

Issue 133

December 2014/January 2015



Merry Christmas Everyone







CHURCH NEWS

Christmas is coming! We've seen and heard about it for a while now - Christmas music, adverts, cut price food and gifts, children anticipating the gifts they expect, family gatherings and parties being planned, cards being written and in some instances presents being wrapped.

Wow, I'm getting left behind! My preparations for Christmas begin with Advent. Out comes my Bible and Christmas books to study, my CD's especially Handel's Messiah to listen to. In giving the Best Gift that anyone can receive and it's free, out of His everlasting love, God gave His one and only Son. As I read the Bible (in various translations, although the old King James version seems to use the best language to express the mystery of it all) and as I look at creation too, I see God, the Father, His heart broken by the evil and wickedness in the wonderful world He created. How could He solve the problem of sin in His masterpieces - people like you and me? Only by giving His very self and the cost was high. In love God came to this earth in His one and only Son, the Lord Jesus Christ. In love, Jesus left the riches of heaven and became poor that we may

be rich with eternal life and heavenly treasure. In love, Jesus willingly laid down His life to pay the price for my sin and yours too. God's Holy Spirit worked in my life, convicting me of sin; I confessed and trusted Jesus as my Saviour - God's free indescribable gift. The Bible explains that God "advertised" the coming of His Son, hundreds of years before He was born through Jewish Patriarchs like Abraham, a soothsayer called Balaam, David shepherd, Psalmist, king, the prophets Isaiah and Zechariah 700 and 500 years respectively before Jesus was born, to name but a few! And yet when Jesus came as a baby to Bethlehem, whilst angels heralded His coming, there was no headline news. Simple shepherds hurriedly went after hearing the angels' message and then told what they had heard and seen; Magi from the East made an amazing journey following a star and bearing gifts for the young child Jesus, representing His Kingship, Priesthood and Sacrificial death. I find God's purposes, planning, the people He used and his "advertising" so incredible. And what's more, just as He said, Jesus will one day return to this earth, to the nation of Israel and

the city of Jerusalem. Every eye will see Him and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord! It's all there, God's purposes, planning, the people He's using, recorded for all to see and know in the Bible and to enable them to prepare for that great event! As Jesus celebrated one last special meal with His disciples He told them how much He'd looked forward to it and that He wouldn't eat it again until it came to fulfilment in the Kingdom of God. A special Passover meal, forerunner of our Holy Communion "meal". Many people will go on Christmas Eve or Christmas morning to celebrate Holy Communion, eating bread and drinking wine, symbols of Jesus' broken body and His precious blood, "remembering Him until He comes again". My prayer is that as you celebrate Christmas, exchanging greetings and gifts, sharing in special meals, you will consider the Best Gift, the Lord Jesus Christ and make room for Him in you life, ready for His return. May God's blessing be with you and your families, friends and neighbours at Christmas and through the coming New Year 2015.

Judy Land

December

Through the lighting in December, the 10th brings thoughts of Mary Potter to Stephen, Tricia and family. Peter, uncle to Nathan and Emily, is remembered by them around the 16th. Dennis and Jean Allsop are brought to mind for David and Julie and their families on 18 December and 2 January. Christmas Eve is a special day when Nancy Mellors is lovingly remembered by husband Ted; also when Peter Hall is specially thought of by Nellie and family. Peter's and Nancy's birthday was 24 December. Connor Fellows is dearly remembered by his family, especially at this time of year. Louis Pearson especially thinks of his family at Christmas time, and also at this season Alice Land and family recall Jeff, Annie and Albert.

Church Floodlighting

January

In the New Year. Dorinda and family particularly remember Harold Bunting. For Norma and Cliff. Auntie Olive comes to mind in the second week of January. In the third week of the year, Margaret Lownds and family, through the lighting, think of Harry Ingledew and of Granddad Lownds. At this time also, Peter and Wendy call to mind Gwen and Jack Fellows. Towards the end of the month, especially on the 27th, Bill and Winnie Gregory are fondly remembered by Janet, Daphne, Ron and Peter. This month also has memories for Richard and Kath Taylor of Kath's parents and brother Keith, both on 20 January and into February on the 2nd. The Rickards family have memories of

Mum and Dad during January. Parents Herman and Nora Martin are always in the thoughts of their family, especially at this time. Lovingly remembered by Janet, Christine, June, Michael and all the family.

