

## North Craven Heritage Trust (NCHT)

The 2011 AGM in Settle was very well attended and after a speedy business meeting we enjoyed an illustrated talk by Dr Sylvia Harrop, 'The Ramifications of Reading.' Her lecture pointed out the importance of 'chap books' to ordinary folk of the 18th and 19th centuries who had very little formal education and needed simple books to read.

Dr Harrop showed us examples, cheaply printed with woodcut illustrations containing factual information and stories.

The Christmas Party is on Friday 2 December and on Saturday 3 December will be our annual 'mince pie walk' round Lawkland Hall followed by refreshments. Please let me or Giles Bowring know if you intend to join us.

The 2012 programme of events is out in January so watch this space and keep an eye out for the posters advertising our walks and talks.

**Heather Jemson** 41480

## Westhouse Methodists

Few will forget highlights of the autumn including the fire-eating Minister Stephen Normanton and the full houses of Rev. John Millard. Also, in September we welcomed the Rev Brian Yardy, a Yorkshireman from Wales, to the area. There was also the Morecambe Male Voice Choir at the Fellowship Anniversary in October.

Looking forward, on Tuesday 13 December there will be Tea and Chat in the Schoolroom 10 –11.0 am; and on Thursday/ Friday 15/16 December 7.30 pm in the Chapel the Christa Story will be read from the King James Bible and other accounts.

On Sunday 18th there will be Carols by Candlelight in the evening and on Tuesday 20th carol singing around the village and with parishioners gathered round the Christmas tree on the Green. Meet at 6.30 pm. in the chapel car park.

More carols for everyone at Bentham Auction Mart, 4.00 pm 21 December, and the Christmas Service in the chapel at 10.30 am on Christmas Day.

**Thomas Fawcett** 41222

## In the Garden



The North West has suffered some serious weather this autumn but we should put it behind us and get on with sweeping the leaves and making compost of them. There will be nothing better for the garden in a few months' time. If you have an open fire, put your ash on the soil to protect and nourish the plants

as well as discouraging slugs and doing the ground good. Wood ash is even better. Potash is the main element for giving colour to flowers and fruit.

It's not too late to force some daffs in the greenhouse or inside and tulips even later. You don't have to put them in the dark.

Leave splitting perennials now until the spring but dig over vacant ground. Now is a good time for new shrubs, bare root roses and hardy climbers.

**Alan Collier** 41868

## St Oswald's Parish Church

Since the last newsletter three weddings, three baptisms and a funeral have taken place at St Oswald's:

On 9th July the marriage of Graham Ramwell & Karen O'Hagan, on the 16th Ian Akrigg married Debbie Whitfield and in August the marriage of David Horton and Rachel Harper took place.

Alan Harding's funeral was on the 9th August.

In September the baptisms of Matthew Jonathon Kendal and Fred & Frank Atkinson were held.

The Facilities Fund was helped by several events.

At the beginning of September the sponsored walk to Dent raised £566. The potato weigh-in was won by Jim Wolf at 10 lbs 1oz and the 2nd prize to Jean Bell at 8 lbs 10oz. For gardeners' interested, the variety was Harmony.

Potato recipe dishes were cooked for the Harvest Supper which raised £164. The Harvest Festival was joint with Westhouse Chapel this year.

We had a good response for ticket sales to the Autumn Fashion Show given by Foxy Lady in church raising £1,046 and a coffee morning held at the home of Gillian Ford in Masongill made £86.

Our "In Loving Memory" Benefice service was well attended at the beginning of November.

Forthcoming Dates:

In December, A Flower Arranging Evening by Katie Marlor titled "Hoorah for Hollywood" will take place in church at 7pm on the 8th. Tickets £5 incl. refreshments, arrangements to be raffled.

4th December – 4pm The Christingle

18th December – 4pm Carol Service

## Wildlife Notes

The last week of September was very warm and produced a bumper number of butterflies. The last butterfly seen was a lone Red Admiral on 19th October. Small Tortoiseshells and Peacocks are now hibernating, perhaps in a cool room in your house or outbuilding; their main enemies in this state are spiders.

