

THE GRINDLEFORD NEWS

April 2013

Snow, Snow, Snow!



It's been a very long, cold winter hasn't it? Strange to think three months ago whilst compiling the newsletter the snow was laid thick all around, and again recently we have had yet more snow with the most amazingly deep drifts. Still, this time when it melts it will definitely be Spring, and already there is abundant evidence of leaves pushing through the soil and the first buds appearing on the branches.

Community Shop

In this edition we have some important updates about the community shop proposal. It may seem to have fallen quiet for a while but the committee have been extremely busy behind the scenes and now bring us an update on all their hard work.

Don't forget the shop meeting on 24th April 7.30pm at The Sir William. This will give us the opportunity to hear what has been going on and express our views. It is clear that the majority of us really want this shop so we must do all we can to support our committee.

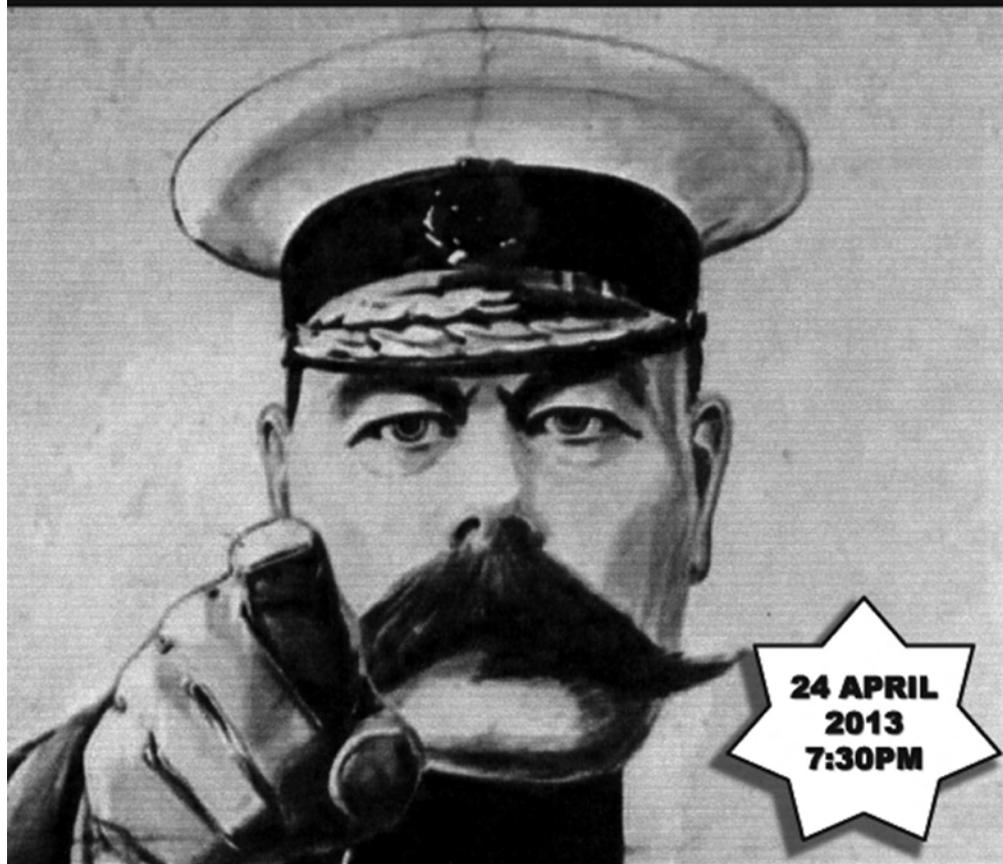
Living in Grindleford

Another important date for your diary is the **Living in Grindleford event on Friday 19th and Saturday 20th April.**

This will showcase the village's various groups, societies and events. It should make us see afresh what a great village it is we live in!

Renuka

PEOPLE OF GRINDLEFORD



**24 APRIL
2013
7:30PM**

YOUR VILLAGE SHOP NEEDS

SHAREHOLDERS MEETING

24TH APRIL 2013 – THE SIR WILLIAM

**TO VOTE ON THE LOCATION FOR THE
COMMUNITY VILLAGE SHOP**

VOTE & VIEW OPTION ALL DAY - FORMAL MEETING STARTS AT 7:30PM PROMPT

NOT A SHAREHOLDER? YOU CAN JOIN ON THE DAY OR DOWNLOAD

A FORM FROM WWW.GRINDLEFORDSHOP.CO.UK

YOU!

