



Charlie Scarce with his pet rabbit Cuddles. The photo is by Charlie's Dad, Tony, and was submitted by his Grandma, Irene Taylor. Irene writes: This photo cheers me up every time I look at it, especially on rainy days. Thank you for your most welcome magazine.

# Husthwaite Edition 13 Newsletter

Jointly Funded by Husthwaite Parish Council and  
Parish Council Clerkenwell and the Village Hall Committee  
(Get pictures if info available in time)

October 2004

## EASINGWOLD TAXIS

- \*Shopping Trips
- \*Nights Out
- \*Courier Service
- \*Contract Work

**PAT BRIGHTEN** would like to thank her many

friends and neighbours in Husthwaite for all their cards and kind messages on the occasion of her move to Tollerton. She feels quite overwhelmed!  
*Phone Louie*  
07763 23 40 80

Deadline for your material in the next Newsletter: Sunday 21st  
November

# Husthwaite Newsletter

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

Businesses: please phone.

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Next Edition: late November

Deadline for your writing: Sunday 21st November



To put it mildly, August was wet! It started to rain around the time the schools broke up. There were storms and day after day of rain. Young people and their parents must have been dreadfully disappointed by such holiday weather. The farmers were in serious difficulties. It was matter of what to get on with next while both the hay and the harvest were battered by wind and rain. When the sun shone briefly, especially if there was also a drying wind, there was work till after dark getting the corn off the fields. September brought in better conditions and a chance for one hay cut in fields that would produce two in a good summer.

Faced by a lively fund-raising challenge, Husthwaite can be relied upon to respond generously. At the beginning of September we had the young folks knocking at our doors in search of support for their Sponsored Walk. Of course, there were some contributions from family, friends and work-mates beyond the village, but the promised 1000 was surely a brilliant combination of young peoples enthusiasm and neighbours warmth of heart; Village Hall funds are the benefactors. Then there was the Open Garden occasion at the home of Mike and Breda Wells, raising funds for the St Nicholas Church fabric appeal. Again people came from far and wide but there was solid backing from the village, and well over 800 was raised. On the same day Alan McDougall was representing us - out on his bike for the annual Yorkshire Heritage Churches Appeal. One man and his bike: 400, a remarkable achievement. Our thanks and congratulations to everyone who worked hard in the background for these occasions; and well done, Husthwaite, for your support.

Husthwaite Village Hall

# 70s Disco

Saturday 9th October

8.00pm

Fancy Dress Optional

7.50

includes fish and chip supper

Tickets from the Village Shop

Want  
and  
Cleaner  
Angela 868373  
for the Village Hall  
2 hours/fortnight  
7.50/hour  
Apply

## Juliet McDougall reports on Mike and Bredas Open Garden What a Surprise!

**Floral rabbits, a Monet-style bridge over a lake complete with island (and surely some treasure), the whitest ducks for miles AND good weather!**

Just some of the surprises in the lovely garden of Mike and Breda Wells on Saturday 11th September.

This was a fund-raising day for St Nicholas Church fabric appeal. A week of fine weather before the big day meant that the autumn garden was at its best, with a second flush of roses opening in the sun and the bedding plants giving that final burst of colour we've all been waiting for after the damp days of August. The terrace, with its pots and climbers scrambling over the walls, afforded a splendid vista of the south-sloping garden and the countryside beyond. The rain we've all cursed this year gave the garden a luxuriant backdrop, with the lawns a lush emerald.

Children were kept busy counting rabbit figures hidden amongst the shrubs - but how many included the live lop-eared ones in their score? Breda had a happy surprise, too. The crinum which has been promising to open for several weeks finally did so just the day before the event, so that visitors were able to admire this unusual lily-like flower.

Many a strong will crumbled at the sight of the luscious cakes on offer in the tea tent, which did a roaring trade. The produce stall, run by John and Betty Sutton, was equally busy with preserves, cakes and the harvest of people's gardens for sale. As always in Husthwaite, there was a band of cheerful



*The cheerful helpers  
celebrate the end of a successful  
day.*

photo: John Ovenston

...ws after summer,  
...e Leverton and myself  
...  
...other year in their  
...r twenty two years out

## My Nostalgic Return to Beacon Banks

Brenda Duffield

Thursday 26th August 2004: Today was a beautiful, sunny and warm morning with blue skies when I took a walk from the Nookin along the Croft fields to the Kays Bank Top road, accompanied by Richard and Robin. We went on then up the driveway of Lists House and Beacon Banks House to walk across the fields on the outer boundary of the Beacon Banks area, now a public right of way.

It has been many years since I often took this walk. The changes made I could not believe. Silly of me, really, to think it could all be as it was.