John Sewry



Wirksworth Team Ministry

Serving All Saints' Alderwasley, St James' Bonsall, All Saints' Bradbourne, All Saints' Elton, St James' Brassington, St Margaret's Carsington, Holy Trinity Kirk Ireton, St James' Idridgehay, Holy Trinity Middleton and St Mary's Wirksworth. Contact: The Team Office, Parish Rooms, St. Mary's Gate, Wirksworth, DE4 4DQ, Tel/Fax 01629 824707, email:teamoffice@wirksworthteamministry.co.uk. www.wirksworthteamministry.co.uk

CHURCH DIARY

St James

December

28

7 9.30 am Sanctuary
14 9.30 am Eucharist
14 4.00 pm Folk Carols
20 7.00 pm United Carol Service
21 11.00 am Morning Worship
24 6.00 pm Crib Service
25 9.30 am Family Eucharist

10.00 am Team Eucharist at W/W

We wish everyone a very Happy Christmas with a sufficiency of everything! With that in mind please see our notice re Food Bank in the Village Noticeboard section.

January 2015

4 9.30 am Epiphany Carols

11 9.30 am Eucharist

18 11.30 am Morning Worship

25 8.30 am Eucharist.

Village Life Church

Sunday 10:30am Morning Worship

10:30am UNO Sunday School

6:00pm Prayer Meeting

Tuesday 7:00pm Craft Club

Wednesday 7:30pm House group

Christmas Events in December

Sunday 14: Festive Family Funday Sunday: 10am to 11:30am followed by Christmas Lunch

Sunday 21: Carols by Candlelight 6:00pm to 7:00pm with refreshments.

Monday 22: Christmas Holiday Tots & Kids 10am to 12pm £1.00 per child. Bring some pennys to play the Christmas Carnival games to win prizes.

Thursday 25: Christmas Morning Celebration 9:30am to 10:00am

Wesleyan Reform Church

Sunday Services during December alternate between 2.30 & 6.15 pm commencing Sunday 7 December at 2.30 pm

Special Carol Service Sunday 21 December 2.30 pm

Friday 19 December Christmas Cuppa & Cake Afternoon 2.00 - 4.00 pm

Services during January 2015 are all at 2.30 pm

Special New Year Service Sunday 4 January 2.30 pm

Friday 16 January 2015 Cuppa & Cake Afternoon 2.00 - 4.00 pm



Christmas Greetings

Catholic Church Services

Our Lady and St. Teresa of Lisieux

Gorsey Bank, Wirksworth
Mass Sundays 9am, Holy Days 7pm
Service of Holy Communion every
Wednesday morning at 10am
Contact Fr. Joseph Keogh (01773
743336)

Our Lady and St. Joseph Church

Bank Rd, Matlock
Mass times Saturdays 6pm, Sundays
8.30am & 10.30am, Holy Days
9.30am & 7pm, Daily Mass Mondays
and Fridays 7pm. Tuesdays –
Thursdays 9.30am. Sacrament of
Reconciliation – Fridays 6.30–7pm,
Saturdays 10.30–11am, Adoration
Thursdays and Fridays 7am–11pm
Contact Fr. Bernard Needham
(582804)

There is a fortnightly newsletter listing ongoing events. On Sundays breakfast is available in the church hall after the 8.30 Mass and tea/coffee and biscuits after the 10.30 Mass. All are welcome.



OBITUARY

Marguerita (Greta) Taylor 1918 –2014



Greta to all, christened Margaretta Baggley, Greta was born on July 9, 1918 in Alford, Lincolnshire. One of four children, she stayed there until 1940, when she came to Bonsall with evacuated children to the Seagrove School, now known as The Mount, on High St. While here, she met Bill Taylor. After the war had finished they married on 19 September 1945 and lived at Ember Farm until 1956. They then moved to Sycamore House until 1960 and then to 'The Highlands'. They were married for 62 years, until Bill died in 2008, and had two sons, Keith and Richard.

Greta reported all village news and events for the Matlock Mercury and Derbyshire Times for about 40 years. She was active in the village: a member of the Mothers' Union. Bonsall WI and also the Starkholmes WI, where she was Secretary and then President. She suffered a stroke in 1996, which restricted her greatly, but she still lived at home until five weeks before her death in Whitworth Hospital. She leaves her sons, daughter-in-law Kath, three grandsons, Brett, Shane and Carl and their wives and partner Mandy, Emma and Sam, and also four great grandchildren, Chloe, Scarlett, Casey and Archie. The family would like to thank everyone involved with Greta's care in the final years and for all the messages and sympathy we have received. Donations in Greta's memory will be to Lime Grove Medical Centre, the Whitworth Hospital the Bonsall Defibrillation Fund, helping other people to live.

Richard Taylor

LETTERS

Dear Editors.

A journey I sometimes make in my duties as a District Councillor, from Matlock Bath to Bonsall in other words. So perhaps a Freudian slip from time to time by me is understandable in that context. But I do apologise for my Freudian slip which Trevor Williams makes reference to. I do know where Uppertown is Trevor: I have visited it on many occasions, and not just to leaflet! I am in the village more times than you perhaps realise. I nearly lived in it at the time we managed to save Dunsley Mill from being turned into a composting site. And, after policing the area from 1971 onwards, I think I can claim a lot of contact, and consideration.

