

THE GRINDLEFORD NEWS

January 2015



Let it Snow!

At last, some seasonal weather! It didn't quite duck under the bar for a white Christmas, but a white Boxing Day is pretty close. Apart from the usual spectacle of cars slithering gracefully

out of the junction by Lanes End Cottage, those of us who made it up high whilst the snow lasted caught some pretty impressive views. Sledges were out in force, igloos soon followed, and there were reports of fearsome snow crocodiles menacing the grouse on Lawrence Field... -Ed



School Goes Solar!

Last October Grindleford Primary School launched months of exciting fundraising activities aiming to raise £12,000 to buy and install solar panels, as part of the innovative Solar Schools project. [Just missing the copy deadline for the October GN! -Ed.]

The ambitious fundraising drive kicked off with a Green Day where pupils wore green all day, bought cakes donated by the teachers and had fun outdoor activities in the school garden. Once installed, the panels will generate clean electricity, help cut the schools energy bills and create additional income which will be spent on school resources, equipment and a bike shed.

Grindleford Primary School is one of only 15 schools to gain a place on the Solar Schools scheme this year, after over 260 registered their interest. The project, run by the carbon cutting campaign 10:10 in partnership with 100% renewable electricity company Good Energy, provides schools with all the free tools and training they need to crowdfund the cost of installing solar panels.

The project helps school children learn first-hand about renewable energy, climate change and energy efficiency.



Headteacher Leonie Hill said, “We are thrilled to have been chosen as one of this year’s Solar Schools. We’re a small school with a big ambition—to install solar panels on our roof! As a rural school in the Peak District National Park we want to reduce our carbon footprint, save money, protect our beautiful surroundings and educate our children about the environment and how they can make a difference.”

Amy Cameron, Solar Schools campaign manager, said, “Grindleford Primary School more than earned their place on the Solar Schools project thanks to their passion, commitment and some great ideas for raising that cash! It’s going to be a big challenge, but we know, if the local area gets behind them, they’re more than capable of doing it!”



Good Energy CEO and founder, Juliet Davenport OBE, said, “Good Energy is proud to support Solar Schools. Our vision is to create a safer, greener Britain and Solar Schools has that in buckets, education, community and sustainability all working hand in hand, bringing sunshine into our classrooms.”

Grindleford Primary School will be giving their whole community the chance to get involved in their solar powered efforts, with a variety of activities and events throughout the year including school fairs, quiz nights and outdoor events.

Helen Illingworth

PTO to find out how you can help...

Help Make Solar Happen

Grindleford Primary School has a clothing (and other items) collection on the morning of Friday 27th February. It is a fundraising initiative whereby the school earns money for donating clothing and other items for recycling to deprived families in Africa and Eastern Europe.

Clothing and textiles should be placed in special bags available from the school. Delicate items and bric-a-brac should be in cardboard boxes.

Please contact the school, or a parent, to obtain collection bags and leaflets detailing what items can be donated.

The school may be able to help collect filled bags if you are unable to deposit them at the school on the 27th February (before 10.00).

We can accept:

- Good quality, dry, clean clothing
- Paired shoes
- Accessories
- Handbags
- Soft toys
- Bed linen
- Costume jewellery
- Bric-a-brac (small vases, figurines, decorative teacups, picture frames, small bowls, trinket dishes and other small ornaments)

We cannot accept:

- Poor quality, damaged, wet, stained, mouldy or ripped clothing
- All types of underwear, socks and tights
- Vintage / outdated clothes
- Long term stored items
- Quilts, duvets, pillows and curtains
- Carpets, mats and rugs
- Furniture
- Books, textbooks and magazines
- CDs, DVDs, audio and video tapes
- Electrical items including computers & TVs

Hope Valley U3A

The University of the Third Age (U3A) is a movement dedicated to promoting lifelong learning in a sociable environment, utilising the enthusiasm and expertise of its members. Since our inaugural meeting in Hathersage on 17th July 2014, Hope Valley U3A have enrolled over 140 members and launched 13 interest groups.

If you are retired or semi-retired and would like to share your interests with like-minded people then do consider joining the Hope Valley U3A.

