



Issue 244

February 2025

# T'Owd Man's Mutterings



Photo credit: Sarah Smith

## Bonsall team came 3rd in Raft Race

Sarah Smith has kindly given £85 for the colour pages of the Raft Race in this issue, see more photo's of the race & the Bonsall team inside



*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*



# Boxing Day Raft Race 26 December 2024

Featuring the Bonsall Team



Photos by: Sarah Smith

## CHURCH DIARY

### St James Church

#### Services for February

Sunday 9 February 9.30am Eucharist with Keith Orford

Sunday 23 February 9.30am Eucharist with Neil Griffiths

#### Bonsall Church Cafe

Refreshments are available in church from 12 noon to 3pm on Saturdays, Sundays and Mondays.

We offer ham, cheese and hot sausage cobs, home-made soup and cakes all at reasonable prices.

**Wirksworth Team Ministry**  
01629 824707

### Village Life Church (High Street)

Sunday 10:30am Worship Service

Tuesday 2:00pm Craft Club

Wednesday 7:00pm Life Groups  
(Please contact us for more details)

Thursday 9:30am Prayer Meeting  
7:00pm Youth Group (11 - 16 years. All Welcome)

For more information about the church, or if you need any practical help and support over the winter period please call on 07988071682 or email us at [villagelifechurchbonsall@gmail.com](mailto:villagelifechurchbonsall@gmail.com)

**Pastor Matthew Quinn**

### Bonsall Dale Chapel

For information on services please contact Judy Land on 824223

**Judy Land**

## CHURCH NEWS

### Traitors and Faithfuls

At the time of writing this article our household is gripped, once again, to the unfolding drama on the BBC's 'Traitors.' If you have never seen it the premise is quite simple. A group of people head over to a castle in Scotland, where they must do tasks each day, to win money for a prize pot. But amongst the group are 3 people set the task to kill off a member of the main group each night without getting caught, and banished from the castle. These 'traitors' then must attempt to keep unsuspected until the final, if they do, the prize pot goes to them rather than the rest of the group (the faithfuls).

It is not the most exciting tv but the reason I like to watch it, is because I like to shout at the telly. I constantly shout about how terrible the group is at identifying those pesky traitors, how obvious it is who is pulling the strings, and if they would only look at who is being killed off, they could easily trace back to the source of these nefarious deeds.

My wife, who is the definitely the voice of reason in our household, explains that it is obvious to me because watching the show allows me to see both sides of the group, the faithful and the traitors. So, of course it is easy and obvious to see the web of deceit and the hand of the traitors at work. But if I was there in the castle, with a limited amount of information, trying to piece together who is who from snippets of conversation, micro reactions and unusual behaviour, would I fare any better than those I see on the tv before me?

I think she is right. It is easy to understand the situation when you can see the bigger picture. It is far more complex when we only see a small part of the larger story. This is so true in life. It is easy to make judgements and decisions when the evidence is there, but hard when it's not. Also, the world is not obviously divided in to traitors and faithfuls. We see many examples of times where people should be 'faithful,' police, doctors, priests, but do such despicable things. And then those we assume would be a negative influence do such beautiful and creative things. I think the simple thing to do, is stop judging people. The bible is clear on

this, it says 'Why do you look for the speck of sawdust in your brother's eye, and pay no attention to the plank in your own eye?' (Matthew 7:3) We love to point out everyone else's failures and flaws, but how often do we take time to have an honest look at ourselves? Not so we condemn ourselves to an impossible standard of perfection, but just so we can all appreciate the reality that 'none of us is perfect.' It might make us a little more patient and forgiving of others, which can only make the world a better place.

And what about seeing the bigger picture? I want to ask you about faith. What do you believe? 86% of the world population believes in a god or higher power. These concepts of faith and religion have persevered through millennia and seems to be a part of the human condition. So, what is your perspective? Do you give time to wonder about it?

If you believe there is no God, no spiritual element to the world, can I encourage you to at least ask these 3 questions, 'why do I believe there is no God?' 'What has formed my opinion?' and 'What have I done to find evidence for/against my opinion?'

If you do believe there is God, a higher power, can I encourage you to at least ask 2 questions, 'If there is a God, why do they exist?' 'If there is a God, how does that change the way I live my life?' Asking questions is so essential to forming healthy and balanced opinions about the world. It stops us being shaped by aggressive opinions formed by social media algorithms and influencers. It stops us assuming that everything we know is right, and everything we don't know is wrong. It stops us judging others, and seeing them as either traitors or faithfuls. Let's keep asking questions, and dare to see the bigger picture.

**Pastor Matthew Quinn**



## FLOODLIGHTING

For Richard and Kath Taylor, 2 February has loving memories of Kath's mum. Val, and Steven remember Val's brother, David Evans, on his birthday 4 February. Mick Baugh is remembered by Rita, Rachael, Danny and their families on his birthday, also on 4 February. The beginning of the month is when Dr Jayme Rolls is remembered fondly as a teacher and a special friend. The 5 February is when Ron is especially remembered by Janet, Jason, Lisa and their family on his birthday. Beryl Webster, Jenny and family lovingly remember Jack, particularly on the 12 February. The lighting helps bring fond memories of Auntie Joan to all the Rickard family around 14 of February. The 20 February is when Eric Gregory's thoughts are very much of his wife, Mary.

**Di Moor 824376 dimoor2014@yahoo.co.uk**

the bank details are PCC of Bonsall 60.14.15 a/c 80567622 Ref. Fld Light.

