



Issue 160

June 2017

T'Owd Man's Mutterings



The mild and exceptionally dry spring has been good for lambing - and for Bonsall's sheep farmers. This photo of twins relaxing in the sun with their mother, was taken by **Olive Bond**



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

June

St James'

- 4 9.30 am Sanctuary
- 11 9.30 am Eucharist
- 18 11.00 am Morning Worship
- 25 9.30 am Eucharist

Village Life Church

Sunday 10:30 am Morning Worship
10:30 am UNO Sunday School
Monday 6:00 pm Prayer Meeting
Tuesday 7:00 pm Craft Club
Wednesday 7:00 pm House group
Sunday Family Service is on Sunday 4 June from 10:30 am to 11:30 am, followed by lunch.
Coffee Morning will be on Tuesday 27 June from 10:00 am to 12:00 pm. A warm welcome to everybody.

Bonsall Wesleyan Reform Chapel (The Dale)

Thanks to all who supported the recent United Services and also our Anniversary Service; it's good to share together and have a good sing too!
Sunday Services during June are at 6.15 pm
Friday 16 June 2.00 - 4.00 pm Cuppa & Cake
All are welcome to join with us.

It seems we say it all the time: "Where does time fly to?" It's June, nearly the 'middle' of the year and it's when Bonsall comes into its own, with Open Gardens, then in July the Carnival and Well Dressings. Lots of hard work, lots to look forward to and lots to enjoy, thanks to those faithful workers who keep things going. We may not say it but you are appreciated for all you do! There are beginnings and middles and endings to all aspects of life and I was reminded of this recently. The first verse in the Bible - Genesis Chapter 1 reads "In the beginning God created" and the last verse in the Bible - Revelation 22 v 21 is a prayer, "The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. Amen" The beginning and the end of God's inspired Word, the Bible, with an abundance in the middle that will enable us to live life in all its fullness! God is always creating; making things and people 'new' and His grace, His undeserved favour, is always available, "just when we need it", says the apostle Paul. Like David in Psalm 139 it is comforting to know that God was there right from the start of our lives, in fact before we were born and as Jesus emphasises: "He will never leave us or forsake us". By His grace He is there right to the very end of our lives and on into eternity,

even though we choose to ignore Him and live our lives as we please, rather than according to His loving and gracious instructions. Over Easter we have learned that there is a costly price that had to be paid for doing wrong, for committing sin. A price that Jesus, God's only Son was willing to pay, for whoever believes, so that they will not perish but have eternal life. God in His mercy and grace, demonstrated His love for us in the death and resurrection of Jesus. It seems that spring as it unfolds, demonstrates Easter - from death to life, resurrection, as we watch creation come to life once more. As we plant seeds, bulbs, tubers, plants, see them grow, blossom and fruit, then taste and see how good they are; yes even as we enjoy Jersey new potatoes, English asparagus, strawberries and tomatoes! If only we could place the same level of trust in our Father God and His Son, our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, what an impact it would have on our lives, our families, where we live, our nation and the world. I pray that God will inspire us with the beauty of His creation, the food we enjoy and lead us to find out more about Him, the Alpha and Omega, the Beginning and the End. Enjoy the Open Gardens!
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. Robbie O'Callaghan (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.

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
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

Obituary

Ron Webster (1923 - 2017)

Ron Webster, of Slaley Farm, died at home on April 7, aged 93. He was well known to many in the village, sitting in the bay window with a wave for all passers-by (and a smackeroo for all dogs) and always to be found playing cards in the King's Head on Tuesday and Thursday evenings. Until a few weeks before his death, Ron had enjoyed good health and had lived an independent and active life, even driving the last of his many beloved Ford cars up until just a few months before. Until the age of 90 he delivered Mutterings to the households in Slaley

Ron was born on June 7 1923, the youngest of Annie and Abraham Webster's four children with three older sisters Vera, Dorothy and Nancy. Born on Cromford Hill and raised in Bonsall, Ron never lost his love of the Peak District and his home county of Derbyshire. His father was the village grocer and his maternal grandfather an engine driver on the Cromford and High Peak railway.

Ron passed his 11+ and studied at the Ernest Bailey Grammar School until leaving at sixteen to take a job with British Celanese as a lab chemist. There he once caused an evacuation of the entire building after creating a terrible stench by accidentally adding the wrong chemicals to a solution. He was with the company for only a short while before the War, when he and his life-long friend Peter Turner joined the army and were sent to North Africa. Fate decreed that Ron was invalided out of the army. He spent months in a Sheffield hospital recuperating - and developing his love of all things literate. While there an officer told him, "If you play your cards right, Webster, you could go to university."

Ron played his cards perfectly and became the first Webster to go to university, of which he and his family were rightly proud. He studied History and Philosophy at Sheffield before heading to Liverpool to take a postgraduate course in the, then, new discipline of Sociology. In Liverpool he met Jean and they married in March 1953 and lived in Liverpool 8, where the following year Ian was born.

