



Issue 155

February 2017

T'Owd Man's Mutterings



February Fool

Photos by Ricky Moss



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 DIARY

February

St James

5 9.30am Sanctuary
12 9.30am Eucharist
19 11.00am Morning Worship
26 8.30am Eucharist
1 March, 7.00pm St James Ash Wednesday
Lent services from Wed 8 March at 7.00pm at the Village Life Church

Village Life Church

Sunday
10.30am Morning Worship
10.30am UNO Sunday School
Monday
6.00pm Prayer Meeting
Tuesday
2.00pm Craft Club
Wednesday
2.00pm House group

Family Funday Sunday. Sunday 19 February, 10.30am to 11.30am followed by lunch.
Coffee Morning will be on Tuesday 28 February 10.00am to 12.00noon. A warm welcome to everybody.

Bonsall Wesleyan Reform Chapel (The Dale)

Thanks to all who contributed at the Carol Service and in lieu of Christmas cards, to the Salvation Army Appeal - £260 was sent; their acknowledgement can be read in Chapel.

Also a sincere “Thank You” to Phil and Ron, Keith & Olive for once again organising the Christmas Tree and lights for The Dale; and to those residents on the Bankside and The Dale who have kindly given donations towards the costs; so good that people are willing to share together! Please speak to Keith Bond if you would like to help.

Sunday Services during February are at 2.30pm unless otherwise stated on the Notice Board.
Friday 17 February 2.00 - 4.00pm Cuppa & Cake Afternoon.
Advance notice - Women’s World Day of Prayer Friday 3 March 1.30pm
All are welcome to join with us.

CHURCH NEWS

A New Year has dawned; has anything changed? That I consider, depends on our mind-set - the half full or half empty glass, depending on how life is seen! 2016 was a tough year in many respects. What comes to my mind are the words of a hymn I learned as a child and still remember - “Glad that I live am I; that the sky is blue. Glad for the country lanes and the fall of dew. After the sun, the rain. After the rain, the sun. This is the way of life till the work be done. All that we need to do, be we low or high, is to see that we grow nearer the sky!”

The sky in all its moods captured so wonderfully by my photographer neighbour. It speaks to me of heaven, which according to the dictionary is “the apparent vault over the earth in which the sun, moon and stars are seen; region or atmosphere in which the clouds float, winds blow and birds fly; the habitation of God and His angels.”

At our first service of 2017, the preacher challenged us with a question - “Do you know Jesus?” His challenge meant “Do you know Jesus personally?” His text was from 2 Corinthians 5 verse 17 “Therefore, if anyone is in Christ he/she is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come.” The word “new” stuck in my mind. It means “not existing before; now first made; brought into existence; discovered, fresh, different, changed. There are 150 references to the word “new” in the Bible. In Hebrew it means “new, both in the sense of recent or fresh, and in the sense of something not previously existing.” Lamentations 3 verse 23 - “the Lord’s compassions (mercy and loving kindness) do not fail. They are new every morning;

Great is His faithfulness!” - is a “new” verse I hold tight to, especially if I’ve had a bad day! The Hebrew meaning of new is unique, meaning “just as God’s creation is renewed and refreshed, so too is His compassion and loving kindness”. What a great thought for a New Year! Glad that I live am I? Yes! Do I know Jesus personally? Yes! However I need to know Him more and more with each new day. All that I need to do? Is to see that I grow nearer the sky! That means experiencing this newness - as Spring comes and the earth is renewed and refreshed and with each of the passing seasons - the renewal and refreshing of God’s Spirit at work in my life. Well, what an adventure for 2017! Oh yes, there will be trials and temptations, doubts and fears, joys and sorrows, but God and the Lord Jesus have promised “never to leave us or to forsake us” and so I am willing to walk with and to lean on the Lord Jesus Christ. Would you care to join Matthew, Rev Kara and I in this great adventure? I’m sure you know where to find us for more information! Every Blessing to you and your families for 2017.

Judy Land

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.

FLOODLIGHTING

The first week of February has special memories of David Evans for all his family. Dr Jayme Rolls, a special friend and teacher is brought to mind at this time. 4th February would have been Mick Baugh’s birthday, when he is much in the thoughts of Rita, Danny and Rachel. The lighting brings fond memories of Auntie Joan, especially on the 14th from all her family. For Beryl Webster there are loving thoughts Jack on the 12th, in which she is joined by Jennie and the family. Through the lighting also, particularly on the 20th February, Mary Gregory is lovingly remembered by Eric.

John Sewry

OBITUARY

Rick Jones, 1958-2016

The last week of November marked the unexpected passing of a true Bonsall character. Rick Jones had recently chalked up forty years as a village resident. He moved to 47 Church Street in the blazing summer of 1976 along with his Mum and Dad, Doreen and Frank. The Joneses soon forged strong friendships with their neighbours, not least the Lowndses just along the road at the Rectory.