Crunch Time for the Village Shop

Meeting on 24th April in the Sir William 7.30pm

There will be another Members' meeting about the Grindleford Community Shop on 24 April at 7.30pm in the Sir William.

There will be displays telling you all about the progress we have made since the last meeting, the possibilities we are working on and the risks we have to overcome. These will be on show all day, so you can drop in any time to see them and avoid the crowds. We will be asking members to vote on their preferred options, and if you can't make the evening meeting, you will be able to vote after you have had a look at the displays at any time during the day.

However we warmly encourage you to come to the meeting if you can; there are no stand-out answers and we will be discussing options as a membership, so that whatever next steps we take are the ones you want to see. **That means your view counts.**

The meeting, and voting, will be for members only but if you aren't a member yet and would like to be one, somebody will be there all day to sell you a membership share (£10).

Progress on Your Community Shop

Change of Use

As many of you know, there were about 100 objections to the change of use planning for Country Choice. The change of use was turned down on the grounds that Mr Peckett had not advertised the shop for rental widely enough, and at a low enough rent. This is something he is currently engaged in doing, as you may have seen from the posters in the shop windows!

We have approached Mr Peckett again to

confirm the terms under which he might be prepared to rent to us and are considering this information in the light of the findings of the Feasibility Study that we commissioned. (All to be voted on by you, the members at the meeting on the 24th April). We understand that there is still interest from Mr Ahmed who is the potential tenant of the shop, should change of use be passed for a takeaway. We have also had a conversation with him and are hoping to meet with him before 24th April.

Membership

First of all, a big thank you to the 293 residents of Grindleford Parish who have already bought membership shares in the community shop. This has helped us raise almost £3500 already. We are aware we missed some of you when we did our door to door campaign last autumn but don't worry, you will have your chance to join and support the shop in this and many other ways over the coming weeks and months. A large number of membership certificates have been distributed and there are a few more to come out.

Feasibility Study

We received a grant from DEFRA for the community shop feasibility study which was extended to take more into account the Change of Use Application was submitted. A summary of the findings will be circulated to members by email prior to the public meeting. More detail will be available at the public meeting.

Temporary Shop

The shop committee feel that we have been without a village shop for too long already and that we should explore temporary shop facilities whilst more permanent premises are being sought. In the short term we think we need about £20,000 to even fit out and stock a temporary shop. As many of you know from your own efforts, fundraising needs a long lead time to produce the cash when it's needed.

Fundraising

With the above in mind, we appointed a fund raising committee comprising Diane Wilson, Becky Harby, Lionel Stout, Penny Reynolds and Alan Fairbrother. They have met a couple of times and begun to generate some great ideas about how to meet our initial goal. We want the fundraising to take advantage of our beautiful location, be inclusive for all residents, present social opportunities and be fun for organisers and participants, as well as raising lots of funds!

With those objectives in mind these are the sort of things we are exploring:

Grant Opportunities

All grant opportunities from local, regional and national organisations (eg Parish Council, County Council, Peak Park, National Lottery) These have the potential to produce chunks of cash but miss some of the other objectives above.

Donations

Donations from individuals and local village groups / associations (some individuals have already been very generous) All donations are welcome and go a long way to demonstrating the "matched funding" which many of the grant awarding bodies require.

Investment Shares

Investment Shares for those who want to further show their commitment financially to this venture and earn interest on their investment.

Locally organised activities with a proven fund raising potential. A few of these are listed below and we would welcome involvement from all residents in their preparation and delivery so they meet all our objectives.

Peak Park Cycle 'Sportif'

A cycle ride around the Peak Park – The Grindleford Goats. This will be a “sportif” style event with routes suitable for all levels of keen cyclists. Given our location we think it will attract enthusiasts from local and regional areas. It will draw on experienced cycling and outdoor event organisers and we would expect a large turnout but are limiting numbers to 200 for our first attempt. We hope the event will become an annual fixture in much the same way that the Grindleford Gallop has become a firm feature on every runner’s calendar.