His studies led to an interest in Industrial Sociology and a job with the Ford Motor Company at their Dagenham plant in Essex. This meant a new home in Shenfield where, in 1959, Anne was born. His career with Ford was something that Ron was immensely proud of and, while he was a Derbyshire man first, being a Ford man came a very close second. During the well-documented industrial disputes of the 1970s Ron became

a key figure in negotiations with union leaders at Dagenham and indeed at all Ford's body and assembly plants across Europe.

In 1968, Ron and Jean bought Slaley Farm with an eye to returning home to Derbyshire in years to come. Thus began one of Ron's many projects as he developed, extended and modernised the property, a much-loved holiday home for the family. In the early 80s, Ron and Jean finally retired there, enjoying nine wonderful years together in Bonsall with their West Highland Terriers. Both immersed themselves in village life, with Ron becoming Chairman of the Village Hall Committee and Jean a leading light in the well-dressings. Ron's love of Westies turned his home into a shrine for his favourite dog breed, with ornaments and pictures decorating every room. Lifelong friends Audrey, her husband Philip and their daughter Susan, always an integral part of the family's life, became even closer following their return to the North. When Philip died suddenly from a heart attack and Ron lost Jean to cancer it seemed only right and natural, following the support they had given each other and their shared interests in walking and bird-watching, that love would blossom. With the enthusiastic blessings of all, they got together and married in 1996. As a foursome Ron, Jean, Audrey and Philip had walked many coastal paths together and now, partly in tribute to their lost partners, Ron and Audrey set themselves the target of walking from John O'Groats to Land's End via the eastern coastal route. Over many fortnightly holidays, they completed their task, despite being in their 70s - and 16 photograph albums record their achievement for all to see.

Pubs always featured highly in a list of Ron's favourite places and, following Audrey's death in 2014, he set himself yet another task - to visit 50 different Derbyshire pubs in a year, have a pint in each and catalogue them. In typical Ron style he completed this task so quickly that he upped his target to 100. His favourite pub however was always the King's Head in Bonsall. Ron loved making mischief. On a trip to Liverpool three years ago he decided that he would return



the copy of AR Radcliffe-Brown's 'Structure and Function in Primitive Society' which he had borrowed from Liverpool University's Social Science Library in 1953 and neglected to take back. Library staff, unaccustomed to calculating fines for overdue books run up over more than six decades, eventually determined a figure of £4,510 but agreed to waive it if he promised to return all books on time in the future! Photographs were taken and the item was posted on the library's Facebook page. From there, the story went around the world, carried by every UK news source, making the front page of the Telegraph and picked up by newspapers from New Zealand to North America. His sense of humour never left him. During his short final illness, he knew perfectly well what the score was, and approached his impending demise with stoicism and much laughter. The day before he died, Anne went into the garden to hang out the washing. When she came back, Ron looked at her from under those bushy eyebrows and asked: "Where have you been?" Anne replied: "Pegging out". "Do you know, that's exactly what I'm doing."

Anne Webster

LETTER

Dear Editors,

In Community Fayre, No 178 in March 2017, it states that, as part of its Heritage Lottery Grant of £1,338,900, the Wirksworth Heritage Centre will be developing 'its range of T'Owd Man and Wirksworth branded items'. Elsewhere in the issue, the Wirksworth 'Totally Locally' campaign is floating the idea of 'T'Owd Man themed shopping days' to encourage more trade in the town.

In 2015, in response to the use of T'Owd Man in the Heritage Centre logo, together with postcards that were being sold with the caption 'T'Owd Man of Wirksworth', the Bonsall History Group wrote to the Heritage Centre as follows: 'On behalf of the good folk of Bonsall, we would like to set the record straight concerning 'T'Owd Man', which the Wirksworth Heritage Centre has adopted as its emblem. The Heritage Centre website states that: "T'Owd Man is our emblem with his own rich and mysterious heritage. The name 'T'Owd Man' or 'The Old Man' refers to a mysterious imp-like figure who brought luck to the lead miners. His carved image can be seen in St. Mary's Church, Wirksworth, and a replica of that carving, commissioned by a local sculptor, is on display in the Heritage Centre.'