In those early years in the village Rick worked in a variety of jobs, from driving a furniture delivery van for ‘Nonsuch’ in Matlock Bath, to erecting steel shelving racks in Wickes stores across the country for his Dad’s light engineering business, to running his own ceramics studio: Bonsall Pottery. The common thread in all the many jobs he did was that they allowed Rick to spend as much time as he possibly could outdoors. And this he did in all weathers – sitting at his potters wheel in shorts and a T-shirt in a garage open to the elements, perhaps adding a duvet vest if the snow was drifting across the floor. You would find him striding up Masson or across Bonsall Moor, cycling off into the White Peak or heading off to the distant coast to pursue his love of sea kayaking whatever the seasons threw at him. Rick also turned his love of the outdoors – and particularly the Peak District – to public benefit, serving as a volunteer Peak Park Ranger and as Bonsall’s Footpath Warden.

Following the death first of Frank and then Doreen, Rick moved to High Street for a few years. He would regularly meet his neighbours as they walked their respective dogs on the fields backing onto Uppertown. Rick had an extensive, wide-ranging knowledge of Bonsall, which he

OBITUARY



(photo, credit Wendy Bullar)

was happy to share with little prompting. He also had a fund of anecdotes, more than a few concerning his dog, Hattie. She was an elderly dachshund-corgi cross (hence her nick-name ‘Mrs No-legs’) that he had inherited from his mother, and he routinely carried her around in his rucksack, yanking her out over his shoulder to meet people. He would regale friends with the tale of having taken her in the rucksack to go shopping at Somerfield in Matlock. All went swimmingly until he approached the counter selling chicken on a spit-roast. The smell was too much for Hattie and she started barking, alerting the store’s security guard, who promptly ejected them both.

Rick was a large man – large in stature and also in character and personality. His many friends will attest that he was caring, generous, kind and to his amazing sense of humour. He was also extremely stubborn, and not even his brother Ian could ever get Rick to listen to him, to take advice or change his ways. Rick was well-read and knowledgeable on most subjects and took an interest in life and people, reflected in the many friendships he forged. He was never a man to do things by halves; not only did he pursue hobbies with a zest and a pace of life many of us could not keep up with, he liked to learn and do it all with skill and knowledge. In so doing, he became a member of many groups and organisations including Canoe England, The Historic Canoe and Kayak Association and also the Rough Stuff Fellowship (an off-road cycling group which Bonsall man Harry Ingledew helped found in 1955).

In 1997 Rick was involved in a catastrophic and life changing accident, suffering extensive physical injuries and brain damage.

But he made an amazing recovering from both. And the twist is that, because of the accident and all the treatment, a serious heart problem was also discovered which was later rectified by heart surgery in 1999 (he had a new titanium aortic valve along with repairs to his aorta). Apparently, if you were lucky, he would let you listen to the heart valve clicking!

Incredibly, after all this, Rick did manage to return to work across the cycle hire centres on the Monsal Trail, Middleton Top, Ashbourne, Peak Junction and Derwent and continued with his life, almost with the same pace and approach as he had done before. There were a few freedoms he gave up such as the fact that he would have loved to continue a nomadic life – living and travelling in a camper van would have been Rick’s preferred approach. Instead he ‘settled’ for what turned out to be life in the cottage at Study Farm. But, as ever, a cosy, warm little place was not right for Rick; he kept it cold, always had the door open come rain, shine, snow or deep frost. Rick remained too connected with the world and its goings on to be shut away from the elements entirely.

But Rick’s attitude was always very positive - he continued to cycle and to paddle, though perhaps to a more limited extent. Both activities were an important part of his life and he rarely wore everyday clothes - Rick was always ready for his own little adventure. And he was always very involved in village life and village activities. He was a member of the Parish Council and, as other councillors – and regular readers of the Mutterings letters page – will readily attest, Rick was very confident in airing his views.

On a personal level, Rick was aware that his health was declining over the last 18 months, and that his heart was in poor condition. But this information was not enough for him to change his life and his approach. He continued to cycle and walk up the steepest of hills he could find. Rick’s death came so suddenly, but Ian has a sense that Rick had some inkling. He had been trying, in his own way, to negotiate retirement from work on the grounds of ill-health. But it is easy to imagine that retirement, removing any of the very precious strands in Rick’s life was going to be nigh on impossible for him. And so, the choice has been taken from him, he left this world in the midst of his hectic, busy life: his heart could not keep up with his spirit. No nursing homes, directions to go more steadily, to be more sedentary – that was never going to be Rick.