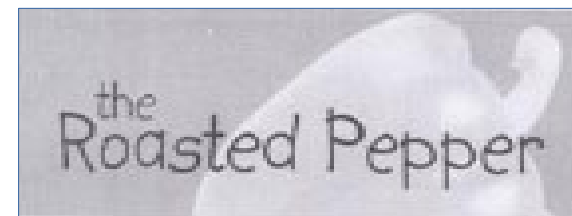
We set off up the Croft, a very untidy pathway past the two white-coated houses, Dora Taylors and one empty house (which was the home of Grace Taylor, a well-known local lady who wrote poems and sent them to the Royal Family) through the first small handgate leading to the path across the Croft fields. What a path for a public right of way!! Its bordered by a wood plank on the left with duck boards, some covered with chicken wire. Many years ago there was a spring of running water in the bankside adjacent to the field. Where this water flowed down to I cant remember. I wonder: did it come down into the Wayside garden into a pond and then out onto the highway?

Now through a second handgate into the next field, which runs alongside the Squirrel woodworking business of Mr Wilf Hutchinson and his son Trevor. Calling in to say Hello. Their house is now two-storey: What great views they have over the Vale of York! The pathway goes alongside their house, leading to the gate and out onto the high road at the top of Kays Bank. Across the road to the private road of Lists House and Beacon Banks. The gates we passed through replace the stiles of the old days, which had a cross-over wooden step we had to climb over.

On we go past Beacon Banks (long time home of the Wailes Family) and Lists House (conversion of the stable and garage area when horse-drawn carriages were in use). Now past the small plantation, mainly fir trees with a summer house. Through a large gate and then to the start of the Beacon Banks. We climbed onto the bracken and grass area of the bank. During the 1945 War there stood an Army sentry box with a soldier on guard. As young people, we often kept him company. No more! Instead, the public path has been transferred to the ploughed field adjacent to the boundary fence and looking over to Lodge Farm (the home of Sam Taylor over many years and earlier of members of the Wailes Family).

Inside the Banks area batches of mountain ash (rowan) and holly trees have been planted, completely blocking out my view to the Hambleton Hills and the Husthwaite farms along the Coxwold road. When the trees are fully grown nothing will be seen. Why, I wonder, has this been planned?

*(continued over page)*



## History Corner

### Robert Moncaster (1796 1854)

Fred Pickstone

In the last **Newsletter**, we named some of the prominent inhabitants of the village in 1823. One of these was Robert Mouncester, the schoolmaster who was later the local enumerator for the 1841 and 1851 censuses. He wrote his name as Moncaster. He was the son of another Robert, a carpenter, and Mary (ne Blackburn), both of whom were born in Husthwaite and married at St Nicholas Church in 1793. Robert was christened at the church on 12<sup>th</sup> May 1796, three days after his birth. An early christening was normal until about 100 years ago, because of high infant mortality rates. He had three younger sisters. Robert was probably the schoolmaster, before he was 20. Schoolmasters were supposed to be licensed by the bishop of the diocese, but the practice was very likely disregarded by his time. At the end of the 17<sup>th</sup> century two men in Easingwold were taken to the Quarter Sessions (the court, probably in York) for teaching boys without a licence. We do not know where Robert originally had his school, prior to the first purpose-built school being constructed, on land given in 1836 by William Hotham of Highthorne. This is now The Old School House in Low Street. Robert was married to Ann Ledger (born at Bentley, near Doncaster) by the Reverend John Winter at the village church on 6<sup>th</sup> April 1840. Since Anns place of residence is given as Husthwaite on the marriage certificate she was probably working here. Her father, William, was a farmer, but according to the census of 1841 he doesnt appear to have worked in Husthwaite. Witnesses were Jesse Robson (blacksmith), William Taylor (parish clerk and shoemaker) and Chris Moncaster (carpenter). In 1841 Robert and Ann were living in what is now The Hobbits in High Street. He owned the property, the integral adjoining cottage, and the land to the north stretching down to Elphin Beck Road. They had 5 children: Mary (b.1842), Robert (b.1844), William (b.1846), Henry (b.1849) and John (b.1854). From his profession and property, Robert was a man of status in Husthwaite. Until education became more widespread, at the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, the schoolmaster, the parish clerk and local clergy would have been well-respected people in the village, because they were literate. In the next issue will be some of the details of Roberts will.

## Brenda Re-Visits Beacon Banks

(continued from Page 4)

I remember as a youngster playing hide and seek in the bracken; rolling hard-boiled and decorated Easter eggs down the grassy slopes; and swinging on the low branches of a fine old holly tree. In my teenage years many courting couples and families walked the area on pathways at different levels, one on the high side near the boundary fence and one below on a level area of grassland. Whole families and young people, especially on Sunday afternoon and long summer evenings going one way by the top path and returning by the lower path.

