident of Husthwaite.

* Peter Wimps ancestors had lived in Husthwaite since the 1700s.

He was born in the village in 1800 and was probably the son of William, a farmer and his wife Margaret. A lifelong bachelor, he appears to have lived opposite Robert Moncaster the cottages there, until they were demolished in the 1960s, were known as Wimp Villas. Between the 1841 and the 1881 Censuses, his occupations varied from farmer, proprietor of house and land, gardener, master gardener and gardener again. He was buried in St. Nicholas Churchyard at the age of 85.

Will Katherines Mango Crumble Make Her Masterchef?

Katherine Haworth

I responded to the advertisement in *Good Food* magazine for amateur cooks to take part in a BBC national cookery competition. An audition was followed by an invitation to compete in the heats.

Nine nervous people meet the judges Greg Wallace and John Torode and our first challenge is to take two fillets from a whole plaice, skin and cook them. I manage this despite wildly shaking hands and am one of the six to go through to the afternoon session. This time we are presented with a pile of ingredients and given 40 minutes to prepare a plate of food for the judges. My mushroom, watercress and goats cheese jalousie is approved and I am one of the three to go forward to the second day.

A 6.30am start in the lovely Charlotte Street Hotel, where we learn to prepare eggs benedict under the eagle eye of head chef, Amanda.

The afternoon gives us a chance to show our individual styles of cooking, and we have 50 minutes to prepare, cook and serve our own two-course menus.

The judging is an anxious time as both men are very knowledgeable and hyper-critical. My marinated tuna with roasted fennel and french beans provençal is acceptable and they love my orange and saffron syllabub. Greg piles on the tension for the cameras as we wait to hear which of us has made it to the quarter-final. I have. I am amazed and thrilled.

Four nervous quarter finalists begin the day, accompanied by a camera crew, with a shopping trip to purchase the main ingredients for our three-course menus to be prepared later that day. We then have a produce identification test (five cuts of meat and five different cheeses) followed by individual one-minute presentations to the judges on why we think we should be Masterchef finalists. One contestant is asked to leave.

Finally we start cooking. The cameras are everywhere, as are the judges asking questions to test our techniques and food knowledge. Seventy minutes later the food is served for the judges.

They are delighted with my starter of baked figs with Ribblesdale goats cheese and pink peppercorn dressing. My main course is Mediterranean stuffed chicken, followed by mango and ginger flapjack crumble.

Masterchef Goes Large will be televised in February and you can discover the judges verdict and the ending of my story then.

It has been a wonderful experience and I hope to have another go next year. In the meantime, I plan to develop my own business, making bread, cakes, puddings and anything else my customers want!

Do You Sing in the Bath? The Phoenix Choir Needs You!

Sue Leverton

Three years ago a group of parishioners had an Away Day at Bishopthorpe Palace together with the Archbishop of York and during a creative session he mentioned that he felt services in country parishes would be enhanced if congregations were to receive choral support from a choir - just like the old days.

Following this Jean Cobb, one of our volunteer organists, was approached to see if she would be prepared to help us establish a choir to provide periodic sung accompaniment - initially for Matins. She agreed and from this was born the Phoenix Singers an ad hoc choir that meets monthly most of the year and rehearses in members houses for no more than an hour and a half in the afternoon. At first the choir sung responses and service hymns but as confidence grew it started to tackle more taxing renditions. Harmonic performance in the early days left something to be desired but as the months passed commitment and quality improved to the point where the group is now asked to sing at other churches, special services, civic functions, funerals and weddings.

We should enjoy what we do, avoid tackling music beyond our capabilities and sing unaccompanied if at all possible, says Jean.

The majority of the fourteen members also belong to the Easingwold Singers but that does not mean all are qualified musicians, have a musical background or come from Husthwaite. Our current members hail from Easingwold, Wass, Crake and, of course, Husthwaite and not all can sight read. The only qualification for membership is enthusiasm, the ability to sing in tune and a sense of humour - enjoyment being our primary requirement.