For the benefit of Wirksworth residents who don't know the true story, here is an extract from 'Bonsall - a village and its history' (available at www.bonsallhistory.org.uk) on how T'Owd Man of Bonsall ended up in Wirksworth: 'In the course of restoring St James' Church in 1863, several bits of interesting medieval stonework were

discovered in the masonry. These found their way into the garden of Mr Coates, the Churchwarden, whose persuasive efforts had kick-started the restoration. Pleas for him to return them from Nether Green House to 'within the consecrated ground where they were first deposited' obviously shamed the churchwarden into relinquishing his booty. Mr Coates, however, cannot take the blame for kidnapping T'Owd Man and taking him to Wirksworth, where he was later inserted into a wall in St Mary's Church for safekeeping. T'Owd Man's age is difficult to pin down; perhaps the best guess is that it dates from the thirteenth century and is a tribute to the efforts lead miners made in the construction of their church in Bonsall.' We would be grateful if the Wirksworth Heritage Centre would in future give visitors the true account of how your town acquired one of Bonsall's treasures. We received a reply from the Audience Development and Collections Officer at Wirksworth Heritage Centre as follows: "I read with great interest the history behind 'T'Owd Man' - much appreciated. I will make sure this new information is communicated to those who need to know so the relevant changes can be made."

Although the original text has been deleted from the Heritage Centre's website, the T'Owd Man logo has been retained without any reference to its Bonsall origins. Given the latest attempts by the Heritage Centre and Totally Locally to appropriate Bonsall's T'Owd Man for their own benefit, isn't it about time we put an end to this once and for all, and move T'Owd

Man back to St. James' Church in Bonsall, where he belongs. We do not wish to hinder efforts to promote and develop Wirksworth, but clearly these organisations cannot be trusted to reflect the heritage of one of Bonsall's most important historic artefacts.

Peter Fellows

Hon. Sec. on behalf of Bonsall History Group

(This letter was copied to the Wirksworth Heritage Centre and Community Fayre. At the time of our going to print, the Heritage Centre had yet to respond, but Community Fayre will be printing it in their next issue. **Editors**)



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VILLAGE NOTICEBOARD - CARNIVAL TIME

Ten weeks and counting!

Yes, would you believe it, as I write this it is ten weeks today that the village will be basking in sunshine! That houses will be decorated. That Carnival creatures will be on display and that a lucky 20 people will be polishing their antiques and collectibles hoping that, by the end of the day, Charles Hanson will have told them what they want to hear! So, first, Carnival creatures: get your creative juices flowing; collect at least one egg box and I will provide the rest in a kit at the beginning of July. Prizes for all ages, no-one too old or too young to enter. Secondly, get rummaging under the stairs, in the garage, or on top of the wardrobe for that family heirloom or boot sale bargain. Then go to the Fountain café or deli, the Kings Head, or knock on my door or give me a ring, and buy a ticket for the chance to meet the man himself, Charles Hanson, and show him your wares!

Marion Heasman. The Queens Head, 821816

Street Drumming - Give it another Bash!

The Street Drumming workshops in 2016 were great fun and were much enjoyed by participants and Carnival goers alike. Our workshop leader, Beth, has moved to Lancashire and so we said goodbye and thank you so much. The leader for this year's series of street drumming workshops is a super chilled guy called Adam Watkins. Adam teaches Brazilian percussion and also

a non-contact martial art-cum-dance form, called Capoeira. He has led the Nottingham School of Samba, performed and run many workshops at events and festivals across the U.K. Adam is most enthusiastic about Brazilian percussion. He sees it as one of the most diverse musical forms on the planet, drawing on hundreds of years of African heritage and worldwide influences. Its exuberance during the carnival season has spread across the globe. Adam's workshops bring a range of people together for a common purpose. His workshops are inclusive of all levels of experience, age and ability. Join us at the Village Hall on Saturday 24 June for a free 'Taster' Drumming Workshop from 10.30 am to 12.30 pm. Youngsters and the young at heart are warmly invited to come and have a go at drumming (instruments will be provided); there will be no charge and no experience is necessary. Children aged between 6 to 10 years will be welcome with their supporting adult. If you find the 'Taster' session enjoyable, then watch out for the Carnival Drumming Workshops in July. Adam will be back in the village to support a series of four workshops leading up to the Carnival and a very lively procession on Saturday 29 July. Thanks are due Derbyshire County Council, Derbyshire Dales District Council, Bonsall Parish Council and Bonsall Open Gardens for their generous support for this project. An idea of numbers taking part would be helpful; so if you are interested or if you would like more details about the workshop, please call **Wendy** on 825267.

Carnival Procession Drumming 2016



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VILLAGE NOTICEBOARD - A BIT MORE CARNIVAL

Carnival five-a-side football and wheelbarrow race

The number of entrants for both these events has been dropping over the last couple of years, so we need your support this year. It's all about having a go and not where you finish, although it is extra enjoyable to win. The football competition is not run on a professional basis; the facilities do not allow for this and, in any event, it is for the enjoyment and fun for village people. Teams can be of any composition (e.g. all male, all female, or mixed - both as regard to sex and age). Fancy dress teams are also welcome. So come on Bonsall folk, raise your game and join in the Carnival fun.

Leigh Johnson

Can you help with Carnival in 2017

The Carnival Committee is looking for people to help during the Carnival week. The Carnival runs from Saturday, 29 July to Friday, 4 August. The jobs we need help with include: Saturday 29 – setting up stalls, stopping traffic going through the village during the procession, manning a stall, litter picking at the end of the day.