We will need Marshalls on the day as well as event supporters and organisers so everyone can get involved in this spectacle. The planned date is **14th September to coincide with the first Peak District Cycling Festival** so make a note in your diaries. If you want to participate or help in any way with our “Tour de Grindleford”, please ring **Alan Fairbrother on 630160**.

Auction of Promises

Another chance to do your bit comes with an Auction of Promises on Saturday 29th June in the Sir William at 8pm. See separate item.

Life in Grindleford Exhibition

The Life in Grindleford Weekend Exhibition in **St Helens Church on**

19th-21st April will be a great opportunity for you to meet members of the shop committee who will be exhibiting plans for your forthcoming village shop as well as raising funds. We expect to have information on the Investment Share Issue by then too. Anyone who we missed in our door to door visits last year to invite membership in the community shop can join then too. If you have local produce that you’d be prepared to donate or help in any other way please contact **Lionel Stout on 630446**.

Plant Sale

Don’t miss our Plant Sale at the Pavilion Car Park in May and afterwards for a few weeks outside the dental surgery. Tim and Penny Reynolds are organising this successful annual event again and have agreed that all the proceeds will go to the Village Shop this year.

If you have any plants to donate please contact **Penny on 630023**. Otherwise please look out for posters setting the actual date and come along to choose your plants and donate generously.

Ideas?

If you have a bright idea for fundraising do contact one of the fundraising group listed above to discuss how it could be implemented.

That's all for now. If you have any questions please get in touch on **info@grindlefordshop.co.uk** or ring one of our committee whose details are on our website **www.grindlefordshop.co.uk**

Parish Council Notes

Village Green

The planned restoration work at the War Memorial has been delayed indefinitely due to the contractor who had been appointed being unable to carry out the work. A new contractor is currently being sought.

Mount Pleasant Housing.

Work has now been completed on the 12 new housing units at Mount Pleasant Road and Mount Pleasant Court and several of the new homes are already occupied.

Grindleford Web Site

The Parish Council has ensured that the village website will continue for the foreseeable future by agreeing to fund it for the next year. The site will continue to be maintained by a group of volunteers.

Part Night Street Lighting

Derbyshire County Council is proposing to turn off a small number of street lights between the hours of midnight and 5.30am.

Parish Council Meeting

The Parish Council meets every second Thursday of the month at 7.30pm in the Bishop Pavilion.

Residents wishing to raise any matters are given the opportunity to speak at the start of the meeting.

Anyone wishing to do so should please contact either the Chairman, John Morton on 01433 631245 or the Clerk, Alan Jacques 01433 631586 prior to the meeting.

St Helen's Church, Grindleford

Christmas Services at St. Helen's were well attended in spite of the appalling weather and sickness prevalent in the village. Some of our friends and residents were concerned about the water levels near their homes.

Events started with the Carol Service on the 19th December when Grindleford Primary School came into church for the Class one nativity play 'Whoops a Daisy Angel'; a wonderful and magical nativity play.

The whole school came into church on the last afternoon of term to sing and play at their Carol concert.

On Christmas Eve there was a full church, at the Christingle service with more adults than usual; grandmas and grandads, mums and dads, aunts & uncles came, a real age mix!

On Christmas Day Morning we had Grindleford visitors and residents for a Holy Communion service led by the Revd Anthony Ashwell.

In January the Sunday afternoon talks were limited to two because of the bad weather.

'A house to grow old in' led Judy Torrington, and 'An ideal church' presented by Revd Graham Pigott and Peter Tregenza were accompanied by illustrations and prompted interesting debate. It is hoped that later Catherine Burke will be able to present the topic of 'The school I'd like.'

On Shrove Tuesday the St Helen's pancake party was a success again with the evening being extended for latecomers. About fifty people were amply fed and there were the usual pancake races, in the dark, for children.

Later in Lent, March 10th was Mothering Sunday with an all age service attended, not only by mothers, other carers and children, but also by the Grindleford Rainbows in their purple tabards. The Rainbows contributed a special song and helped in the distribution of posies.

The Palm Sunday morning service was attended by members who were able to walk to church. Deep snow prevented cars from getting out and where the snow plough had moved snow the piles beside the road made driving and parking very difficult.