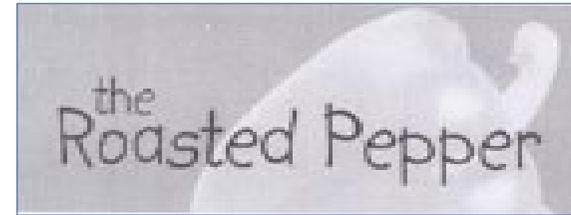
We are always looking for new members, especially sopranos, altos and tenors. If you like singing, and not just in the bath, and would like to join us please give me a call on 01347 868439.

Re-Cycle It

Husthwaites new re-cycling site is now operating. There are bins for plain, brown and green glass; tins and cans; papers and magazines. The site is in the lane behind the school and the cemetery, approached along Ample Carr. Please take special care with parking. If you take your vehicle up the lane you might be well advised to reverse in so as to have better visibility for getting back onto the road.

Christmas Quiz

The deadline for your material in the next Newsletter: Sunday 13th March. The history of our quiz was dominated by questions to the village. One of the 40 questions defeated everybody: a shade + the penultimate follows an advantage (5+5). The answer was *ninky and perky*. The winner was Angela



WINTER AT THE ROASTED PEPPER

an oasis of warmth & flavours
SPECIAL DATES FOR THE DIARY

wednesday evening: feb 2nd: the italian evening

tempt those taste buds with plates of cold cured meats, plum tomatoes, authentic cheeses, risottos and pastas enjoyed with italian breads & washed down with italian wines

wednesday evening: feb 23rd: Mexican food fiesta

nachos, fajitas, burritos, guacamole, tacos & chilli to name but a few,
refreshed with a glass of tequilla sunrise

wednesday evening: march 16th: an evening at a greek taverna

experience the traditional flavours of the greek cuisine from the mezze to the sticky pastries, not forgetting the shot of ouzo

wednesday evening: april 6th: spanish tapas, sangria & san miguel

remember that hot summer holiday, the informality of spanish cuisine?
having fun sharing food with friends and family!

All theme nights are 14.95 per person: includes a three-course meal & a complimentary drink.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The Day We Smashed the Vicars Window

In the December *Newsletter* there was a story about the Rev Tyler, a former Vicar of Husthwaite. I remember in the 70s we were allowed to play cricket on the green in front of the East View houses. Rev Tyler, having seen us, suggested we play in the vicarage. One summer day in the school holidays we had a game using a cork cricket ball.

I seem to remember that at the time I was bowling to Shane Rickards. Shane launched into a big hit and the ball went crashing into the upstairs double-glazed window. We all looked up in shock and made a run for it. We gathered outside the vicarage and suggested Shane to go back and own up. He did and Rev Tyler thanked him for owning up. I think he saw the funny side. After that we used a tennis ball! **Trevor Hutchinson**

The Fair Gave Christmas a Magical Start

I would like to thank Angela Whenman and all her team mates on the Village Hall Committee for the lovely Victorian Christmas Fair. It was a magical start to the Christmas festivities, and Charles and I really enjoyed ourselves, an evening not to be forgotten.

They had obviously all worked extremely hard. Such events don't happen without a lot of work behind the scenes. We did appreciate it. **Hilary**

Pearson

Neighbours Join in Search for Robins Ring

On the night of the Christmas Fair I lost my beautiful antique ring, which I was given 40 years ago. Since then, many friends and neighbours have expressed their concern and kept a look out for me. John the milkman and Christopher delivering papers have searched the streets, and the Barker family lent me their metal detector, but alas! my ring cannot be found. In the spirit of St Nicholas and in gratitude for Husthwaite's caring attitude I intend to donate my insurance settlement to the Tsunami Appeal in solidarity with people who have lost so much more than I have. **Robin Walton**

Village Tsunami Appeal

The day was dull and drizzly, and our thoughts were far away with desperate communities on the other side of the world. Friends and neighbours, 58 in all, gathered at the chapel to share coffee and scones and give contributions to the Tsunami Appeal. Of course, there was a lively buzz and a lot of kindly gossiping and introductions between newcomers and locals. Gifts tumbled into the basket; envelopes already given were added and, to our delight and amazement, when Hugh, with his treasurer's hat on, counted the offerings the sum of 2,500 had been given. As so often, Husthwaite has extended its

Mystery Visitor Enjoys His Husthwaite Visit

Sunday 5th December was the patronal festival of St. Nicholas Church, and among the enthusiastic congregation was a mystery visitor who concentrated closely upon the proceedings of the celebration.