Ian Jones, Matthew Lownds, Helen Furniss, Peter Fellows and Wendy Bullar

LETTERS

Dear Editors,

Like most people, I was shocked at the sudden death of Rick Jones. Rick was an immense character, full of wit and knowledge; someone who had a rich and humanitarian view of politics and the world. I've been a Parish Councillor for almost two years and during that time Rick has hardly missed a PC meeting – even though he himself wasn't a councillor! Such was Rick's knowledge of all aspects of the village, the PC would often 'unofficially' ask him for clarification or guidance. Rick was also a formidable opponent for any inept County Councillor or guest speaker. During public sessions at the beginning of PC business, Rick would often take the role of Jeremy Paxman and few were safe from his incisive questioning. Rick was passionate about retaining the historic feel of this iconic Derbyshire village. He loved the village and most people who knew Rick loved him as well. He will be sorely missed.

Jon Barry

Poppy appeal

Many thanks to everyone who collected and gave to the poppy appeal in the village. A grand total of £520.93 was raised in Bonsall. Thank you.

Norma Marshall

Sometimes in Sheffield?

We would be very pleased to hear from anyone who makes periodic visits to Sheffield and would be willing and able, occasionally, to pick up our printed copies of the Mutterings for dropping off in Bonsall. Please contact Peter Fellows on 825267 if you can help out.

The Editors.

VILLAGE NOTICEBOARD

Community Car Scheme

I would like to trial offering free lifts within about a fifteen mile radius of Bonsall to those who would find it impossible to use the bus and have no access to a car. I am happy to take people to shops, or just pick them up when they've shopped, take people to medical appointments or to social activities. If you try to give me a few days notice then it's more likely that I'll be able to help as I still have a part time job helping Bakewell Community transport. This job has helped me to see how important transport is in rural communities and I didn't realise for example that you can't get a bus to Matlock if your medical appointment is early! I thought I would trial the scheme during February and then may need to ask for more voluntary drivers if there is a big demand. So please ring Loreen 822067 if you'd like a lift.

Loreen Elliott

Host Families Urgently Needed For This Year's Chernobyl Children's Visit

Local CCLL link members are urgently appealing for volunteer families to host Ukrainian children this summer.

A brand new 2017 is here, so it's that time again for CCLL's Bonsall and Derbyshire Dales Link to appeal for local families to host another group of Ukrainian children this summer.

As this year marks the 31st Anniversary of the Chernobyl Nuclear Power Station disaster, the children invited over today

are the 2nd generation of Chernobyl children. Three decades, while being a long time from a human being lifetime perspective, is only about of a half-life length for harmful radionuclides, such as Caesium 137 or Strontium 90, for which it will take another few decades to decay to a 'safe' level. Radiation ingested from contaminated food and water, as well as from dust in the air, can give rise to many diseases in children and young adults, including life threatening cancers, heart disease and disorders which can affect many other organs in the body. That's why, even though they were born a few decades after the disaster, the today's kids still have the same health issues as many of their parents had, and still need our help to improve their prospects of leading a healthier and longer life.

We are urgently appealing for volunteer families, including couples of all ages with or without their own children, to host Ukrainian children of between 9 and 11 years of age, in pairs, for two or four weeks (it's up to you) in this year's 4-week summer programme, July 16th to August 13th, 2017.

Hosting children is a fun, mutually enjoyable and rewarding engagement. A pair of children will live with you in your house for two or four weeks, sharing your lifestyle, eating with you at your table, and participating in a number of recreational activities organized by the Link committee. Although hosting children certainly requires a reasonable level of dedication and responsibility, you will not be left alone to yourself or completely tied to the kids, as our support families will happily give you a hand if you need an odd day off. The children come over with their leader

VILLAGE NOTICEBOARD

who is also a translator, so there are no particular issues with the language barrier.

We would be delighted to hear from families living in Bonsall and the rest of the Derbyshire Dales area. While Bonsall is the heart of the Link, we have host families that live in Matlock, Wirksworth, Darley Dale, Rowsley, Starkholmes, Lea and Birchover as well as in other Derbyshire villages. If you would like to make a real difference to the lives of Ukrainian children this summer please contact Chris Broome, the Link Chairman, on Tel. 01629 824512 or by email to chair.bonsall@ccll.org.uk to find out more. For more information about the work of the charity visit the national charity website at www.ccll.org.uk.

The Bonsall and Derbyshire Dales Link of CCLL (registered charity No. 1014274) was formed back in 2002 by its current and founding Chairman, Chris Broome, a Bonsall resident for over 28 years. One of over 80 active Links throughout Great Britain, the Link raises its own funds to bring groups of between eight and twelve children who live in contaminated areas of Ukraine and Belarus to the UK, to offer them four weeks of fun and TLC along with free eye tests and glasses and dental treatment for those of them who need it.