By Good Friday the snow had almost gone and Revd K. Tupling led an hour of quiet reflection in the afternoon. On Easter Sunday, the church was decorated for a festive service which was taken by Revd. Graham Pigott.

As well as the regular Sunday morning service, a Play and Praise group meets each Thursday morning during term time for pre-schoolers and their carers.

Recently an early evening Taize type service and a couple of evening meditational gatherings have been held introducing, 'something different' in church.

An exhibition about the activities in Grindleford takes place after an earlier postponement on **Friday evening 19th and Saturday 20th April in Saint Helen's Church.**

Each month a Pews News is distributed to church members with information about the coming month. Please let any church member know if you would like a copy.

Grindleford Hor

Spring 2013 has sprung with snow drifts the likes of which we've not seen for decades, so all the brave spring bulbs and emerging growth have taken quite a battering! A lesson not to get ahead of ourselves when there's a promise of better weather in the air in early March!

By the time this arrives through your door though, there will be daffodils and primroses in bloom and the woods will soon be heady with the scent of wild garlic and bluebells.

It will be time to be sowing your sweet peas, potatoes and tomato plants and hoping they'll be cropping in time for the Grindleford Show, which this year falls on Saturday the 17th August.

The village Horticultural Society hosts the annual show but just as important is the programme of events that stretch throughout the year. Membership for 2013 is only £3: this gives you enlightenment, entertainment and refreshments at all the talks, a discount of 10% on plant sales at Calver Sough nursery, a cut rate membership of the RHS and a friendly and encouraging group for keen and mildly interested gardeners alike.

Our speaker at the start of the year was Tim Reynolds who hosted a talk on the theme of Plants from the southern Hemisphere, 'What's growing on the other side?' When Tim retired he and Penny made a fabulous trip starting in Australia and working their way home via New Zealand, Chile and the Falklands. Tim is a wonderful photographer; he had us entranced by his knowledge of plants and history. We felt we

had shared their journey, though to be honest, the audience were glad not to have experienced the earthquake in Chile, or the extreme weather of the Falklands.

In February we stayed close to home as Jennie Ainsworth spoke about the 'Seven Wonders of the Peak District'. In 1678, Thomas Hobbs left Chatsworth early one morning for Buxton, returning the following day via a different route. He remembered his journey in a poem written in Latin. In 1681 Charles Cotton of Beresford Hall, (friend of the famous angler Izaak Walton), published his 'Wonders of the Peak', describing the same seven features admired by Hobbes. These were: Chatsworth, Peak Cavern, Mam Tor, Eldon Hole, St. Anne's Well, Poole's Cavern, Ebbing & Flowing Well, Peveril Castle and Thimble Hall. Daniel Defoe, author of Robinson Crusoe, was an early visitor with this guidebook in hand. At a time of travel by horseback he was unimpressed, describing our area as a 'howling wilderness' and likened Poole's Cavern to 'the gates of Hell'!

Our March meeting was all about growing. Chris Cocks from Taylor's nurseries, near Doncaster beguiled us with descriptions of hundreds of clematis. Taylors exhibit at all the major flower shows and supply to

ticultural Society

royalty and European presidents. There are clematis for every season and many can be used as cut flowers. They fall into three groups depending on the time of year they bloom and when they need pruning. The only problem for the audience was which beauty to buy!

The speaker at our meeting on April 16th (at the Bishop Pavilion, 7.30p.m.) will be Alex Styan on the restoration of a Lutyens Garden at the Green at Eckington.

On May 21st Chris Milner from the National Trust will reveal the flora and fauna of Longshaw. In June we will be visiting members' gardens. (Would you like to share your garden with a select group of appreciative gardeners? Let us know!). Then before we know it, it will be all hands on deck for the spectacle that is the annual show!

Kay Allinson



Exciting event coming up...

Grindleford Village Shop's 'Auction of Promises'

On the 29th of June, Grindleford Village Shop committee are holding an 'Auction of Promises' in the Sir William Hotel. For those of you who have never been to such an event, this is an opportunity for you to bid for a promise made by another. These promises can vary, from a weekend in a holiday cottage (Could anyone make a promise of this? See details below!) to a basket of ironing. The auction begins at 8pm, led by a variety of village auctioneers, and entry is free!