Open Meetings

Our monthly Open Meetings are held on the third Thursday of each month at 2pm in either Hathersage or Hope. We look forward to seeing you at our meetings where you can listen to a speaker (Hathersage only), make friends over a cup of tea or sign up to the various interest groups on offer. If you are not sure if the U3A is for you then do come along to a couple of the meetings to help you make your mind up. Forthcoming meetings:

January 15th - Hathersage Memorial Hall 2 - 4pm
Speaker Janet Scott, Derbyshire Library Services

February 19th - Loxley Hall Hope 2.30 - 3.30pm
Drop-In Session

March 19th - Hathersage Memorial Hall 2 - 4pm
Speaker Martin Rigney gives a light-hearted account of his heart surgery

Interest Groups & Social Events

We now have 13 interest groups, ranging from Tai Chi and Spanish to Natural History and Crafts, with more being added each month. The group convenors are usually on hand at the Open Meetings to give you an idea of what the group intends to do and you can even try one of the interest groups to see if it is to your liking. We are also putting together a varied social and cultural programme of outings and theatre visits.

New Members

We welcome new members—all you have to do is download a membership application form from our website, complete it and bring it along with your fee to one of our monthly Open Meetings. The fee for the year beginning 1st April 2015 will be £20

Check out our website for full details of all our groups and activities: www.u3asites.org.uk/hope-valley.

June Walker june@hillsett.co.uk

Grindleford

Horticultural Society



In January, your garden could need protecting from frosts, gale-force winds and heavy rain. Check stakes, ties, fleeces and other supports for damage and consider moving plants to sunnier positions to maximize light. Don't forget to keep feeding the birds; food is scarce for them over winter. You can also start planning next year's vegetable plot.

Members of the GHS (£3 per annum) qualify for reduced membership of the Royal Horticultural Society. The RHS is a mine of information for everyone from beginners to experts. There are gardens to visit and learn from—our closest one is at Harlow Carr in Harrogate. The RHS hosts many special events including shows at Malvern, Chelsea and Tatton Park. It's useful to check plants or planting tips at www.rhs.org.uk.

Their Top 10 jobs this month are:

1. Recycle your Christmas tree by shredding it for mulch (or use the council's green bin)
2. Ventilate the greenhouse on sunny days
3. Dig over any vacant plots that have not been dug already
4. Repair and re-shape lawn edges
5. Inspect stored tubers of Dahlia, Begonia and Canna for rots or drying out
6. Prune apple and pear trees
7. Start forcing rhubarb
8. Plan your vegetable crop rotations for the coming season
9. Keep putting out food and water for hungry birds
10. Prepare a polythene shelter for outdoor peaches and nectarines, to protect them from peach leaf curl.

Derbyshire County Council offers courses to help you develop your gardening knowledge, but one of the best and most convivial ways to learn more is to join our local Horticultural Society and to get involved with others who are keen to develop skills, including our local 'allotmenters'.

The GHS has a varied programme chosen to appeal to a range of tastes and interests. We meet on the third Tuesday evening of the month at the Bishop Pavilion at 7.30pm. Our next events are:

January 20th 'Garden Design' with Chris Parsons

February 17th 'The Woodland Years'

with John Lintin-Smith

March 17th 'The Gardens at Renishaw' with Head Gardener David Kestevé

April 21st 'Gardeners Question Time' with Sue Carlisle (Fobs)

At our AGM in November we voted to keep our annual subscription at £3 but agreed to make a small charge for each talk. It's still excellent value as tea, coffee and biscuits are provided after each talk and this gives a perfect opportunity to share stories and ask questions of one another. It's a friendly group and we welcome new members to any of the talks.

Kay Allinson

Grindleford WI

Our October speaker was Mrs Irene Yarrell who brought with her an enormous collection of hats. There was a hat for every occasion and we were treated to the history of many of them: why they had been purchased, for what social event and in some cases their purchase price. It was truly a milliner's paradise!

November saw our AGM which was preceded by a very enjoyable supper. Other people's AGMs are of little interest to non-members and ours was no exception. All will be as before with the exception of a change of treasurer. Mrs Joan Cole has served us well in this capacity for a number of years and her excellent service has been much valued. Mrs Muriel Waterall has agreed to take over the task of looking after our finances and she was welcomed to the committee.

Christmas came early for us as our December meeting was 8th December. However, with wine and sausage rolls and mince pies and tea we got into the Christmas spirit and following, Ann Watts's instructions, constructed a table decoration amongst much hilarity. Back to the serious things I am sure in January. A happy new year to everyone.

Kay Beeston



The Grindelford Community Shop

We had a wonderful Christmas at the shop, and we hope you did too. We closed on Christmas Day and Boxing Day for the first time since we started—we had been open every single day since we opened on 14th June! I don't think we quite noticed we had done that until we shut the door on Christmas Eve.