Sunday 30 – litter picking at The Park, setting up the cream teas, serving the teas and clearing away.

Monday 31 – stewards for the fun-run

Friday 4 – putting up lights, assisting children with their lanterns (at the Church) and coming down the steps, litter picking at the end of the night.

Please ring **Julie Hamilton**, on 824819 if you are able to help. Thank you.

When the cock crows

(or is the sun about to set for him?)

You may have noticed that in recent times our magnificent gold cockerel on the top of the Church spire has a bit of a lean. He's not drunk but hasn't got the support he used to have. So, we've had the steeplejacks take a look him and it turns out that there is a lot of work to do up there to get him to stand proudly again, and to repair the steeple stonework that he perches on. I'm sure you will all agree that this is an important focal point in Bonsall, lit up at night for everyone to see. So we are hoping that you, the villagers will help us make our cockerel safe again. If you feel that this lovely old building is important to the village then please help. You may be a regular, enjoy coming along to occasional services, be one of the many couples who have got married in the Church, had your child baptised, been baptised yourself, ring or enjoy listening to



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HALF TERM WEEK

- May 28** **FESTIVAL LAUNCH PERFORMANCE** High Tor Players
Habeas Corpus by Alan Bennett £8 *Mismanaged lust - mistaken identity - dropped trousers... 'Habeas Corpus' is a classic farce, spiced with Alan Bennett's razor-sharp wit.*
- May 31** Children's **Stage Fighting** workshop £5
Children's **Improvisation** workshop £5
- June 1** Children's **Musical Theatre** workshop £5
Children's **Drama** Workshop £5
Youth theatre group 'Theatreworks' present exciting and fun workshops for children and young people, ideal for half term!
- June 1** **George Gunby Ghosts in the Bath workshops** every Thursday £20 for 5 "You may think that the scope for radio plays is limited...but a great number of opportunities exist and it is great fun."
- June 3** **Derwent Theatre Diva** £8
A play set in a dressing room about an English film star who returns from Hollywood desperate for work having lost her fortune.

- June 9** **Wirksworth Community Theatre DH Lawrence tribute with pie and pea supper** £15
- June 10** **Don't Go Into The Cellar Sherlock** £8
- June 15-18** **Matlock Musical Theatre Oliver!**
- June 18** **Collar and Cuffs Girl from Mars** £10
Crammed full of Britpop anthems - Oasis, Pulp, Blur, Supergrass, Dodgy, Catatonia, plus a UFO drone, snow, giant robot puppet & burlesque!
- June 19** **Steep Turnpike Youth Theatre Perchance to Dream** followed by Theatreworks **Trapped**
- June 23** **Foghorn Unscripted** adult improvisation workshop (over 17s) £10 or £14 with below
- June 23** **Foghorn Unscripted 'Dickens'** £7 *Different and exciting as well as wacky, surreal and hilarious!*
- June 24** **Jane Wilton 'Light One up'** by Jane Wilton
- June 24-25** **FESTIVAL DRAMA/POETRY COMPETITION** see next page for more details
- June 29** **George Gunby Ghosts in the Bath** live radio play performance (workshop 5 of 5)
- July 1** **Theatreworks 'Dream Street'** by K Williams

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VILLAGE NOTICEBOARD



the bells, have attended a funeral or visit the churchyard. We're looking for volunteers from the village to join a fundraising team (not necessarily church-goers), to help with events and ideas to raise funds. So if you feel you would like to help, then please do! We will be delivering a letter to everyone within the next month to let you know ways in which you can help. You may too have ideas how we can raise money for this work. If you'd like to help, we'd be very grateful if you could respond and support us. It would be fantastic if you could donate generously towards the cost of these urgent repairs which are in the region of £15,000. Let's hope this is not the end of the line for our cockerel. With your help, I'm sure it won't be. Please contact any of us to share ideas about fundraising, make a donation, or offer to be involved in the future. Thank you!

David Kirkham (823762), **Di Moor** (824376), **Alistair Hamilton** (824819), **Phil Heasman** (821816).



Ballet lessons for children and adults in Cromford.

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Lara Ross
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Craft Group's latest project.

The group of folk who have been meeting on the last Wednesday of the month to 'make things' have, thanks to a kind donation of pillowcases, (you know who you are!) been able to make a total of 12 dresses. The simple cotton dresses are made from each pillow case. These and many more went to Africa at the end of May. Thank you to everyone who made them. The



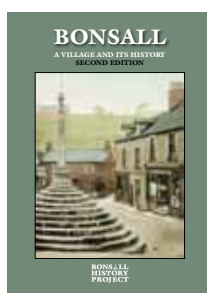
group is pausing over the summer, but will resume in the autumn. Sometimes we all have a project and sometimes people bring their own thing to work on.

There is however, always tea!

