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The Link

THE PARISH MAGAZINE FOR ORTON, TEBAY AND RAVENSTONEDALE WITH NEWBIGGIN-ON-LUNE



The Prince of Wales visits Ravenstonedale

May 2008

THE LINK IS PUBLISHED BY THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCILS OF ALL SAINTS', CHURCH, ORTON, ST JAMES' CHURCH, TEBAY AND ST OSWALD'S CHURCH, RAVENSTONEDALE WITH NEWBIGGIN-ON-LUNE

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Clergy Letter

As there are two retired Anglican clergy living in Orton, the editor suggested that they take it in turns to write the "Clergy Letter" for *Link* until a new Vicar is instituted. So this month it has fallen to me, and next month it will be the Revd. Ian Elliott.

Over the coming months two significant local personalities are to be appointed – not only a new Vicar, but a new Head Teacher for Orton C. of E. Primary School. Both these people are bound to have a considerable influence, hopefully for good, on the life of our community.

But the fact is that they are likely to bring changes. Some of us find change, in any respect, unwelcome and even a little threatening; others are stimulated by it, and get bored if things just go on in the same old way! Some years ago I took part, with other clergy from Carlisle Diocese, in a seminar at Rydal Hall, where we were learning about something called the Myers Briggs Personality Analysis. To prepare for it, we each had to fill in a questionnaire with about 100 questions about how we would act or react in an enormous variety of situations: "Would you do (a) or (b)?" When these results were analysed, it was meant to place each one of us into one of sixteen different personality types!

I didn't actually find the exercise particularly helpful – but one finding did stick in my mind: three quarters of clergy react positively to change, and three quarters of members of church congregations react negatively to change! For some reason, these particular personality traits

appear in these proportions throughout the Church. So when one encounters great conflicts between congregations and their vicars, sometimes hitting the headlines of the tabloids, it is not necessarily a matter of one being right or wrong; it is just that their gut reactions to change differ! As a clergyman I can identify with that: many times throughout my ministry I have been impatient for some change in church life, and have felt that the congregation have resisted it. Of course, I was right, and they were just being wrong and pig-headed... (Or perhaps not.)

But we can't avoid change, even if you feel like crying out, "Stop the world! I want to get off..." My generation has had to face change at an astonishing and, it seems, ever-increasing rate. Not only in matters of technology (though how mobile phones, computers and the internet have transformed life just in the last twenty years) but in matters like morality and religion.

When I was ordained in 1963, it was generally assumed that in this country "religion" meant "Christianity"; and that, even if you didn't actually go to church, religion was on the whole a good thing. Not any more! Not only are there many militant atheists stridently and eloquently proclaiming that all religion is a wholly malign influence in the world; but many ordinary people deeply suspect that people who take religion too seriously are weird and a bit scary. This is partly because of the rise of militant Islam, and the very real threats it poses, but also because of the way the media have portrayed faith, such as their deriding the Christian beliefs of

NOTE – The management committee of the Link regret that it is unable to distribute literature for other organisations.

We would also like to point out that articles received after the **13th** may be held over until the following month

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politicians like George W. Bush and Tony Blair.

But Christians need not fear change, or the suspicions, hostility or ridicule of society. We are reminded that, in a changing world, “Jesus is the same, yesterday, today and forever.” Throughout most of the last two thousand years, in most countries, Christians have been a despised minority. Sadly, we have sometimes deserved all the criticism that has been thrown at us – not because we have followed Christ, but because we have let him down and distorted his teachings! But I want to encourage my fellow-believers to hold our heads high, be unapologetic about our faith in a mighty and loving God, and face the future – whatever it brings – with quiet confidence, and the “peace which passes understanding”. If we do, I think we may well find quite a lot of people wanting to find out more about what this Christian faith is all about!

Christopher C. Jenkin

District Council News

My apologies for not having contributed to the Link for the past four months but this has been due to health problems which I think I am over now.

Due to my lack of presence at the District Council meetings, I was not able to voice my objections sufficiently to the Dog Control Orders which have now been passed. I am very disappointed about these as they appear to me to be rather urbanised rules which apply more to towns than country areas such as Orton and Tebay. I also feel that the employment of two Community Wardens is a rather wasteful use of council tax payers money. I appreciate that their job is to try to prevent the problem of dog fouling on pavements but it seems to me that the vast majority of dog

owners are responsible people. I objected at a Council meeting to the fact that dogs should always be on leads in areas with a 40 mph or under speed limit. An amendment for dogs to be under control was dismissed by Steve Huddart. I would be interested to know if anyone in our area gets fined under these orders and whether they are being enforced.

You may know that the Chief Executive of Eden District Council is proposing a new system for the council and his proposals were in the Eye on Eden. He is hoping to have a Cabinet with seven councillors and the rest of us will merely scrutinise their decisions. His reasons for wanting this are so that the system of the present committees takes too long for decisions to be made. As a group, the Liberal Democrats are opposed to this and feel that, although the present system is far from perfect, this system will be less democratic. When he spoke to members of the council, he had not made any costings for this change and it appears that the Cabinet members will receive additional allowances.