In order to make this event happen, we need your support. We are looking to raise at least 200 promises from the village and we are sure that you have lots to offer!

- Do you have a skill or a trade? Are you, for example, a joiner, stonemason, cleaner, beautician, potter, dressmaker, jewellery maker, artist, tree surgeon, lion tamer? Could you offer a hand crafted item, a tutorial or a couple of hours of labour?
- Could you offer an experience that others would want to bid for? For example, a visit to a farm, a stay in a holiday cottage, a massage, a round of golf, a ride in a classic car, a family nature walk?
- Could you offer a car wash, two hours of gardening, a 1lb of home grown leeks, a Victoria sponge?

All promises, both large and small, will be gratefully received. To log your promise, please visit grindlefordauction2013@gmail.com, or contact Diane Wilson (01433 631517). We are planning to release a booklet of all the promises in advance, so you can plan your purchases or bidding strategies! Finally..this can only work if we have lots of people at the Sir William on the night, bidding for the promises! So book the date in your diary if you want to see a shop in your village! If you would like to bid for a lot, but can't make the night, please contact either Diane or Becky Harby (01433 639261), who will arrange for a bid to be made on your behalf.

Thank you in anticipation of your promises and your bids.

This is a really great idea and should prove to be a fun evening of bidding. So come on, we're such a multi-skilled community, let's put forward some promises and then they'll be lots to bid for. My promise is to offer a sports or holistic massage and I fancy bidding for a lion tamer. I would challenge him or her to tame my children!! (Ed.)

Grindleford Bee Keepers

The devastating summer last year which produced such disappointing honey yields has continued its impact into 2013.

We have already had reports of four colonies having died in the area. To put that into context it means that there will be 200,000 fewer honey bees in the area to pollinate our trees crops and flowers. However only one of those colonies was on the allotments so we should be able to rebuild to our full complement of three hives by the summer.

One quick way to do that is to collect swarms of honey bees and so if you see a dark cloud of bees in May or June which settle into a ball somewhere accessible please give us a ring. We'll be out in a flash to collect it and after checking its health and temperament will re-house it in a new "des res" at the allotments.

Any of the following bee keepers will respond:

Martin Dalley01433 639543
Phil Edge01433 630453
Penny Ives01433 631843
Kim Schofield.....01433 639067
Sarah Battarbee01433 630674
Douglas Ross07875 333040
Alan Fairbrother01433 630160

The Beekeeping year in a day.

One lucky person who is interested in bees and honey is going to win a priceless opportunity in the Grindleford Community Shop Auction of Promises on 29th June at 8pm in the Sir William.

Fully protected in a bee suit, they will be able to take part in a supervised bee hive inspection, then help extract this year's honey crop from our hives and lastly take away a jar of that very same honey for their own enjoyment. Do come along to the auction and make your bid for this opportunity all in a very good cause.

Alan Fairbrother

Grindleford WI

The weather man must really have it in for us this year. There are three WI meetings scheduled for the first three months of the year and we have only been able to hold one of these due to inclement weather. Never mind things can only get better!

The February meeting was a great success. Mrs Felicity White brought some of the magnificent costumes which have been worn by the members of South Yorkshire

Operatic Company over the years.

The attention to historical accuracy is wonderful and the skill of those who made the costumes quite amazing. It was a splendid evening with operatic characters brought to life by the delightful and very patient young lady who modelled the costumes.

Kay Beeston

Grindleford Readers

Grindleford Bookworms

No and Me by Delphine de Vigan started off 2013. The book deals with the many problems of a precocious thirteen year old who befriends an older girl who has been living on the streets and who she invites, with her parents' permission to share her home. There is much to engage the attention in the book including the problems of Lucas a seventeen year old with a very casual attitude to education no doubt encouraged by the casual attitude his parents show towards him.

Boxer Beetle a first novel by Ned Beaman has received critical acclaim. However we found it a strange book, dodging from one period in time to another with its central theme of ethnic cleansing and letters from Hitler, to the desire of a young scientist to examine the genetic make-up of the young Boxer Beetle (posthumously!)