Marion Heasman

Bonsall books

The History Group has spent several months extracting villagers' memories about growing up and living in Bonsall from the interviews that they have given. This is now being collated into the following seven chapters for the new book, 'Bonsall within living memory': 1) How we lived (e.g. types of housing, growing food, shopping, playtime, medical treatment), 2) Going to school, 3) Leisure and entertainment, 4) Church/chapels, 5) Earning a living, 6) Transport, accidents and court cases, and 7) World War II. If you would like to be interviewed for the book, there is still time. Or if you are able to help with the last remaining interviews, and perhaps meet some new people, we would welcome your help. A voice recorder and suggestions on the types of questions that are of interest are available. We have also received several requests for copies of 'Bonsall - a village and its history', which is currently sold out. During recent research, we have found that part



of one chapter in particular needs correcting, so we are now making the alterations. We anticipate having a new stock of books within the next few weeks, so if you would like to order a copy, either ring me or place an order on the History Group website at www.bonsallhistory.org.uk. Likewise, if you would like to be an interviewer or interviewee, please get in touch on 825267 or at peter.fellows@bonsallhistory.org.uk.

Peter Fellows

Nepal revisited - Annapurna base camp and beyond

An illustrated talk in Bonsall Village Hall on Saturday 8 July at 7.30 pm

In April this year. Bonsall residents, Alan and Jane David and Chris Broome, returned to Nepal to visit Annapurna base camp, at an altitude of 4100m within the Annapurna Sanctuary. The Sanctuary is located at the head of a glacial valley that is surrounded by 6000m - 8000m high



peaks, in one of the most spectacular trekking areas in Nepal. To reach the base camp we trekked through a wide variety of terrain, including rhododendron forests that were in full bloom. We organised the trek through a young Nepalese friend of ours, Bijay, who we met when we were trekking in Nepal in 2014. We decided that after completing the trek we would like to travel to the southern part of Nepal, to spend some time with Bijay and his family in his home village. This was a real privilege and an amazing, if somewhat humbling, experience for us, as the area of Nepal where Bijay comes from is rarely visited by Westerners. For further information, contact **Chris** on 824512 or **Alan and Jane** on 822983.

VILLAGE NOTICEBOARD

Art show at the Via Gellia Mill

I hope that most of you will be reading this in time to catch the annual Derbyshire Open Arts event, where artists across the county will be showcasing their work from 27 May - 4 June, giving visitors the opportunity to see and buy pictures, sculptures, jewellery, textiles, ceramics, woodwork and metalwork made by local artists. While many venues will be open for just the Bank Holiday weekend, I will continue showing my work throughout the following week and weekend, giving people plenty of time to plan a visit to my studio at the Via Gellia Mills. My landscape photographs of Derbyshire and the Peak District are well known to many in the region, but I have recently expanded this to include other areas of the UK and some

overseas locations as well. As a result, there are lots of new pieces on show that have never been seen before, along with some new images from the immediate local area. As usual, all work is for sale and there will be a good mix of framed prints, mounted prints, poster prints and greeting cards. Although it is a 'working' studio, during this period it is closed for normal day-to-day work, and converted into a wonderful gallery space for people to browse and relax. So if you have friends and family visiting, or simply want to doing something a little different, you are very welcome to call into the studio anytime between 10 am - 5 pm every day. Entry is free and there is lots of parking available at the mill. We will also have some

lovely refreshments available - also free of charge. The last weekend, 3 - 4 June, coincides with Bonsall Magical Open Gardens, so I would love it if you could find time for an additional stop on your journey around the village. I am biased of course, but do think it will be well worth the visit. You can find me at Unit 2D, Via Gellia Mill, on the ground floor below the Play Mill. More information about Derbyshire Open Arts is available at www.derbyshireopenarts.co.uk and my own website is www.highstonegallery.co.uk.

Ian Daisley



Monday

Pudding and Pie Night

Wednesday

Steak Night



THE KINGS HEAD

Sat 3rd

Live Music

John Holton

Sat 10th

Live Music

Nick Finch

Sat 17th

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Saturday & Sunday: 12.00 pm–12.00 am

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GARDEN AND ALLOTMENT NOTES

Although this time of year is the joyful, high season of blossom and bloom for 'ordinary' gardeners, for vegetable growers (generally a more anxious breed) it's the time of waiting and worrying. More or less everything is sown, if not yet planted, but there's very little to see for our labours and a lot to worry about. Late frosts, drought, too much rain, slugs etc. And apart from what's in the freezer, there's not a lot to harvest. Some left over spinach beet, true spinach and some early lettuce, if you planted early enough, radishes ditto and if you're really lucky and well organized, asparagus. All very nice, especially the asparagus, but small beer compared to what's to come, and all being well, what we'll start to harvest by the end of June. New potatoes, early peas, broad beans, gooseberries and strawberries...just the beginningand certainly worth waiting for. For me, the key to it all is sowing seed, the most magical bit of any gardening. From the tiny thing you take between your finger and thumb

