



Issue 212

March 2022

T'Owd Man's Mutterings



A picture is worth a thousand words? - Storm Eunice visits Bonsall

(Photo from Maggie Duggins)



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

St James

Services in March

Sunday March 13 at 9.30am Eucharist

Sunday March 27 Mothering

Sunday at 9.30am

We meet daily at 9am and 5pm for morning and evening prayer, and on Sundays at 9.30am for a Eucharist. You can join us by using Zoom: Click on this link and follow instructions on your screen: <https://zoom.us/j/2732241372>. If you don't have access to the internet, you can do so using a landline: A few minutes before the time of the service:

1. Call 0208 0806591

2. The recorded message will ask for a host or meeting number:

Key in 2732241372#.

3. You are then asked another question. Key in #. Once connected you will be able to hear and contribute. You can leave a prayer at a prayer wall at <https://padlet.com/revcarla/h3g2wc6zlac>.

4. You could make use of the Church of England prayer resources at www.churchofengland.org/more/media-centre/coronavirus-liturgyandprayer-resources.

Please don't forget that your Church still needs your financial support. If you would like details of how to give via direct debit please contact your Treasurer or Churchwarden. Further information from: <http://wirksworthteamministry.co.uk/eventsand-notices/>

Canon David Truby and Revd. Carla Vicêncio Prior

Village Life Church

Village Life Church is now meeting again for in-person services and live streaming at villagelifechurch.online.church

We meet every Sunday at 10.30am in the church building and online at villagelifechurch.online.church.

Family friendly Mothers Day service on Sunday 27 March 10.30am

Craft Club meets every Tuesday at 2.00pm.

We are restarting our Coffee Morning this month. It will be on Thursday 10 March 10.00am to 12.00pm. Please come and join us.

If you need any help, support or encouragement over these winter months, we would love to help, if we are able. Please don't hesitate to contact the church at villagelifechurchbonsall@gmail.com or Call/Text on 079 880 71682

Pastor Matthew Quinn

CHURCH NEWS

As I write our small island is being battered by storms, gale force winds, heavy rain and snow, Bonsall being no exception. It's the time of year for comfort food – home-made soups, stews, puddings and custard; in my case plum and apple crumble! Food for the body but what about food for the soul? That part of us that reflects what our eyes, ears and minds feed upon.

March 2022 brings the season of Lent and an opportunity to look into God's Word by joining a Bible Study Group. Paul writes in the book of Philippians Chapter 2 v 5 - 6 "To consider Jesus, who was indeed God and yet humbled Himself and became a person like you and I. He also carried His obedience to God, His Father, to the extreme of death on a cross." Jesus was fully aware of His purpose in life here on earth. He sought to prepare His disciples and followers, speaking openly on several occasions of "going to Jerusalem and the Son of Man being sentenced to death, crucified and raised to life on the third day" (Matthew 20 v 18 - 19). By the work of the Holy Spirit, Jesus seeks to prepare us too! Studying the Bible with others provides a "healthy diet" and is transformational, as we read in Romans 12 v 2 - 3 "you can be transformed by the entire renewal of your mind; by its new ideals and its new attitudes, so that you may prove for yourselves what is the good and acceptable and perfect will of God". Good food is in store!

Enjoy your pancakes on Shrove Tuesday and then prepare to join us for a feast of Lent Studies and transformation - just like brown daffodil bulbs buried in dark earth now bursting forth with golden blooms.

Judy Land

Bonsall Wesleyan Reform Chapel

The Dale

Sunday Services are at 6.15pm except 4th Sunday which is at 2.30pm.

Mid-week Bible Studies commence in Lent on Tuesdays 10.00am. All are welcome to join with us.

Judy Land

Refreshments at St. James'

The Church Refreshments Team is thrilled to tell everyone that they have reached their fundraising target of £10,000. At the moment we have no facilities at all in Church, so we are carrying on with our efforts to raise money towards an indoor accessible toilet, a kitchen and a seating area. The Church can only survive if it is used, not only for services, but as a village venue for concerts, club meetings and other functions. We would then be able to offer light refreshments on Saturdays, Sundays and Mondays and at other times. A huge thank you to everyone who has supported us so far.

Kathryn Punchard

Catholic Church Services

Our Lady and St. Teresa of Lisieux

Gorsey Bank, Wirksworth

Mass times - Sundays - 8.45 a.m., Holy Days 7 p.m., every Tuesday Mass at 9.30 a.m. (No bookings needed.)