Finally, I read with horror in the agenda for the District Council meeting on Thursday 17 April that there was a proposal to close the public conveniences at Orton and Tebay in order to make savings on the budget. Well that's not strictly true, the suggestion was that the council would not be responsible for them and they hoped that some other organisation would take over their running. The amount suggested to be given towards their running costs was £500 although I believe this could be negotiated. To my knowledge, the Parish Councils have not been informed of this proposition which will be voted on Thursday. I will report back on this matter.

Please contact me on mwilcox@eden.gov if you have any comments or suggestions you would like to make

Margaret Wilcox

Notes from The Herald, May 1908

Weather cold and wet until 2nd week then sunnier but not hot. Worse lambing for decades, many being lost to snow.

Tebay Church AGM held last Saturday in April for election of officers. Tebay Council School (mixed) needs a Supplementary Teacher at once – pay £30-£35 per annum.

Married at Tebay Primitive Methodist Chapel, Thomas H. Law to Edith M. Machell, at Tebay Church, Richard Campbell, Sedbergh to Annie G. Seddon, Tebay.

Tebay Sports on Whit Monday will include Ch. Wrestling.

Artistes at Tebay Railway Benevolent Fund’s Concert (for it’s widows) include Mr. Hunter from Ravenstonedale.

A regular visitor to Ravenstonedale, Mr. E.A. Bradshaw, Darlington, died in Ravenstonedale on 1st May when his motorbike was involved in a collision.

To let in Ravenstonedale, a house with coach-house and 2 good cottages (? Which house)

Ravenstonedale has well attended C & W Wrestling every Saturday.

Ravenstonedale Band of Hope will take it’s children to the Appleby Demo and picnic on 25th June.

Orton’s Temperance Hall is 50 years old and there will be a big celebration. It was founded by Tom Worsnip an extrovert incomer who used to parade Orton with a flag and rattle proclaiming the merits of Temperance.

Died at Howe Nook, Orton on 27th April, John Wilson, 76, and at Raisbeck also on 27th, Joseph Cousens aged 28.

An epitaph at Chatham, Kent
Beneath this stone, a lump of clay
Sleeps Uncle Peter Daniels.
Too early in the month of May
Took off his winter flannels!

Thank you Jeremy Godwin, Penrith

SERVICES IN OUR CHURCHES FOR MAY 2008				
Sunday 4 May		Seventh Sunday of Easter (Sunday after Ascension Day)		Liturgical colour: white
TEBAY		***10.30am*** JOINT EUCHARIST SERVICE FOR TEBAY EXHIBITION WEEKEND Lessons: Acts 1.6-14 and John 17.1-11		
Sunday 11 May		Pentecost (Whit Sunday)		Liturgical colour: gold or white
ORTON		8.30am	Holy Communion BCP	Lessons: Acts 2.1-21 and John 20.19-23 Reader and Sidesman: John Falshaw
TEBAY		11.00am	Holy Communion	Lessons: as above
RAVENSTONEDALE		9.15am	Holy Communion BCP	Lessons: as above Reader: Caroline Morris
Sunday 18 May		Trinity Sunday		Liturgical colour: gold or white
ORTON		11.00am	Family Eucharist	Lessons: 2 Corinthians 13.11-end and Matthew 28.16-20 Readers and Sidesmen: Sandra and Young People
TEBAY		11.00am	Morning Prayer	Lessons: Isaiah 40.12-17,27-end and Matthew 28.16-20
RAVENSTONEDALE		6.30pm	Evening Prayer	Lessons: As Tebay Readers: Tosca and John Bull
Sunday 25 May		First Sunday after Trinity		Liturgical colour: green
ORTON		***10.30am*** JOINT HOLY EUCHARIST SERVICE FOR ORTON EXHIBITION WEEKEND Lessons:1 Corinthians 3. 10,11,16-end & Matthew 5.38-end Sidesman: Churchwardens Reader: Jackie Huck		
PLEASE NOTE EXHIBITION SERVICES TIME OF 10.30AM				

SUNDAY SERVICES IN OUR CHAPELS FOR MAY 2008						
Methodist Chapel	Time	4 May	11 May Pentecost	18 May Trinity Sunday	25 May	
ORTON	***10.00***	D Askew TP	D Askew TP	C Staley	P Dew	
	6.30	Circuit Service	M Harper T	K Coward	J Law	
TEBAY	10.30	SS Anniversary	T Longworth	P Dew	W Capstick	
	6.30	Circuit Service	P Dew	*	*	
R'DALE	2.00	J Edwards	P Jackson CA	P Dew	J Skinner	
	6.30	Circuit Service	P Jackson CA	LA	P Dunstan	
NEWBIGGIN	10.30	LA FS	*	*	*	
	2.00	*	P Dunstan	J Skinner	R Fellows	
	6.30	Circuit Service	*	*	*	
*** Please continue to note change of time ***						

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The Uganda Experience

I am not sure where to start with sharing our experiences in Uganda to which so many of our friends in Orton and Tebay made a contribution in some form or other. So this will be some of my impressions, and later on we hope to publish a small booklet containing much more, which we will sell to raise funds for some of the ongoing projects out there.

‘You are welcome! You are welcome!’ This greeting would be spoken to us by the Ugandans each time we entered a building or compound no matter how small or humble. Everyone shakes hands when they meet and friendly smiles are evident everywhere; children are curious about our white skins and not shy about poking or stroking to see if we are real!