Chris Broome
01629 824512



Only Missing a Beat

Our lovely community musician who has been supporting Bloco Bonsall (the drumming group) Beth de Lange is on the move to Lancashire. We wish her every success and happiness in her new location. Upon receiving this news the drumming group decided that it should look for a new facilitator to support our blossoming skills. Also to focus energies towards involvement in the 2017 Carnival. If you missed

out on last year's procession then keep your eye on Mutterings. Hopefully we'll be announcing a new series of drumming workshops to take place in the run-up to Carnival.

Wendy Bullar

Mutterings advertising

For the first time in many years, we had a substantial shortfall in income from advertisers in 2016, with only 54% of expected payments received. As businesses will know, cash flow is very important and it is the same for the volunteer editors who produce Mutterings, especially with steadily increasing printing costs. Of the ten businesses that have yet to pay for their adverts, the majority owe us for one year, but three owe two year's payments and one owes us for three years. We routinely send reminders and duplicate invoices throughout the year to maintain the Mutterings cash flow and we will add the outstanding amounts to the 2017 invoices that are sent this month. Advertising funds three quarters of Mutterings print costs (there are no other payments made to produce it) and we would ask advertisers to please pay their invoices and any back-payments promptly so that we can continue to produce the village newsletter.

Peter Fellows
On behalf of the Editors

Wednesday Workshops

After an amazing abundance of Christmas angels, we are meeting up again on Wednesday 22nd February, Wednesday 29th March and Wednesday 26th April from 7:30 to 9:30 in the village hall. Our projects may be less celestial but inspiring none the less. Bring along what you are currently working on or come in search of ideas. We knit, sew, crochet and are sure to find someone who knows how to do most crafts. It's a relaxing evening with tea, biscuits and friendly chat. There is a small charge to cover room hire.

Jeanette 826557
Marion 821816



History Group

The next meeting of the History Group will be on March 14 at 7.30 pm in the Kings Head

Peter Fellows

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THE KINGS HEAD

Sat 4th Feb › **NICK FINCH** Camper Van Man back!
Also Charlie's Birthday, come and join the party!

Fri 10th Feb › **WHISKY TASTING** – a Great Night

Sat 11th Feb › **DUSTY SPRINGFIELD TRIBUTE**
Vicki travels throughout Europe performing

Sat 18th Feb › **GRAHAM CLARKE** (Country Music)

Sat 25th Feb › **KARAOKE WITH TONY**

Sat 4th March › **PETE MCCRAY**

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VILLAGE NOTICEBOARD

Carnival update

The Carnival Committee had its first meeting of 2017 last month. Feedback from villagers suggested that the 2016 Carnival was the best one for years, especially the tug-o-war, the drumming, audience participation with the jive dancers and the Red Barrows. During Carnival Week, the treasure hunt was enjoyable, but fiendishly difficult and the fireworks and lantern globe on Friday evening were superb. Many of the innovations last year came from new members of the revamped Carnival Committee and if you would like to help organise this year's carnival, please get in touch - we are always looking for new ideas.

At the January meeting, there were a number of changes to committee members' roles and responsibilities: Hazel Baldwin stood down as Chair after 12 years in the job but will continue on the Committee, taking her commitment (so far) to over 21 years. Marion Heasman will take over the Chair at the February meeting. Keith Falconer stood down as Treasurer but will continue as book-keeper and Julie Hamilton is the new Treasurer. Everyone thanked Hazel and Keith for all the work they had put in to keep Carnival on track over the years. Jayne Allsop will take on the role of collecting money from Carnival programme advertisers and Natasha Schmidt will be in charge of publicity. Other members' jobs remain unchanged. Finally, a note for your diary: the next Carnival meeting will be on 15 February at 7.30 pm in the Barley Mow and the Carnival will be held on Saturday 29th July.

Peter Fellows
825267

Bonsall Seniors Christmas Party 2016

Christmas was approaching fast and Lesley and the children at the school once again kindly played host to the Bonsall Seniors party. Arriving guests were

enthusiastically met at the door by the children, their coats taken, and then ushered to their seats, upon which a warming glass of mulled wine was offered. The afternoons events commenced with a performance of singing, gymnastics and piano recitals by the children and, sadly, one member of the senior's committee failed the children's entertaining 'mathematics' test miserably. I guess it should be 'back to school' for this individual! Thanks to all the children who took part and gave their time. The Christmas lunch was served, a generous helping of chicken breast and all the trimmings, followed by various dessert choices.

A surprise visit from the village 'Ugly Sisters', dressed in their usual colourful attire - alias David and Mac - provided a humorous interlude to the afternoon. I cannot remember them being on the invitation list however, but who would dare stop them dressed as they were - quite scary! Following the frivolities, they kindly drew and orchestrated the raffle and then disappeared into the night - presumably to avoid being arrested! Thanks once again to both.