Parish Priest: Fr. Ka Fai
(01335 418902)

Our Lady and St. Joseph Church

Joseph's Street, Matlock

Mass times - Saturday reciting of rosary at 3.30 p.m. Vigil Mass at 4.00 p.m. and reciting of rosary at 5.30 p.m., Mass at 6.00 p.m., Sundays 8.30 a.m. and 10.30 a.m. (Check with the newsletter – you may need to book for weekend masses.) Week day masses - No mass on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday 9.30 a.m. reciting of rosary and mass at 10.00 a.m., and Friday 5.30 p.m. reciting of rosary and mass at 6.00 p.m.

Confessions Saturday 10.30-11.30 a.m.
Parish Priest: Fr. Robbie O'Callaghan.

FLOODLIGHTING

The floodlighting this month brings special memories for several villagers. Di, Kath, Andrew, Mick and Sally have wonderful memories of Dorothy on her birthday on 1 March. Clara and Jack Mountney are in the thoughts of Ron, Joy, Linda and John. For Dorinda, Simon and Stephanie there are loving thoughts of Harold as well as Annie and Lev Weston. Pat, Sue and John remember Joe with much love on 17 March. Janet, Jason and Lisa remember Ron, especially on 28 March.

Di Moor

824376. dimoor2014@yahoo.co.uk

If you would like to make your donation on-line the details are: NatWest Bank, Matlock. sort code 60.14.15 Acc. no 80567622. Name of Acc. PCC of Bonsall. Otherwise please pay me by cheque or cash. Thank you.

OBITUARY

Gerald Spencer

1922 – 2022

Elder statesman, Gerald Spencer of Uppertown, Bonsall, who died 10 January (two months short of his 100th birthday), was a countryman who specialised in his knowledge of Bonsall Moor, its history and fauna. He was the last of nine siblings whose family settled in Bonsall and the White Peak area for many generations.

Educated at Bonsall School, he left at 14 to work on local farms. Then afterwards he was a Hopton quarryman, and a line-layer for the electricity board in Matlock. He walked to and from each location daily, as he never held a driving licence. He was conscripted into the British Army in 1941 and after training went with his regiment to the Faroe Isles under 'Operation Valentine'. This was an inhospitable landscape where the British guarded the Islands against German invasion, a fate which befell its larger neighbours, Denmark and Norway.

A quarryman's son, he was born in Slaley on 23 March 1922. Several relatives served with distinction in the Great War and are commemorated on the War Memorial opposite the Kings Head. A brother was killed during WW2 in Italy, leaving a baby daughter, and Gerald's mother's hair turned white overnight on hearing the news. Modestly, Gerald downplayed his contribution to the war effort, despite surviving as a stretcher-bearer at the D-Day landings, where he was narrowly missed by numerous German bullets whistling past his ears. Whilst hostilities with the enemy continued, he spent three uncomfortable nights attempting to sleep in shallow burrows dug into the ground, offering a small degree of protection.

D-Day left him with a high regard for America, whose troops suffered great losses in battle. In the Faroes, he found the locals somewhat unfriendly, having no desire to be caught up in a war so far

from their shores. Being the youngest conscript, he was appointed 'Company Runner' (a position similar to that of Private Pike's in Dads Army) where, supplied with a bicycle, his duties included haggling with locals over the price of fish and cutting peat to keep the billet stoves burning. This position also involved being a 'dogsbody' for the Sergeant Major and he received an additional daily tot of rum from his superior for his trouble. He turned down promotion to Lance Corporal twice, having no desire to stay in the Army any longer than was necessary. Leaving the forces in a well-cut suit in 1946 to return to Bonsall, (after departing the Faroes) he first worked at London Docks, unloading food from the colonies and later spent a short time guarding prisoners of war.

He married Irene Bunting in 1947 and, after living in several houses, they eventually settled at Mooredge, Uppertown, where his in-laws had resided, for the remainder of their lives. Walking the moors, he became an expert on orchids, Lily of the Valley and wild flowers generally, as well as different types of mushrooms growing in secret locations, whose whereabouts he kept close to his chest. He watched out for the results of Chesterfield FC and Derby County avidly. Never known to take a holiday, he enjoyed the odd bus excursion for the day with Irene and he had a very keen grasp of geography in the UK and further afield. He was fond of passing time with others, particularly young people, to whom he held a special fascination. He also liked a pint with friends, including Chas Webster, Joe



Bunting and Fred Marples, when they became known as 'the last of the summer wine!'