Our visitor was none other than Mike Amos, the Northern Echo's North East columnist of the year who regularly visits churches in the region to see how they are surviving in today's doubting world.

In Mike's words, it was a toss-up between the splendours of St Nicholas Cathedral in Newcastle and the humbler, though altogether older, environs of Husthwaite.

In his article he related the vicars history of St Nicholas and Santa Claus, described the interior of the church, alluded to some of the Mousey Thompson furniture and gave a detailed analysis of the content of the service and the attitude of the congregation. Encouragingly, his comments were all positive and highly complimentary, showing that a small village with the right leadership can present the Christian story in a fashion that is both acceptable and understandable.

He proclaimed that it was the sort of service - fresh and vivid, thought provoking and mirth arousing - which could give the Church a good name far beyond the rural realms of Husthwaite.

Such visits, unexpected and not declared until after proceedings have been completed, show a church in its true colours and provide a learning experience when the critique is complete.

A copy of the article is now on display on the church notice board.

Husthwaite Village Hall Committee

Memories Are Made Of This displays of Husthwaite memorabilia

Sunday 20th March 2005

photos, curios

whether you've been here 80 minutes or 80 years

this is your chance to illustrate your Husthwaite story

contact any member of the Village Hall Committee to discuss
your display requirements

Rudolf Brings Santa to Packed Hall Fair

Father Christmas has never had it so good. He and Rudolf in their magnificent sleigh, with its flashing lights and its ermine-padded seats, were escorted up the village street by a swarm of Hustwaite children. A round of applause welcomed him as he entered the Hall. Christmas lights sparkled and flashed the full length of the ceiling. Crowds packed in, engulfing the stalls with customers. There was hot mulled wine, a tombola loaded with presents donated by village folk, and a splendid raffle. It was a fantastic start to Christmas.

We raised almost 700 for our funds, reports Angela Whenman, Chair of the Village Hall Committee. We have had a marvellous year, and I want to thank wish them a



While Father Christmas is busy in his grotto Rudolf takes the opportunity for a Christmas snifter, served by VH Committee member Adrienne Newton. photo: Gerald Crane

happy and successful time in 2005. We have drawn up plans for another active year, with further work to be done on improving the building. I hope people will continue to give us the same level of support. Angela explained that the Village Hall Committee is asking for volunteers to give occasional help for fund raising activities. Some of our occasions are so big and so successful, she said, that they put a strain on our band of willing workers. Anyone who would like to volunteer their occasional services is invited to contact a VH Committee member, starting with the evening of 25th February when we are holding a cookery demonstration evening called Pampered Chef - Cant Cook, Wont Cook Details on the next page.



Crowds engulf the stalls
Photo: Gerald Crane

Village Hall Events for your 2005 Diary

20th March *Memories Are Made of This* - display of every kind of memorabilia from your photo album to a toy you bought in one of the old village shops. Organisations (Chapel to Gardening Club) and individuals (born and bred to just arrived), book your display area.

26th June *Treasure Hunt* 17th September *Auction of Promises*

12th November *70s Disco*
Fair Hustwaite Village Hall

Roasted Pepper Disco Dates: 30th January, 13th March, 24th April
CLEANER REQUIRED

2 hours/fortnight
attractive rates

Lydia 868655

Hustwaite Village Hall
Committee

QUIZ

**Sunday 31st October
7.30pm**

**at the Roasted Pepper
5 including tapas supper
Tickets from Angela 868373**

2nd December *Christmas*

**Pampered Chef
Cant Cook, Wont
Cook**

cookery demonstration
audience participation
gift opportunities for Mothers

Day
Bar

Village Hall
7 for 7.30pm

Friday 25th February
Tickets 3

from any VH Committee

member
or the Village Shop