Once off the one main road in Kasese all the ‘roads’ are just dirt tracks throwing up red dust; houses are in the main just small shacks with corrugated iron or banana leaf thatch, or straw for the roof. The red soil is made into bricks which are for sale outside many small houses – just a pile on the track for you to make your selection.



People walk for miles with huge bundles of goods to sell in the town – bananas, sticks, cloth, coal, crates of chickens, and much more, all carried on their heads or backs – both adults and children. It is nothing to walk – quite possibly in bare feet – six or more miles to town to sell goods or to go to school. Some of the more fortunate have bicycles which they use to carry their bundles – no room to ride!! Some children were walking past the house we were staying in at 6 a.m. to get to school.

Many children do not receive any education – theoretically school is compulsory but as fees are required, or money for uniforms or books, many do not go – either there is no money, or they are needed at home to look after the goats, or to help on the land or to care for siblings whilst parents work.

There are millions of children in Uganda of which a huge percentage are orphans - largely owing to the death of the parents from AIDS. Nobody really knows how many children are in this situation. If they have other family members it is possible that an aunt or grandparent will be the carer, but many are left to fend for themselves.



We spent one Sunday afternoon in the company of about eighty poor and needy children - many of them orphans. A young Ugandan couple trying to help them – so far they have been able to start building a health clinic and pit latrines – are raising money by making beautiful paper beads which they sell in the market, a worthy but slow process towards solvency!

Rubbish is left out in the street on an open tip – rotting food overflowing a filthy skip, with cows defecating and huge, ugly Maribou Storks eating their fill. This is where the ‘Street Children’ get their food unless someone gives them something; these boys sleep in the trees and often have to resort to petty

crime to live.

If it hadn’t been for the great faith of the Ugandan Christians it would all have been sad and depressing, but no, we were inspired and challenged by the commitment of local Christian people who believe that God has called them to work among the deprived and needy of their own town, each one doing their utmost to obey the Lord’s words when He said “Inasmuch as you do it to the least of these people you do it for me.” (Matthew 25.40)

Mary Jenkin

BREAKING THE SILENCE

Domestic violence is a subject that has been hidden under the carpet in Christian circles. In theory it should not happen but sadly it does. Domestic violence happens to anyone in any strata of society – your partner may be a judge, a doctor, a minister, a farmer or a pillar of the community. Domestic abuse includes physical, mental, emotional, financial, and spiritual abuse when the perpetrator seeks to control their partner. As a result of this behaviour the person affected becomes emotionally numb and loses their self esteem and often manifests panic attacks and anxiety. Children in these situations are at risk.

Cumbria’s incidence of reported incidences of domestic violence is higher than average in the UK. In recent years some excellent work has been carried out by the Methodist Church, Baptist Church and the Anglican Church has produced a paper. Churches together in Merseyside did some pioneering work too.

In our area it is encouraging that there is a small group working with the local initiative Let Go based in Penrith. We work under the auspices of Churches together in Cumbria. Along with Let Go training has been provided for church leaders and pastoral workers in Penrith and Carlisle which has had good feedback from those involved. Two leaflets have been compiled – one for those affected and one with information and advice for ministers and pastoral workers. A Charter for Churches “Breaking the Silence about Domestic Violence” has been produced which is being discussed by PCCs, committees and leadership of the churches. It has already been discussed at St James Tebay and we have signed up for the charter. If anyone is interested in following suite please contact Rosemary Campbell on 015396 24837. I also have a supply of the leaflets which can be put out in the churches, chapels etc

Tel nos. where help is available – Let Go 01768 892179 and the National Women’s Aid/Refuge Helpline 0808 2000 247. And if someone does open up to you please listen and believe you may be shocked but point them towards the help available. The individuals concerned should not be counselled together. An excellent book particularly for Christians is “Keeping the Faith” by Marie Fortune which is available on Amazon or from SetFreeTrust@aol.com or from myself.

How to survive a day in the garden

Gardening is a peculiarly British joy. It’s really hard work and there are so many possibilities for disaster. We can take the blame when everything goes pear-shaped, but when, occasionally, the whole garden is a vision of loveliness, we may modestly pass the credit on up to the Almighty.

No wonder, then, that gardening in Britain is massive business. For the privilege of all this thankless toiling, we spend over two and a half billion pounds in garden centres every year. On behalf of slugs and osteopaths everywhere, I should like to express my gratitude for this excess.

For the slugs I know no cure. For the backache I can offer some help if you follow these very simple golden rules:

Do not jump out of bed and go digging.
During the night, when you have taken the weight off your spine, the discs are able to swell. When you first get up in the morning, they are a little ‘bulgy’. This is a bad thing if you plan immediate, heavy exercise because discs, like the rest of us, dislike being woken with a start. They will settle down for the day in a couple of hours, but in the meantime it is foolish to annoy them. Have breakfast, take a stroll round the garden, measure up for the water-feature, but **do not dig** until two hours after getting out of bed.

Don’t expose your back to searching winds.
Gardening is rather warm work. Sooner or later, you will start removing layers. Please wear a long-sleeved garment that you can take off and **tie around your waist** when you get hot. If you tend to neck problems, you are better to strip down to a sleeveless top with a collar than a strappy vest. You won’t notice a cool wind on your back while you are working, but your muscles will!