I realise that people are upset over the recent Chestnut Farm planning application, but as I tried to explain in my last communication to you, the National Planning Policy Framework legislation has left hardly any reason for planning authorities in the country to refuse applications.

I would refer you to the following link which might help show the dilemma faced by such planning committees as ours: www.cpre.org.uk. You will find many links to this organisation exposing this dreadful piece of legislation and campaigning for changes to it.

More house do need to be built in the country, but as the CPRE campaigns for, we need legislation to protect rural England, our green fields and pastures.

The only comfort I can take from this debate is that those who need a home of their own in the village will soon be able to get one. I do not think anyone of us has the right to deny them that privilege. Regards,

Cllr. Garry Purdy

Dear Editors,

The last edition of Mutterings contains letters from residents in Uppertown continuing to harangue anyone who does not support their point of view. Those who have spoken in favour of the development of affordable housing have been subjected to abuse from this group of people who seem unable to accept the unanimous decision of the Planning Committee of DDDC. Forty six years ago, my husband and I bought our house in Bonsall. It was the house that we could afford at the time; in those days it cost twice as much to buy a house in Matlock,

so Bonsall provided us with affordable housing. We have remained happily in the same house ever since and contributed to village life in many ways. Various new developments have happened in Bonsall during the past 46 years - some good, some not so good, some of which the people who are protesting live in. Why would any rational person wish to exclude others by 'pulling up the drawbridge'. I am appalled by the selfishness of those individuals who are, I understand, taking the District Council to Judicial Review, a process which will cost us as council tax payers thousands of pounds.

I realise that by voicing my disappointment with these people I am inviting the same sort of bullying abuse that has happened to others - I don't really care; I am not and never have been afraid of bullies. Affordable housing is needed in Bonsall if it is not to become a sterile, smug self-serving community. While it appears that some people in Uppertown (by no means all of them), are opposed to the development, residents in other parts of Bonsall do not have the same objections.

Brenda Greaves

Dear Editors,

Mike and I recently moved back into Bonsall after 18 months working on an estate the other side of Ashbourne – and we are so glad to be back. I just want to make sure that everyone else who lives here realises what an amazing place Bonsall is. When I went for my interview for the housekeeping/nanny post, I explained how I was involved in the village, doing Open Gardens, organising Village of the Year, being a Parish Councillor (hoping to impress of course!) "Won't you miss



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LETTERS

all this?" was their response. At the time I said I wouldn't, assuming that all villages were the same, with activities I could get involved in, groups I could join and events that we could attend and enjoy. However, six months in and I had a real awakening - I realised that Bonsall is a very special place.

Since coming back, I don't think I have walked over to my car once without someone saying hello or stopping to say: "Hey great... heard you were back, how are you doing?" The friendliness and community spirit here is second to none. Mutterings is a fountain of information, whereas the village newsletter at the other village consisted of a one-page leaflet, twice a year! The headline one month was 'And the grass keeps growing' - reporting how unusual it was that the grass was still growing into November! So, big pat on the back to everyone in Bonsall, especially those of you who get involved in local activities and events. We're back for good now - well for now anyway! I'm setting up my own business www.ladypoppins.com doing housesitting, dog walking and nannying, which I hope will be of help to some villagers. Mike will be back walking the Labradors and washing the cars!

I was speaking about my business to a couple yesterday, and they made a very interesting comment: "We'd love to leave our children with our parents, but we really can't expect them to run around after them for more than a couple of hours at the age of 82!" This started me thinking, and it is very true. My generation (I'm JUST inside the half-century, but don't tell anyone) were probably the last to have our children in our 20's. If you weren't married by 20 and started a family within a couple of years the 'I wonder what's

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wrong' comments started - particularly at family gatherings. Not that this particularly forced me into having a family early it was just the 'normal' thing to do. There were practical considerations as well. At the time, the only way I could afford to leave home was to get married and buy or rent a house with my husband. Going to university wasn't as widespread as it is now, and you only really went if you wanted to study for a profession; general degrees weren't really an option (although as it turned out, it would have been cheaper for me to go to university than my children!). So with families usually starting around 25 say, that made the grandparents usually a fairly active 45 to 50. At this stage, it was guite normal for women to be 'at home' rather than working, which meant a ready-made support network. Add to this the fact that many women had at least a year or more maternity leave as a matter of course, and you have a totally different social setup. I had my first child in 1988 and the second in 1990 and the changes between that time were huge. The mother and toddler and playgroups were over-subscribed for my first child, but by the time I took my second child, the groups were failing and struggling to find parents willing to take over the running of the committees. Many children came with their childminders if they came at all. So, social development has really affected things and has led to many families left with no support network for those 'emergencies', as well as regular day-to-day childcare. It makes you wonder what the knock-on effect will be for the next generation... maybe grandparents will become a rarity? Liz Howsley

Halloween Celebrations

Pumpkin Competition a Screaming Success

Huge thanks to everyone who supported Halloween at The Cross. Well done to everyone who entered the Pumpkin Carving Competition and for a brilliant display of carvings (not a single finger was left lying around) – and massive congratulations to the winners of the competition, who were: Beth, Poppy, Cadan and Naomi

This year we had a much larger spooky maze for the kids with cakes and mulled cider to help the adults recover. We were also able to magically measure with a splendid machine, how good the kids of Bonsall have been and whether they will get a visit from Santa Claus.