## Catholic Church Services

### Our Lady and St. Teresa of Lisieux

Gorse Bank, Wirksworth

Mass times - Sundays - 8.45 a.m., Holy Days 7 pm., 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.**

## VILLAGE NOTICEBOARD

The Mutterings editors carefully review submitted content, and collectively discuss it where appropriate and practicable. We are committed to free expression of all opinions, subject to our removal of any parts of letters or articles that we consider to be personally insulting, libellous or misleading.

### Rolling Closures on the A5012 Via Gellia for Tree Felling Works 14 Jan to 1 March 2025 between 08:00 and 16:00 each day.

Please find details of the proposed rolling road closure for A5012 Via Gellia Road, between Newhaven and Cromford. You can view the order on this link <https://one.network/?tm=141024832> or scan the qr code with your phone  
For any queries please email [TTM.mailbox@derbyshire.gov.uk](mailto:TTM.mailbox@derbyshire.gov.uk)



### Derbyshire Highways Hub

Latest information prior to going to print:  
27 Jan -21 Feb A5012 closed between Bonsall Clatterway junction and Ryder Point junction.

7 Feb -14 Feb A5012 closed between Ryder Point Road junction and Grangemill junction.

17 Feb -21 Feb A5012 closed between Grangemill and Newhaven.

24 Feb- 26 Feb A5012 closed between Water Lane Cromford and Clatterway Bonsall.

These dates may change due to weather conditions so please check with Derbyshire Highways/ one.network for accurate information.

### Another Road Closure

Close The Dale, Bonsall for new Water Connection 13 February 2025 to 15 February 2025.

Please find details of the proposed road closure for **The Dale**, Bonsall. You can view the order on this link <https://one.network/?tm=141604816>



For any queries please email [TTM.mailbox@derbyshire.gov.uk](mailto:TTM.mailbox@derbyshire.gov.uk)  
Derbyshire Highways Hub  
For any queries please email [TTM.mailbox@derbyshire.gov.uk](mailto:TTM.mailbox@derbyshire.gov.uk)  
Derbyshire Highways Hub

### Another Road Closure

Close Bonsall Lane, Bonsall for BT Pole Testing 3 March 2025 between 09:30 and 15:30

Please find details of the proposed road closure for Bonsall Lane, Bonsall. You can view the order on this link <https://one.network/?tm=141652593>



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## LETTERS

### Message of Thanks

We are extremely lucky to have such a wonderful view over the park area and fountain but this view has been made even more wonderful with the erecting of a beautiful Christmas tree outside the village hall. Not only have we noticed how amazing it looks but also many of my lovely clients have said what an absolutely gorgeous tree and how lucky as a village we are to have it! Thank you to the village hall committee for putting so many smiles on so many people's faces at this time of year!!

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## VILLAGE NOTICEBOARD

### **Bonsall Players Pantomime: Adventure in Pantoland**

The annual Bonsall Players are performing "Adventure in Pantoland" on 19, 21 and 22 February at Bonsall School.

Tickets are selling well, however there are still a few available for the Wednesday evening dress rehearsal 7pm (over 16s only) and the Saturday matinee 2pm.

Adult ticket £10

Child ticket 5-16 £5

Family ticket £25 (2 adults 2 children)

Under 5 free

Please contact Jayne Allsop for tickets on 07415 607016 or email [jayneallsop18@gmail.com](mailto:jayneallsop18@gmail.com)

**Leanne Hicklin**

5 | [www.bonsall-pc.gov.uk](http://www.bonsall-pc.gov.uk)

## VILLAGE NOTICEBOARD

**Adventure in Pantoland**

Wednesday dress rehearsal 19th Feb (16+ only) tickets £5  
Friday 21st 7pm  
Saturday matinee 2pm  
**SOLD OUT** Saturday evening 7pm **SOLD OUT**

### **Matlock Boxing Day Raft Race**

The Raft Race was a huge success this year after having to cancel last years due to dangerous high river levels. 21 rafts entered with an outstanding 117 participants scattered across them. That's a lot more mad people than last time!

The event helps raise urgent funds for RNLI which is a charity that helps save lives at sea and was formed in 1824. This year alone this event raised an outstanding £3,393.26 just in cash buckets.

This issue includes some photos from the event for those who could not attend. Our raft was Santa's Naughty

Elf's which consisted of Mac, Sarah, Phil, Neil, Matt, Adam, Tim, Brett, Logan, and Tom and we came 3rd! First place was the destroyer a fantastic 3 part raft and second were the grinchies. There were some fantastic rafts, well done to everyone.

**Sarah Smith**



# VILLAGE NOTICEBOARD

## Strange but True: Discovering past family members

Richard Kirk was brought up on Cromford Hill, alongside his sister Karen, now living in Bonsall. He is fascinated by family history and recently discovered a rather odd coincidence! Peter Darrington Prince was a great-great-grandson of William Prince, a miner who came from near Longnor, Staffordshire to Bonsall (probably about 1700) and his wife Sarah Ryley, who together had ten sons and two daughters. Peter was born in 1834 at Bonsall to John and Sarah Prince (formerly Brooks). He was orphaned as a teenager and sought his living away from the village, never to return. In 1841, Peter aged 7 was living with his parents and five siblings in Bonsall, where his father and elder brother were framework knitters. Sadly his father John died in 1845 after suffering from a strangulated hernia. (Had he been moving a stocking frame, a notoriously heavy piece of equipment that he would have worked with at home?). Five years later Peter's mother Sarah also died when Peter was 17 years old.

For a while, apart from two elder sisters who married, the family stayed together and in 1851, Peter was living at High Street, Bonsall with his elder brother William aged 25 (listed as head of the household), elder sisters Hannah and Betty and a younger sister Ann. All were born in Bonsall, unmarried at the time and working as framework knitters of cotton.