During the interval Di, Pat, and Janet read some humorous and light-hearted anecdotes. Our main entertainment event this year was provided by L&A Vocals, an off-shoot duo originally from the Dale Divas, and once again Ally and Leisha provided quality singing and plenty of humour and audience participation. A refreshing cup of tea, accompanied with Christmas cake and mince pies ensued, the latter being made and kindly donated by Jean Robertson before guests made their way home. The Seniors Committee hope all our guests enjoyed the afternoon's events and would remind them that all are welcome at the weekly Wednesday Club in the village Hall for social activities, table games and the monthly lunches. Thanks go to Lesley and the schoolchildren, to Jean Robertson, and all the volunteers who offer their support to the Seniors Committee in so many ways.

Ron Brown
Bonsall Seniors



100 YEARS AGO

February 1917

In Bonsall there were constant reminders of the war. The Home Guard (thirty five Local Volunteers) continued to drill under PC Barker having been reviewed by Lord French at Derby. Fund raising continued with a social, whist drive and dance at the church schoolroom which raised nine guineas (£9.45) for the Soldiers and Sailors Fund. The National Egg Collection flag-day raised £3 12s (£3.60). and a meeting was held in the schoolroom to discuss the War Loan scheme. In March an operetta in St James' Church raised £9 together with the Shrove Tuesday social and whist drive. The bye-law restrictions on pig-keeping were suspended. A friendly football match against Matlock Juniors was lost 5-3.

Private Herbert Holbrook, had been reported missing in action since 18th November 1916 and died of his wounds the following day in a German casualty clearing station. However this information did not reach the village until the end of February. A report from The High Peak News gives some impression of the effect in the village to the death of one of their number:

'Last Sunday evening the Parish church was filled on the occasion of a memorial service to Pte Holbrook. The relatives of the deceased were present and also the local detachment of the Volunteer Force under command of their instructor Constable Barker. There were special and appropriate hymns rendered by the choir and congregation and the organist Mr. Bateman very efficiently contributed the 'Dead March' at the close of the service the whole congregation standing in silence. The deputation of the Urban District Council included the Chairman Mr. A.E. Harrison J.P. The Church was decorated with the Union Jack and flags of the Allies. The special lesson was read by Mr. A.W. Moody headmaster of the Boys School.

The sermon was preached by the Rector the Rev. J.C.T. Taggart and in the course of his remarks the preacher said Herbert Holbrook was a young man of striking personality and appearance which we would not, could not, easily forget. He was a loyal member of that church and a regular worshipper among them. He and other speakers could picture him at church and also mixing among them in their social gatherings, ever genial and kind. He might describe him as quiet and law abiding citizen, a tender and devoted son and brother, a lover of his happy country home, a kind and genial friend. Everybody liked him, and he had a kindly word for all. They loved him now. They were all proud of him and praised him, and if they could would clasp his hand and say 'And so for England's sake you died'. In future years when those around them were telling of the noble deeds of sons and husbands in the Great War, they could imagine how the parents of their hero would say with tear dimmed eyes and yet their pride: 'We too had a boy who died for England'.

After the sermon the Rector read out the names of those from Bonsall serving the colours, about 120 in all, and called upon the congregation to pray for them. This was followed by the recitation of the names of the Bonsall boys who had given their lives for their country, viz: Geo Bateman, Ernest Boden, Jim Gregory, Frank Sheldon, Tom Rowland, Tom Worth, Henry Rowland, Harry Tomisson, Alfred Elliot, John Stone and Herbert Holbrook.

The service all through was most impressive and there were not many dry eyes in church.'

Peter Greaves

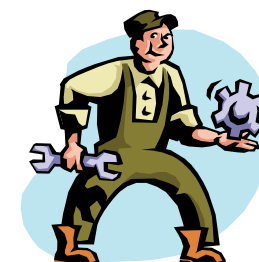
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GARETH BLOOD

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BONSALL HISTORY

The following is an extract from an article in the Derbyshire Times of Saturday June 17, 1899,

“Bonsall’s Amusing Pantomime- The Urban District Council Surpasses Itself

Bonsall: “The most abominably corrupt place on the earth”

Lively Proceedings and Exciting Scenes

The village of Bonsall has sprung into notoriety lately through the extraordinary antics performed by members of the Urban District Council, who have allowed an officer of their own to defy them and brought upon them the ridicule of every one who is acquainted with the proceedings, as reported in the Press. On Wednesday night it was the ordinary monthly meeting, and a representative of this journal, the remarks made at last week’s meeting notwithstanding, put in an appearance, and spent an exceedingly interesting evening. The resignation of the inspector was read, and one step is thus taken towards what is hoped to be a better regime in the near future. There shall be no attempt at ridicule of the Council, what has been done and stated by The Derbyshire Times is in the best interests of the parish and its people, and we are pleased to see that more are coming round to our view of the situation.