We are pleased to report there are a handful of little angels who passed the test and can look forward to Christmas with confidence. For the rest, don't worry as there is still time to make amends. The poor machine blew a fuse after and hour of deliberation – is this a symptom of all the things it learnt from the little ghouls, vampires and witches?

For the first time, many of the kids were able to participate in Halloween magic this year. Barry Bunny "volunteered" to be chopped in two (with a real saw!!) and was then magically put back together again with the help of the good ghouls of Bonsall. There were a splendid selection of "Yes, we want to chop him in half" volunteers to do the dastardly deed (Bonsall bunny owners

please note). However we are pleased to report that on all occasions, following Barry's ghastly dismemberment, he was magically reconstituted and is currently recuperating at a secret location.

We were also visited by a scary looking Milkman who also endeavoured to butcher Barry for the purposes of Barry Burgers – but he also failed and goodness triumphed.

Huge thanks for the sponsorship from Bonsall Open Gardens and to everyone who helped behind the scenes and on the night. They are Doro, Sarah-Jane, Graham, Mia, Wendy, Phil, Marion, Paul for the electrics and Richard for the scaffolding – cracking job!

Mark Sobey



Kings Head Harvest Auction

The Harvest Auction was held on 26 October. Thanks to Kath Taylor and to Canon Keith Orford for the service and help with the auction. It raised £1050. which was distributed to the Carnival, Church, School, Mothers' Union, Pensioners, Village Hall and Allotments, each receiving £150. Thanks to everyone for their gifts and support,

Richard Taylor, Auctioneer

Bonsall Defibrillator Fund

Thanks to generous pledges from both individuals and local businesses, the Bonsall defibrillator fund has already reached almost £1000! An automatic defibrillator, heated external cabinet and training for 8 volunteers totals around £2500 so please keep your pledges coming! Ideas for fundraising, help and support are very welcome - could you organise an event? We'll be selling raffle tickets in the Fountain to be drawn on 21 December - pop in and buy a raffle ticket, donated prizes will be welcomed. Defibrillators save lives - let's please make sure one is available to help if someone in our community suffers a heart attack. Please contact **Anne** at The Fountain on 01629 824814, 07876 506595 or at enquiries@



December

Kings Head

27 Karaoke 31 Party with live music Sundays - Quiz Night

Barley Mow

6 The Disco Biscuits, Electronica 13 The Natterjacks, Folk 27 The Most Ugly Child, Americana

January Kings Head

31 Karaoke Sundays - Quiz Night

Trekking in the Himalaya of Nepal - Saturday 24 January, 2015

An illustrated talk will be given in the Village Hall by Alan David and Chris Broome about their experiences on their recent trek in the beautiful Langtang National Park amongst the magnificent mountains of the lofty Himalaya. The talk, starting at 7.30pm, will be illustrated by their photographs and video taken of the people, mountains, valleys, rivers and wildlife of this mountain kingdom. Proceeds from the evening will go to the Bonsall & Derbyshire Dales Link funds of Chernobyl Children's Lifeline. There will be refreshments and a raffle. Everyone welcome.

Chris Broome

New Deli

The Fountain Store and Deli has opened! As of 1 December Bonsall once again has a Village Store supplying everyday groceries as well as offering a selection of delicatessen goods such as homecooked meats and local cheeses. How about some olives and continental meats to remind you of warm summer holidays as you snuggle in front of the fire during the dark winter months? Great value luxurious hampers are available - great for gifts at Christmas, birthdays or just even to say Thank You! Or try out our range of "retro" jar sweets to rekindle childhood memories. Planning ahead, we're looking to introduce a range of home-made ready meals - easy meals for busy professionals or just a lazy night in! Not to forget the re-introduction of grocery deliveries around the village following in the footsteps of Peter Wells who offered the service in years past...

We look forward to welcoming you to your new Village Store and Deli.

Jacob Rollinson and the Fountain Team

Bonsall Mothers Union

At our AGM last month it was reported that since we began to support Peace and her family in Uganda we have raised nearly £13000. Of that, just over £9000 has been spent in school fees, the difference being the money we raised to build her house and the balance of the bank account.

Rita should have just finished her 'A' levels and we aren't yet sure whether she will go to university.

On Wednesday 17 December, we will be decorating church for Christmas. Please help if you can.