Of good height and solidly built, he was firm of purpose and straight as a die. His politics were slightly left of centre and he maintained his sense of humour until his last years, when he was very deaf and he found hearing aids tiresome contraptions. He was blind in one eye from childhood as a result of an accident playing with his friends. These setbacks were but minor interferences to such a man.

He qualified for the French Legion d'honneur medal (the highest French merit award for gallantry), but Covid intervened before grandson Robert could source a medal, which he had intended doing. His wife predeceased him by a few years, but he leaves his daughter Linda (of Hollies Farm), four grandchildren and three great grandchildren with a wealth of memories of this interesting, if understated man.

George Caldicott



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Request to advertisers

Advertisers will have received their annual invoices by now and I would like to thank those who have paid promptly for their adverts. Advertising accounts for about 80% of the newsletter's income, with the balance from annual donations by the three churches, a Parish Council grant, and other occasional donations. Advertising fees are therefore really important for us to have sufficient funds to pay the printers each month. This year is the first time in nearly 20 years that Mutterings is under threat financially. Due to the rising cost of paper, our printing costs will increase by 8% this year and the same again next year (although the printer's prices remain very competitive). Most advertisers pay their invoices quite quickly, but there are five who haven't yet paid their previous year's invoice, three who have run up debts over two years and in one case over three years. Can I ask all advertisers to settle their invoices within 30 days please? Please spare a few minutes to either make a bank transfer or write Mutterings a cheque. By doing so, we can secure the future for Mutterings – at least for the next couple of years. Many thanks

Peter Fellows

Village Lunches

After a really enjoyable coffee morning on 9 Feb, we've decided to offer a Village Lunch on Wednesday 16 March as a starter to a possible reopening of the monthly meetings that were enjoyed before the pandemic. If you would like to join in at 12.30 please be sure to phone 826309 before 9 March to book a place. Don't forget to mention if you have any special food requirements. A two course meal with tea or coffee afterwards will be on offer for just £3. And if you would like to join the rota of cooks you would be very welcome!

Jenny March

Wilder Bonsall

Responding to the invitation in last month's Mutterings, a few people met in the Kings Head to talk about ways in which to encourage more wildlife around Bonsall. It was decided that a first step would be to identify little patches of land that could offer homes for wildlife. We agreed to meet at Nether Green, at 10.30 on Saturday 12 March for a walk round the village to spot any suitable (vacant and public) spaces and you are welcome to join us. Also, if you own a little patch of



ground and would be willing to offer it for wildflowers, insects and birds, then do let us know and we can talk about what planting could be suitable for the location and soil. If you'd like to join in our discussions or have ideas to share, perhaps come along to our next meeting at the Kings Head on Wednesday 16 March at 7.00pm. To get in touch, phone **Wendy** on 825267 or email w.bullar@btinternet.com

Allotments Donation

We'd like to thank Linda and Rita for the £50 donation to Bonsall allotments from their card sales. It's very generous and will be put to good use, probably for buying more trees for the community orchard.

Penny Collier

Open Gardens Invite

There's an invitation to tea and cakes at Herbert lodge on 10 April at 4.30pm for all those who are opening their gardens or helping out on Saturday June 4 and Sunday June 5 for the Open Gardens Weekend. We are still looking for more gardens and of course people who can help out too. Fun, friendly team! All proceeds go towards lovely and important projects and causes here in Bonsall. Ideas are always welcome too.

Elisabeth Stoppard

office@bonsallopengardens.co.uk



Bonsall Arts Trail

- 18 and 19 June 2022

All of us at Bonsall Arts Trail group are delighted that the first trail is all set to go ahead this summer. We are wary that the risk of Covid and new guidelines may return and are mindful of those who are still isolating and are at risk, and importantly we are committed to minimising any risk to Bonsall residents. Therefore, this year we'll be using outdoor but covered venues to supplement public venues such as the Village Hall. Some householders have already volunteered to host. We are looking for others to host artists in their homes or to be willing to have a gazebo or similar in their garden. If you would like to host an artist, we would be delighted to hear from you. Please contact me at julieleggettart@gmail.com or 07305594084. Thank you.

Julie Leggett

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Trail Clearing with the Riders

The Bonsall Riders group have been busy clearing Pounder Lane of fallen branches and lots of overgrowth that has made the pathway impassable in places. Lots of good cheer, tea, biscuits, loppers and a chainsaw was all it took, and a little determination!

Elisabeth Stoppard

BONSALL PTFA Updates

Just a little update regarding your PTFA and how you can help the school.