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Peter must have thought there was no future for him in Bonsall, and by ten years later, aged 27, he had moved away to Liverpool where he was to meet his wife. In 1861 he was working as a weaver and lodging with Arthur McCumoskey, a painter and his wife Ann, both from Ireland.

On 20 September 1866 Peter, aged 32, married a Liverpool girl from a Jewish family, Elizabeth Philips aged 18. Whether Elizabeth's family disapproved of her Church of England marriage to a gentile isn't known, but the witnesses to their marriage were not family members. At the time the couple were recorded as living in Springfields, a 10 minute walk (or a 5 minute Hackney cab ride summoned from the nearby cab stand in Monument Place?) to their place of marriage, Saint Silas, Pembroke Place, Liverpool. The church was destroyed in World War II bombing in 1942 and never rebuilt.

Peter and Elizabeth had their first child, Sarah Bloom Prince, in 1868 when Peter was described as a licensed victualler.

Very soon after, the family moved to Manchester, where Peter worked as a porter and where Sarah was baptised in Manchester Cathedral on 8 August 1869 along with 50 other children! Again, the family moved, this time to Belfast, where poor Sarah died, only 2 years old, and was buried the next day in the City Cemetery. Barely five weeks later at the time of the 1871 census the couple had moved back to England and Peter was working as a hotel porter in Salford. Later that year the family moved to Dublin where Peter and Elizabeth's second daughter, Esther Maud Prince, was born in 1871, followed nearly two years later by their son Lawrence Charles Prince. Peter was still working as a hotel porter. Maybe they got tired of moving around (understandingly) and went back to Liverpool where in 1876 another daughter Bloom Bertha Prince was born who unfortunately died just months later.

After this further tragedy, the family entered a period of stability involving partnership (and reconciliation?) with Elizabeth's family in the jewellery trade. For about 15 years from around 1880 alongside Elizabeth's brother Israel, the Princes occupied premises in Liverpool city centre. This was a prominent position, good for business, situated between Lime Street Station and the Adelphi Hotel.

*The Philips family had a jewellery business and were themselves related by marriage to another Jewish family of jewellers, the Samuels. Harriet Samuel went on, after her husband died, to found the H. Samuel jewellery chain.*

Peter must have done rather well, because in 1900 he was living, presumably retired, in suburban Liverpool and described as a 'Gentleman' in a local directory. But the Princes couldn't stop moving! and by 1901 they were living on the other side of the Mersey in West Kirby, a Victorian seaside town with views of North Wales. They occupied three different houses here in turn (one of which they ran as a boarding house) before Peter, who was described as a retired jeweller, died at the age of 81 in 1916.

### Sent by Richard Kirk

**Author's note** - Having been brought up in Cromford I moved several times too in adult life, eventually working in Liverpool. I have lived in West Kirby since 1982, and recently discovered that Peter Prince had lived just a few minutes' walk away from where I live now. Peter was a distant cousin but I don't believe there are any family members still in the area. Except, of course, me and my family!

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# VILLAGE NOTICEBOARD

## Poem: Ring in a New Year

Christmas celebrations are over, the decorations are back in the loft.  
The turkeys all finished and there's one chocolate left.  
Bring in the new year a time to look back and reflect.  
Happy times, sad times, memories to never forget.  
Resolutions to make and then to break.  
The bells are ringing, a new year to begin.  
A new year of change or just the same!  
Here's to a year of new beginnings and memories to make.

**Alison Higgins (née Doxey)**

## Village Lunch Club - Awarded 5 Stars

We welcomed villagers to our first lunch of 2025 on 15 January. The menu was Shepherd's Pie with Broccoli, Peas and Carrots followed by Apple and Raspberry Crumble with Custard. The event was started by Bonsall School representatives telling us a little about their Christmas Celebrations and was followed by tea or coffee. Phil's quiz had many scratching their heads but the winning score was 17 out of 20!

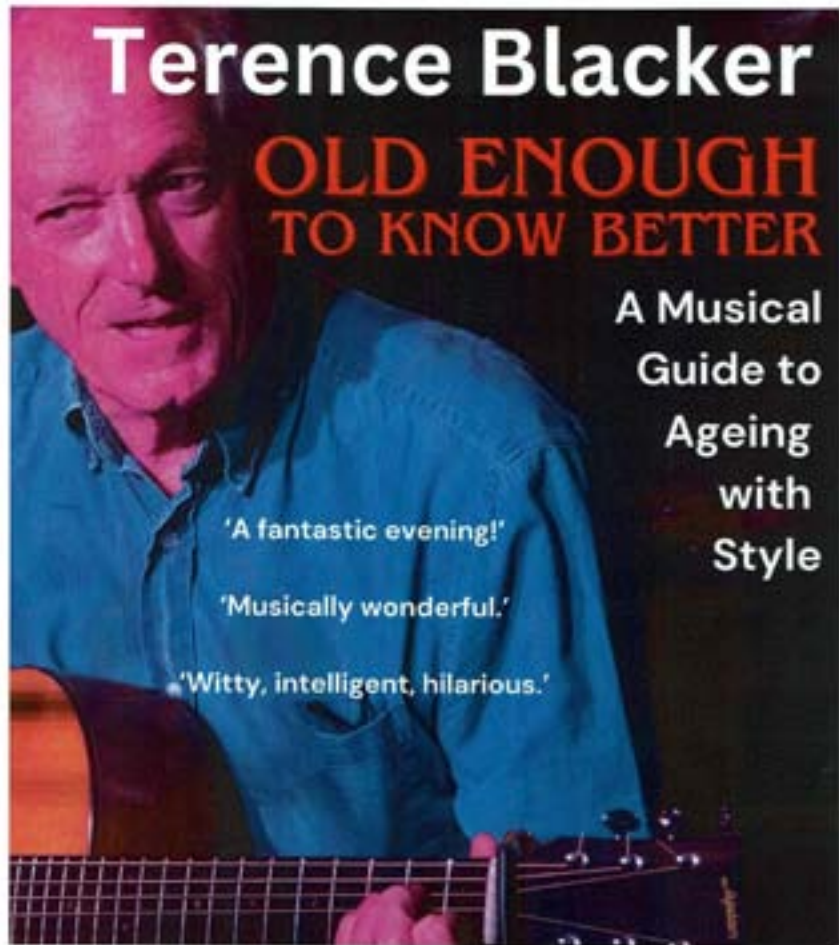
If you would like to join us our next meeting is Wednesday 19 Feb at 12.30pm and all are very welcome but we do ask that you book your place. The cooks need to know numbers!! If you did not sign up at the January meeting then please phone 01629 826309 before 12 Feb and do tell us of any food allergies you may have. We charge £5 per head and will make up a take-out if you can't make it to the village hall. (If you have had a take-out in the past could we ask you to return the boxes please!!).