In one of our more reflective moments over the holiday we came to realise that the shop runs on three main pillars—what we sell, who buys it and who sells it. We are delighted to report that our customers have continued to come in even though the weather is no longer so beautiful. We are even more delighted that four more volunteers have joined us over the holiday period. Apart from being lovely to get to know you, it's extremely encouraging that new volunteers are coming on board. It's the very essence of the community shop that it should belong to, and be run by, all of us. We all have a great time down there drinking tea and chatting to all sorts of nice people who come through the door. (Oh—and doing the odd bit of work, sorry!)

As to what we sell, we are considering doing some market survey work to find out what it is you, our customers, like to buy. We get lots of really nice compliments about the look of the shop and the amount of stuff we have got rammed into it, but it would be useful to know what it is you most like. What could we stock that would bring you in more often? Expect some activity on this over the coming months, and we would be grateful for your honest feedback.

We are still plugging 'My Shop My Fiver'. If you could all earmark a particular thing that you buy regularly, like coffee or loo roll, then come and get it from us and spend a fiver a week, that would make certain that the future of the shop is assured. If we don't sell your favourite thing, come and tell us and we will see if we can stock it for you. Please do also come down, if you haven't been in for a while, and look at the new chiller. It is full of all sorts of interesting and delicious things at very reasonable prices. Patés, a wide range of cheeses, bacon and ham, yoghurts, cream and fromage frais.... And coming shortly, the amazing Hill Top Curry House take away curries, made here in

the village. Watch out for more news on that.

We now sell books of first and second class stamps.

Needless to say, the community part of the community shop continues to be very important to us. Please come and tell us if you are part of a group which would like to get involved in the shop in some way. For example, we have lots of Duke of Edinburgh students volunteering at the moment for their bronze and silver awards, and we always have fun with the pre-school who enchant us on a weekly basis. Let us

know if you think we could work together and/or enhance your lives, and don't forget we have a noticeboard (A5 or smaller please due to limited space). Mostly, though, we hope that our main contribution is to provide enjoyable events which everyone can come to, bumping into old friends and making new ones.

That's probably about it for this edition of the News. All the best to everyone for 2015 and we look forward to seeing you down at the shop, in whatever capacity, sometime soon.

Sarah Battarbee

Grindleford

Readers

Grindleford Bookworms

Americanah by Chimamanda Ngozi Adiche explores the experiences of Ifemelu, a Nigerian girl who goes to America and comes to terms with what it is like for a black girl to live in a mostly white community. Behind the story there lies a love story which is resolved at the end of the book—an ending not to the satisfaction of all our readers.

Tess of the D'Urbervilles is one of Thomas Hardy's masterpieces. Hardy's charm as a novelist rests not with his storyline but with his brilliant and imaginative use of words. This ability makes each of his books a splendid literary experience.

A Possible Life: A Novel in Five Parts by Sebastian Faulks does indeed have five stories. Each story stands alone but there exist cleverly devised links between them, some of them of place, some of theme but there are jumps in time, separating them by perhaps 100 years. Faulks as usual intrigues his readers.

Grindleford Book Group Too

Barbara Kingsolver came to fame with her *Poisonwood Bible* and *Lacuna* is equally readable. She brings her characters very much to life by placing them in real situations and William Shepherd's life is no exception. He encounters Trotsky in his early years and is hauled before the McCarthy witchhunt trials as an adult novelist. The story is told through Shepherd's own diaries and brought to life by newspaper cuttings of the time.

William Boyd's *Restless* is a tale of espionage. The story comes to light when Eva, who was recruited as a spy in WW2, decides that it is time to enlighten her daughter about her experiences. This is another exciting tale which keeps the suspense alive throughout the book.

12 Years A Slave caught the imagination of the public as a film earlier in the year. Solomon Northup's story is not a comfortable read. The reader feels like an observer forced to watch and bear witness to the most appalling treatment meted out to this man who was a freeman but captured in New York and sold as a slave in the southern states of the USA.

Somehow one feels that it would be a betrayal of trust not to read the book once started and the subsequent discussion involved a comparison with the slavery still wrecking lives in the present day.

All our readers look forward to another year of reading, companionship and discussion

Kay Beeston

I May Rome

A Heartwarming Story

I went into the shop late one Wednesday night and Diane told me a hiker had been in. He was walking from St Andrews to Rome to pick up his bike which he had left there five years previously. On the way he was raising money for the Alzheimer's Society, his mum having recently been diagnosed.

He had £2.50 a day to keep body and soul together, with an extra small sum which he was trying not to spend so that he could occasionally get a room in a youth hostel and warm up. He was aiming to buy a carrot and a potato, I think, for his supper.