100 Club: If you sign up to our own fabulous 100 club, you are in with a chance of winning the national £25,000 but we guarantee a winner, from our school, will win a small prize every week. Please sign up at <https://www.yourschoollottery.co.uk/lottery/school/bonsall-ce-primary-school>. It really does help our school and the more tickets sold, the larger our weekly prize is.

Amazon smile:

We have now joined Amazon smile. It is really easy to do, either go into your app and switch Amazon smile on, and look for Bonsall school parent, teacher and friends association, or visit <https://smile.amazon.co.uk/ch/1109934-0> and set up from there.

Help required: We are looking to develop our outside areas and we need help in applying for grants. If you have experience in this area, we would love to hear from you! Any help would be gladly received. Please contact Rachel (07873 674983) or Claire (07880 851083) for details.

Future events:

March: 4. Tuck shop (in school), 21-27 - Mother's Day (in school).

April: 1. Tuck shop (in school), 1-15. Easter raffle (online Facebook event), 7. Easter disco (in school).

May: 6. Tuck shop (in school), 21. Spring fair (at school, open to the village).

June: 3. Tuck shop (in school), 4. Coins around the cross (at The Cross, open to the village), 5. Jumble trail (open to the village).

July: 1. Tuck shop (in school), 2. Bonsall school music festival (at school open to the village), 7. Year 6 BBQ (in school).

Our last Tuck Shop made £70 for the school. For further details about events or any PTFA information please contact Rachel or Claire.

Deborah Pearson



Sue's Workshops

After a rough winter, let's hope Spring and some sunshine will let us get sewing again. On Thursday March 17, 2 - 5pm, the workshop will be for making covered notebooks. On Thursday April 14, 2 - 5pm, it will be circular fabric storage containers. Please phone Sue on 356700 for more information or to book a place. Beautiful greetings cards are still available from the box on Sue's drive or special, personalised cards can be ordered by contacting **Sue Knowles** at 7 High Street, Bonsall or 356700



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Second Homes and Holiday Lets

I wanted to contribute my personal thoughts to Peter Fellows' article 'Second homes and holiday lets' in Mutterings in February. I asked Peter to identify evidence he has used for his views, and I then summarised what I think are his points of concern from his article, in my own words.

Peter's concerns:

- 1) If there are too many second homes and holiday lets it reduces the number of homes available to rent by young people, which can lead to reduced births and therefore risk the viability of the school. The demographic of the village changes, so activity groups can be less well attended, again contributing to the viability of the community.
- 2) Houses empty for long periods reduce neighbourliness and community cohesion and houses used for short term holiday lets do the same.
- 3) Some people can feel insecure and intruded upon when they see unknown people outside their homes.
- 4) There has been a Derbyshire Dales District Council consultation about residents' views on increasing the Empty Homes Premium and there may be a case to ask them to apply increased council tax to holiday lets and second homes.
- 5) People selling their homes are asked to consider whether the buyer will live in and contribute to the village.
- 6) Peter references an article in The Times (George Grylis 15/1/22) which debates whether licences may be required for homes to be used as short term holiday lets.

Peter did not provide references to evidence of harm done by second homes and holiday lets on village school or activity group viability, people feeling insecure, or neighbourliness. However I think we have to understand if there are genuine feelings and fears about the village demographics that are widely held. I don't know either way, but it would be useful to have evidence. I do want to create some clarity though between all the types of home ownership he discussed.

Second homes – homes in Bonsall owned by people who don't live in Bonsall but visit for a holiday. My view is mixed on this. Peter doesn't give a breakdown but I don't think there are very many of these. I do know quite a few residents who have holiday homes elsewhere though (including the super-stressed rural

communities of the south-west) and if we did a poll I am guessing that there would be more owners living here with empty homes elsewhere, than empty homes here with owners visiting from elsewhere. I know I would have a second home if I could afford it, somewhere warm and sunny! Should owners pay extra to support the community the home is taken from? Yes I think they should. Should we request people to not sell to second home-owners? No, that is personal freedom of choice and market forces.

Holiday lets:

1) Homes that could be long-term rentals which are used for holiday lets. Market forces again; do we know what Bonsall rental rates would be and whether they would be affordable for local young peoples' income? That information would help inform the debate about whether homes should be protected for local renters. And are we prepared to ask landlords to only rent to local people, and how would that be defined? Being a landlord is also a commercial opportunity although it is treated by HMRC as investment income.