We also have some news  
We have been awarded 5 stars again after the Environmental Services Officer made his inspection at our January meeting!! Many thanks to all the helpers and cooks for their attention to the details required over the past year.

Very best wishes for the New Year  
**Jenny**

## Live and Local at Bonsall Village Hall



**BONSALL VILLAGE HALL (DE4 2AY)**

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# THE VILLAGE GREEN

## Butterfly Monitoring in Bonsall -Derbyshire Wildlife Trust

Derbyshire Wildlife Trust are working with Butterfly Conservation to set up a butterfly monitoring transect at our newly acquired site Dunsley Meadows, Bonsall. Collecting species data for reserves is vital to inform management decisions on the site and ensure that we are working in the best way to support wildlife. The transect will involve walking a 1km set route around the meadows on a nice day, recording any butterflies seen within a set distance from the path using the Butterfly Conservation data sheets. The transect is completed weekly from April to October and we are looking to get a small group of volunteers together on a rota.

Training- There is an opportunity to join a transect training event in Allestree on Sunday 16 March 2025 if transect walking is new to you or you're in need of a refresher. If this sounds like something you would like to help out with then please contact me in the first instance.

**Amy Bennett**  
Derbyshire Wildlife Trust  
abennett@derbyshirewt.co.uk

## Wilder Bonsall Management Plan 2025

Wilder Bonsall's vision is to create a well-kept and picturesque environment that also supports biodiversity, helping to make the village look and feel cared for. To this end we have produced a management plan to direct our activities. Dates of our next work parties are on the diary page, come along and give us a hand!

### Overall Aim:

To increase biodiversity and natural beauty across the village.

Where: Working on a selected number of areas of land managed by the Parish Council.

### Community Garden

Aim: To create a welcoming space for the community whilst encouraging pollinators.

Action: Undertake regular maintenance to prevent invasive species from dominating e.g. alkanet, creeping buttercup. Undertake bee friendly planting. Build bug hotels. Longer term, remove large shrubs on boundary wall and replace with native hedging.

## Banking parallel to St James' Church steps in the park

Aim: To create a summer meadow.

Action: Continue to thin out the dominant cow parsley, brambles and nettles. Augment this by planting wild flowers and bulbs. Parish Lengthsman to trim in late September once wildflowers have seeded and Wilder Bonsall to rake off brash. Longer term, extend the area of management.

## Nether Green

Aim: To create an area of floral interest whilst encouraging pollinators.

Action: Keep area clear of creeping buttercup. Plant spring bulbs and bee friendly plants. Longer term, extend the area of management.

## Wragg Croft

Aim: To create an area of floral interest whilst encouraging pollinators.

Action: Stop invasive species from dominating e.g. alkanet and bramble, to encourage snow drops. Undertake bee friendly planting to create a summer display.

## Well at the very top of High Street

Aim: To create a beautiful, biodiverse verge to showcase the historical well.

Action: Remove nettles, brambles and other invasive species. Plant bulbs and bee friendly plants to create spring and summer displays. Longer term, extend the area of management to include second well and build a dead hedge to delineate the area.

Wilder Bonsall is a small group of villagers who are taking action to give wildlife and habitats the best chance possible to thrive. We are part of a bigger local network, Wilder DE4, set up alongside the Derbyshire Wildlife Trust who provide help and support as part of their Wilder Derbyshire Plan.

## Wilder Bonsall Group





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# PARISH COUNCIL

## Parish Council Report for meeting on 17th December 2024

**Website:** The old website is no longer operational. All residents are urged to visit the new website ([www.bonsall-pc.gov.uk](http://www.bonsall-pc.gov.uk))

**Park: a) Play area:** Clerk summarised the effects of DDDC's decision not to renew the lease as responsibility will fall on the PC if it wishes to maintain a play area in the park. Annual inspection will be required by the insurance company and there will be further implications to insure the equipment. No further correspondence from Diocese regarding the rent of the park. Cllr J Smith volunteered to follow up and report back next month. b) Vehicles stored in car park: it was noted that the large silver lorry is still in the car park. Clerk reported there had been no response to the letter sent to the owners. Clerk was instructed to visit owners to ask them to move it. Cllr Buckler offered to check how other PC's deal with similar issues. Cllr S Smith raised the issue of creating a bye law to enforce payment. Clerk had previously reported Dalc advice that this is impractical and reminded the PC that the land belongs to the Diocese. Cllr SS to investigate possibility of creating a bye law and report back.

