

## Newsletter Snapshot



### **The Nookin approx 1900**

*Caption competition: supply a caption for this photo. Winning entry appears in the next Newsletter.*

*Photo: courtesy Brenda Duffield*

### **Christian Aid Week**

Juliet McDougall

A big thank you to everyone who gave to Christian Aid Week this year. Husthwaite raised in excess of 800. Our money will be used mainly to help educate young people in Ethiopia so that they understand about HIV/Aids.

### **Plants for Sale**

Plants are on sale again this year in aid of St Nicholas Fabric Fund at Sunnybank, Low Street, Husthwaite. If anyone has spare plants they would be happy to donate for sale I'd be very grateful.

*Frances Petty*

### **Easingwold Taxis**

07763 234080

*Deadline for your material in the next Newsletter: Sunday 17th September*

# Husthwaite Newsletter

Edition1

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## **Committee Outlines Plans for Halls Appearance**

Jointly Funded by Husthwaite Parish Council  
and

the Village Hall Committee

**Over the past two years a number of internal improvements have been made to the fabric of the Village Hall, and at this time the Committee would like to outline future plans.**

July 2006

The successful fund-raising events that have taken place over the last two years have enabled us to build funds to a level where we believe we will very shortly be able to apply for equal grant funding from a number of different organisations. The aim of these grants is to improve the visual impact of the front of the Hall.

From the feedback and comments made to us, the visual impact of the front of the Hall, and the overdue need to improve it, has consistently been the No 1 priority for the Committee, and indeed for the majority of Husthwaite residents.

Our aim is to re-surface the amenity area to the front of the Hall with a tarmac surface. To achieve this we will have to undertake a number of other works, notably: re-siting the drainage system; building a retaining wall to the front and northern boundaries; re-building the two sets of steps to the front; and improving and grading the ground levels prior to the new surface being laid. By altering the ground levels we will be able to improve both the pedestrian and vehicular access to the Hall by reducing the slopes at the two entrances. It is also our intention to have raised beds built between the steps to the front, enabling us to introduce selective planting of shrubs that will soften the visual impact of the brickwork and ensure that the building is made to look as attractive as possible.

Other plans for the exterior of the building include fitting new fire doors and painting the windows, which is badly overdue.

**The key point for the work listed above is to take forward the villages original decision, which was to retain and improve the existing Village Hall on its present site.**

# Husthwaite Newsletter

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Next Edition: late September

Deadline for your writing: Sunday 17th September  
**Claiming Dates 2006**

6th September Health Information Afternoon Coxwold Village Hall 1-3pm

14<sup>th</sup> September 7:30 Husthwaite and District Gardening Club - Village Hall.

19th September Parish Council - Village Hall 7.30pm

28th November - 2nd December Easingwold Players present *Annie* -  
Galtres Centre 7.30

2nd December Easingwold Singers

## **School and Village Hall Can Work Together**

### **Please be sure to use your Newsletters Claiming Dates facility**

Husthwaite Primary School Drama Clubs wonderful production of the musical *Honk* is reviewed in this issue of the *Newsletter*. One of the most satisfying aspects of this achievement was that the School brought the children, singing, through the village streets on their way to rehearsals. It was a confirmation of the vibrant nature of our community.

The use by the school of the villages Hall was another significant step forward. As the Hall improves its facilities, lets hope that we can attract the teachers and the children to bring more of their work out into the village. The *Newsletter* takes this opportunity to wish Miss Thatcher every success at her new school.

On the subject of drama, Easingwold Players have cast their Christmas production, the blockbuster musical, *Annie*. As usual, Husthwaite is well represented in the cast, including stars of our recent pantomime, Rebecca Scarce, India Wentworth and Stephen Barker. Tickets will go on sale in the autumn, and will be available from Alternatives in Chapel Street and from the Galtres reception.