2) Buildings that are not able to be long-term rentals which are used for holiday lets. This includes our Bailey's Barn which is the only one in Bonsall also in the Peak District. We are not allowed to let it long-term by the Peak Park and by our own insurers. Some in this category will be informal room-lettings, others will be businesses who pay rates and taxes. Some will qualify as Furnished Holiday Lets and by treated by HMRC in a similar way to hotels, some will just add the income to their tax return. Some use agencies for selling holidays, some like using AirBnB, others never would, and yet others market their properties themselves. It is not helpful to think of all holiday lets as the same, but for the most part they are businesses. And businesses contribute, as Peter said in his article.

There are many different personal circumstances which lead to the creation of holiday lets and we have to be careful to think of them as individual owners. Some have said to me they are investing now so that their grandchildren can have a home in the village, others that they moved away to somewhere more affordable and let their Bonsall home in order to make ends meet, and yet others who would struggle to stay in their village home on a pension and use income from letting to help. You

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cannot link all of these together with second homes as 'harmful to the village and reducing community cohesion'. It is a much more nuanced situation than Peter's article might suggest.

All tourism visitors contribute to the local economy. The latest Great British Tourist Report states spend per trip in England was £196. There are no stats for the Covid years, but I am guessing that there will have been more trips in the last six months, and therefore more spend. I suppose my point is that we need clear evidence before we make claims which in themselves may cause ill feeling. I know a few accommodation owners who are not putting February Mutterings into their holiday lets as they feel it could make guests feel unwelcome.

The situation is very different between second homes, rental properties and commercial holiday lets. Let's accept that we each had a journey to get to the point we are now and that the vast majority of people in the village support it wholeheartedly and would not want it to be damaged, even if the needs of their own family circumstances naturally take priority when they are looking at their own finances and making decisions about property.

Lynn Day

Empty Homes Tax Update

Further to my note in the February issue, DDDC is set to introduce an Empty Homes Tax from April 2023. The Council estimates that there are 776 empty homes in the District, with 181 empty for more than 2 years, 37 empty for 5 years or more, and 38 empty for 10 years or more. Houses that have been empty for 10 years or more will be charged quadruple council tax, those that have been empty for 5 – 10 years will be charged triple tax and those empty for 2 – 5 years will be charged double council tax. The District Council will also reintroduce the role of Empty Homes Officer at a cost of £38,000 p.a. for an initial three years, to work with home owners. In total, the additional tax is expected to bring in around £516,000 p.a. of which about £72,000 will go to the Council.

Peter Fellows

Nepal Appeal Update

Food donation distribution in Mushar Basti.

Alan and I are really pleased to report that the £1,000 raised from donations received last year from Bonsall residents and others has now been spent on essential foodstuffs for needy families in the area of south east Nepal where our good friend and trekking guide, Bijay and his family, come from. In February's Mutterings we reported that Bijay was in the process of obtaining prices for foodstuffs for 52 families who all live in the community of Mushar Basti, Bardibas. We have ended up extending the help to 68 families, the total number of families living in Mushar Basti, which is brilliant! Each family have received 20kg of rice, 2kg of lentils, a litre of cooking oil and two packets of salt,

and enough Dal Baht for about six or seven weeks depending on the size of the family. Bijay and his father have organised the purchase of the food and distribution, which was no mean task. On behalf of all the families that have received assistance, Bijay sends his sincere thanks. Alan and I would like to personally thank everyone who donated to the appeal; all the money raised has now been spent on essential foodstuffs. Bijay has produced a video of the presentation of the food to the families. Two local community leaders were present and are both pictured in the photo with the gold coloured 'scarfs' along with Bijay, who has a white pol-neck jumper on. You can see the video on YouTube - in Google Search type in 'Food donation for 68 families, Bardibas Musahar Basti'.

Chris Broome & Alan David



The Bonsall & Derbyshire Dales Link invite you to a

QUIZ NIGHT

on Friday 11th March

at 7.30pm

at Bonsall Village Hall

Teams of four will be formed on the night

Tickets: £5-00 Adults; Concessions £4-00

All proceeds to
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Re: article in February's Mutterings on Revised Electoral Boundaries

The article states: 'In February 2021, the Local Government Boundary Commission for England published its draft recommendations for revised electoral boundaries in Derbyshire Dales. Part of this proposal was to change the existing Masson Ward, which includes Bonsall, Cromford and Matlock Bath, and to place Bonsall into a new ward called 'Bonsall & Winster'. In conversations with a few folk in the village, they raised their objections to being allied in this way to Winster. I cannot understand why this is objectionable.