The whole of the members were present, viz: Mr J. Wright (chairman), Messrs C. Kirkland, J. Bunting, A. Webster, W. Walker, J. Siddall, T. Bunting, Jas. Mills, and C.F. White, also the clerk (Mr F.C. Lymn), and the officers. The room, which is small, was overcrowded, and the liveliest interest was taken in the meeting.

The Clerk read the minutes and then the fun commenced, and went on fast and

furiously for a couple of hours. The Clerk introduced the question of the re-appointment of the Inspector of Nuisances, Mr Coates. He had written to the Local Government Board, and had received no reply.

The Chairman: We can do nothing until we hear from them.

Mr Coates had been written to, asking for an explanation as to why he had not carried out certain instructions given to him as to the serving of summonses on certain people for infraction of the bye-laws by keeping pigs within the prescribed limit.

This reply was read. It stated there was no further answer to give to the letter of May 12th and that of the 8th April. He did not see he was justified in going to the Magistrates’ Clerk to grant summonses when he knew there was NO MONEY TO PAY THE EXPENSES or even to pay the salaries of the officers, which were now nearly three months overdue.

..... The Chairman: Mr Coates was quite justified in what he did. I think the rates pretty high already. It will take nearly the whole of the rates to straighten up last year.

Mr White: Then I take it, Mr Chairman, you say he should not obey the orders of the Council?

The Chairman: I am not going to answer you anything.

Mr White: I should like an answer.

The Chairman: You won’t have one from me.

Mr White: Then, Mr Coates overrides the Council in the matter?

The Chairman: Oh, no.

Mr White: Did you receive a letter from Mr Coates explaining why these summonses were not taken out?

The Chairman: No, there is no letter here.

Mr White: Had you a letter?

The Chairman: I am not aware of one. I shall not speak to you; you are not worth speaking to. (Laughter)

.... Asked a few further questions, the Inspector replied that he did not intend taking out summonses to please Mr White.

Mr Webster: Nor the Council?

Mr Mills: One at a time, please.

Mr White continued to put questions to the Inspector, and asked him if he had any conversation with Mr T. Bunting on the matter.

The Inspector: I say I had not.

Mr Bunting denied that he had seen Mr Coates more than once since the election.

Mr White: Do you answer for the Chairman also, Mr Bunting?

Mr Bunting: I only answer for myself.

Mr White (to the Inspector): Did you have the advice of Mr Wright?

The Inspector: I am not going to be cross-examined by you.

Mr White: I am asking you about questions about your duties, I want no prevarication. Why did you not send a report?

The Inspector: My report has been made and sent.

Mr White: Have you made a report for April?

The Inspector: I have not brought it.

Mr White: You have neglected your duty then.

The Inspector was questioned very keenly as to whether he had visited certain places to ascertain whether nuisances existed, and elicited the reply that he had been

at places before anyone was up (Loud laughter).

Mr Mills objected on the ground that this was simply a waste of time.

The Chairman: It is ridiculous.

Mr White: If I can prove he has neglected his duty, it is my duty to show it.

The Inspector: I have told you I refuse to answer any questions. I will answer no questions of yours.

..... Mr White: We have someone here to send to the country impartial reports. I am going to prove the sanitary conditions of this district is wrong and that Mr Coates is not the proper man for the position of inspector. He went on to say in April he proposed summonses be issued against two members of that council, Mr Wright and Mr Bunting among others. The Inspector refused to take out those summonses. Mr White went on to show what the death rate of the parish was, and declared that it was 33 per thousand, as far as they had gone this year. He quoted a number of years and maintained the death toll was larger at Bonsall than in the 33 large towns of Great Britain.

Following this, a counter attraction took place at the other end of the room, by a declaration “I am not fretted by what I said at t’ rate-payers’ meeting”.

Mr White turned upon those who had offered themselves as candidates at the last election, and twitted some of them with turning round. Next he had a fling at the Chairman, whom he accused of laying on a pipe from his pig-stye to the brook, at the expense of the Council.

The Chairman: I may have said so, but it was a mistake. (Loud laughter.)

Mr White: Then you have stopped it this week?

BONSALL HISTORY

The Chairman: I have not stopped it at all.

Mr White: I am using your own words.

The Chairman: I know you; I know you; you put yours straight before correcting others.

Mr White declared he had been to the trouble to look at the brook himself.

After this, there was a combat in words between Mr T. bunting and Mr Walaker, and it was declared certain members went there to tell deliberate untruths.

Mr White declared the Inspector could not see through a DOUBLE PAIR OF OPERA GLASSES if there was a nuisance on certain premises. (Laughter.)

Mr White produced letters from Walkden and Bakewell Councils to support his charge that deliberate untruths were told by certain people on or connected with the Council. Further allegations were made against the Inspector by Mr White for alleged neglect of duty, when the Chairman asked: “Why did you elect him?”

