



Issue 146

March 2016

T'Owd Man's Mutterings



NO SNOW THIS YEAR?.. YET

Spring comes early after one of the mildest winters on record



In folklore T'Owd Man is a spirit that inhabits mines and caves. T'Owd Man of Bonsall is a carved figure of a miner that was taken to Wirksworth when St James church was being refurbished in the 1860s. It was said that strange noises coming from the old Ball Eye mine at the end of Church St. were of T'Owd Man muttering

CHURCH NEWS

As Easter is early this year, most of February and March will fall in the six weeks of the Christian season of LENT: the preparation period for the festival of Easter. Buzz words for LENT include temptation and giving up and preparation. The one Bible story most of us know about, associated with LENT, is that of the temptations of Jesus following his baptism and before he starts his new job as Teacher and Healer. Sitting in a school governors meeting recently, amid agenda items around finance and safety and admissions and website there was one item relevant to LENT. The National Curriculum has changed (again !!) and that has meant a lot of work for staff and governors, but one thing that remains a fixture is the need to know

what pupils have learned, understood, grasped. So 'testing' in some shape or form will remain a feature of both education and gaining qualifications. Many of us experience 'testing' in other life contexts – I have my alarm tested every year or my home insurance is invalid, we give our cars an MOT, children love the satisfaction with passing of music/sport/other hobby type testing or grading and the progress it measures. We have medical tests and eagerly await the results for peace of mind (add your own examples). Somehow the concept of spiritual or religious testing is offensive. But really? Jesus' first test (turn stone into bread while fasting) invites us to reflect on the difference between WANTS and NEEDS in a world where resources are finite, reflecting on trust – in what /in whom do we place our trust? Many of you know I have been ill and I am still rebuilding. That prolonged period raised issues for me of job security and financial security too as my youngsters are not yet financially independent. But how much do you or I need 'in the bank' to feel secure? It is an impossible question because there is no answer. Yet it is a question worth

asking because of what it raises in us – anxiety, fear even. Looking to GOD to meet all our needs, physical, emotional (intellectual, social...) as well as spiritual is something that takes years to learn. I doubt I will give up anything for LENT (though I do usually take a six-week break from social media). I prefer to take up a project, often raising money for charity. This year I'd like to use LENT to explore the effect my shopping (food and other) has on the alarming rise in global slavery. My wanting cheap goods means untold suffering for others including children. May GOD bless you in however you choose to spend LENT this year.

Kara

CHURCH DIARY

March

St James

6 9.30 am Mothering Sunday Service

13 9.30 am Eucharist

20 11.00 am Morning Worship

25 2.00 pm Good Friday, The Watch

27 9.30 am Easter Sunday.
Eucharist

Village Life Church

Sunday 10:30 am Morning Worship

10:30 am UNO Sunday School

6:00 pm Prayer Meeting

Tuesday 7:00 pm Craft Club

Wednesday 7:00 pm Joint Church Lent Course

Easter Family Funday Sunday on the 27 March 10:30 - 11:30 am followed by lunch.

Coffee morning will be on Tuesday 29 March from 10 am - 12 pm.

Bonsall Wesleyan Reform Chapel (The Dale)

Services during March are at 6.15 pm except Sunday 13 March which is at 2.30 pm

United Mothering Sunday Service at St James Church 6 March 9.30 am

Special Easter Service Sunday 27 March 6.15 pm

Lent Studies are on Tuesdays at 10.00 am

Friday 18 March 2.00 - 4.00 pm Cuppa & Cake Afternoon

All are welcome to join with us

Catholic Church Services

Our Lady and St. Teresa of Lisieux

Gorsey Bank, Wirksworth

Mass Sundays 9 am, Holy Days 7 pm.

Service of Holy Communion every Wednesday morning at 10 am.

Contact Fr. Joseph Keogh
(01773 743336)

Our Lady and St. Joseph Church

Bank Rd, Matlock

Mass times Saturdays 6 pm, Sundays 8.30 am & 10.30 am.

Holy Days 9.30 am & 7 pm.

Daily Mass Mondays and Fridays 7 pm.

Tuesdays – Thursdays 9.30 am.

Sacrament of Reconciliation – Fridays

6.30–7 pm, Saturdays 10.30–11 am,

Adoration Thursdays and Fridays 7 am – 11 pm

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.