**The Cross:** The survey report from GCA, which suggested 3 options for the Cross, was discussed. Cllr S Smith said he would show the survey to Howletts (currently undertaking work in the church) to ask their opinion and this was agreed.

**Mutterings' grant application:** Clerk reported that Mutterings has requested £500 towards costs. There was a discussion as to whether Mutterings should be printed as some councillors felt it could be solely on-line. It was agreed to give the usual amount of £250 and to ask Mutterings for further explanation for the increase in the amount requested. A further grant could be made at a later date.

**Grit bins:** Clerk was asked to put a map of the grit bins on the website. Cllrs Barry and S Smith had filled the bins. There was a discussion about responsibility for doing this.

**Website:** The PC would like residents to visit the website and forward any suggestions they have about it to the PC. Cllr S Smith said he is waiting for more changes to be made before he uses Google Analytics. Cllr Cartwright said he finds the website difficult to navigate and questioned why it had been purchased.

**Poppies:** Clerk reported that following Cllr Barry's request for feedback she had received one message. It was requested that it is made clear that people are free to leave white poppies as well as

red (white poppies in remembrance of civilian casualties of war) and also that there should be a definite date by which poppies are removed. It was noted that there are still many poppies around the village and they are deteriorating. Cllr Barry said he would remove them. Cllr J Smith noted that poppy wreaths left on the memorial do not belong to the PC and cannot be removed. Please would people who leave wreaths on the memorial remove them when appropriate so tatty wreaths are not left there for many months. Cllr Barry offered to secure wreaths to memorial to prevent them being blown away.

**Precept:** The amount of the precept for 2025-6 was discussed. Due to the increased costs associated with the play area and inflation, it was decided to increase the precept by just over 10%. This will mean an increase of £4.50 pa for each household.

Full details of the meetings can be found in the minutes on the Parish Council page of the village website at [www.bonsallvillage.org/](http://www.bonsallvillage.org/), on the new website [www.bonsall-pc.gov.uk](http://www.bonsall-pc.gov.uk), or on the village noticeboards.

The next Parish Council Meeting will take place on **Tuesday 21 January 2025 at 7.30pm** in the Village Hall.

### Clerk and Finance Officer:

**Julia Milverton,**

69 Yeoman Street DE4 2AA.

T: 07306 311451;

Email [bonsallclerk@gmail.com](mailto:bonsallclerk@gmail.com).

### 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](mailto:sandraandmarkharris@btinternet.com)

### Councillors:

**Cllr Jon Barry,** Ivy Cottage, Bell Lane, T: 07866 750636  
[jon.barry@derby-college.ac.uk](mailto:jon.barry@derby-college.ac.uk)

**Cllr Richard Grover**  
Nethergreen House, Clatterway  
T: 01629 259558  
[richard\\_grover99@hotmail.com](mailto:richard_grover99@hotmail.com)

**Cllr Jackie Smith,** 49 Church Street, T: 07771 764366  
[jaqsm@aol.com](mailto:jaqsm@aol.com)

**Cllr Stephen Smith,** 49 Church Street. T: 07545 062413  
[ss@sjstechnical.com](mailto:ss@sjstechnical.com)

**Cllr Bob Cartwright** 32 High Street  
T: 01629 822702  
[bobcartwright@w3z.co.uk](mailto:bobcartwright@w3z.co.uk)

**Cllr Linda Caudwell**  
T: 01629 823790  
[asuslincau@gmail.com](mailto:asuslincau@gmail.com)

### Clerk and Finance Officer:

**Julia Milverton,**  
69 Yeoman Street. T: 07306 311451;  
[bonsallclerk@gmail.com](mailto:bonsallclerk@gmail.com)



**Matthew Buckler**  
District Councillor,  
Bonsall & Winster Ward  
Tel: 01629 580926  
Mobile: 07717 336186  
Email: [matthew.buckler@derbyshiredales.gov.uk](mailto:matthew.buckler@derbyshiredales.gov.uk)



**Dermot Murphy**  
County Councillor,  
Wirksworth Ward  
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Mobile: 07583 111239  
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[www.lavendergardenflowers.co.uk](http://www.lavendergardenflowers.co.uk)

## Parish Council Report for meeting on 21 January 2025

**Please note:** All residents are urged to visit the new website ([www.bonsall-pc.gov.uk](http://www.bonsall-pc.gov.uk)). There is still a vacancy for another Parish Councillor. Please contact the Clerk for further information.

**Dog waste:** residents from Slaley reported problems with dog faeces being deposited in Slaley. This is an agenda item for next month. Clerk to make enquiries with DCC. All residents and visitors are asked to please pick up after their dog.

**Grit Bins:** Cllr Harris apologised to the residents of Slaley as he explained that their grit bins had been stocked at the end of November but then had not been refilled. It was agreed that a new policy was needed to ensure that adequate road salt was always available. It was explained that DCC will not provide new grit bins but will re supply existing ones owned by them and provide road-side grit heaps when required. Clerk to check that the DCC grit bin map is accurate. Clerk is writing to Andrew Spowart for his help in relation to grit bins. A new policy was agreed and accepted and is being placed on the website by the clerk with the position of the grit bins properly mapped. Agreed clerk to report any empty bins after the meeting. Clerk to purchase 36 bags of road salt to be stored at the container in the car park.