Mr White: Why elect him? Who did elect him? He went on to say he had a cringing letter from Mr Coates shortly before the election.

The Inspector: I have not cringed to you.

Mr White: You will cringe to anyone who can forward your interests the least bit in the world. (Loud laughter.)

Mr White continued his address and asked his colleagues to take measures to redress the deplorable and horrible state of things in the village. But he declared with emphasis, “You don’t mean to do so, and that is the sum total of all”. He asserted Bonsall was akin to what Dr Talmage said of America, that it was the MOST ABOMINABLY CORRUPT PLACE on the earth, and the Bonsall Council had been such for many years. (Sensation.)

By the way, there had not been a resolution moved up to this point, but the members went at it hammer and tongs. The Councillors were talking at each other, and the spectators were highly amused by the fierceness of the contest.

Mr T. Bunting asserted there had not been a solitary death from any epidemic in the last twelve months. Next he alluded to an assertion made by Mr White that he (Mr Bunting) had shifted his pigs because of the consequences of comment. It was nothing of the sort, he shouted. “I shifted them because they were fat and ready for the knife”. This cut at the other side was cheered.

..... [The Clerk read a letter of resignation from Mr Coates, the Inspector and] there was applause after the Clerk had read the letter.

Mr Webster proposed the resignation be accepted subject to approval of the Local Government Board. He did not consider the Inspector had acted honestly in the parish in more ways than one.

..... The Inspector: I will not speak to you. I will not submit to this from men whom I am old enough to be the father of. (Laughter.)

The resolution was seconded and carried. In conclusion Mr Coates denied the accusation of having told untruths about the distance pigs were kept in Bakewell from dwelling houses. Mr White caused no end of fun by stating that if people of Bakewell kept pigs any nearer to them than they were at Bonsall, they (the pigs) would have to be taken to bed.”

**found and submitted by
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PARISH COUNCIL

Report for 20th December 2016 and 17th January 2017 meetings

Village bus service: County Councillor Irene Ratcliffe reported that after consultation the County Council has decided to maintain existing bus services for the time being and renegotiate with service providers; this meant that the Bonsall service is to be unchanged for at least the next twelve months.

A pilot 'response-demand' service would start in February from Ashbourne to Wirksworth, operated by Ashbourne Community Transport, covering villages including Cromford. If this was successful it may be the model for negotiating future services; smaller buses and less regular service may be part of renegotiation.

Pounder Lane street signs: it was agreed that the District Council would be asked to provide signage for Pounder Lane visible from the High Street

Churchyard: Petts Stonemasons were to make safe the headstone near the path from the park.

Road safety: Cllr Barry expressed concern at continuing speeding problems through the village and proposed consulting residents with a view to seeking a reduction the speed limit to 20mph; it was agreed to seek advice from the County Council on the feasibility of that and the process involved.

Public WC: at the December meeting it was noted that the WC was in a poor state of cleanliness since the cleaning contract had ceased, and no applications had been received to date for the work. After the meeting a cleaning contractor was engaged to bring the WC back into a usable state.

It was also noted that DDDC had written for information on the operation of the WC with a view to seeking to transfer full management responsibility to the Parish Council in the future.

Precept and Park: at the January meeting Councillors discussed the financing of the park area. It now seems almost certain that in order to secure the future of the park and vehicle park area the Parish Council, or a village Trust supported by the Council, will have to take on management of the land. It is owned by the Diocese who have leased it to Derbyshire Dales District Council; that lease has now come to an end and the District Council wish to see responsibility for the park go to the Parish. The Diocese are currently considering arrangements for transfer of whole or part.

To finance this (rent, legal costs, play equipment, tree management, grass cutting etc) the Parish Council will need to increase the precept to cover new costs that may be incurred during the next financial year, and this was done at the January meeting, based on taking on responsibility for the land part way through the year. The parish precept has not been increased for the last 4 years, but this is considered essential if this asset is to be secured. The increase is equivalent to £10.84 per year for each typical Band D household in the village.

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be on 21 February at the Village Hall. If you have any issues to be raised at the meeting please contact the Clerk Tony Payne by 13 February; email bonsall-clerk@gmail.com or telephone 822311.