# Taylor Made

Husthwaites quality caterers

*specialists in cold buffets  
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Debbie Taylor 01347 868576

Anne Marie 01347 868282

07986 925653

## Hustwaite Reminiscences 1950s to 1970s



### Good memories needed

One of the tasks is identification of people in old photographs, so here is one of Alan Hutton with the children at the Friday Fellowship which started in 1976. If anyone can give a date for this photo and/or identify the missing names please let Angela Ovenston (868347) know. This new booklet is now well underway and hopefully will be ready for sale by Christmas. If anyone would like to make further contributions please contact Angela or Stephen Barker (868259). We would particularly welcome memories of those who grew up in the village over that period and also of the W.I. If anyone has a copy of the jubilee booklet (probably 1977) made by the W.I. or audio recordings of villagers made around then for us to borrow this would be really helpful



## Parish Plan Makes Promising Progress

Peter Davison

Following Richard Woods comprehensive report of the Parish Plan Consultation Launch in the May edition of the *Newsletter*, it is appropriate to say a big thank you to everyone who came along to the Village Hall. The attendance of nearly 100 clearly revealed a very high level of interest and support. A fascinating range of photographs, taken prior to the launch, captured many key features and inspired much interest and discussion, as well as providing an impressive pictorial impact.

Ideas supplied by the children of the Primary school were quite amazing, and these, together with all the other suggestions made, are beginning to shape priorities for our Parish Plan. Such a high level of commitment across the whole community is greatly appreciated both by the Steering Group and the Parish Council.

As everyone is aware, we have now moved on to the next stage - circulation of a questionnaire to every household. Hopefully, by the time this *Newsletter* is received, everyone (is that too optimistic?) will have completed their responses to questions raised. Although the



ed to identify emerging priorities, provide the statistical data base needed to document. It is, therefore, important to at least 80%. If any questionnaires are appreciated if these could be completed soon. Don't forget, all returns go into the place in late August/early September. That the anonymous responses to the and fed into the production of a draft will be circulated for consultation and this stage we are on course for completion. Promising progress has been achieved as a and support. May it continue!

**Photo: one of the hundreds of shots of Hustwaites charms submitted to the Parish Plan Launch**

Husthwaite Parish Council  
**I Went Out One May Morning**  
Ursula Duncan

After the long discussion at the Parish Council AGM in May regarding the pros and cons of wild flowers and their preservation, I decided to go and look more carefully than usual at my nearest hedgerow, Baxby Lane.

It was a perfect morning about 7am and I was able to identify the following flowers: red campion, speedwell, lesser spearwort, beaked parsley, red clover, jack by the hedge, greater celandine - and many grasses which I am not able to identify. Thank you, David and Elaine Smith of Baxby Manor.

The question of litter around the village on the verges and hedgerows around Husthwaite was discussed again at the July meeting of the Parish Council.

Possible solutions were offered. Cllr Carol Fenwick would like to encourage the youth group to come forward and help her arrange a few hours work on this. Free refreshments will be supplied! Anyone willing please contact her on 868 ...

A second idea was that a person could be paid to do the occasional clear-up as in Easingwold.

Provision of more litter bins was suggested, but although these have their place, they will not address the litter on the roadsides. Perhaps the County Council could arrange for offenders who have been allotted community service to do this.

A litter pick could be organised with residents from all sections of the community with a social event afterwards.

In case anyone thinks that Parish Council business is only about things like Kendrew Green and litter, here are some of the other matters discussed:

- \* painting the public seats, including the cemetery
- \* the CanDo initiative by AONB and the National Park which has invited all villages on the boundary of the park the chance to benefit from projects which will be done out of a major funding application they are making
- \* Support for the Early Day Motion on sustainable communities
- \* Local planning applications
- \* The Parish Plan and what will come out of this
- \* The dangerous driving around the village and on roads leading to the village
- \* The bus service review and the Parish Councils response/requests
- \* The problems caused to local residents by the inconsiderate parking and driving of parents bringing their children to school

Cllr Featherstone (Hambleton District Council) gave a report, as did Cllr Caroline Patmore (North Yorkshire County Council) informing the Parish Council of issues at their levels of local government which could be of interest to Husthwaite.

*Ursula Duncan is a member of Husthwaite Parish Council.*

**GUIDE DOG TRAINER**

Katherine Howarth

In 1985 when thinking about a change of career I saw an advertisement for Apprentice Guide Dog Instructors. I seemed to have the right qualifications and was intrigued so sent off an application despite not knowing what an Apprentice Instructor might be!