The guidelines for the changes are:

- To deliver electoral equality where each district councillor represents roughly the same number of electors as others across the district.
- That the pattern of wards should, as far as possible, reflect the interests and identities of local communities.
- That the electoral arrangements should provide for effective and convenient local government.

If we look at our current and future village needs and compare these to Winster and Cromford:

- Second homes and holiday lets are an issue for Bonsall. Holiday lets do not pay council tax. Thus moving the council tax burden onto fewer properties in the village. Similarly, Winster has this issue. Cromford does not have this problem (a much larger population for a start).
- A knock-on effect of the second houses and holiday lets is the reduction in school pupils for Bonsall's wonderful village school. This issue is also

mentioned in February's Mutterings.

Winster has the same problem.

Cromford has a larger area to draw on and is also fed by a number of frequent buses to bring in pupils.

3. Our bus service has recently been reduced. How much longer will we have this service? Winster no doubt has the same issue. Cromford has a large number of services running through it. It also has a train station.

4. How supportive were our district councillors when the Via Gellia has been closed? When it was closed for an extensive period for work on a private garden in Cromford, did they ensure work progressed rapidly? Or the road was open outside working hours? Huge temporary buildings covered one lane of the road – for the workers we assume? No access for through vehicles at all. There was no access even for emergency vehicles.

I note in February's Mutterings, that £3.5 million is going to be spent on safety improvement works on Via Gellia. Will the current councillors consider the impact of the inevitability of closing off Bonsall? We hope that Dermot Murphy sees the village as being important enough to consider the residents.

Our current electoral boundary of Bonsall, Matlock Bath & Cromford means we make up about a quarter of electors. In the electoral boundary with Bonsall, Winster, Gratton, Elton and Birchover, we make up the largest group of electors and all share similar issues.

How many of us will even notice this change of electoral boundary?

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PARISH COUNCIL

Report of 15 February meeting

Motocross site former White

Low mine: the Clerk reported a complaint received of noise from the track on Sunday 23 January (heard in the churchyard), and two further complaints re Sunday 30 January (from Masson hill and Uppertown).

The Chair, Cllr Harris, reported on the first day of the public hearing in Bakewell into the track owner's appeal against the planning enforcement notice. He said that it had been attended by 15-20 Bonsall residents. As a result of a legal issue raised by the appellant's barrister, the hearing had been adjourned to allow the appellant to submit an additional ground of appeal against the notice. The adjournment was likely to be of two to three months. Cllr Harris said that Bonsall Moor Action Group had requested that the motocross activity be halted in the meantime, but the Inspector had said that she did not have power to do that. The position was noted, with disappointment that resolution of the planning issue had been deferred further.

Public toilets: (1) Security: following another incident of vandalism, it was agreed in principle to place a CCTV unit on the front of the Village Hall to cover the public toilets. Councillor Jackie Smith offered to raise this with the Village Hall Committee, and Councillor Steve Smith offered to research an appropriate TV camera and the permissions or signage needed for this; this was noted with thanks. (2) Doors: noted that J.D Properties were to recess the locks further to allow closure.

Peak District National Park Off-roading consultation: the Council had received a request from the Green Lanes Environmental Action Movement to respond to government consultation on off-roading on green lanes. It was agreed to publicise this opportunity for people to give views on this issue. The online consultation is available at <https://consult.defra.gov.uk/futurelandscapes-strategy/government-response-to-the-landscapes-review/>. (The 'off-roading' questions are questions 14 to 17).

Website: the new format of the village website is now in place (www.bonsallvillage.org/). It is still under development, and the Website Working group will be looking next at how to make it available to other community groups. Anyone wanting to become involved with that should contact the Clerk. The

Council thanked Brett Biedscheid for his voluntary work on this project.

Recruitment of Clerk/Responsible Finance Officer: the Council finalised arrangements for recruitment to the Clerk's post. The pay scale has been externally reviewed by Derbyshire Association for Local Councils, and the recommended new rates were agreed. Full details of that are available in the Council minutes, and the recruitment pack is available on the website, with a closing date of 7 March.

Personnel Sub-Committee: on the recommendation of DALC and the working group, it was agreed in principle to look to establish a formal sub-committee to manage staffing issues. The Recruitment Working Group will draw up terms of reference for this and report back to the next meeting.