Our next meeting is Wednesday 10 December at Town Head Farmhouse, the home of Caroline and David Kirkham



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when we will be hearing about their cycling holiday across Europe. Everyone is welcome. In January we will be having our Christmas party, when you are welcome to join us. 14 January is soup and surprise pudding in the Village Hall at 1pm, open to anyone who likes soup and a tasty pudding. £3 for as much as you

The date of the Dales Divas concert is Friday 17 April next year. We will have tickets for sale after Christmas. Proceeds to Peace and 'Safe and Sound' in Derby. Di Moor

Bonsall Open Gardens

Donations and Bonsall Opera Fund

I thought that everyone would like to know what donations were given and to whom, from the two events this summer. From Bonsall Open Gardens.

- Bonsall Riders £150
- · Carnival £200
- Bonsall Pensioners £300
- Allotments £100
- Halloween Event £100

From proceeds of the Bonsall Opera in aid of The Bonsall Field Barn Project. £1382. This donation enabled the barn at the end of Bonsall Moor on the right hand side to have its roof put back on.

Olivia Gerrish

Allotment Donations

The Allotments have recently received donations of £100 from Open Gardens and £150 from the Harvest Auction at the Kings Head. We shall be using the money for a small shed to house the orchard mower and other communal tools. Many thanks to both groups for their generosity, Mike Lynch

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We put the sparkle in Christmas!

A fun time was had by all, adults and children alike, making Christmas decorations out of bits and pieces during the Saturday morning craft session held in the Rectory Room. Time flew by as wreaths were made from old cine film reels, ribbon and tinsel. Stocking and mitten garlands from felt, card and ribbon. Tree decorations from cotton reels and felt, Rudolph table decorations from card, felt and pipe cleaners and magnificent bunting from lovely Christmas fabric, the list goes on! What a productive way to spend a few hours on a damp November morning, all washed down with a cuppa and a chocolate biscuit! I can't wait to see what the folk at the next session will create, they've a lot to live up to!

Many thanks too for the unexpected donations which have gone to the Church Christmas tov service appeal.

Marion Heasman and Jeanette Moss

Food Bank at St James' Church

It has been drawn to our attention that the Food Bank, which is set up in the porch at St James, may not have been advertised well enough. The MU gate is left unlocked thus enabling people to give to the Food Bank at any time. The gifts are collected regularly and details of the charity are viewable in the porch. Tinned or dry food and toiletries are the most welcome for obvious reasons! Please give generously. Perhaps at this time of the year, it is more easy to be aware of the need of other people. **Margaret Fellows**

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Bonsall Village Hall Autumn Fair

Saturday 1 November

Thanks to everybody who contributed to the fair, including stall holders, people who made donations of money or gifts/ items for sale/raffle prizes and contributors. The contributors include all those who purchased lucky number squares from me prior to the fair, raising £195 and with squares sold on the day a total of £215. The 3 winners in the lucky whisky square draw were Thomas Jaina -Whisky, Ken Edgar - Whisky and Freya Land - Bottle of Wine. The attendance at the fair was very disappointing and only £198.50 was raised at the actual fair. However, with donations the useful overall amount of £453.50 was raised. To be able to keep down the rental hire costs for village organisations and villagers we need to do much better than this.

Village Hall improvements and maintenance

We have planning permission for improvements which include replacement railings to match those at the Tea Rooms (these urgently need replacing anyway) and the left hand side front downstairs window. The replacement window would go down to ground level to improve the daylight entering the main hall area and allow users to be able to see outside. Also repair work is required to the porch and the porch roof. To carry out all the above work, install new curtains to the enlarged window and redecorate the hall after the improvements and repairs we will need in the order of £12,700. We may be able to obtain some grant money but to do this we will need match-

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ing funds. We have recently received £150 from the King's Head Harvest Auction and we will use this to open an improvement fund. If any villagers wish to donate to this fund then let me know. Come on Bonsall Villagers, the hall belongs to you all as it is owned by the village. The Trustees and Village Hall Committee are merely custodians.

Leigh Johnson

Trustee and Treasurer, on behalf of Bonsall Village Hall Management Committee

St James' Tree of Memories

The Christmas tree will be decorated on Saturday 13 December from 2 - 4 pm. Tree decorations and labels for your personal messages are available at £1 each. Please come along and help to dress Bonsall's Christmas tree in memory of loved ones. Everyone is very welcome. Refreshments are provided. Ring **Claudine Balmer** on 824279 for any further information.

Study Farm receives Certificate of Excellence 2014

I'm really pleased to announce that we have received a certificate of excellence for our holiday barn accommodation from Trip Advisor. I wanted to let everyone know and say a big thank you because part of the reason we've achieved this award, I'm sure, is down to the people of Bonsall.