Take a timer into the garden.
Once you are engrossed in a job, you may not realise how long you have been at it, but you should not keep at the same thing for too long. Set a timer for twenty-five minutes, and every time it goes off, **change jobs and reset the timer.** It means that you rotate round the garden, leaving half-done jobs all over the place, but that can’t be helped. Eventually you will be able to tidy up.

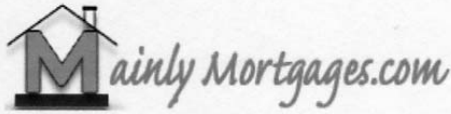
4. Don’t go on too long.
Be satisfied. When you think it will soon be time to stop, you are already tired and most injuries occur at the beginning or the end of the day.

Resist the call of the sagging deckchair.
When a racehorse has been out on the gallops, his jockey walks him home so that his muscles and ligaments can cool gently down in motion. Keep moving for a while when you’ve finished, because your tissues, too are happier if they’re allowed to come to a quiet halt. Then shower and change into dry clothes.

Then, and only then, pour the Pimms

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The View from Tebay

by Reg Capstick, Licenced Reader

By the time this issue of The Link is distributed, Carole will have departed. I know I am not alone in wishing she had not decided to retire before she took on the extra responsibility of looking after five parishes but I am sure it was the right decision from her personal point of view. The extra work she has undertaken since replacing Tony Dalton must have taken a lot out of her - not that she ever complained. There is one bright spot, however, in that she intends to retain her Training role in the Deanery and live near Kirkby Stephen, so we will doubtless still see her from time to time.

We are fortunate in having "persuaded" the Bishop and Archdeacon to advertise the vacancy while Carole is still here - a most unusual event in the Church of England's way of working! This means we should know who will be taking Carole's place by early May and start preparing for the new "era". The profiles of the five parishes should have given him or her a good idea of what is required by the parishioners and, God willing, a positive attitude towards our needs.

Just yesterday I received a copy of the Carlisle Diocese Church Buildings Audit, which was carried out last year. It seems to present a fair picture of St James' although it had never occurred to me that the interior is "a polychromatic delight" because of the different coloured bricks nor that the bell turret is "quirky".

Speaking of the church building, whether quirky or not, we have just spent almost £2,000 on repairs and clearing of moss from the roof, gutters, spouts and bell turret. This outlay is small compared to what we would face if we attempted to carry out more of the improvements mentioned in the architects report. We will do what we can in the five years before the next Quinquennial report is due but only when we can afford to.

ST JAMES' TEBAY

EXHIBITION WEEKEND

SATURDAY, SUNDAY & MONDAY

3, 4 & 5 May

"MEMORIES OF CHILDHOOD"

EXHIBITION OPEN
2 - 5 DAILY
WITH CREAM TEAS
SUNDAY EUCHARIST
10.30 AM
CONDUCTED BY
REVd PHILIP RUSHTON

One comment in the Audit is that the church is open only for worship. This is not a satisfactory state of affairs but was deemed necessary after we had our beautiful eagle lectern stolen some years ago. I am hoping we may be able to open the building at times during the week this summer because I am aware that people who visit Tebay find our church interesting. A recommendation of the Audit report is that we should "take advantage of the potential ecological interest of the graveyard and investigate promoting the church as part of railway tourism industry". The PCC will discuss these ideas and see what can be done about them.

Preparations for our Exhibition Weekend are under way and we are hoping for a good response from anybody with vivid memories of childhood - and

mementoes such as teddy bears or toys. I have several memories, to do with school and Sunday School, but unfortunately I have no relics of my very young days. I used to have a much-loved teddy bear, which I recall as being blue and eventually battered, but I have no idea what happened to it. I look forward to seeing some of our readers during the weekend, whether with their own "relics" of childhood or simply to look at other people's and, of course, to sample one of the famous cream teas.

I must quote one further phrase from the Audit report because it gives some encouragement for St James' to those of us who have the churches future at heart. It described the interior as "a comfortable, cheerful and uplifting space", which seems to me rather more pleasing than "a polychromatic delight".

The Tebay School News

BREWERY DANCE PLATFORM

Year five and six had the privilege to go the Brewery Arts Centre in Kendal, to perform in the Dance Platform. Our choreographer Helen Moffitt helped us through every step of our amazing dance. We decided to call it "Above and beyond". The dance was about space. The theatre seated an audience of five hundred. The people were impressed with our cool, slick dance... and Helen was very proud of us.



Sponsored Walk and Bunny Hunt.

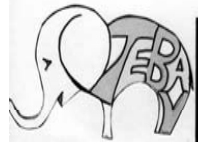
On the last day of term the whole school went on a Sponsored Walk, dodging the rain! Groups of children went to find chocolate bunnies hidden about school first.

Tebay Elephant Parade 2008

Saturday 12th July £50 first prize

The Main Event

Make an Elephant and display it outside your home or business.
Make it humorous, pretty, use puns, play on words.
The bigger the better



A New category: The Cut Out Elephant
If you never quite know where to start, this will give you a hand.
Collect a wooden cut out elephant from the Barnaby Rudge, paint it, decorate it, turn it into a masterpiece! It's up to you. Then display it outside your home or business for judging on the 12th July.