Diane had of course been lovely to Peter (as we later discovered his name was). By the time I got there he had left, but Matt came in hot on my heels and in next to no time was dashing over the fields to his stated camping destination down by the MUGA, clutching a huge bar of chocolate and wanting to offer him a bed for the night.

It was a bitterly cold night so Peter had, meanwhile, stopped off at the Sir William to nurse a pint of beer and keep warm. It was there that Jamie found him, bought him a meal, talked to Terry, and Terry gave Peter a bed for the night in one of his spare rooms.

Peter has now reached Canterbury, where the ancient road to Rome starts. You can follow his onward journey on his website, imayrome.eu.

I find this whole tale very moving. I am pleased to share an island with Peter, who is clearly an amazing person. His website is lovely, funny, original and hiding some true steel on cold nights I suspect. There is a mention of ‘the inspiring children of Grindleford’ and a picture of some of our lovely children—and a cup cake!

I am also very proud to live in Grindleford. You didn’t think twice about offering your money and your homes to help this man. Anyone who has read *The Unlikely Pilgrimage of Harold Fry* by Rachel Joyce will recognise the story, and the steadfastness in adversity, and the triumph of the human spirit, and been pleased to be part of something similar. Because, in a small way—that’s what it’s all about, isn’t it?

Sarah Battarbee

Exploring Longshaw

Events

New for 2015: Join in our programme of Muck In Days!

This year we are launching an exciting new series of monthly Muck-In Days together with The Eastern Moors Partnership. These family friendly conservation sessions will give people the chance to get hands-on with practical tasks in the landscape, helping our Rangers with their conservation work. For participants under 18 years old, there is an additional benefit of becoming a Junior Ranger, working towards a free Junior Ranger badge and t-shirt! See details of the first few events below. Wrap up warm and prepare for the weather!

Every Weds and Sun 11:00am Explore Longshaw

Drop-in guided walks around Longshaw, meeting at the Visitor Centre (tea room).

Sun 25 Jan 10:00am – 12:00pm

Muck In Day – Tree Planting

Ramsay Moor – meet at Shillito Woods car Park

Help the Eastern Moors Rangers with their task to plant 6000 trees!

£free. Contact Katherine Clarke on 07738738844 or enquiries@easternmoors.org.uk

Sat 24 Jan 11:00am - 1:00pm

Birds and Boots

Meet at Longshaw Visitor Centre

A winter bird walk at Longshaw with Andrew Carmichael.

£free. Booking not needed, bring binoculars if you have them!



Sat 24 Jan 2:00pm - 4:00pm

The Secret Lives of Ring Ouzels

Moorland Discovery Centre

A fascinating talk with Bill Gordon.

£5. Booking essential on 01433 637904

Sat 31 Jan

Night Run at Longshaw

Covering Longshaw, Burbage and the Eastern Moors.

£various. Booking essential—
visit www.nationaltrust.org.uk/longshaw for details.

Sun 15 Feb 8:00am - 10:30am

Muck In Day – Bird Ringing and Bird Box Building

Ramsay Moor – meet at Shillito Woods car Park

£free, with a charge to build a bird box. Contact Katherine Clarke on 07738738844 or enquiries@easternmoors.org.uk

Sat 28 Feb 8:00am start

Bird Ringing Demonstration

Moorland Discovery Centre

See birds as you've never seen them before, getting up close and personal

with Longshaw's feathered friends with local bird ringer Bryn Roberts.

£free. Booking essential on 01433 631757 or jen-ny.gerrans@nationaltrust.org.uk

Sun 8 March 10:30am

Muck In Day - Tree Planting

Longshaw Estate

Help our rangers with their woodland conservation work.

£free. Booking essential on 01433 631757 or jen-ny.gerrans@nationaltrust.org.uk

Sun 15 Mar 9:00am-9:30am start

Take to the Trails

with Jog Derbyshire

Longshaw Visitor Centre

£2 adult, children free

Easter 2015

We will not be running Cadbury's Easter Egg Trails at Longshaw in 2015 due to the planned car park refurbishment. Easter trails are happening at Hardwick Hall, Ilam Park and Eyam Hall.

Jenny Gerrans

We're making Woodcroft car park better for visitors.

Longshaw Estate was handed over to the National Trust in 1931. Since then Longshaw has become renowned as a well-loved venue for fresh air and exercise and as a hub to access the wider spectacular landscape of the Peak District National Park. Visitor surveys tell us that recent developments like the boggart-themed natural play and toilet refurbishment have been warmly received.