I've been meaning to write a piece for Mutterings for a while now but you know what, it's like there's always something else to do and the months go by..... but winning this award has prompted me to let you all in on the secret: that visitors

to Bonsall think we are both lovely and lucky!!

As I look at each new review I find there is a common factor running through lots of them... how beautiful and friendly the village is. Here's just a few –

"The village of Bonsall is probably the best place we have ever stayed; we have been meeting up for many years. The Barn's location is just 500m from either of the excellent pubs and about 100m from The Fountain Tea Rooms. The local pubs are fantastic. Especially the Kings Head which has recently been taken over by Michael who is such a kind and friendly host. The food there was excellent and very reasonable. The location of the Barns means you can walk to the pubs and the excellent Fountain Tea Rooms which is also well worth a visit".

"The village of Bonsall is also very well provided for with a cafe at the bottom of the hill, a really good play park and football pitch. The pubs are also very good especially the Barley Mow where the food was of an excellent standard. The people of Bonsall were so friendly as well, unlike other places I have been where tourists are seen as an annoyance".

"Bonsall is a beautiful village and a very short drive from Matlock so all in all a great family holiday and we would love to go back".

"Bonsall is a lovely village and great base for exploring Derbyshire and the Peak District". "Local pubs great for beer, music and a quiz. Lovely local walks through a really pretty village".

"The men folk walked down to the local pub and mentioned how nice the atmosphere was and sampled some nice ales".

"In the village is the Kings Head - it's a must for food and the Fountain Tearooms for breakfast .We will definitely be going back soon".

"Both of the village pubs are welcoming, I would recommend you try the steak and ale pie in the Kings Head. The Barley Mow was fantastic warm and friendly. What more can I say but had a great time and will be back. Enjoy the real ale in the Barley Mow, (food also good there too). The small café in the village is an excellent place to fill up before you explore".

As you can see everyone also appreciates our fine public houses and fabulous Tea Rooms. So if you've forgotten what it is you love about Bonsall have a couple of hours off, go for a walk and enjoy the scenery, call in at one of our very own pubs or tea rooms and see Bonsall through the eyes of a visitor. So keep up the good work and hopefully I'll be telling you we've achieved an award for 2015! Jayne Allsop





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100 Years Ago

The novelty of being at war in Europe was over. The Western front was a stalemate as each side dug in and the defensive power of machine guns decimated any attack. In the East massive battles and casualties were reported when the Russians and Germans clashed in Poland.

At home life continued. Horse racing and hunt meetings kept to their calendars and the weekly markets remained open. The Football Association agreed that matches should go on. Division 1 (no Premiership or Championship) results had some familiar names Liverpool 1 v Manchester United 1, Manchester City 2 v Chelsea 1 but also Notts County 5 v Middlesborough 0. In Division 2 the Christmas Day fixture between Nottingham Forest and Derby, played after a keen frost, was a two-all draw. On Boxing Day 12,000 spectators each paid 6d (21/2p) at the Baseball ground to see the return match which Derby won 1 nil. 3,000 more spectators swelled the crowd at half time. Not many were to know of the football games played on the Western Front in No Mans land by soldiers from each side on that Christmas Day.

The Government raised alcohol taxes to pay for the War; 17/3 (86.25p) on a barrel of beer and 3/9 (18.75p) on a gal-Ion of whiskey. The effect was to raise beer prices by a penny (0.4p) a pint from 4d (1.6p) to 5d (2p). This did not stop Samuel Blackham, alias Pilo, 43, of Church Street being drunk and disorderly on 26 December at Bonsall for which he was fined 5/- (25p) and costs.

Benjamin Gerrard, of Holborn House Clatterway, 55, a quarryman was charged

with using improper language at Bonsall on 28 November and fined 5/- and costs Also in Court was Walter Baker 39. of High Street, fined 20 (£1) and 7/- (35p) costs for poaching, (he had 11 previous convictions) and a further 10/- (50p) and costs for having a dog without a name on its collar.

Given that a soldier's weekly pay was 8/9 (43.75p) at that time this gives some idea of how these impositions affected the population.

The King suggested dedicating "the first Sunday of the New Year to a church service of solemn intercession on behalf of the nation and Empire at this time of war." **Brenda Greaves**

Valentine Greetings

If you would like to send a Valentine greeting in Mutterings (max 30 words), please send it to mutterings@hotmail.com or put it through the door of 19 High Street before January 23rd

Thanks

I would just like to thank people in Bonsall, in particular Village Life Church, for all your kindness and support shown to my son and I, following the sudden death of my partner Scott Lambert. He was my best friend, the love of my life and soul mate. We moved here four years ago. I'm originally from Bonsall, and we always came back to Derbyshire for walking trips. Scott was from North London but he really loved Bonsall and in particular liked walking up over parts of the Limestone Way. He took many photos and liked foraging for edible wild mushrooms and other wild food. He was a support worker with Derbyshire County Council. He wanted us to make Bonsall our long-term home. It's been a difficult summer, particularly as our much wanted baby (Augustus Scott Lambert) was born two weeks after his daddy died. However the support and friendship has proved invaluable since I lost Scott. It has shown me that people in Bonsall do really help others out in times of need.