I was used to seeing Guide Dogs around, especially as there was a training centre in our nearest town, but I knew nothing about the process which changed a cuddly little Andrex puppy into a highly trained dog, trusted to lead a blind person safely along busy streets. To my delight I was asked to attend a 2 day assessment and interview at the Wokingham training centre, 200 miles away!

I was one of 4 interviewees and we soon realised it was to be a very intensive couple of days. We met the Training Manager who outlined the programme. In the morning we would each be allocated a dog which would be with us night and day for the rest of our stay, we would be working with the dogs, writing essays and finally facing a formal interview. What a prospect!

The next morning we were shown the kennels and introduced to our dogs. I was given a big bouncy Labrador called Irene, shown how to put the Guide Dog lead on and set off for a walk with the trainer. This was fascinating as I learned the basics of how the dogs are taught to turn left & right, go forward or stop on command and to stop at all kerbs and steps. After the walk the dogs went back into their runs and we had a lesson in guiding a blind person. We took turns being blindfolded and being the sighted guide. It takes a lot of courage to trust someone else to be your eyes!

Day two saw us learning about house obedience - the dogs have to be perfectly behaved indoors and are taught to stop at doorways and stairs, to lie quietly under the table at mealtimes and generally to be a pleasure to have around.

We then said goodbye to our dogs and went indoors to face an exam paper. We had to write about each aspect of the activities we had undertaken and then devote a page to the questions of why we wanted the job and what we could offer to the GDBA. Everyone hates those tasks!

The last and most nerve-wracking session was the formal interview. A panel of 3 senior Training Managers gave each of us a real grilling. I had a particularly tough time as they had never before considered a married woman for an apprenticeship and there were lots of politically incorrect questions about child care arrangements and how my husband would feel about the requirement for apprentices to live at the training centre for the first 6 months. I felt I had no real chance of getting the job but hoped that I had made a good impression. I set off home to await the verdict.

## Youlton's Corner Hides a Gardening Gem

Mike Wells

**Youlton is the hamlet where you turn right for the Aldwark Toll Bridge, thats all. Or so I thought, until the Gardening Club visited one warm July evening.**

Right on the corner is a delightful garden called Maidens Folly. The Oxford Dictionary defines a folly as a foolish act, want of good sense and a costly structure. Perhaps the third idea is true here (the garden is crammed with perfect nursery-grown perennials), but Maidens Folly is certainly not the result of foolishness.

The White Garden shows how a flat lawn can be transformed into an intimate outdoor room. Enclosed by a square trellis festooned in white roses, the monochromatic theme continues to the centre, where there is a York stone raised bed of white flowers. In the centre is a statue of a woman. In a previous life she lived in Bradford and her blackened stone contrasts with the surrounding flowers.

The twin herbaceous borders provided endless interest for the plantsmen (or more correctly plantswomen) amongst us. We moved slowly down the central path, stopping every few feet to examine a flower, or to wait as someone in front recounted a story of how a similar plant succumbed to slugs in their own garden.

A lovely evening finished with a welcome cuppa and an enormous slice of cake. We swapped gardening stories, watched over by a dove sitting bravely on her eggs. A nervous wagtail flitted from branch to branch, a hapless insect wriggling in its beak. Eventually the bird dived into a creeper, to feed the hungry family.



...tiate that bend in Youlton, glance to your right. Purple  
...en a plain green hedge. But now you know that hedge is  
...m: a Maidens Folly.

## Measure Hunt Settled on Penalties

Stephen Barker

...unt was solved by following photos of the route, which  
went from the Village Hall to finish with a BBQ on East View Green, via  
Baxby Mill, the old Husthwaite Gate Station, the disused railway line, High  
Leas Farm and Paddy Lane.

Fittingly, with the World Cup in progress, the winners were decided by a  
penalty shoot-out between the Barkers and the Baileys, the Baileys just taking  
the trophy by a single goal.