Human Croquet by Kate Atkinson although set within a somewhat bewildering variety of time warps, the world of aliens and dreams is a beautifully written and often very funny book and was well enjoyed.

Grindleford Book Group Too

Under the Greenwood Tree by Thomas Hardy is a delightful rustic tale. Hardy's consummate skill at description is a delight and his insight into the intricate machinations of village politics gives real body to his work. If you think that all of Hardy is dark read this one.

More strong meat was delivered with *Bring up the Bodies* by Hilary Mantel. This the second of the promised trilogy deals with the years of Ann Boleyn's marriage to Henry VIII. We are led into the intrigues of court life as Henry aided again by Thomas Cromwell seeks to help his master to solve the problem of his lack of a male heir. These were dangerous times indeed and Mantel's ability to unravel some of the mysteries is well with pursuing this lengthy novel to the end.

Finally came James Joyce's *The Dubliners*. This is a collection of short stories some of them quite short cameos of Dublin characters and some telling of an episode in the life of a few of them. Each is a rewarding read.

Kay Beeston

Seen Any Good Films Lately.... ?

Dominic West has earned 5 star reviews for his musical debut in *My Fair Lady* at The Crucible, and many of us who were lucky enough to get tickets will have enjoyed his performance as Professor Higgins in the show.

So.... have you seen Dominic in any other roles *The Awakening* (2011), *Appropriate Adult* (2011), or *The Wire*?

In *The Awakening*, set in postwar London, Dominic West plays a teacher at a boy's boarding school, who believes there are supernatural powers in the school. He approaches an expert to help investigate the sightings.

It's pretty lack lustre with a lame ending, and we are left wondering why he chose to do a haunted house movie.

As a complete contrast, in the ITV drama *Appropriate Adult*, Dominic West earned rave reviews in a riveting portrayal of Fred West, Britain's worst serial sex killer.

Emily Watson played Janet Leach who was the "*Appropriate Adult*", an ordinary housewife who volunteered to help the illiterate prisoner Fred West. Present at his interrogations she was privy to his darkest secrets but as weeks went by West showed how manipulative and persuasive he could be with this vulnerable women.

It is compelling viewing and Dominic West was honoured for his portrayal of the killer with the Bafta TV Best Leading Actor award in 2012.

In case you have never heard of it *The Wire* is a cult success TV series broadcast by cable network in the States, only recently having an airing on British TV. Dominic West played homicide Detective Jimmy McNulty in the first 'season' commencing in 2002. The series culminated in the 5th 'season' in 2008.

This American crime drama is a bleak portrayal of urban life, drug gangs and the socio-economic struggles of all levels of society on the streets of Baltimore.

The combined experiences of the writers of *The Wire* (a police reporter for a Baltimore newspaper and ex homicide detective) are used in the storyline to depict the reality of the police work and criminal activity in the city.

It's addictive so if you have 13 hours to spare to watch the first 'season' you might be hooked for the next 4!

Lesley Broadhurst

Poems

The following two poems were penned by a poet who lives in our village. He has written many over the years and I'm sure you'll agree that we'd like to read more of them!

A Smile

Did you see the smile?
The twinkling glistening eyes,
A bright joyful inner light,
The widening upturned mouth
And expressive creased face;
It's the window of a happy soul
Reflected from deep within;
Speaking without words to
those around,
Engaging, feeding back the
spirit of the moment
Spontaneously, like glass
reflects an image.
Yet fuller in a cosmic sense,
As though the very Universe
Is celebrating all Mankind.

Flying

The gentle smooth tilting of a wing,
Caressing the lift of invisible air
And feel the surge of energy
To carry us to greater heights of joy,
Like a kite on a stringed toy.
We merge with an elemental force
To ride the waves in silent pleasure,
Seeking a heaven beyond our dreams
And succumb completely it seems
To nature's power and endless treasure.

A. Ditchfield

Junior Cricket

The Under 12 Hardball league is due to start on
Tuesday, 16 April and Saturday training on 27
April. For more details contact Lionel Stout
on 01433-630446

Christmas Quiz

Thanks to all that had a go at the Quiz last edition, especially thanks to all those who sent me their answers since it's only by seeing how you get on with it that I can pitch it at the right level next year.

If you did have a go and want to see the answers, send me an e-mail at simon@hairywhale.co.uk and I'll e-mail them to you.