LIGHTING

During March, the lighting holds memories for many people. Ron and Joy Mountney and Linda and John are reminded of Clara and Jack. Mum and Dad Freda Kevin Hupley are brought to mind for Ronnie and Phil. All the Milward family are remembered through the lighting. This month also Beryl, Jennie and family have thoughts of Jack Webster. At this time also Harold Bunting is remembered with love by Dorinda, Simon and Stephanie, with thoughts too of Annie and Lev. Mum, Dad, Elsie and Carl are much in the thoughts of Betty Taylor. Joe is called to mind for Pat, Sue, John and their family, particularly on the 17th of March. The 11th and 19th of the month are dates when Charlie and Elsie Thompson are remembered by Philip and Yvonne and their families.

John Sewry

Wirksworth Team Ministry

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St Mary's Wirksworth

Contact:

The Team Office, Parish Rooms,
St Mary's Gate, Wirksworth, DE4 4DQ
Tel/Fax 01629 824707
email: teamoffice@wirksworthteam-ministry.co.uk
www.wirksworthteamministry.co.uk

VILLAGE NOTICEBOARD

There will be a 2016 Carnival!

Following the note in February's Mutterings, the Carnival AGM in the Barley Mow was very well attended. We are pleased to welcome eight new members to the Carnival Committee: Richard Grover and Julie Leggett from Nether Green, Brett Evans Biedscheid and Natasha Schmidt from Pounder Lane, Sam Bradley from Slaley, Jayne Allsop from Study Farm and Denise Pountain and Maggie Duggins from different ends of High St. I have decided to stay on for another year as Chair and the other members have agreed to continue with their roles on the

committee. We still need more support from volunteers to help out on Carnival Day or other events during Carnival Week (for example, more marshals to collect donations at the Friday evening fireworks event), so please offer some of your time this year to help out. If you weren't able to get to the last meeting and would like to join the Carnival Committee, either give me a call or come along to the next meeting on Tuesday 8 March at 7.30 pm in the Kings Head. And don't forget to support the Easter Draw at the two pubs on Easter Saturday (26 March)

Hazel Baldwin (824724)



Some reminders of last year's Carnival and well dressings



LETTER

Dear Editors,

Speeding traffic

I am writing with reference to the article in the November Mutterings about the poor cat that was killed on Church Street and the speed of traffic through the village. Our cat, Marley, became another victim of traffic speeding through the village when he was hit by a car and left for dead; he managed to crawl to a nearby barn and was found some days later with a fractured spine. His prognosis is very poor but the vets are doing all they can (thank you to Nick Gerrish who found Marley). We have only lived in this beautiful friendly village for six months so are newbies to Bonsall, but we have been pleasantly surprised by how lovely people are and how caring a community it is. However I have been alarmed at the speed that traffic goes through the village, well in excess of the legal speed limit for a built-up area, and therefore I am writing in support of the editors' note. Having worked as an operational paramedic for nearly thirty years I fear that a pedestrian or child could become a victim if this continues; it is true that SPEED KILLS!! Maybe signs on entering and leaving the village might help? Or children from the school could make signs warning motorists that they 'live, play and enjoy the village' and want it to be safe; children's voices are very powerful. Best wishes and thank you for raising this in the way you did.

Watson family at 3-5 High Street

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Urgent appeal for host families - Chernobyl Children's Lifeline

Believe it or not, 26 April this year will be the 30th anniversary of the Chernobyl disaster in Ukraine. It's one of those terrible horrific events that we remember being reported at the time, at least, those of us who are old enough! I have been Chairman of the Bonsall & Derbyshire Link of the national charity, Chernobyl Children's Lifeline, since it started in 2002, with our first group of children arriving in July 2003. We have brought a group of kids to Bonsall every summer each year since and they very much still need to keep coming over, 30 years on. Each year, I visit Belarus and Ukraine,



Tanya and Ken Ivanov were one of our host families with two girls last year. They lived in Bonsall until last year, when they moved to Wirksworth but are still active with the group..



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the two countries that suffered the worst of the nuclear fallout. I still come across many cases of children with medical conditions that are a direct result of ingesting contaminated food, water and dust particles. These are now second generation children, their parents being children themselves back in 1986. Even with the passing of 30 years, there is still over 50% over the caesium and strontium present in the environment that has yet to decay. Other radioactive elements that were released from the reactor will be around for thousands of years to come. The children's immune systems are weakened by the radiation in their bloodstreams and their internal organs are being damaged as well, making them age prematurely. As a consequence, they often become

ill, particularly in the wintertime and many end up in hospital for weeks until their recover, missing out on their education. The Chernobyl legacy will, unfortunately, continue to affect children and adults for at least another 100 years, such is the nature of the radionuclides released into the air on that fateful night and for a further ten days before the graphite fires were finally extinguished. I am appealing to local families to come forward to volunteer to host two 10 or 11 year old children in their homes this summer for either two, or ideally, 4 weeks. It is often a very rewarding experience for the families. As with looking after any children, it is not to be taken lightly and can be tiring. We organise trips and events for the group while they are here so