and place in compost or soil, to the plant, which in the case of tomatoes or beans or sweet corn, will end up being taller than you are, surely there is nothing more wonderful. One of my favourite plants is lobelia: from the 50p bag of dust-like seed I buy from Wilko, emerges, after about six weeks, hundreds of sturdy little plants that are going to grow anywhere I choose to plant them, flowering in a range of the most lovely blues and pinks, right through to October. You can't imagine anything is going to grow when you first spread that dust, then there's a little bit of green, then some more, and when you pull the tiny new leaves out of the compost of the seed tray, there below is this bright white tangle of little roots which after you've picked them out into separate modules, just get stronger and stronger. The plants start out looking a bit straggly and then, before you know it, they've filled out fine and are ready to plant out - and your main problem is finding room for them all in the ground. Amazing!

Penny Collier

Winster Wakes Week: Sunday 25 June to Saturday 1 July.
Also **John Conolly, Trawlertown** - An affectionate portrayal in song and story of the Grimsby fishing community
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100 YEARS AGO

12 May 1917. Derbyshire Times had an advert: "Thursday next May 17th at 12 (and the following day if necessary) Yeoman Street Bonsall Sale of Valuable Grocer's Stock in Trade, Crockery and Glassware, Trade Utensils, smart Pony Turnout and Effects for Mr S Cotterill who is joining H M Forces." The Council fixed the rate in the £ at 1/6 (7.5p), the same as 1916, for a total Rateable Value of £3,118 giving the Council a potential income of £233.85 (compare 2017 precept of around £10,000). They also considered, as a Military Tribunal, a further six months exemption for Joseph Slack, 19, single, horseman and cattleman who had not attested, (i.e. had not indicated a willingness to serve when called although he was classified as Class A.) He was applied for by Joseph Slack, senior, Puddle Hill Farm, as his son was the only labour he had to farm 94 acres, of which only half an acre was arable. The further six months was granted. Mr Hetherington of Via Gellia Colour Co. applied for Harry Prince of Nether Green, aged 40, with five children, a colour grader, good worker, highly experienced and assessed as Class B3. He also had had six months' exemption and a further six months' conditional exemption was granted.

Also from the Via Gellia Colour Co., Albert Land, 41, a furnaceman living in The Dale with his wife, Mary Ann, who was ailing, and he had been assessed as Class C3. It was recognised he could only be used for substitution and a conditional exemption was granted. Daniel Massey, 57, applied for his son Albert, 26, single, living at Cottage

Farm, Brightgate, and working as a cowman farmhand, but assessed as Class A. Daniel was lame and had a milk round so could not farm as well, and his wife was an invalid. A third exemption of six months was granted.

Richard Platts, 40, married Via Gellia, miner. Quite incapable of constant work. His work was of national importance. He had a three months' exemption and a conditional exemption was granted.

Charles Hodgkinson, 32, miller's waggoner, Cromford, had been having two monthly exemptions and it was decided to review at the next Tribunal.

Harold Smith, 28, Bonsall Moor Farm, Brightgate, (Cllr. Prince took the chair, because Cllr. Allsop was Harold's father in law). The farm was 70 acres and he was entirely alone on the farm. He had had a six months' exemption. He had not been examined for Class. "You are sure to be Class A" said the Military Representative. "What would become of farm if he went?" enquired the Clerk. "I should say the farm would have to go as well" replied Cllr. Boam, ironically. A conditional exemption was granted.

In June 1917, the Queen's Head ran out of Bass and Worthington, and there was no bottled beer or stout, only draught beer and spirits. Worse still, at the Via Gellia Inn there was no beer or spirits, only dry ginger. By October the Queen's Head closed forever and the Oddfellows had to move to the King's Head after eighty three

years meeting at the Queen's Head. However Bonsall was still regarded as being better off than many places, and children from Ilkeston were brought to the village to stay in a house on Yeoman Street for a 'breath of glorious air'.

In 1911, Alf Bunting was living on Coldside in The Dale with his parents, William and Ellen. His father was a 'doubler' at a cotton mill, and when Alfred left school he worked at Matlock Bath in the Ways and Works Department of the Midland Railway. He enlisted in the Sherwood Foresters in Derby in 1916 as soon as he was 18. He was transferred to the 11th Battalion, Suffolk Regiment. The battalion was heavily engaged in the Battle of Arras April 9-15th, sustaining losses of 150 men killed, wounded or missing. On the morning of April 28th, they attacked a German position in the chemical works at Roeux, just east of Arras. They were soon held up and driven back by a trench of machine guns, which had been missed by the artillery barrage. A German counter-attack was fought off, but the battalion losses from this action were nearly 300. The battalion was rested and trained through May before returning to the Arras sector at Gavrelle. The casualties continued, including Alf Bunting, who died in a hospital near Arras on June 1st 1917. He was aged 19. A memorial service was held for him on the 8th July in Bonsall Church, led by Rev. Taggart, with headmaster A.W. Moody, who taught Alf, reading the lesson.