Quarrying update: Cllr Grover reported that he had received a number of recent complaints about quarry noise. The Clerk reported on a comment from a resident that he had been asked to pass on to the Council in relation to the Council's response to quarrying issues. They said that quarrying provides important employment for village people, that the quarries which surround the village have been here for many decades, and that the associated noise is an integral part of the village and its working history. The stone produced is essential for housing and roads. They live opposite Slinter, and are not troubled by quarrying noise. Consequently the Parish Council should not be opposing applications for extension or similar. The comments were noted, also noting that the Council were not opposed to quarrying itself, but were responding to public complaints about noise.

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 Parish Council meeting will be at 7.30pm on Tuesday 15 March at the Village Hall. For any issues to be raised at the meeting contact me with details by 7 March. Clerk & Finance Officer:
Tony Payne



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
sandraandmarkharris@btinternet.com

Vice-Chair: Phil Addis
Dale House, The Dale. T 826309
philaddis0@gmail.com

Councillors:

Cllr Jon Barry, Ivy Cottage, Bell Lane, T: 07866 750636
jon.barry@derby-college.ac.uk

Cllr Richard Grover
Nethergreen House, Clatterway T: 01629 259558
richard_grover99@hotmail.com

Cllr Jackie Smith, 55 Yeoman Street, T: 823544, Mob 07771 764366
jaqsm@aol.com

Cllr Stephen Smith, 55 Yeoman Street. T 823544, Mob 07545 062413
ss@sjstechnical.com

Cllr Claire Taylor, 6 Ember Lane. T 823243 Mob. 07989 597811.
claire.6@gmail.com

Clerk and Finance Officer:

Tony Payne,
27 High Street. T: 07306 311451;
bonsallclerk@gmail.com



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Derbyshire Dales

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Email:
Sarah.dines.mp@parliament.uk
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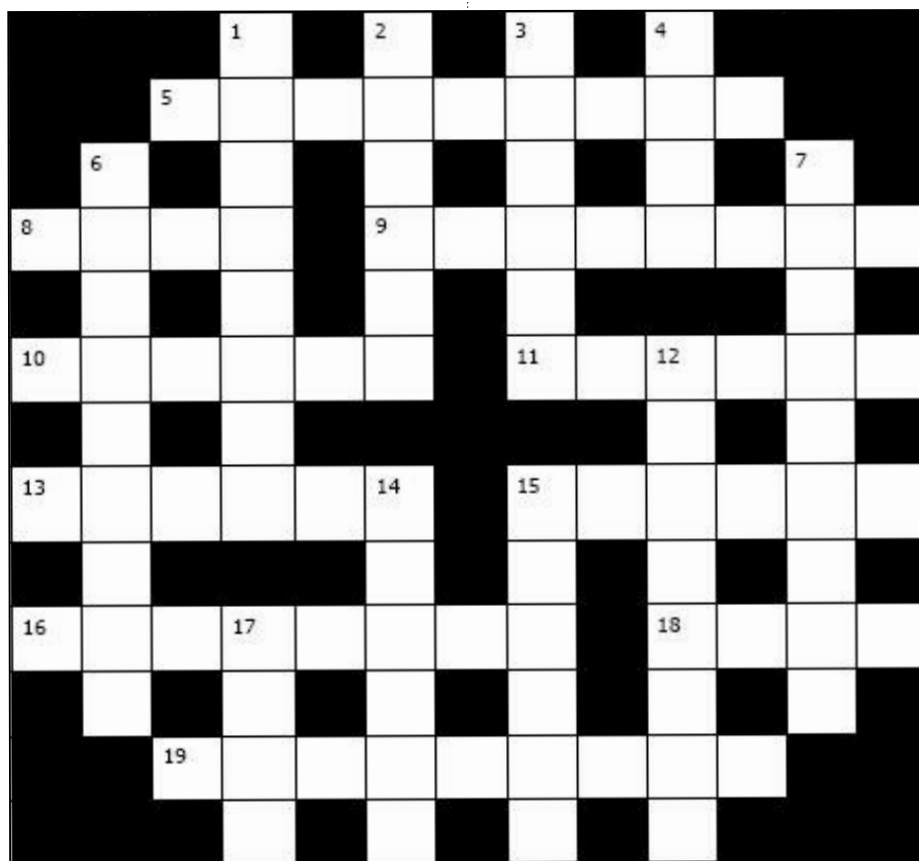
District Councillors, Masson ward:

Garry Purdy Tel: 01629 823636, 07774 824540.
garry.purdy@derbyshiredales.gov.uk
Dermot Murphy Tel: 07583 111239 dermot.murphy@derbyshiredales.gov.uk