However, we still need to deal with some long-standing issues and also plan carefully for the future to try to make sure Longshaw is a great place to visit for everyone. One such issue is that on busy days Woodcroft car park becomes full



very quickly and visitors to Longshaw have to find other places to park. The car park was originally constructed by National Trust wardens in the 1980s to accommodate numbers of visitors travelling by car. As such, while appropriate at the time, the size and layout can't cope with the ever-increasing

demand for visits to the Longshaw Estate. Also, the surfacing is wearing down and there are now many large puddles on wet days.

We have been looking to develop the car park and recently submitted plans to the Peak District National Park Authority to improve and extend Woodcroft car park. The plans have been consulted through the planning process and we are pleased to say we have been granted planning permission to extend the car park.

We are now preparing for the construction works which we expect to begin in late February 2015. The improvements will include parking for more cars in demarcated bays, safe coach access particularly for visitors to the Moorland Discovery Centre and provision of bicycle and motorcycle parking. We will also be applying to Sheffield City Council to restrict parking on the A6187 Owlbar Road, but this process may take six months to complete.

During the works, which we anticipate will take three months, Woodcroft car park will be closed. Alternative parking will still be available at Wooden Pole and Hay Wood car parks. The tea room and shop will remain open as usual during this time as will the rest of Longshaw Estate. There may be some changes to our events and activities so please look at the website, www.nationaltrust.org.uk/longshaw, for updates and information.

We hope all this work when it is finished will provide a great welcome to visitors. In the meantime if you are visiting Longshaw please be careful around the Woodcroft car park area but otherwise still enjoy the delights of Longshaw Estate.

If you would like any further information about this project please contact the Project Manager, Sophie Milner, on 01433 631757 or sophie.milner@nationaltrust.org.uk.

Grindleford

Neighbourhood Watch

This Watch was started in May 1992. Now in 2015 we have fewer members and meet only once a quarter. We are well supported by PCSO Anthony Boswell from the Police Hathersage Safer Neighbourhood Team, who not only reports on local crime and antisocial incidents but more importantly on his work and initiatives to educate and inform adult, youth and school groups in the area, with the aim of increasing community safety and security.

Members of Neighbourhood Watches in this area were at a 'N.W. event' in autumn last year, and heard from police speakers that this part of Derbyshire has usually less crime and anti-social behaviour than others. However, patterns do change from place to place and time to time, and increasingly so as technology changes. The need to keep personal details secure on computers, phones and internet devices, is now a major concern not least for the branch of the police which deals with 'digital crime'.

Much useful exchange of general and specific local information comes by email to N.W. coordinators from the police. Anyone, however, may register at www.derbyshirealert.co.uk to receive these emails and indeed useful news, advice and links can be found at www.derbyshire.police.uk/homepage.aspx. To contact the police about a particular incident or issue use the non-emergency telephone number 101.

Unfortunately, there are many ways in which people may become victims of crime. Scams through the post, cold calls by telephone, or bogus officials and fake dealers on the doorstep could lead on to great distress and loss of savings. Elderly and vulnerable neighbours, friends and relatives who are not well informed, need particular protection and strong encouragement to be cautious and suspicious of this sort of 'stranger danger'.

At the N.W. event in autumn it was made clear that, like other public services, the police have been affected by austerity cuts. Even without such restrictions they cannot be everywhere all the time. To help the police, neighbourhood watching by the community itself should continue as local eyes and ears for the police, keeping them informed of what is seen as suspicious or anti-social behaviour, as well as reporting any other incidents that may require their attention. If you would like to join Grindleford Neighbourhood Watch please get in touch using the contact details at the foot of this item.

Please use 101 to contact the police; or ring Crimestoppers on 08005511 if you wish to speak anonymously.

Peter Hutchinson 630351 p.hutchinson154@btinternet.com

Grindleford and Eyam Playgroup News



Curious what goes on inside GEP?

Keeping up to speed with the pre-school's latest news has never been so easy: simply join our online community.

Now that families seem to be coming from far and wide to join in our adventures, we thought it might be a good idea for them to meet each other properly and get chatting. So we've set up a closed group on Facebook to help our families – who now come from across the Hope Valley, Chesterfield and Sheffield - make friends, chat and share information, tips, experiences and other happy thoughts. It's also a great way to get useful pre-school updates in your Facebook news feed. Search for 'Grindleford and Eyam Playgroup' on Facebook to find our page and the group.