How times have changed! Now walking out is riding out, taking the car. Children do not go away from home into the countryside alone. Sadly, the freedom we enjoyed is no more.

A lovely morning I enjoyed very much, eating wild brambles from the hedgerows - at least, we could do one thing unchanged!



*Brenda admires the view from Beacon Banks*

*Deadline for your material in the next Newsletter: Sunday 21st November.*  
(Fred Pickstone is a member of the Husthwaite Local History Society.)

## Local Paper Homes in on Husthwaite

**A July edition of the *Gazette and Herald* contained a double page illustrated story about Husthwaite.** Entitled Oh, to be in Husthwaite, the article featured Audrey Raper, Roy Leverton and Anne. Born in London, Roy has lived here 30 years. He works as a sidesman at the Church and sings in the choir. The article mentions his performance as an Ugly Sister in the village. It went on to study the village's 12th century church, its ornamentation and its roof timbers, reredos and altar. Kilburn.

Picking up the point that Husthwaite was known as the article introduced Audrey and her beautiful garden. She has been a garden governor for ten years.

Anne described how the village shop has been in the Dowson family for fifty five years. Originally, the building with the 1690 marker, now the Dowsons living room. Anne and David met when they were both ballroom dancing.



*Audrey among her flowers*

**A Husthwaite lady has been among the prizes this summer.** Mavis Stuart won the Joan Forsyth Memorial Rose Bowl at Sutton-on-the-Forest Show for her pictures in counted cross-stitch.

At Osmotheley Show, Mavis won two first and two second prizes for her handicraft work, along with three second prizes for her spray, button hole and display of roses.

Neighbourhood Watch report

Village Hall AGM

## **LETTER TO THE EDITOR**

**Drake House**

**Husthwaite**

**Kendrew Green**

In the light of the Parish Councils reported decision to ballot the village on the issue of grasscutting, we would like to commend a compromise solution proposed by Paul Jackson of the AONB.

Throughout the year contractors could cut the wide verge and the verges outside the white railings, the pathway alongside the wooded area and a short path to the seat, leaving the rest as wildflower meadow for an annual cut. This would present a neat and tidy appearance while conserving the small area of meadow as recommended by experts and the AONB.

At the time of writing, the verges have not been cut but most of the central area has, presenting an untidy appearance which may well confuse people into thinking that this is one of the options being put to them. In any event, we would hope that the Council if choosing to proceed with a ballot includes this new, third option which we believe offers the best of both worlds and accords with current environmental practice.

Many village greens in North Yorkshire (nearby Crayke for example) are now being managed in this way: Kendrew Green is neither the main village green nor a typical example: but it is a bit special so perhaps deserves a bit of special treatment. The introduction nationally of two metre uncultivated field margins as a condition of support payments is an indication of the importance attached to areas of this sort, few of which remain locally.

Yours sincerely

Brian and Hazel Clark

cc Richard Wood (Husthwaite Newsletter)



*84 year-old Betty Dowson enjoys a well-earned cuppa at the half-way point in Coxwold*



*For the second time this summer, following on from the Treasure Hunt, a line of walkers invaded the yard at Baxby Mill. Here Peter and Dody show peacocks feathers to some of the young passers-by*

Fifty members of the village

## Sponsored Walkers

### Sunshine

**Village Hall funds were boosted by a marvellous turn-out for the Sponsored Walk. Over 1,000 was raised, mainly by the villages young people.**

Young ones aged from 3 to 84 strode out on a sunny afternoon, walking across Beacon Banks to Coxwold and home via Angram Grange and Baxby Mill.

Organising the occasion on behalf of the Village Hall Committee, Ursula Duncan expressed her delight - and her relief!

We didnt lose anyone along the way, she says. The young people were a credit to themselves and to the Husthwaite community.

Nobody complained, in spite of the sweaty conditions, and they have raised a highly commendable amount of money into the bargain. I want to thank everyone who took part, including the many parents and adult helpers who gave up their afternoon to act as guides, observers, checkers, tally-keepers and caterers.

Thanks to everyone in the village, too, for their generous sponsorship of the walk.

Special congratulations to two of the young walkers, John Turton and Rosie Bailey, who each raised

community walk the Walk

## Bake in the

a particularly large amount sponsorship.

The next stage in the Village Halls renovation programme could be work on the car park.

Village Hall AGM  
Tuesday 19th October  
7.30pm  
All welcome



*3 year-old Hannah Amelia Benn, with Mum, Susan, and Granny, Mary Wise*



*Husthwaite is blessed with a generation of lively, good fun teenagers. Last time we saw this gang they were in the Pantomime. Left to Right: Rosy Bailey, Adele Attrill, ? Jess Bailey, Adam Whenman, Lisa Fenwick*