The winners, despite my best attempts once more to deceive them and put in pop music questions that they don't know much about, were my parents with a score of 282/293. Happily we did have a local on the podium, since second place was Rob Williamson with 270/293. Third place was 264/293 scored by Karen and Ian Broster, two graduate friends from York. The next best two local scores were Derek Ward with 244/293 and the Sampsons with 221/293.

Well done to them, and to give them some competition, look out for this year's quiz in the Grindleford News sometime in or around Christmas 2013, or e-mail me to put your name on the distribution list so you get it guaranteed before Christmas.

Safer Neighbourhood

Officers from the Hathersage area Safer Neighbourhood team will be on hand to chat to members of the public at an exhibition day in Grindleford.

PCSO Anthony Boswell, from the team, will be joining volunteers from the village's Neighbourhood Watch at the Living In Grindleford event.

The open day, on Saturday, April 20, will feature information about all the attractions and activities the village has to offer.

These include various clubs and societies, sports teams, volunteer and historical groups, arts classes, youth club and more.

Visitors will be able to chat to PCSO

Boswell about life in the village and about issues such as crime prevention and policing in their neighbourhood.

PCSO Boswell said: "It is shaping up to be a great event, packed full of information about life in Grindleford, and I felt it was important to be there and meet local people."

An opening reception will be held at St Helen's Church from 7.30pm on Friday, April 19.

The main event will then be held from 10am to 4pm the next day.

For more information, visit www.grindleford.com

Grindleford Youth Club

Support An Attempt to Re-activate the Youth Club

After many years of activity the Youth Club was forced to close in December last year. A few years ago the County Council gave some support by providing a youth worker but this help was withdrawn and for the past five years a number of parents have given their time and bravely carried on but eventually lack of numbers meant that closure was the only option.

Our thanks and sympathies must go to those who have given their time and effort to keep the Youth Club going.

Grindleford has many community groups, all of which go to make this village a welcoming place in which to live. To name a few we have the Football Club, Allotment Society, Horticultural Society, Women's Institute, Cricket Club and Carnival Committee all of which are supported by voluntary effort. We also have the Pre-School Group to cater for the very young members of the community but as you may have noticed we have nothing for the teenagers until, of course, we get the Youth club back on its feet.

After an appeal the Derbyshire County council have provided some help in the form of support from a qualified youth

worker and the possibility of funds to smarten up the existing building. With this good news a meeting was called, and advertised throughout the village for 15th March. The result was, shall we say, disappointing. One parent and one youngster turned up. The last parents to organise the club and the youth worker arrived full of eagerness to help but their enthusiasm was somewhat dampened by the turnout.

However, the meeting was thought to have been something of a success in that it generated some ideas to get the club going again because everyone concerned is sure there is a need to provide this kind of facility. After all the Youth Club does have its own premises in which the youngsters can do their own thing without being in the way of any other organisations.

All is not lost, please note that there will be an open evening at which parents and youngsters will all be welcome to be held in the **Youth Club Building (opposite the Sir William) on Thursday 6 June 2013 at 7.30pm.**

Please come along

Gents Watch Found

A gents watch was found at the Coppice Day on 3rd March.
If you think it could be yours please ring Sue Fairbrother on 630160.

Grindleford Gallop

What a gloriously, muddy and chilly 21 miles our runners and walkers faced this year! With the threat of snow hanging in the air and a biting wind, the challenging course was braved by only the hardiest of souls!

But almost everyone returned with a smile on their face to be greeted by hot soup (made by the Sir William and vegetable supplied by Peak Fruits) and delicious tray bakes made by the parents of Grindleford Primary School.



This year there were sports massage therapists on hand to relieve aching muscles and cramps as well.

Our very own Mike Nolan came in third place not far behind the winner, whilst Jane Cook was our first local woman to cross the finishing line.

The race takes a huge amount of organisation in the months leading up to it and the volunteers work tirelessly to make it a great day for everyone.

This year we raised about £6000 for the school. It is a very valuable source of funding and in the past it has gone towards a wildlife pond and a climbing wall much appreciated by all the pupils at the school.