Peter Greaves



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PARISH COUNCIL

Parish Council meeting on 16 May

Appointments: this was the annual meeting of the Parish Council. Councillor Mark Harris was appointed as Chair, and Councillor Phil Addis as Vice-Chair. Thanks were recorded to Denise Pountain for her previous role as Vice-Chair as she was not standing again for the role.

Closure of the Via Gellia at Cromford: Derbyshire Dales District Council have now received a planning application from the company undertaking the retaining wall works at Chapel Hill. This is to extend the time limit for completing the work from July 2017 to 31 December 2017, and will allow the work to be carried out later in the year as requested by the County Council. The Parish Council agreed that they had no objection to this extension of time.

Park questionnaire, deadline 16 June: the Parish Council welcomed the responses to the questionnaire that have been received to date, and would encourage further responses in order to demonstrate to the Diocese the strength of feeling on the future of the recreation ground and vehicle park. The deadline for return of responses has been set for Friday 16 June so that the results can be passed to the Diocese. Forms can be completed online or returned to the Clerk at the address below or to your local Parish Councillor. Please make your voice heard on this critical issue for the village.

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Park picnic tables: there have been requests for picnic tables in the park. This is something that is still in the control of the District Council, but it was agreed in principle to aim to provide two tables when circumstances allowed.

Public WC: Tim Braund, the Head of Regulatory Services for the District Council, will be attending the July meeting to explain their proposals for ownership and management of the public toilets to be transferred to the Parish Council. Councillors will be seeking some improvements to the facility before any transfer.

Defibrillator: the Parish Council agreed to support the maintenance costs of the defibrillator at the Fountain and to support the purchase by the Parish Council of a second defibrillator for the village. The Clerk and Councillors would make enquiries on funding sources.

Bus Shelter: the planning application for improvement of the bus shelter is now with the District Council and the Parish Council look forward to this being approved.

Full details of the meetings can be found in the minutes on the Parish Council page of the village website at www.bonsallvillage.org/, or on the village noticeboards. The next meeting will be the Parish Council meeting on 20 June at 7.30pm. If you have any issues to be raised at the meeting please contact the Clerk Tony Payne with details by 12 June.

Clerk and Finance Officer: **Tony Payne**, 27 High Street, DE4 2AS. T: 822311; email bonsallclerk@gmail.com.

County Council Election Results

For Wirksworth in the Derbyshire Dales District:
Irene Ratcliffe (Labour) 2040
Richard Bright (Conservative) 2012
Gill Bates (Lib Dem) 259
Ivan Dixon (Green Party) 226

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 Phil Addis, Dale House, The Dale. T 826309

Councillors:

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

Cllr Richard Grover
Nethergreen House, Clatterway - 259558

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

Cllr Denise Pountain 6 High Street. T. 822708

Cllr Mike Richardson, 26 Yeoman Street - 826678

Cllr Anna Williams, Glenholme, The Dale, - 820035

Clerk and Finance Officer:

Tony Payne, 27 High Street. T: 822311; Mob. 07941 358183;
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