The Little Elephants: for the children

0-4 years 5-10 years 11-16 years
Collect an outlined drawing from the Barnaby Rudge, decorate it which ever way you want, and return it to the Barnaby for judging by 7.00pm on the 12th July.



The Edible Elephant: Open to any age.

Make an edible elephant, bring it to the Barnaby Rudge by 7.00pm for judging, then we all have a good feed.

Application forms available from: The Barnaby Rudge and Tebay Post Office.
For more details, please contact Sue Pittcock on 015396 24538.

TUILLIE HOUSE

Year 1 and 2 have been to Tuillie House. They did a work shop called "Wash Day Blues". They dressed up as Victorians and had a great time doing washing of clothes in old fashion style! Then they went on a walk to a sculpture park, admired lots of sculptures outside and got very muddy!



BY ASTRID AND WESLEY HELP BY TOM

What do you know about **EXTENDED SERVICES IN UPPER EDEN**

These are services that children and families either need or want, which can be provided through local schools. They might include after school activities, childcare, access to specialist services, support and information for parents and children and community access to school facilities.

Although lots of good things are already happening through our school, there are many more services that could be developed. For example, what do you think of the idea for a community cinema, perhaps linked to a film/media club? Or how about a place where parents can share their concerns and ideas? Such a group will be meeting in Kirkby Stephen from May to look at issues affecting parents with teenagers, entitled 'I'm a parent, get me out of here!!' (for details contact Ann Hurst on

07920873086).

Many schools across the country now employ an Extended Services Co-ordinator whose job it is to develop partnerships between schools, health, social care and community/voluntary groups so that these services can be delivered most effectively. Such a person is employed in Upper Eden, based at Kirkby Stephen Grammar School and working also with the 6 feeder primary schools in the area. Consultation within the community is on-going to ensure that people can have their say and get involved if they want to. If you have any suggestions or comments then please contact Mary Doyle, the Extended Services Co-ordinator on 017683 71693 ext. 248 or email at

mary.doyle@kirkbystephengrammar.cumbria.sch.uk

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@ THE GEORGE

MAY 2008

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Singer

Saturday 17th
FUN MUSIC QUIZ

Saturday 31st
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FAMILY SERVICE
on May 4th
at 10.30 am
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Refreshments afterwards.

RAVENSTONEDALE ENDOWED PRIMARY SCHOOL

Residential Trip to Fellside

We went to Fellside for 3 days and 2 nights with Mrs Tringham who organised it and Mrs Law who loves this sort of stuff. Instead of doing adventure we did sustainability and visited a wind farm. Other activities included a night walk where we saw a badgers set, but no badgers, and our instructors Paul and Mia told us about light and sound pollution. A daytime walk where we found frog spawn in a pond, we also did the Great Egg Challenge, where we had to make a car, boat or parachute that would prevent our egg from cracking while the vehicle travelled 5 metres. Everyone had a good time at Fellside and we would love to go back.

By Emma Parsons

TRAVEL CLUB

Every Wednesday night we have travel club. We look at different countries and make food from that country and last week we made Chinese fortune cookies, but we didn’t know how to fold the cookies. So we put the fortune in the middle of the cookies, and then I

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For more information (**phone Andrea on 23477**

saw what was on the paper. Mine was ‘you have eaten 21 cookies.’ Then we ate the fortune cookies. The cookies were delicious, they were really crispy, they were lovely, I really like travel club.

By Kodi Elliott

World Maths Day

On the 5th March 2008 all the schools around the world answer lots of questions.

We were all given a user name and password to log on to the web site.

I had to go on line and answer as many questions as I could in one minute. I was playing against children from all over the world. We had to divide, adding, multiplying and subtracting sums.

We made a character and if we broke our world record we got ten credits.

By Jay Elliott

WORLD BOOK DAY

On Thursday some children dressed up as characters from Roald Dahl books. If you brought a book you could swap it. There were loads of books to swap. If you brought one you could get one and so on. Then we did a parade in the

play ground. In the afternoon the whole school watched a video, it was Matilda, it was very good. At the end of watching the video we did a quiz about it. People dressed up as Willy Wonka, Matilda, Mr Fox, Dan the Champ, The Twits and loads more. It was a fun day.

By Matthew Capstick

Bingo !!!

On Saturday 8th March some people went to Bingo. A lot of people won something. Lucy, Carla and my Mum won something. Mum won a note book and she was going to call it the naughty children’s book, I thought that was a bad idea. I couldn’t believe Mrs Law won something, she won a yellow duck and I thought it was a really really great duck. I love Bingo a lot.

By Jack Boustead

Ravenstonedale



Garden Trail

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in Ravenstonedale &
Newbiggin-on-Lune
June 21st & 22nd



Wildflower Quiz Sheets £1.
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Contributions to plant stall welcome



SONGS OF PRAISE Service on
Sunday
In St Oswald's Church



Royal Support for the “Hub”

HRH visits Ravenstonedale.

Ravenstonedale made the national news (including the R4 “Today” programme) on March 31st when Prince Charles visited the Black Swan Hotel and its Village Store during his two-day trip to Cumbria.

Crowds of residents and visitors lined the flag-decorated main street in brilliant sunshine, entertained by live folk music, as they waited to welcome Prince Charles when he arrived with Secretary of State for the Environment Hilary Benn.