Thanks again and have a good Christ-

Deborah Pearson and Baby Gus



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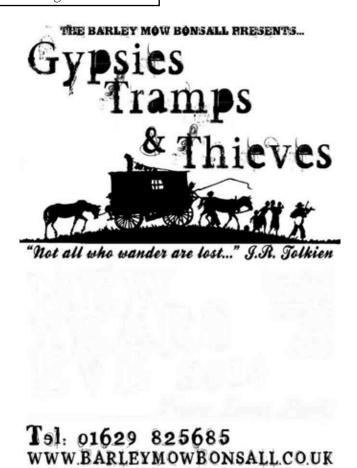
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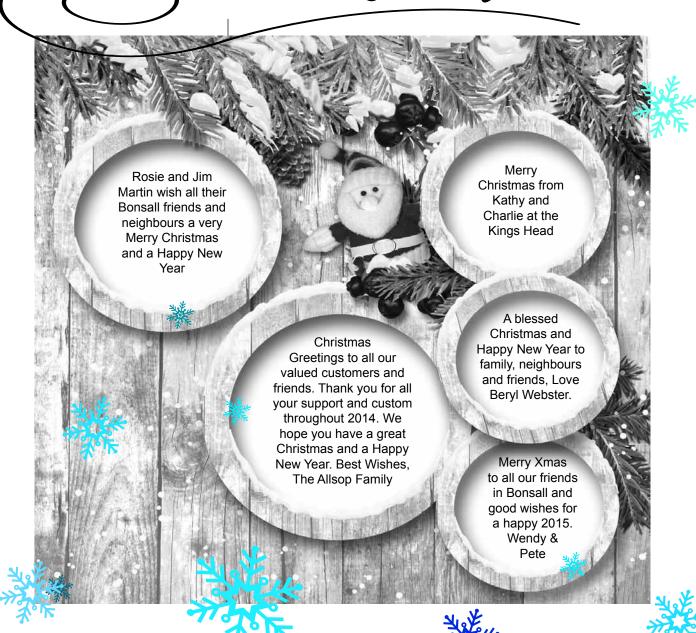
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PARISH COUNCIL

Speed checks are being carried out in Wirksworth. As the issue of speeding in Bonsall has been raised again Councillors took the opportunity to formally request that a visit with the speed-gun takes place. The Clerk will arrange a site meeting to find suitable place for checks. If you become aware of particular areas where traffic speeds appear to be high, please inform the Clerk so the list of sites can be updated for the police. PCSO Sue Lester reported that although crime was currently low, we are coming into the festive period and she wanted to remind everyone to take security precautions in the runup to Christmas - remember your house insurance will be invalid if you haven't secured your

house.

Cllr Ratcliffe – BOAT (Byway open to all traffic) on Moor Lane is due to be introduced on 25 November. As a result of this, traffic restrictions can be introduced and Moor Lane will become a restricted access lane.

Japanese knotweed found around the boundaries of the School and in Horsedale. Cllr. Lane requested Cllrs. Cartwright and Purdy to raise the matter at District Council. If any residents are aware of knotweed in any part of the village please report it to the Clerk as a matter of urgency.

School traffic and parking in Church Street. While Mrs Murhall continues to remind parents of the need to (where possible) leave their cars at the Park and walk up to school, Councillors wanted to add their voice. The situation does not just create problems for residents but is potentially dangerous for children as well. If Church Street were clear of cars travelling to school, the environment would be much more pleasant. Several people expressed interest in developing a 'Walking Bus' from Park Bottom and this will be explored in the coming months.

The Clerk is to take on the role of Snow Warden as a point of contact for Derbyshire County Council until another volunteer can be found – if you are interested please contact the Clerk.

Councillors would like to thank Linda Orchard from The Dale who has offered a Christmas tree to the Parish Council for decorating The Dale free of charge. If you have suggestions or ideas for trees to be sited at Nether Green, Uppertown and The Cross, please contact the Clerk. Bonsall Open Gardens have proposed a project to improve and upgrade the bus shelter at the Fountain and the Parish Council will be working with them to achieve this. The Parish Council is pleased to see this work being carried out and happy that the Open Gardens Group brought the project forward.

THE KINGS HEAD DE4 2AA 01629 822703

Charlie and Kathy would like to thank the good folk of Bonsall for the warm welcome to your lovely village. The Pub is now open:

Monday: 6.00pm - 12.00pm

Tues - Fri: 12.00pm - 3.00pm and 5.30pm - 12.00am

Sat & Sun: 12.00pm – 12.00am

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Again, thank you all and we look forward to our life in Bonsall.