Thirty three adults and 23 children did the walk and a profit of 220.02 was  
raised for Village Hall funds. A consensus of opinion from entrants was that  
the event was a success and the club was well served. This will be a

## Simple Messages from our 31X Catch Me If You Can - Use Me or Lose Me

Brian Clark

Few people seem to want to catch the bus in Husthwaite. Perhaps its because  
the buses dont go where people want to go when they need to go there. This is  
definitely true on Sundays, when there are no buses. Actually you can get to  
Helmsley on some summer Sunday mornings and sometimes on the odd other  
summers day by the tourist Moorsbus, but by the time youve worked out  
which days it runs it will be the end of summer.

The villages motorists are paying for the real bus, the Stephenson's 31X,  
whether they use it or not because the service has to be subsidised from public  
funds. If you dont have your own transport and have to rely on a bus, then  
getting to work could be a problem as there isnt a bus out of the village until  
10.00 am.

Finding a timetable for the 31X has never been easy, especially as there are  
no bus stops in the village on which to fix one. However, this is better than in  
Coxwold, which has a bus stop in the centre of the village but the bus doesnt  
stop there. In fact, the 31X doesnt pass it, as some visitors discovered the  
other day.

The 31X will stop anywhere if you ask it to, but its worth knowing that  
sometimes it gets lost in the mysterious Husthwaite Triangle, and misses out  
the Nookin. It could be Englands only express bus that stops anywhere you  
want. But waiting for one is not recommended, as there are only three a day  
through the village, and you might have just missed one.

The 31X is probably Englands only express bus to use a bumpy, unclassified,  
single track road. This way it gets from Husthwaite to Easingwold via  
Claypenney thus avoiding the even bumpier main road.

One of the 31Xs runs only on school days and another only when it is school  
holidays. These dates change all the time. There is a public transport phone  
number, but its not ideal if you want to plan or consider the options. Nor is  
the bus much use if you cannot return the same day.

Even if you have a car, I think its worth trying to catch a 31X for a trip to  
Helmsley or York if the times fit (even more so if there was an earlier and a  
later service). You may reach central York five or ten minutes quicker by car  
but by the time you have parked or parked and rode theres nothing much in it.  
The same increasingly applies to Helmsley, one of the few towns left where a  
double yellow line signifies a parking spot.

Also, if you are over 60 and have the pass, its free. I fear that if we dont use  
the 31X, then ultimately well lose it.

## Honk Shows Off Primary Schools Fabulous Talents

Alex Wright

In the backwaters of England I found a multitude of ducklings, geese, froglets and other such interesting creatures. Indeed, I found Hushwaite School Drama Clubs production of *Honk!* A modern day telling of the story of the Ugly Duckling.



roduction could be judged, but it far surpasses any primary school production. Therefore we must view it from a professional angle. As a musical, *Honk* is an ambitious production that ambition is clearly backed by a huge cast. The leading roles, such as Ugly (Matthew Batten), to every member of the chorus it was putting 110% in to their performance and were also clear that this love had been cultivated by an enthusiastic director,

a good performance from such a young cast and all credit to her for doing

Technically, their performances may have been hindered by the use of hand-held radio microphones, but despite this these were suitably incorporated and detracted little. The vulnerability and innocence of Ugly was, at times, almost heart-breaking, a high point of his character, and indeed the whole show, being the duet *Now I've Seen You* between Ugly and Penny (Georgia Ward), with Pennys voice shining through. The Cats suave and cruel nature was clear but endearing, excellently juxtaposed against the deadpan humour of the Bullfrog (Becky Skinner) and the classic English pomposity of Graylag (Thadeus Shipley) and his Squadron.

Overall I was incredibly impressed with this ambitious production and with all the work that had gone in to it. It was a genuinely impressive and enjoyable piece of musical theatre. All credit to everybody involved, children and adults alike, and good luck to all of the Drama Club in future productions, definitely worth watching out for.

*Alex Wright is an Easingwold High School 6th Former and a member of the Easingwold Players drama group.*



From the left: Maddy Nixon (Downy), Polly Cuthbert (Beaky), Emma Chase (Fluff), Matthew Batten (Ugly) Emily Lockett (a duckling), Kezia Sheard (Billy), Jemima Ward (a duckling)



Left to right: Daniella Baker (Queenie), Georgia Gallon (Lowbutt)