If you're not really a fan of Facebook, subscribe to our blog to get pre-school updates straight into your inbox.

Go to www.grindlefordandeyamplaygroup.co.uk/whats-new/blog and click on the 'follow' button on the right hand side of the page.

Please tell anyone you know who is interested in the pre-school about these ways of getting news. Don't just 'like' us, share us!

--Calling all knitters!--

Could you, or do you know anyone who could knit these little blighters? We need about 50 in total – colour and wool of your choice, the wackier the better! By the first week of March please. They are Easter surprises for the children...



Email grindlefordandeyamplaygroup@gmail.com for instructions.

‘Very Special’: One parent’s take on our Woodland Nativity

Arriving at the Forest School site, the first activity was introductions, one princess, one robot and several spidermen included. Next it was the rules that keep the children safe, then on to setting up the camp and stick hunting for the fire.



Craft activities of willow peeling in readiness for roasting marshmallows and preparing oranges for cake making were on offer.

Suddenly, through the trees more people were coming: the younger Woodland Adventurers and families. They were eagerly given a tour of the Dens, the Pirate Ship and the Bouncy Log. The children showed such pride and pleasure at being able to show off ‘their place’.

After being beckoned by a song back to the fire circle, hot drinks and mince pies and cakes were gratefully consumed. Gradually, by the addition of red and white checked tea towels and gold ribbon, boys turned into shepherds and girls into angels. It was time for the Nativity to start.



It had everything a nativity should have: Mary and Joseph, the stable, the star and of course, baby Jesus – a gorgeous four-week old baby boy. But it had so much more too: humour, a sense of inclusion for everyone and a lack of pressure on the children or trepidation in the adults, very special.

Next it was time for the children to receive their gifts from Mother Christmas who was resplendent on her throne in a green velvet gown and red berry headdress. The children gathered round eagerly and were not disappointed with the beautifully wrapped gift.



The relaxed atmosphere and ease of execution were a testament to very good planning and organisation by the staff, doubly so because everything has to be carried into the woods. It was also heart-warming to watch everyone helping each other in so many small but meaningful ways.

A very special event. Thank you.



Recent adventures with

Grindleford and Eyam Playgroup

Grindleford

Gaiters



At Hope Cross in the mist

Recently the Gaiters have had a number of varied walks including; Robin Hood, Hunting Tower and Swiss Lake; Barrel, Stoke Ford and Bretton Clough; Leadmill Bridge, Offerton and Callow Farm; Longshaw, Owler Tor, Winyards Nick and Burbage Valley; Cheshire Cheese, Edale End, Hope Cross, Roman Road and Fullwood Stile Farm; Bakewell, Carlton Pastures and Haddon Estate; and Padley Gorge, Longshaw and the edge of Yarncliffe.

Over the course of 2014 our

Thursday walks have covered 132 miles and collectively Gaiters have walked more than 2000 miles.



Gaiters near Over Owler Tor



In the stocks in the Cotswolds

A number of our group also went on an enjoyable short walking holiday in the Cotswolds based at Bouton on the Water.

The Gaiters walk every other Thursday, year round, generally meeting at the Pavilion car park at 9:30am, beginning the new year on 8th January. Most walks are typically 5 to 6 miles followed by lunch at a local hostelry.

Keep walking!

Tim Reynolds 630023



Admiring Ben's new boots

Grindleford

Bee Keepers

Winter is a quiet time for the bees, who are keeping each other warm in a cluster within the hive, so beekeeping activity needs to be done quickly and preferably without opening the hive and losing their warmth.

We do need to treat the hives for Varroa Mites which if left unchecked would weaken the bees and make them susceptible to other ailments during the winter. We will also be checking they have enough stores until spring by lifting the edge of each hive to judge its weight. Light hives will have extra stores added.

Older bees will die during the winter and the worker bees will be clearing

their bodies out of the hives. So seeing dead bees in front of the hive entrance is not a bad sign, in fact it means the worker bees inside are doing their jobs successfully.

On warmer days a few bees will emerge on short 'cleansing' flights and they will all be looking for snowdrops and other early forage to supplement their stores. The Queen will not start to lay the coming year's brood until a good supply of pollen is being brought in.

Our post Christmas check of our hives shows all is well so far.

Alan Fairbrother



Have you seen any good films lately?

My two favourite foreign language films I saw last year were *Forgiveness Of Blood* (2012) and *Ida* (2014), both powerful and sensitive films.