Tony Payne
822311

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 Denise Pountain
6 High Street. T. 822708

Councillors:

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

Cllr Mike Richardson, 26
Yeoman Street 826678

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

Cllr Richard Grover
Nethergreen House, Clatterway
865604

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

Cllr Anna Williams, Glenholme,
The Dale, 820035

Clerk and Responsible Finance Officer:

Tony Payne,
27 High Street.T: 822311;
Mob. 07941358183;
bonsallclerk@gmail.com

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

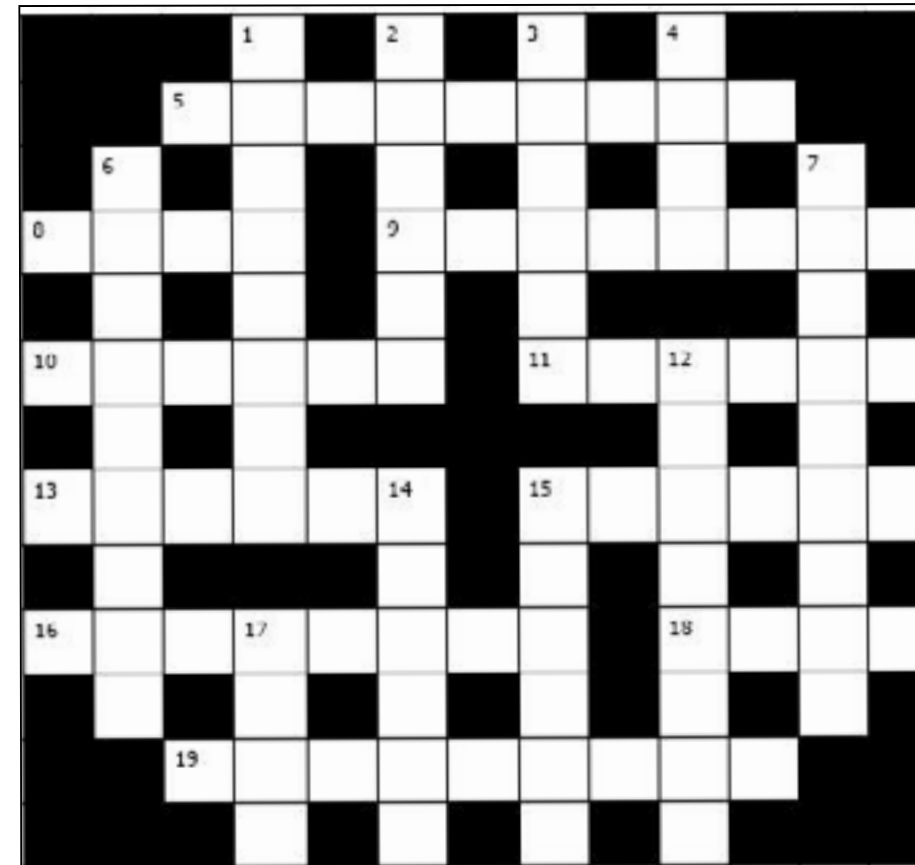
Member of Parliament

Patrick McLoughlin, Derbys Dales
consituency, 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

CROSSWORD No 80



Across:

5. An 8. Non-pc Spaniard captures first royal Zimbabwean honoured in verse. (2,7)
8. Shoot hard - with left, not right. (4)
9 & 18. An 8. I land in what I wrecked (8,3,1)
10. Turn around north-east for 8. (6)
11. Prone to collapse around end of June? Start again. (6)
13. Limits of career enable posts for yes-men. (6)
15. An 8. Old king with wealth. (6)
16. Damn rain splatters official. (8)
18. See 9.
19. Society today - we limit success for an 8. (4,4)

Down:

1. French father secures detailed terms of reference for a first showing of an 8. (8)
2. How's about queen for reign (reportedly!). (6)
3. An 8 with top actors, vocals and unlimited stars. (6)
4. A trap for Jock's encore? (4)
6. Fancy! Kill journalist with paper. (9)
7. Banks, for instance, confuse Inland Revenue with diverse misrepresentation. (9)
12. Bats at covers - piles it on. (8)
14. Missing East, demolish Western spread. (6)
15. I'd hang about for an 8. (6)
17. An 8. On. (2,2)

Collective nouns

What is the collective noun for cockroaches?

Answer to Collective nouns:
An intrusion

Answers to Xmas Prize crossword no. 79 . (Winner was Eric Gregory)

Across: 5. See 14d. 8. See 10ac. 9. Inaction. 10 & 8. French Hens. 11. Lipids (sorry, anagram didn't work!). 13. Beat it. 15. Dearie. 16. Delivery. 18. Tugs. 19 Dog violet.

Down: 1. Chestnut. 2. Finish. 3. St Paul. 4. East. 6. Gear-lever. 7. Gold Rings. (or = gold). 12. Pear tree. 14,15 & 5ac. Twelve days of Christmas. 17. Idol.

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We welcome news, views and letters on any topic provided they are attributed to an author. We review all items for obvious libellous or offensive material, but we cannot check for factual content.

Please do not send letters which are "not for publication". If you have strong feelings about what is or is not said in Mutterings, please either write to us or join the group of volunteers who enable the production of this village newsletter.

Back issues of T'Owd Man's Mutterings can be found on the Bonsall Village website – www.bonsallvillage.org. Please note that your articles will appear on the website and can be picked up by search engines.

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