**Park: a) Play area** Full report of work up to date had been circulated by Cllr J Smith prior to the meeting. Cllr J Smith reported on progress. She has liaised with DDDC. They are due to do an inspection at the end of January. Bonsall can remain part of this quarterly inspection for a current sum of £57 per inspection, the clerk will be billed by DDDC. She is arranging a handover meeting with DDDC in February. The DDDC's external annual inspection took place in October 2024. Cllr Smith remarked that in due course some equipment may need replacing or repairing which could be very expensive, and suggested a budget is put aside for this. DDDC has been helpful in suggesting avenues for applying for grants. Clerk to send details of our insurers to Cllr J Smith. Chair thanked Cllr J Smith for her work.

**b) Vehicles stored in car park:** The large silver lorry has been moved as it is believed the resident is in the process of moving. If it is not moved, this will be discussed again at the February meeting. Cllr S Smith passed on a request from the owner of a local building to have

permission to store materials temporarily during renovations. Permission was given with the proviso the building materials should be cordoned off and stored safely to avoid any danger of accidents. The materials must be covered by the builder's insurance. Cllr S Smith to discuss with owner.

**Container:** Cllr Barry reported this is now sorted following a meeting with a member of the carnival committee to resolve how the contents are stored.

**Policies and Standing items:** Clerk was asked to put schedule of policies on the website showing dates pertinent to the reviews as some appear to have been partly removed, together with the headers. Also to put uniform headers on the policies on the website. It was decided that there would be 7 standing items on the agenda - Flooding, Park, Website, Quarrying, roads, verges, footpaths, (including the Via Gellia), The Cross and Policies. A proposal for the audio recording of all future meetings was accepted by the council Clerk to liaise with predecessor as per request from Sept 2024 meeting to establish how this process operated prior to her taking up position.

**Format of Minutes:** A proposal was made that going forwards, all minutes will be presented in a format that aligns with most other parish councils. The example of Parwich council was commended as an example of best practice. This was agreed by the whole council. It was decided that in future the clerk would send to councillors before the meeting 1) Clerk's report along the lines of the Parwich example 2) Report/time sheet giving details of the clerk's time spent on tasks to enable better support/management 3) A correspondence list to be available to all councillors. It was noted that all minutes should be anonymised as per the Parwich example.

**DALC advice:** Discussion was held in relation to advice from DALC regarding agenda items. It was agreed that councillors' items would be put on the agenda but to send adequate information to the clerk.

**Outstanding actions:** Cllr S Smith circulated document containing outstanding items. Cllr S Smith circulated document containing outstanding actions. It was agreed that this list would be available to all councillors and be updated with all progress prior to the next meeting.

**Noticeboards:** Discussion over the importance of regular updating the council agenda and minutes on the notice boards around the village. Councillors to check the condition of the notice boards.

Agenda for next month and clerk to update the notices

**Staff appraisals:** Clerk to carry out appraisals for the staff. Clerk's appraisal – arrangements to progress.

**Lengthsman job description:** It was acknowledged that it was within the lengthsman's job description to fill and monitor the grit bins.

**Website:** Website gap analysis report discussed. Council concerned about the rate of progress of the changes needed.

**Poppies:** It was agreed that the wreaths would remain on the memorial all year.

Full details of the meetings can be found in the minutes on the Parish Council page of the village website at [www.bonsallvillage.org/](http://www.bonsallvillage.org/), on the new website [www.bonsall-pc.gov.uk](http://www.bonsall-pc.gov.uk), or on the village noticeboards.

The next Parish Council Meeting will take place on **Tuesday 18 February at 7.30pm** in the Village Hall. If you have any issues to be raised at the meeting, please contact the Chair, Mark Harris with details by **7 February**.



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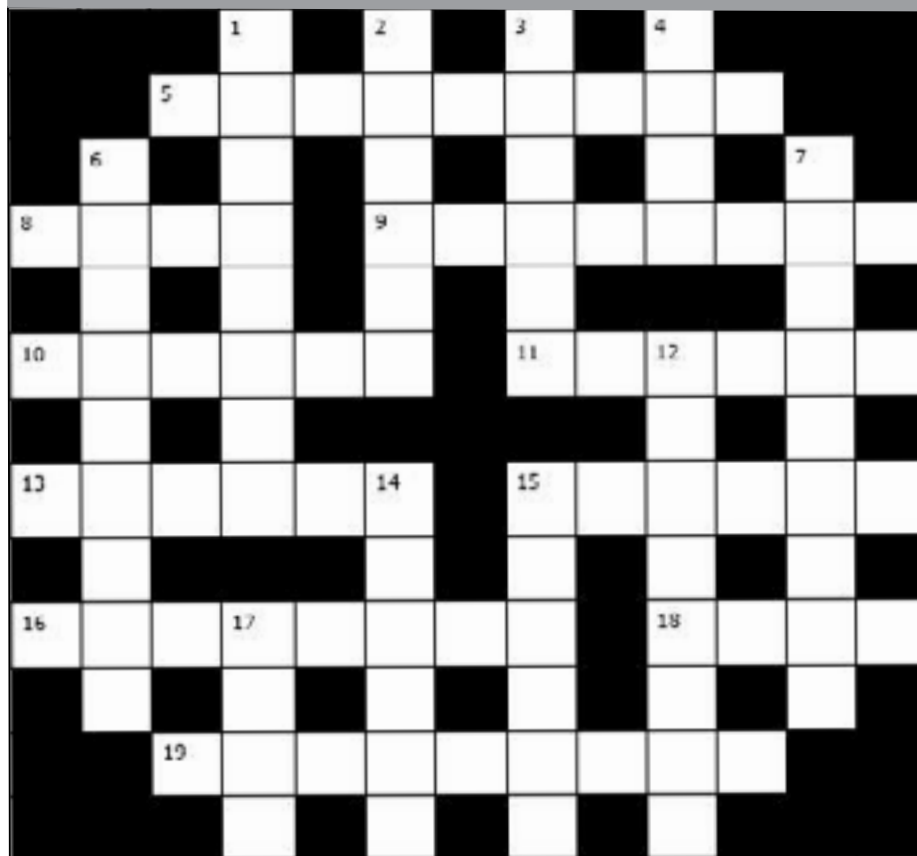