Forgiveness of Blood is a film from American director Joshua Marsden, set in modern day Albania focusing on an Albanian family and an old law of blood feuds. This law states that if a quarrel between neighbours occurs and results in violence, then the victim's family has the right to kill all the males in the perpetrator's family.

The story focuses on Nik, the eldest son of the family, who is about to leave school and embark on his first venture—to open an internet cafe. However, a dispute between Nik's father and a neighbour results in his father being accused of murder and he goes the run for his safety.

As a result of the old law, Nik's life is in danger and he resorts to house arrest, resulting in enforced isolation and frustration. His sister Rudina takes over the family business and flourishes with her newly found business skills.

Incongruously sitting side by side in this story are modern life in Albania and the old traditions. You would imagine you were watching a story from the nineteenth century with ancient customs and traditions, if it wasn't for glimpses of young Albanians with modern technology, texting on mobile phones.

With wonderful natural performances from local first-time young actors, they set out to tell a story that had not been seen before.

Ida is a film about 18-year-old Anna, a young novice nun in 1960s Poland, who has spent her life in the convent and is about to take her vows. She discovers a dark family secret dating from the years of the Nazi occupation, and is encouraged by the Mother Superior to meet her only living relative, her Aunt, Wanda Gruz.

Anna's certainty of her vocation and commitment to the convent is severely tested when she meets up with Wanda on a road trip through the austere winter countywide to discover her roots and the secrets of her past.

Beautifully photographed in monochrome, the Polish-born director Pawel Pawlikowski returns to his birthplace to confront issues which are captured in this story of post-war Poland.

Lesley Broadhurst

St Helen's Church

News

Some of you will have met our new vicar Revd. Jude Davis. She previously served as curate at Doncaster Minster. She attended the opening of the Community Shop and continues to support this venture. Jude has to share her time between three parishes, so on Sundays we sometimes have other members of the benefice team leading the service. The team consists of Rev'd Anthony Ashwell and readers Roger Mather and John Brunskill. Others who have helped are Rev'd Graham Piggot and, from the Methodist Circuit, Rev'd David Briggs and Richard Towle, who has been invited to preach at the service on Sunday January 25th which will be led by Rev'd Jude.

This year saw the opening of the Community Shop in the original choir vestry. It was a surprise to venture inside and see how the space had been put to good use. A bit like the tardis! The Parish Church Council meets on a monthly basis and we are kept updated on the progress of the shop. We discuss any requests and issues at that time and try to find a way forward. St Helen's Christmas cards were sold in the shop alongside local produce.

Christmas events started with the candlelit carol service in December for which music was arranged by Peter Tregenza. On this occasion a large 'village choir' sang accompanied by the organ and brass ensemble. The nine readings from the traditional service were given by a range of local representatives, including the Grindleford Carnival Princess. Christingle was led by Jude who was back again on Christmas Day to take the morning service.

In the October 2014 edition of Grindleford News a Roll of Honour listed men of Grindleford who gave their lives in the Great War 1914-1918. In church there is a particular wall plaque, moved from the former Methodist Church, remembering such men, but also John Kenyon, John Lawrence Swift and Alfred Thompson Priestley 'who returned to give thanks to God'. Another memorial commemorates Harry Neil from Sheffield who served as a lay preacher at St. Helen's. He was in the same regiment as Grindleford's Fred Uttley. They both died on the same day in the battle of the Somme.

After several years of service given to St. Helen's our Treasurer and also our churchyard groundsman now find it necessary to reduce their commitments. We are truly grateful for their work and loyalty. So we are now currently seeking people to take up these two posts.

The Treasurer has always been a voluntary position and of course it would be greatly appreciated if anyone felt able to offer their services on that basis. There is now a computer programme available for use by treasurers in Derbyshire Diocese and help with this is available locally. Please contact us if you wish to discuss this post more fully.

Periodically, on a Saturday morning, a volunteer working party does some tidying of the churchyard. We would welcome any helpers. Churchyard maintenance, however, requires adequate strimming and mowing and we would be pleased to hear from anyone wishing to know more details regarding the terms and conditions of this paid position. Please contact the churchwarden, Lynne Hawksworth, or Peter Hutchinson if you are interested or know of anyone who may consider taking on either of these jobs.

We are most grateful to the residents who have become Patrons of St Helen's Church. This support is to maintain our church building. The contributions from the congregation pay for everything else.

How can you become a Patron?