The Black Swan venture (the conversion of a ground-floor bedroom into a shop selling groceries, local produce, stationery and gifts) is part of the Prince of Wales’ national Pub is the Hub initiative, set up in 2001 as part of a Rural Action Programme. Hotel owners Alan and Louise Dinnes, who took over in 2006, set up the Village Store with assistance from Pub is the Hub and grant-aid from the Cumbria Rural Infrastructure Support Programme.

After looking round the shop, Prince Charles spent time in the hotel with councillors and local business people including some of the food producers who supply both the Black Swan Hotel and the Village Store. He then chatted to local residents before unveiling a plaque on the shop front commemorating his visit.

Ravenstonedale people had the opportunity of telling him how much they used the shop, how beneficial it was and how it cut down on car journeys to other shopping centres. Before leaving for Booths in Kendal, the Prince was presented with baskets of local produce.

The visit went so smoothly because of intensive behind-the-scenes planning. Three months before, the Prince’s entourage including his private secretary came to the Black Swan and stayed overnight; a month ahead, a meeting was held to review the visit in minute-by minute detail, and then there were regular meetings and phone calls right up to the event. Louise Dinnes remembers the special morning:- “I walked out of the hotel about five minutes before the Prince came and all the people were there, and the sunshine and music and flags – it was so perfect. We were just so proud, and so happy for everything. It was wonderful for the village”. She added, “Afterwards we had a wonderful letter from Prince Charles thanking us, and another appreciative one from Hilary Benn”.



Orton

Orton Farmers’ Markets

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July 12th

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or pass to any committee member

How the Vicar’s Vacancy was filled in the 17th Century

Jeremy Godwin who kindly sends us Notes from the Herald, has sent this piece which is particularly interesting in view of our present situation.

From Rector of Orton, Dr. Burn’s History of Westmorland, 1777 (Vol 1 of Nicholson and Burn; Nicholson did Cumberland, pages 483-4 and 536-7-----

In the vacancy of 1643, the Civil War had begun, and each side wanted its own man as Vicar. Orton’s Cromwellians got the Rev. Alexander Fothergill instituted but the rest of Orton refused to let him work. He was an Army Chaplain. The land-owners (the real Patrons) chose the Rev. George Fothergill and sued the Bishop and won. The Royalists’ man, The Rev. Mr. Lowther was in Ireland unaware of all this. In 1662 George Fothergill had to go as he refused the Act of Uniformity, but he later had a rethink and became a vicar in Nottinghamshire.

One Sunday George Fothergill exchanged pulpits with Mr. Dalton, Vicar of Shap, who had only one eye (his eyeshade gave him the nick name Peed Dalton i.e. Pied). The local Quakers used to barge into church services to barrack the Vicar and one did so that Sunday while Mr. Dalton was preaching. “Come down, thou false Fothergill” he shouted. “Who told thee that my name was Fothergill” asked Mr. Dalton. – “The Spirit” – “Then that spirit of thine is a lying spirit for it is well known that I am not Fothergill but Peed Dalton of Shap!”

Exciting times! MA

See amid the *Easter* snow....

There is surely something special about coming together to celebrate the resurrection of Jesus just as the first disciples did, early in the morning. But his present-day disciples had something to contend with this year that our predecessors would not Have even thought of- four inches of snow!

So it was that at 5.35 on Easter morning, faced with this, and the snowplough not having then gone up the road, the decision was made that it was too risky to go ahead with the service. Three of us stood at the bottom of the hill in Orton till after six o'clock to try and turn back any brave souls who made the attempt: in this I understand we were not entirely successful, and I apologise for any inconvenience caused.

One good thing has come out of all this: we are well prepared for next year! See you on April 12*2009!

Philip Rigby



Orton

ORTON & TEBAY LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY.

We have finally reached the 21st century - we have a web site.... www.otlhs.ukme.com. For those who, like me, are still in the quill pen era we still have an old fashioned printed programme which members will get, non members can have a copy too, contact either me or Mary Jenkin. I will still continue to give dates to remember and other information in the Link each month.

On Monday 19th May, Rob Wilson will give a talk on Metal Detecting, Tebay Methodist Church at 7.30p.m. On Wednesday 11th June, Viv Mackay will lead a walk in Smardale, NB. START TIME for this is 6.30pm. Meeting place to be announced. On Monday 14th July, Roger Robson will give a talk on Cumberland and Westmorland Wrestling, Tebay Methodist Church 7.30p.

A reminder to those of you who have not renewed your membership subscription, it is now due, still at the bargain price of £5.00 for a year running from March 2008 - March 2009. If you don't wish to join but would like to drop in for the odd meeting, non members are always welcome £1.50 for the evening.

Two OTLHS members, Heather Ballantyne and Mary Jenkin, have produced a booklet entitled, 'A Walk Around Orton' price £2.50, available from Orton Village Stores, the Tea Room, Kennedy's Chocolate Shop and the George.

If you would like any further details, information, a copy of the programme, or have any suggestions for future talks or walks, contact Wendy Higgins, Programme Secretary, 015396 24780.

TEBAY W.I.

Dennis Rowlandson presented a fascinating cookery demonstration at the March meeting of Tebay W.I., when he showed food of the Old Testament. The members watched as Dennis made bread using barley, spelt, and chick pea flours. Mackerel was cooked with herbs, apricots, figs and pomegranates were prepared in red wine, and almonds and peaches stuffed with almond paste.