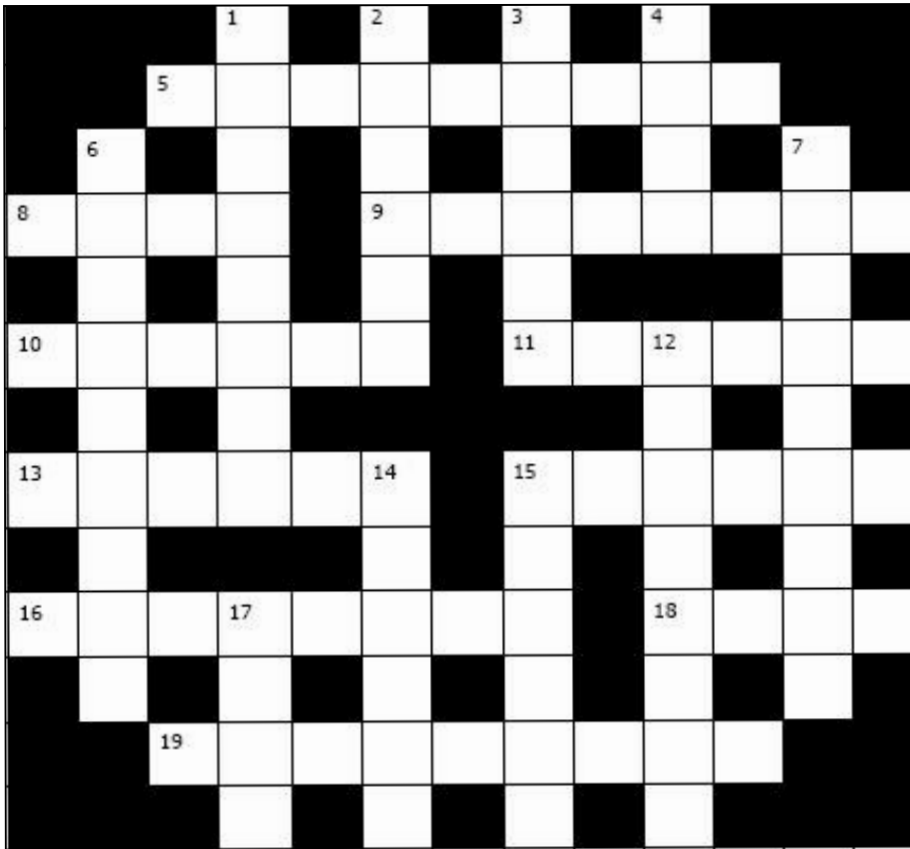
Member of Parliament

Patrick McLoughlin, Derbys Dales 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

CROSSWORD No 84



Across:

5. Prime Minister hugs man from Athens without resistance - leading to this? (9)
8. Castle bird? (4)
9. Once fit, with last post playing, broadcast at one. (8)
10. Gents get old - it happens after one. (6)
11. Harm mother before time. (6)
13. Morning, father (in French unit). (6)
15. Car manufacturer created 12 down, with earth replaced by current. (6)
16. Many concurrent ones. Parrot loses leg and is supported by my middle fingers - a first! (8)
18. Hurt surgeon in hospital department. (4)
19. Initially, Martin Crowe plays in The Oval ground - happens before one (one hopes!). (4,5)

Down:

1. I'm in fury after smash-up match. (8)
2. First toe a problematic chore for foot. (6)
3. Future signed by old blokes with odd ends! (6)
4. Against reported bet. (4)
6. Low in sweet nothings primarily - follows one....(9)
7.whereas angst about topless fight precedes one! (9)
12. Lizzie B. turns into this after one. (3,5)
14. Coating in French cooked meal. (6)
15. A US city wants all Yankee leaders no matter what! (6)
17. Sob - bear up after end of day. (4)

Answers to crossword no. 83

Across: 5. Vegetable. 8. Swat (mugger = swat). 9. Eggplant. 10. Memory. 11. Endive. 13. Scotch. 15. Coward (ard = plough). 16. Broccoli. 18. Bean. 19. Forage Cap.

Down: 1. Beetroot. 2. Celery. 3. Tangle. 4. El Al. 6. Sweetcorn (wee = go, rn = royal navy). 7. Universal. 12. Downbeat. 14. Hookah. 15. Chives. 17. Crop.

Collective nouns

What is the collective noun for weasels?

Answer to Collective nouns: A Boogle

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Bonsall Church Bell Ringers Mellissa Welbourne	826303
Bonsall Community Development Trust Peter Greaves	822374
Bonsall Map Wendy Bullar	825267
Bonsall Pensioners Fund Ron Brown	822153
Bonsall Riders Club Jane Williams	825632
Carnival Committee Hazel Baldwin	824724
Chernobyl Children's Lifeline Group Chris Broome	824512
Cromford Playgroup Karen or Jayne	07905 937371
Horticultural Society Ron Brown	822153
Kick-boxing Hayley Capewell	0777 3149935
Mothers' Union Di Moor	824376
Open Gardens Ollie Gerrish	824498
Parents & Toddlers Group (Thursdays 1.45-3pm in term time)	
Pigeon Club Gordon Hardy	823549
School Head Lesley Murhall	822573
PTFA Rachael Richardson	826678
School Foundation Clerk, Norma Rickards	822257

RESOURCES

Bonsall Publications

The Bonsall Map

- folded £2.50 (+£1 P&P to UK)
- wall poster £3.50 (+ £ 9.90 P&P to UK)

History book

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History booklets

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• Non-village people private hire:

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£50 – both floors

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* Saturdays and school holidays only

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John Ratcliffe		07896 924824
Maxine Ellis		07742 749854
Jo Hanby	822767	07872 641409
Julia Milverton		07584 895644

Health:

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Dentists Matlock:	
584746, 55645, 582218, 56558	
Doctors NHS Direct	0845 4647
Hannage Brook	822434

Hospitals

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Derby City	01332 340131
Derbys Royal	01332 347141
Whitworth	580211
Non-emergencies	111

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Derbyshire Dales District Council

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Environmental health	761212
Payments	761254

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Julie Hamilton	824819
Tanya Ivanova	0785 6247235
Nina Langton	823736
Pam McInally	826306
Ricky & Jeanette Moss	826557

Please send us your news, views, stories and diary events by **JUNE 21** to: Editorial Group, 19 High St. or by e-mail to mutterings@hotmail.com

EDITORIAL POLICY

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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