County Councillor, Wirksworth Ward:

Dermot Murphy Tel: 07583 111239
dermot.murphy@derbyshire.gov.uk

CROSSWORD #136



Across:

5. See 8.
 8 & 5. Honourable Conservatives eat slices of sausage at first. Animal tales, reportedly! (4,2,6.)
 9. Marshalling, wholly between the lines, in capital of Germany. (8)
 10. Regularly misses queen's subjects. (6)
 11. 5 (second word) set back around border. (6)
 13. Break limb in Newcastle, maybe, but agile! (6)
 15. Maori's entry, oddly, is one part. (6)
 16. Assumed Indiana G-Men covered up blunder. (8)
 18. Lazy hero on the telephone. (4)
 19. 8 & 5 (first word). Drugs hidden in ripped garment. (9)

Down:

1. One of 5 (second word). Cat with disease incorporating bad smell. (3,5)
 2. Text sent about hill squalls. (6)
 3. Bracelet made from rubies primarily, surrounded by twisted metal. (6)
 4. 5 (first word) found in River Yeo. (4)
 6. Doubts inquiry on atoms. (9)
 7. One of 5 (second word). Gap plugged by topless minion? No, the reverse! (9)
 12. Copies head of insurrection, moving to last place. (8)
 14. 8. Erudite, but leaderless. (6)
 15. Mrs French or Miss West, perhaps, hugs mother. (6)
 17. 5 (first word). Monster heading north. (4)

Answers to Crossword no. 135

Across: 5. Slapstick. 8. Shoo. 9. See 6 down). 10. Access. 11. Lapses. 13. Amuses. 15. Sitcom. 16. Odometer. 18. Slip. 19. Estranged. Down: 1. Bloopers. 2. Spoofs. 3. Atweel. 4. Acer. 6 & 9. The Comedy of Errors. 7. Free to Air. 12. Potashes. 14. Satire. 15. Strand. 17. Miss.

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Playgroup

Cromford Playgroup welcomes funded and unfunded children from 2 years+. Ofsted registered and based in Cromford Methodist Community Hall. Call Karen for more details on 07905 937371.

Please send us your news, views, stories and diary events by **Noon** on **Friday 25 March** to: Editorial Group, 19 High St. or by e-mail to mutterings@hotmail.com



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Copy for commercial advertising should be with us by the tenth of the month before you wish the advert to be placed.

Items for sale and wanted are free to villagers and can be submitted to mutterings@hotmail.com or hand-written to 19 High St.

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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T'Owd Man's

Mutterings

Diary for March

Date		Event	Venue
Tue	1	Grey Bins & Food Waste	
Fri	4	PTFA Tuck Shop	School
Mon	7	Deadline for items to Parish Council	
Tue	8	Blue & Green Bins & Food Waste	
Wed	9	Deadline for booking village lunch	
Fri	11	7.30pm Quiz Night for Chernobyl Children	Village Hall
Sat	12	10.30 am Wilder Bonsall walk around the village	Nether Green
Tue	15	Grey Bins & Food Waste	
		7.30pm Parish Council meeting	Village Hall
Wed	16	12.30pm Village Lunch	Village Hall
		7.00pm. Wilder Bonsall meeting	Kings Head
Thur	17	2-5pm Sue's Workshop	7 High St
Tue	22	Blue & Green Bins & Food Waste	
Fri	25	Noon Mutterings submission deadline for April issue	
Tue	29	Grey Bins & Food Waste	

Future Events

April:

Fri 1. PTFA Tuck Shop, Bonsall School

Thur 7. PTFA Easter disco Bonsall School

Sun 10 4.30pm, Open Gardens Tea

Invite, Herbert Lodge

Thu 14. 2-5pm, Sue's Workshop, 7 High Street

May:

Fri 6. PTFA Tuck Shop, Bonsall School

Sat 21 May, Spring Fair, Bonsall School

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The Parish Council is seeking applications for the combined role of Clerk and Responsible Finance Officer, but would if necessary consider applications for the separate roles of Clerk (40 hours per month), and Responsible Finance Officer (12 hours per month).

Please call Mark Harris on 01629 820285 to discuss the post and go to our website <http://bonsallvillage.org/parish-council> for further details on how to apply.

Closing date for applications: Monday 07 March 2022 at 5.00pm.

Bonsall Parish Council is an Equal Opportunity Employer and welcomes applications from all sections of the community.