All the ingredients were available over 2000 years ago, and many would have been the basic foods eaten. Dennis treated the W.I. to historical insights into the period as he cooked, noting the rich variety of herbs, fruit and vegetables from the area which could have been the original Garden of Eden. Many of the commodities we take for granted today, originated in this area and everyone got to sample the food afterwards.

ORTON AND TEBAY LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY.

The Annual General Meeting of Orton and Tebay Local History Society was held at Tebay Chapel, when Chairman Bernard Thornborrow thanked all the committee for their work over the year. He said that it had been a very varied and enjoyable programme over the past twelve months, and that the meetings and outings had been well supported.

The new programme was available, fronted by the beautiful logo specially designed for the Society, by Pauline Henderson. Topics for the year will include Manorial Records, Metal Detecting, Cumberland and Westmoreland Wrestling, The History of Shap Wells Hotel, Farming in the Howgills in the 1940's and walks around Smardale and Roundthwaite.

The Treasurer had prepared the balance sheet, showing that the Society has a healthy balance at the moment. This has allowed membership fees to remain steady at £5.00 per annum. Membership is standing at 76.

Various purchases have been made for the Society Archives including DVD's and Books.

The existing members of the committee were prepared to re-stand, their re-election was proposed by John Falshaw, Seconded by Reg Capstick, and carried. The committee are Bernard Thornborrow Chairman, Wendy Higgins Programme Secretary, Jackie Huck Minute Secretary, Jane Archless Treasurer, Mary Jenkin and Len Clarke.

The new booklet 'A history Walk around the village of Orton' will be on sale from Easter. A sample copy was shown. This has been prepared by Mary Jenkin and Heather Ballantyne and they were thanked for all their hard work and research by The Chairman.

A DVD 'Landscape, Steam Railway over Shap, provided the entertainment. This was an amazing piece of history, which had been discovered by Railway enthusiast Francis Higgins, it showed Tebay Station, the yards and engine shed, and various trains goods and passenger, going up and down Shap summit. The use of the banking engines and the Tebay and Scout Green Signal Boxes brought back many memories for the older residents, and gave an insight for new and younger residents who had never seen Tebay during the age of steam.

Ravenstonedale



Castle Museum comes to Ravenstonedale.

In conjunction with Carlisle's military Castle museum, the King's Head will host an exhibition of local **Home Guard memorabilia on Saturday 24th and Sunday 25th May** in the function room, **noon onwards on both days**. The Museum is supplying most of the items on display and museum staff will be there to answer your questions. The exhibition follows the great response to Gary Kirby's Ravenstonedale Home Guard article in our March issue. Admission is free - everyone welcome.

Book Sale at the Grange, Ravenstonedale.
Saturday May 24th
10.00am - 1.00pm
Fiction (many hardbacks) and non - fiction
many categories - a lot of history)
Contact Les & Bob Bagot on 01539 623679 to view

Ravenstonedale Yacht Club is proud to present MAY DAY MADNESS

Monday 5th May 2008,

The annual regatta on The Millennium Field
1:30 pm (race at 2:00 from Kings Head)

BBQ, refreshments, bouncy castle, face painting, egg throw, archery, kids sports, penalty shoot out, ladies V gents football, & more!

Live music from 4:00pm.

The theme this year is - **anything goes!**

Any "craft" you like can be entered on the day- 1,2,3 persons or more!!

Border TV hope to be there!!!

We are raising money along the way towards the upkeep of the field.

Any questions or to enter a team - contact Richard Staley -23263 or any Mill' field committee member.

Go on join in the fun!!



Open House at High Chapel

Every Wednesday, 10.30 to 12 in High Chapel. Fairtrade filter coffee & tea, refreshments. Everyone welcome; admission free - donations appreciated.

The Grange - Ravenstonedale
Items of furniture for sale & BookSale at the Grange
2 x easy chairs, one with footrest
2 x pine kitchen tables 1 x solid pine dressing table / desk
2 x solid pine book cases, one large, one small
1 x small freezer
3 x kitchen stools.
Also - 1 colour TV 21".
Contact Les & Bob Bagot on 01539 623679 to view
We will accept all reasonable offers.

KNIT 2GETHER

Shap Memorial Hall Fri 9th - Sun 11th May 11am - 5.00pm FREE Admission

Ruth Lee will be creating new works for the tour that draw on the expertise of traditional knitters of the Borders area, Cumbria and the Dales. Her aim is to move beyond the functional to create an art form that is not simply an imitation of past work but is something fresh and individual.

Biddy Rychnovsky's work explores themes which challenge common perceptions of knitting and its traditional associations with garments. She explores ways in which knitting can be combined with other media and experiments with material unrelated to knitting. Her most recent work combines knitting with DNA research and light in wall-mounted pieces.

One of the makers will be present at the exhibition.

Orton

ALL SAINTS'CHURCH
ORTON.

ANNUAL EXHIBITION
24th, 25th and 26th May.
AROUND THE WORLD
Saturday & Monday, 10am. to 6pm.
Sunday, 1pm to 6pm.

EXHIBITION SERVICE
SUNDAY at 10.30am, followed by Refreshments.

Morning Coffee & Cream Teas served each day.