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## CROSSWORD #168



### Across:

5. Roustabout supports my French second one. (9)
8. Rail about false witness. (4)
9. Very dark on scab. (8)
10. Vampires fly back to the French barn. (6)
11. Help! Desperate after starts steering car for a tedious journey. (6)
13. One person captures Romeo for mate. (6)
15. 6. Girl wanders back and forth before reaching outskirts of Leeds. (6)
16. 1. Misbehave in the Yorkshire/Derbyshire village. (8)
18. Strain leg in banks of spring. (4)
19. 1. Forlorn? Vow to replace one. (9)

### Down:

- 1 & 6. I shit sore comedies? Yes! (8,9)
2. Valid American can. (6)
3. Fears hairy ropes. (6)
4. 1. You heartless, gutless crank! (6)
6. See 1.
7. One outcast climbed fast. (7)
12. Not one. Shame Don convulsed! (8)
14. I'm buried in money owed - still money owed! (6)
15. A spirit is prejudiced. (6)
17. Cross raised entrance. (4)

**The winners of the prize crossword are Sandra and Robert Newton.**

### Answers to Crossword no.167

Across: 5 & 19: Fairytale of New York. 8. Beau. 9. Naething. 10. Grozny. 11. Kinder. 13. Asylum. 15. Aughty. 16. Sex-drive. 18. Thou. 19: See 5.  
Down: 1. Rapunzel. 2. Trendy. 3. Streak. 4. Blah. 6. Refreshed. 7. Invention. 12. Nugatory. 14. Maiden. 15. Aye-aye. 17. Duff.

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## 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 – <https://bonsall-pc.gov.uk>. Please note that your articles will appear on the website and can be picked up by search engines.

## CLASSIFIED ADS

### Picture Framing

Market Place, Wirksworth. Complete bespoke service, you name it, we frame it. Over 100 different mouldings in stock, very competitively priced. Mon to Sat open 10 am to 5 pm; closed on Wednesdays. Tel 824994.

### Window Cleaning

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### Childminder

OFSTED registered childminder based in Slaley.

Please feel free to call for a chat or to arrange a visit.

Tel: Emma on 07464 966035.

### Maths Tuition

As a recently retired maths teacher living in Bonsall, I am happy to provide free GCSE revision lessons to local students. References are available from the Maths Dept at Anthony Gell School if required. Call Lyn on 07976 898133

## EDITORIAL GROUP

<b>Hazel Baldwin</b>	07414 845925
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<b>Pam McInally</b>	826306
<b>Ricky &amp; Jeanette Moss</b>	826557
<b>Graham Partridge</b>	07710 077949

## T'Owd Man's Mutterings

### Advertise your business in Mutterings

The newsletter is delivered to every household in Bonsall Parish 11 times per year and read by over 1000 people. In addition, the full-colour website version is searchable for company names and types of business. For a very reasonable £72 p.a., you can expand your business, as Steven Baker has found: "Since I started my advert in Mutterings I've had several jobs where customers have used it to find my number."

Please contact Julie Hamilton on 824819 for more information.

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Sun 12-11pm  
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Sun 12- 3pm (Sunday lunches) &  
5-8 pm the normal menu  
Call 01629 259729 to book

Please send us your news, views, stories and  
diary events by **Noon on Thursday 20  
February** to: Editorial Group, 91 Yeoman Street,  
or by e-mail to [mutterings@hotmail.com](mailto:mutterings@hotmail.com)

Boxed and classified adverts are regarded as  
commercial advertising and attract a fee.

Please call Ruth Headon on 07769 725022 for information about rates  
and lineage. 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](mailto:mutterings@hotmail.com) or hand-written to 91 Yeoman Street.



## VILLAGE GROUPS & RESOURCES

<b>Allotment Group</b>	Penny Collier	825591
<b>Art Club</b>	Fiona Drake	826294
	Alan David	07517 449074
<b>Bonsall Barn Project</b>		
	Liz Stoppard / Mike Susko	823712
<b>Bonsall Camp</b>		
	Matthew Quinn	07988 071682
<b>Church Bell Ringers</b>		
	Melissa Wellbourne	826303
<b>Church Flood Lighting</b>	Di Moor	824376
<b>History Group</b>	Peter Greaves	822374
<b>Carnival Committee</b>		
	Rob Stevenson	07854 447354
<b>Chernobyl Childrens' Lifeline Group</b>		
	Chris Broome	824512
<b>Cromford Playgroup</b>		
	Karen or Jayne	07905 937371
<b>Horticultural Society</b>		Vacant
<b>Kick-boxing</b>		
	Hayley Capewell	07773 149935
<b>Open Gardens</b>	Ollie Gerrish	824498
<b>Pigeon Club</b>	Gordon Hardy	823549
<b>PTFA</b>	Claire Duma	07880 851083
<b>Riders Club</b>	Jane Williams	825632
<b>School Head</b>	Rebecca Smart	822573
<b>School Toddler Club</b>	Di Moor	824376
<b>School Foundation</b>		
	Norma Rickards (Clerk)	822257
<b>Senior Citizens Committee</b>		Vacant
<b>St James</b>	Rev Rod Prince	824707
<b>Village Hall Committee</b>		
	Jackie Smith	823544
<b>Village Life Church</b>		
	Pastor Matthew Quinn	07988 071682
<b>Village Lunch Club</b>	Ron Addis	826309
<b>Wesleyan Reform Chapel (The Dale)</b>		
	Judy Land	824223
<b>Wilder Bonsall Group</b>		
	Deb Smith	825228