Peddalling for Pennies; Mums Act for Autism

Lynn Strafford, who also lives in the village, and myself are cycling an epic 220 miles in June from London to Brussels to raise money for the National Autistic Society (NAS). We are joined by Sheffield mum Deborah Woodhouse.

All three of us have sons with autism and we want to raise awareness of the condition as well as supporting the NAS which has personally supported us in our understanding and coming to terms with the condition. This organisation is the UK's leading charity for people affected by autism.

My son attends Grindleford Primary School where the teachers have gone to huge lengths to understand his particular needs and challenges. They have managed to integrate him successfully into the learning environment.

Autism is a lifelong developmental disability that affects how a person communicates with others and relates to the world around them.

While autism is incurable, the right support at the right time can make an enormous difference to people's lives.

It is much more common than many people think. There are over half a million people in the UK with autism - that's around 1 in 1002. If you include their families, autism touches the lives of over two million people every day.

We don't want to talk too much about the extreme difficulties but wish to celebrate the

support of groups and friends. We really want to raise as much money as possible whilst doing something healthy and positive.

Last year we set up a parent support group called Derbyshire Autism Support (DAS) which is going from strength to strength. We meet at Bakewell Children's Centre on a weekly basis and all parents and carers of children with autism are very welcome.

We do much of our training on the Monsal Trail and Fairholmes stopping for a well-earned coffee and chat at the end. We have been out in deep snow and the pouring rain. Sometimes at the end of the ride we are so cold it is impossible to unfasten our helmets because our hands have gone completely numb. But we're determined to do this even though lots of our friends and members of our families think we're mad!

If you want to know more about what we are doing or would like to help us organise an event please contact me on **01433 639166** or by email: **renuka@magicpotion.biz**

Alternatively you could make a donation, any amount great or small will be hugely appreciated.

Our donation page is:
<http://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/team/PeddallingforPennies>

You can follow us on Facebook or Twitter:
@Pedalling4Ps

Renuka

Hope Valley Bird Watcher?

The Hope Valley Bird Watchers Club, or HVBWC for short, has been active in the valley for quite a few years now. We are an informal and friendly group where new members are always welcome. If you sometimes struggle to identify that odd looking bird in your garden, or would like to learn the name of that bird you can hear singing, but can't see, why not consider joining us. We hold Tuesday evening meetings once a month between October and March at a local hostelry, where invited speakers give talks on birds or other natural history topics. On Tuesday evenings between mid April and early July

we organise walks which start from various villages in the valley. These are led by someone who should be able to identify all the birds seen and heard (or at least almost all!) We also organise regular field trips to more distant spots to visit nature reserves and other places where a wider range of birds may be found. If this sounds interesting, why not visit our web site www.hvbwc.org.uk where there is lots more information. You could also contact **John Wooddisse on HV 650606 or Alan Kydd on HV 650864** to find out more.



Dog Poo Alert!

It is a curious thing but it has only been recently by getting a dog myself that I have become aware of the enormous amount of dog mess around which isn't being cleared up.

A near neighbour came to have a chat with me about the problem the other day. She is particularly concerned about the quantity of dog mess in the Allotments area and pointed out the risks to local children playing there. She even goes out on a regular basis and clears up the mess herself even though she doesn't even own a dog! I think she is a real unsung neighbourhood hero.

Having been recently initiated into the art of sticking my hand into an inside out plastic bag and scooping up my dog's poo I can say that, whilst not at all pleasant, it is a very necessary part of dog ownership.

Dog faeces can carry all sorts of nasties which can be transmitted to humans such as roundworms, hookworms, other parasites and bacterial infections.

There are several Poo bins in Grindleford that I know of, including one on the allotments. So please, please do clean up after your pet and protect our local children.

Thanks Renuka

Useful Websites:

Grindleford Community Shop: www.grindlefordshop.co.uk

Check out all the activities going on in our pre school and primary school:
www.grindlefordprimaryschool.co.uk email: grindlefordpreschool@gmail.com

Finally, don't forget that the village has its own website where you can find out about what is going on locally and post details of your own events:
www.grindleford.com

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All regular contributors are sent a reminder before each issue, most by e-mail.

If you would like to contribute to the next issue, and would like an email reminder, please let me know.

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Many thanks to all who have contributed to this issue.

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