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VILLAGE NOTICEBOARD

they are out and about for a good bit of the time. Host families are welcome to come on the trips but we also have support families that can accompany them. There is a Group Leader who comes with the children. He or she is often their English teacher. This year, the children are being invited from the Republic of Belarus, a country with major economic problems and widespread poverty. Our Group Leader will be Bob Skupanovich, who has come over to our Link on many occasions since his first visit in 2004. I have become good friends with Bob over the years. We are hoping to invite ten children, if we have enough host families. The dates of the visit are 16 July to 13 August. If you would like

to find out more about what would be involved in being a host family, please contact me, Chris Broome, my wife, Janice, or Krystina Johnson (823591). If you aren't able to be a host family but would like to help in other ways, we are always very grateful to receive donations which would go towards the cost of the children's visit. The Link has to raise all the funds needed, locally. This year, the cost will be of the order of £6,000, possibly more, depending on the cost of the flights. To mark the 30th anniversary, there will be some special events taking place in the Matlock area around the end of April and into May. I will publicise details of these in next month's Mutterings. Regionally, we will be holding a commemorative service at the Roman Catholic Cathedral in Nottingham on the eve of the anniversary, Monday 25 April at 7.30 pm. Everyone is very welcome to come along to remember what happened and the ongoing consequences of the accident. Thank you for your support.
Chris Broome (824512)

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Can you help with Mutterings?

Although we have eight people on the Editorial Group, we would welcome another editor to join us. Ideally, it would be someone with computer skills who is able to help with the design and layout of some of the newsletters. If you would like to find out what is involved, please email us at Mutterings@hotmail.com.

Editors



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Historical finds event

The Bonsall History Group is pleased to help publicise a display of the finds that have recently been dug up by metal detectorists from some of the fields in Bonsall. There are literally hundreds if not thousands of objects, dating from Roman times, through the Middle Ages to the Victorian period. There will be a slideshow, with some of the actual objects to handle, and the opportunity to talk to the two detectorists in the Village Hall on Tuesday 29 March from 7.30 pm. Everyone is welcome.

Peter Fellows

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100 YEARS AGO

At the start of winter 1916 there were six deaths in the village within a fortnight, including Mrs Mary Axe, 64, and Mrs Mary Ann Knowles, 57, coincidentally both wives of ex-Chairman of the UDC. There was also a service of intercession at St. James Church for Ernest Boden (23) who had died in the Dardanelles in November 1915. Ernest was well known and highly respected and the pulpit and reading desk were draped with the Union flag at his memorial service and another was suspended between the Chancel arches.

In February Private Edward Boden, 10th Battalion North Staffordshire Regiment, was reported as being wounded and being treated at a hospital in Kent. In the Boer War he had served with the 1st Battalion Notts. and Derbys. Regiment winning two medals and five clasps.

There was a heavy snowfall (it took four days to get through four feet of snow to Brightgate) and the snow continued to fall. In the village a life-long resident Samuel Wheeldon (79) of High Street, formerly a greengrocer, was struck by a pipe brought down by the snow.

There was a dispute in the Police Court over who had felled some trees at Low Farm. And it was probably an indication that local policemen were enlisting that four new Special Constables were sworn in - Job Bunting, farmer; Charles Allsop J.P., farmer; Edward Smith, farmer; Ellis Markindale, gentleman.

In February 1916 J.H. Davies, a teacher at the Boys Endowed School left to join the Army. He was the fourth teacher to enlist along with about a hundred old boys, but despite many missing faces, life went on in the village. A whist and social drive was held and over three pounds was raised for 'eggs for wounded soldiers'. There was also a concert for old people in the village.

On Monday 14 February 1916 two Bonsall men in the 10th Battalion Sherwood Foresters died at Ypres; Jim Barlow (20) lived in a cottage attached to the Pig of Lead (now demolished). He was a knotter at Hollins Mill where his father managed the engine which provided the power to the mill machinery. His father, James, was born at Pleasley (Hollins had a mill at Pleasley) and his mother was Ellen from Bolehill. John James Gregory (34), was a "gasser" (he defumigated the raw cotton) in the cotton mill. He lived at Town Head with his father Robert, who

was an engine driver in the Basalt quarry, behind the Pig of Lead. The 10th battalion landed in France in July 1915 and went into the Ypres salient. In November John James Gregory was convalescing, recovering from septic poisoning. On 13 February the Battalion occupied the front line trenches and the next day an artillery bombardment commenced which lasted 24 hours. And then a mine was exploded directly under the trenches. The German infantry advanced but were held up by the support trenches and although counter attacks were made they failed to dislodge the Germans from their newly won ground. Neither man's bodies were recovered. In the four days of this battle the 10th Battalion lost 16 officers and 334 men.