## RESOURCES

### Bonsall Publications

**Bonsall - a village & its history**  
£15 paperback, £25 hardback

**Bonsall within living memory** £10

**80 Years of Bonsall Carnival Book** £10

**History Walking Guides** Set of five £5

**History booklets** see online shop

**The Bonsall Map** see online shop

Available from Fountain Tearooms

More details on publications at the online shop [www.bonsallhistory.org.uk](http://www.bonsallhistory.org.uk)

### Village Hall

**Cost per session** (a session is a morning, afternoon or evening):

#### - Village organisations:

£15 - one floor; £20 - both floors

#### - Non-village organisations:

£25 - one floor; £35 - both floors

#### - Village people private hire:

£30 - one floor; £40 - both floors

#### - Non-village people private hire:

£45 - one floor; £55 - both floors

For information on sale of alcohol/ private bar, use of the Village Hall audio equipment, screening a film, or any other matters, please contact Jackie Smith, 07771 764366. [Jaqsm@aol.com](mailto:Jaqsm@aol.com)

Thank you to everyone who continues to book the village hall, and provide such a variety of events within Bonsall. Our updated and more accessible village hall now has lift access.

## TRAVEL SERVICES

### Assisted Travel

Derbyshire Connect transport for shopping, weekdays 9am - 4pm, booked in advance. Tel: 01335 300670 between two and seven days before travel or email: [info@ashbournect.org.uk](mailto:info@ashbournect.org.uk).

Derbyshire Connect Active Travel to healthcare appointments, weekdays 9am - 5pm, booked in advance. Charges vary. Tel: 03333 444125 at least 48 hours in advance or email: [office@sdcs.org.uk](mailto:office@sdcs.org.uk)

### Bus services

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Bonsall Uppertown 11.01, 13.01, 16.01, 18.01

The Fountain 11.06, 13.06, 16.06, 18.06  
Matlock (by M&S) 10.36, 12.36, 15.36, 17.36.

(see [www.stagecoachbus.com/timetables](http://www.stagecoachbus.com/timetables))

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Melissa Wellbourn Hesp 07557 902500  
Jill & David Rickards 824038, 07586 721963

Jason Pugh 07756 668205

Jennie Pugh 07841 758488

Alan Walker 07711 733509

Elaine Pickersgill 07832 383074

Adrian Rollinson 07768 346302

## USEFUL NUMBERS

### Health

**NHS Direct** 0300 311 22 33

**Chemists:** Wirksworth Market Place

822607; 12 Bank Road, Matlock, 57924

**Dentists** Matlock: 584746, 55645,

582218, 56558. Steeple Grange: 822172

**Doctors:** Wirksworth Hannage Brook

822434; Matlock Imperial Road 583465

**Hospitals:** Chesterfield, Calow 01246

277271; Derby City 01332 340131; Derby

Royal 01332 347141; Matlock Whitworth

580211.

**Non-urgent advice** 111

### Derbyshire County Council

[www.derbyshire.gov.uk](http://www.derbyshire.gov.uk)

All enquiries 533190. Out of Hours

numbers: 532600 or 'Call Derbyshire'

533190 or 0845 6058058

### Derbys Dales District Council

[www.derbyshiredales.gov.uk](http://www.derbyshiredales.gov.uk)

All enquiries 761100

Environmental health 761212

Tourist information

Matlock 583388

Matlock Bath 583834

Trading Standards 585858

Electricity emergencies 0800 0568090

Fire station, Matlock 582849

Gas leaks 0800 111999

### Waste Recycling Centre

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[matlock.neighbourhoods@derbyshire.pnn.police.uk](mailto:matlock.neighbourhoods@derbyshire.pnn.police.uk)

**Crimestoppers** 0800 555111

**Victim support** 825544

**Community safety** 761101

### Swimming & gymnasiums

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Wirksworth 825704

**Vets** Matlock 582844, 581234

Wirksworth 823034



T'Owd Man's

# Mutterings

## Diary for February 2025

Date		Event	Venue
Sun	2	10.30am Wilder Bonsall work party	Community Garden
Tues	4	7.30pm Discussion Group	St James
Fri	7	Grey Bins and Food Waste Caddy	
Tues	11	10.30am Wilder Bonsall work party	Park Bank
Fri	14	Blue and Green Bins and Food Waste Caddy	
Tues	18	7.30pm Parish Council Meeting	Village Hall
Tues	18	10.30am Wilder Bonsall work party	Nether Edge/Wragg Croft
Wed	19	7pm Bonsall Players Pantomime Rehearsal (over 16s only)	Bonsall School
Wed	19	12.30pm Village Lunch Club	Village Hall
Fri	21	Grey Bins and Food Waste Caddy	
Fri	21	7pm Bonsall Players Pantomime	Bonsall School
Sat	22	(2pm matinee) 7pm Bonsall Players Pantomime	Bonsall School
Sat	27	10.30am Wilder Bonsall work party	The Well High Street
Fri	28	Blue and Green Bins and Food Waste Caddy	

### Future dates:

**Thurs 6 March: 7 pm**

Wilder Bonsall Group Meeting - King's Head

**Fri 7 March:**

Live and Local Event - Terence Blacker - Village Hall

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SCAN ME



# Boxing Day Raft Race 26 December 2024

Featuring the Bonsall Team



Photos by: Sarah Smith



# Boxing Day Raft Race 26 December 2024

Featuring the Bonsall Team



Photos by: Sarah Smith