In October we had 2 Tawny Owls calling near the house nightly, possibly 2 males, one defending its territory against a younger one. In our garden we had

a flock of Redpolls feeding on Birch seeds, an occasional Nuthatch and Treecreeper were also seen and colourful Bullfinches seem to be always present.

An exciting sighting was a pair of Tree Sparrows actually checking out one of our nest boxes on Oct.27th and they are still with us. This scarce species can be told from a House Sparrow by a chestnut brown crown and black spot on cheek. Farming practices have largely contributed to their decline in recent years.

On Nov.7th we heard and saw a Green Woodpecker quite close to our house. This locally scarce bird can be told at a distance from its very common cousin the Great Spotted Woodpecker by its laughing 'yaffle' call, unlike the "chip, chip" call of the Great Spotted Woodpecker. This latter a successful species and has become common in the UK in the last 20 years.



Nick Townley called on 9th Nov. to say he had just seen a Barn Owl in one of his barns. This is another exciting record and we will monitor its progress over the coming year. You may be

lucky and sight it on its hunting flights, so please let us know if you see one.

Large flocks of continental Starlings are here again and can be heard chattering as they perch in tall trees. They sometimes fly and feed with flocks of Fieldfares and Redwings, common visitors from the northern continent.

Will the coming winter be as severe as the last two? The met office cannot predict very far ahead but the local Kingsdale Stonechats have not been seen all this year as their insect food would have been impossible to find in last year's periods of ice and snow. Bats will be hibernating now as they also depend on insects. Many of them use the caves in our area. Snow is however a good time to go looking for mammal footprints and trails as they search for food. Please feed the birds if you can; they need our help to get through those cold winter nights.

**Liz and Roger Neale**, Bank House 41155

Liz and Roger would like to thank the people of Westhouse for their generous donations to this year's Marie Curie collection, amounting to £100.

## Ingleborough Archaeology Group (IAG)

In the last newsletter the IAG were awaiting a radiocarbon date for the site they had dug in summer. This proved to be both interesting and puzzling. The charcoal was dated to around 670 AD so almost three hundred years before the Vikings and when our area was being contested by Scots, Angles and the native British (speaking a form of Welsh.) It is

not the first site in the area dating from this era.

Arthur Batty found charcoal from a hearth in a farmstead in Clapham Bottoms two years ago which was from the same date range and there are five other similar sites in Clapdale which are undated but look to be related.

The puzzle lies in the worked fragments of chert and especially flint which were also found within the dated structure because these would indicate the presence of people on the site between one and three thousand years earlier. So we know that the structure is old but we still don't know whether it is very, very old.

The programme of talks at the Community Centre for the next three months is as follows:

November 21st- Craven Merchants and the Virgin Islands.

December 19th- Wrestlers, Crucks & Mullions.

January 16th- IAG Committee reports on the various projects undertaken during 2011.

## Parish Council

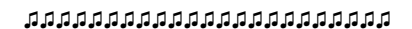
Following the decision of Councillor Brian Lund to relinquish the Chairmanship of the Parish Council, in May 2010, I was duly elected to the vacant post.

Being a member of any committee it is possible to remain quiet, silent or low profile. There is however no hiding, when one assumes the role of chairman, in what is actually the first tier of government. That sounds frightening! I felt a little research into how to conduct a meeting would be advisable. My chosen role model is David Horton, Chairman of the Parish Council in The Vicar of Dibley TV series.

As your elected representatives your council actively debates your views, ideas and proposals, always arriving at democratic decisions. As Chairman I have found it an enjoyable experience managing the regular meetings. We work through the agenda in a dynamic manner, sharing views and arriving at decisions in a harmonious way, always taking care to stay within the legal framework by which we are constrained. The Clerk is there to keep us on the straight and narrow.

Come and see how we work at our next meeting. The Agenda will be posted on our notice boards.

**David Wiper, chairman** 41391



## Three Choirs Christmas Concert

**Kirkby Lonsdale and Arnsdale Choral Societies,**

**Kendal Millennium Youth Choir**

**and Brass Ensemble perform**

Rutter, Bruckner, Chilcott and Willcocks

**With carols for all.**

St Mary's Church, Kirkby Lonsdale

Saturday 10 December, 7.30