An inquest was held in early March at the Wesleyan Reform Chapel in The Dale on Henry Spencer (69) a well known bulldog breeder of Nook House Top of The Dale and a foreman platelayer. On 24 February he had been told his son Wilfred had been killed in France and this had upset him. The next day he woke early and got up, but had died before Elizabeth, his wife of 46 years, got up to make breakfast at 4.15 am. The inquest jury were all local and 'never knew him to be drunk'. Their verdict was natural causes, although there can be little doubt that these 'natural causes' were linked to the news about his son. Ironically Wilfred, 26, a former coal

miner was not dead but was a prisoner in Germany. He survived the war.

At the end of February the Military Tribunal sat for the first time to consider exemption from conscription. Frederick Hawley (34) was single and lived with his mother at the top of The Dale. He was an engine driver at Smedleys hydro and had 53 acres to farm in Bonsall. He applied for exemption from conscription and was allowed three months' exemption and advised to reapply to the Matlock tribunal where his main work was.

Francis Edward Millward (23) was single and lived with his mother in the Dale. He was a platelayer and his younger brother Leonard was already in the army and he was the sole support for his widowed mother. He was granted conditional exemption whilst he remained in that employment.

Richard Byard (37) was single and lived with his widowed mother and two sisters in Uppertown and was a blacksmith. He was exempted for six months by the Matlock Tribunal.

The Bonsall Urban District Council meeting at the beginning of March authorised snow clearing at a cost of £15 and arrangements were made to sign a lease for the Park from the Church.

Peter Greaves



The cottage by the Pig of Lead, from where Jim Barlow walked across the road to work at Hollins Mill before he went to war and was killed at Ypres.

PARISH COUNCIL

Notes from the Parish Council meeting held on Tuesday 16 February.

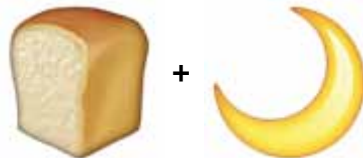
Mike Richardson and Phil Addis were co-opted onto the Parish Council following advertising of the casual vacancies. Their details can be found with the other Parish Councillors and you can contact them – as with any of the other Councillors - should you have any issues you wish to raise.

Cllr. Terry Henderson announced he is resigning from the Parish Council and therefore another casual vacancy is being advertised. Please see the village noticeboard at The Cross for details. Cllr. Harris thanked Cllr. Henderson for his service.

Bonsall Carnival Committee requested support for a village storage facility and in doing so they wished to thank everyone who has helped out to date providing space. The Carnival Committee will discuss placement of a metal storage container in either the Park Bottom or the Rectory Rooms garden. The Church and Cllr. Pawley offered to raise the issue with District planners to find out how to get permission to place the storage container.

Can you guess what the food is?

(Answer on page 9)



H. Strange are to be contracted to fit timed locks to the village toilets in a bid to combat the vandalism which has occurred on two previous occasions.

A working party is to be formed to look at the issue of Bonsall's burial ground and whether villagers wish to continue to have a village burial ground once the current space is full. The issue is to form part of the agenda for the Annual Parish Meeting and the Parish Council will then take the issue forward based on the views of residents.

Cllr. Barry will co-ordinate Christmas trees in the village for 2016. Please contact him if you have any ideas or suggestions about them, and he will organise a meeting in the coming months.

Cllr. Barry would like to hear from any residents about the street lights in the village. Please contact him directly if you have any thoughts on the issue.

The next meeting of the Parish Council will take place on 15 March at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall Agenda items to the Clerk by 5 March please.

Cath Rawas

District Councillors

Joyce Pawley, tel: 01629 825431
joyce.pawley@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 constituency, tel: 020 7219 3511, House of Commons, London, SW1A 0AA
patrick.mcloughlin.mp@parliament.uk

MEPs

The 6 East Midlands MEPs can be contacted on 020 72193000 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 Mark Harris, Stepping Lodge, Bell Lane, T: 820285

Vice-Chair: Cllr Graham Henderson, 17 High St., T: 825782

Councillors:

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

Cllr Jon Barry, Ivy Cottage, Bell Lane, T: 07866 750636

Cllr Michael Hewitt, Newlyn, The Dale, T: 823097

Cllr Denise Pountain, 6 High St., T: 822708

Cllr Mike Richardson, 26 Yeoman St. Nom_nom_nom@hotmail.com T: 826678

Cllr Anna Williams, Glenholme, The Dale, 820035

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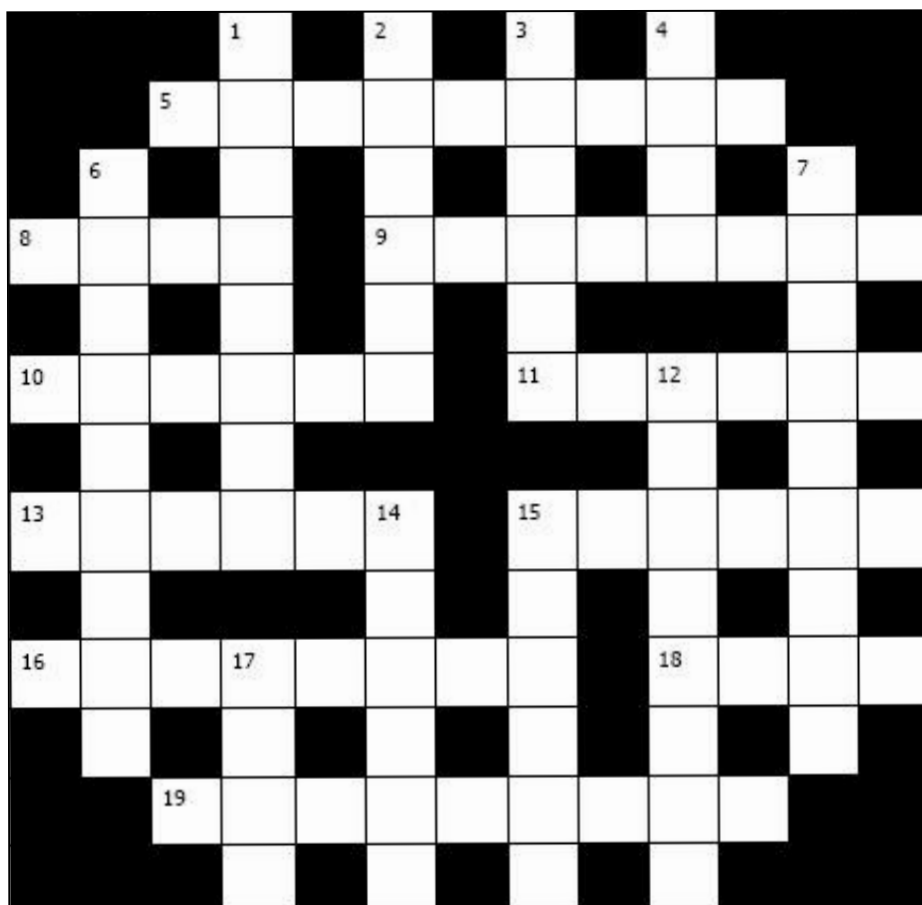
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Across:

5. A type of 8 in which the cocoa is mixed with last of oatmeal. (9)
8. Coat found in scenic Akenfield. (4)
9. Doctor encased last red rose. (8)
10. Sex written in legend - erotic? (6)
11. An 8 in which two hundred eels wriggle around. (6)
13. Gets S.A. drama - on these? (6)
15. Gold supports exit for 8. (6)
16. Scotland's great masters working? That's rare! (8)
18. A musical sort of 8? (4)
19. In this place, new church props up first company agreement. (9)

Down:

1. Hop edges out pooch. (8)
2. 8 found in East Central Los Angeles with wingless bird. (6)
3. Revolutionary shouldering 150 - one old chestnut! (6)
4. Note about school. (4)
6. Top teen an extraordinary 8. (9)
7. Suitability for very clean drunk? (9)
12. Feline on a wobbly cart falls. (8)
14. Special 8 for 6th. (6)
15. Type of 8. In origin, German. (6)
17. Nasty smell in old English pipe. (4)

Answers to Crossword no. 69: Across: 5. Bombastic. 8. & 14 down: Mark Antony. 9. Everyone. 10. Romans. 11. Scipio. 13. Camera. 15. Cicero. 16. Vignette. 18. Used. 19. Truncated. Down: 1. Bookcase. (BO = smell. CA = about. SE = Kent. OK = no sweat.) 2. Objets. 3. Ushers. 4. Livy. 6. Panoramic. 7. Unpierced. 12. Included. (First of delve (d) in this = clue.) 14. See 8 ac. 15. Caesar. 17. Nero.

Collective nouns

What is a 'Bike' a collective name for?

Answer to Collective nouns: Wasps and hornets
Guess the food: - a croissant

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