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District Councillors

Bob Cartwright, tel: 822702, bob. cartwright@derbyshiredales.gov.uk

Garry Purdy Tel: 823636, garry. purdy@derbyshiredales.gov.uk

County Councillor

Irene Ratcliffe, tel: 823023, irene. ratcliffe@derbyshire.gov.uk

Member of Parliament

Patrick McLoughlin, Derbys Dales consituency, tel: 020 7219 3511, House of Commons, London, SW1A 0AA, email: patrick.mcloughlin.mp@ parliament.uk

MEPs

The 6 East Midlands MEPs can be contacted on 020 7219 3000 or at: House of Commons, London, SW1A 0AA

Parish Councillors

If you have any concerns or requests of the Parish Council, they should ideally be raised in Public Participation section of the monthly meeting. If however there is an urgent matter, while individual councillors will try to assist, a direct response is better achieved by contacting the Clerk to the Parish Council directly:

Chair: Cllr Dorothy Lane, 55 High Street, T: 824941

Vice-Chair: Cllr Denise Pountain, 6 High Street, Bonsall, T: 822708

Councillors:

Cllr Terry Henderson, 17 High Street, Bonsall, T: 825782

Cllr Veronica Addis, Dale House, The Dale T: 826309

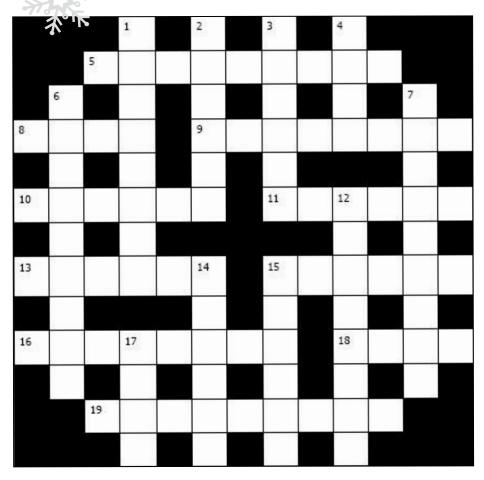
Cllr Colette Dewhurst, The Barley Mow, The Dale, Bonsall. T 825685

Responsible Finance Officer Tony Payne, 27 High Street.T: 822311

Clerk:

Catherine Rawas, Brocliffe Cottage, Uppertown, Bonsall DE4 2AW T: 820947. M: 07964 053129 e-mail: bonsallclerk@googlemail.com

PRIZE CROSSWORD No 57



Please deliver your answers to The Old Rectory by 15 January 2015. First correct one drawn out of hat gets two bottles of wine.

Answers to Crossword no. 56.

Answers to crossword no. 56. Across: 5. Depressed. 8. Blue. 9. Lucidity. 10. Erotic. 11. Struck. 13. Pyedog. 15. Cobalt. 16. Sapphire (mug = sap; phire sounds like fire). 18. Tory. 19. Miserable (miser + able). Down: 1. Dejected. 2. Frolic. 3. Psychs. 4. Lewd. 6. Clergyman. 7. Sticklers. 12. Rebottle. 14. Gained. 15. Caesar. 17. Prim.

Many thanks to the Mutterings distributors for all your hard work delivering the newsletter every month.

With best wishes
The F.ditors

Across:

- 5. Melchior, Caspar or Balthazar, maybe. (9)
- 8. Smart bird loses tail. (4)
- 9. Seen at 6. IPE!! (8)
- 10. Personal vow taken after liberal sexual desire! (6)
- 11. Laundry in garden taken inside for airing. (6)
- 13. Vigorous matings without number produce a stain! (6)
- 15. Naughty Aladin's without a 6, for example. (6)
- 16. Hang about until detailed for spooking! (8)
- 18. Mineral taken in by convalescent alcoholic. (4)
- 19. Go away! First usage of French leads to great happiness. (9)

Down:

- 1. 6 this filling store? (8)
- 2. 6 for little felon with smelly armpits?(6)
- 3. Gang said to be outlawed. (6)
- 4. French, and up and up to head! (4)
- 6. Smart, chic soprano (NOT contralto) involved in this festival? (9)
- 7. In an attractive way, pub is on show in annexe with lovely surrounds. (9)
- 12. 6. First youth in Dutch ensemble played lute inside. (8)
- 14. Little nob found in Paris toilet! (6)
- 15. Reeling sot is after gin mixed in bars. (6)
- 17. 6 for coward? (4)

Collective Nouns

What is the collective noun for a group of swallows or cormorants?

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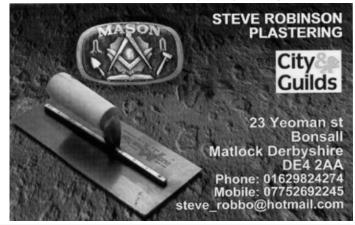
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