SCARECROW Competition over the weekend in village.

Paintings & Poetry Exhibition
11am to 4pm Monday *in the Market Hall.*

For further information please
Tel. 015396 24258 or contact any PCC Member.

Orton
Mothers' Union

Tuesday 6th May
Trip to Ostrich World
Leave Orton 1.30pm.

* * * * *

Tuesday 3rd June
7.30pm
All Saints' Church
Open Meeting
Pauline and Dougie Hardie
will talk about their work in
Uganda.
Everyone welcome.

Do you live in the Orton
area and are in need of
practical help;
transport perhaps to an ap-
pointment
or would appreciate some-
one with a listening ear?

There are people at the
Methodist Chapel in Orton
who would like to offer
their help and support, con-
tact :
Rev Phil Dew – Tel
015396 24372 or
Rowland and Rachel Woof
– Tel 015396 24372

ORTON LUNCH CLUB

Wednesday 21st May 2008

Chicken Broccoli
Cottage Pie
Broad Bean, Onion and Tomato

Raspberry & apple crumble
Sticky toffee pudding

EVERYONE WELCOME
Come & enjoy the food and a
chat.
(Transport can be provided on
request)

Please order to Maureen Ewin
(24305) or
Tea Rooms (24886) by Fri-
day 16th May.

Orton

**Are you interested in being part
of a
LOCAL writers' group?**

Fed up with having to travel to
Kirkby Stephen, Sedbergh or Ken-
dal for feedback on your writing?
Want to try something new but
don't know where to start?
Need practical advice and support
in polishing – or publishing – your
work?

Thanks to sponsorship from Prism
Arts*, **ORTON SCRIBBLERS** (or
something very like it) will meet in
Orton Market Hall, on the second
Monday of each month. The group
is open to all. The first meeting, to
explore the group's direction, will
be on: May 12th at 7.30 pm.

We expect to have a wide range of
experience from beginners to pub-
lished writers. You do not have to
be an expert to join in!

Once we are up and running, Prism
Arts also plan for us to publish our
best work as part of a new writers'
news-sheet. If you have an internet
connection, we hope to make it
possible for you to join in and pub-
lish online – so being disabled,
housebound or without transport
will be no bar.

If you can't make the evening but
are interested, please contact:

Sue Millard, 01539 624636

MONDAY 26th MAY as an extra
attraction for Orton's Bank Holi-
day Weekend, come along to
The Market Hall, between 11am
and 4pm, and enjoy the Paintings
of Pauline Henderson and the
Poetry of Jackie Huck.

See a selection of Pauline's
beautiful art, and watch her at
work on her latest project. Read
and experience Jackie's poetry.
All welcome, entry free

**ORTON SCARECROW
COMPETITION 2008**

By now most of you will have
received an entry form through
the letter-box, those who haven't,
forms can be found at the Shop.

Remember we want entry forms
returned by Saturday MAY 10th.
Completed forms can be left at
the shop or given to Dot Coates,
Wendy Higgins, Heather
Ballentyne, Marion Robinson or
Jackie Huck.

The theme this year is AROUND
THE WORLD, so that should give
you plenty of ideas. Anyone living
or owning property within the
Parish of Orton is eligible to
enter. Scarecrows to be
displayed within the village
perimeter, you can put them on
the grass verges if you live
outside the village)

There is the usual general
scarecrow competition, plus
special classes for Primary age
school children and window
scarecrows (NB.window
scarecrows must be handmade
and no larger than 14 inches)

The actual competition takes
place from Saturday 24th May, to
coincide with the Church
Exhibition, and we ask that if
possible Scarecrows be kept in
place until Friday 30th.

Put your scarecrows up
sometime during Friday 24th
May, and judging will be done by
a popular vote of those walking
round looking at the Scarecrows.
Maps/voting forms will be
available from the Church and
the Shop with each Scarecrow
numbered.

Winners will be announced, and
lists posted on Tuesday 27th, and
prizes will be given out that day.

So - that's a reminder of the
details, there will be posters
around the Parish for an extra
reminder. Lets have lots and lots
of Scarecrows and make the
competition a real Orton
Spectacular!

Any questions or if you can't get
a form just phone me, Jackie
Huck 24266.

St. Patrick's Night was
celebrated a few days late at
Orton Market Hall on the
Saturday evening of Easter
weekend. The music of the
Oxford Fiddle Group and
Barbara Gilbertson from
Dufton was very much ap-
preciated by a capacity au-
dience. The "fiddle group"
is a rather deceiving name
since the members also
played guitar, mandolin,
banjo, harp and concertina.
They played a wide range of
music from jigs, reels and
polkas to slow airs and
waltzes plus some songs all
with an Irish connection.
Barbara's contribution in-
cluded a range of tunes in-
cluding some very old ones
from the 17th century but the
most rapturous applause
was given to "Danny Boy".
Light refreshments were
served and at 10pm the ta-
bles were cleared for the
night to be concluded with
dancing including the
"Siege of Ennis" and the
"Kerry Polka".

Thank you all who helped
to make the evening such a
success in every way. The
evening raised £660 which
was shared between Chris-
tian Aid and the Arthritis
Research Campaign.

**ORTON METHODIST
CHAPEL**

Please note that our
morning services
will now commence at
10am and
Sunday School at
11.30am.