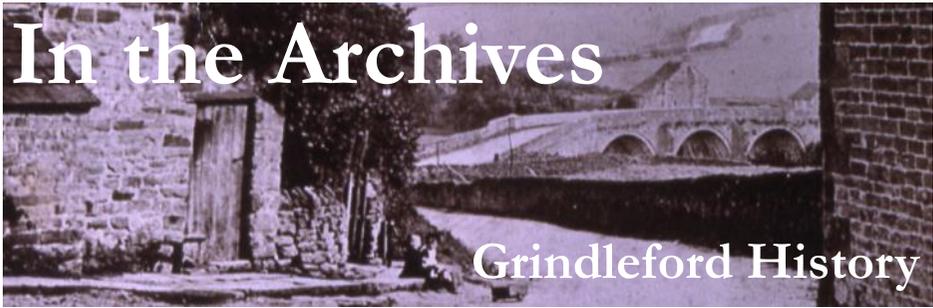
Choose a significant date—such as a birthday, a wedding anniversary, a christening or any other memorable date, and make a donation of £30. You would then have the satisfaction of knowing that you have paid for the running costs of the building for the day you have nominated. You are not, of course, restricted to just one day. We also hope that you would like to repeat this donation on an annual basis for as long as you are able. The support ensures that work undertaken by previous generations during the last hundred years is not wasted.

Another way of remembering a loved one is to provide altar flowers to commemorate their passing.

Good wishes for a happy and peaceful New Year.

Lynne Hawksworth 631372





Field Names of Grindleford

Very few field names are in use locally today. The handful known now would probably include Bridge Field, Bonfire Field and Lionel's Field, but not too long ago virtually every field would have been known by name to many villagers. Although out of common use, some field names are not completely lost and can be found buried deep in the archives within Tithe Awards, Enclosure Acts, old manuscripts, sales catalogues and maps.

The earliest recorded are in the 1598 Hardwicke Manuscripts for fields in Nether Padley. The most notable are 'Greensaye', later recorded in the 1806 and 1830 Enclosure Acts as 'Grimsey'. This field is known today by a few of us as 'The Grinsey'. It is the lovely flat meadow below Froggatt Wood between the Haywood Brook and the river. Also in this document is "The Hough", which is the field before The Grinsey, crossed by the footpath to Froggatt, and is now known to some vintage villagers as The Halve.

The field above the Halve, with Haywood Lane running alongside it, is recorded in 1830 as 'Muck Close'. Those of us who remember trying to play football on it in the 1960s-70s will know only too well why it was called this! A further hazard to footballers was a large boulder that kept appearing just outside the penalty area of the top goal, which had to be dynamited to try to keep it below the playing surface!

The field which is now the housing of St. Helen's Close and Croft was recorded in 1598 as 'The Heald'. My parents always called it 'The College Field' as it was attached to the former Girl's College, now Pinegrove. One of my earliest memories is that the Coronation Celebrations for Queen Elizabeth II were held there in 1953. A series of lively springs above the boundary wall with the Church made the bottom part of the field very boggy. The name is probably a derivative of Yeld, meaning a slope.

'Goatscliffe' has nothing to do with goats! The original name for the field above Goatscliffe Knoll Cottages was recorded as 'Goldcliffe', then 'Goltcliffe' in 1573. So, was there a Gold Rush in Grindleford? Sadly not, the most likely deri-

vation is from the flowers of the Marsh Marigold. This is borne out by one of the fields below it alongside the river being known as ‘Golday Ley’, a ley being a field under grass.



Harry Hall's Fair in Bridge Meadow c.1912. Over the bridge, the first field is the Halve, above it Muck Close. Between the 'New' St. Helen's Church and Pinegrove is The Heald.

Some other intriguing names that I have been unable to associate with specific fields include Buker, Eddish Close, Fodderham, Hempen Butts, Little Majus, Pig Bank Rough, Sneapfield and Wigan Flat. Any sensible suggestions as to where these may be are welcome!

Alan Jacques

Poppy Appeal Thanks

THANK YOU to all who donated so generously. I'm delighted to say that we raised £1720, which is a 27% increase on last year's total.

Thank you also to the volunteer collectors and the business establishments who kindly made room for a collection box—often when counter space was at a premium!

If you would like to help with next year's appeal please contact me—we need all the help we can get.

Chris West (Appeal Organiser) 630087

Natural Remedies

for Common Ailments



It's hard to imagine that much is going on in these dark winter days, but underground life is definitely stirring. Last week the first shoots of rhubarb came up in my garden. This is one of the first heralds of spring, and the thought of making delicious rhubarb crumbles, pies and even jam and chutney gives my heart a lift. Most of us probably know that rhubarb leaves are potentially poisonous due to the high levels of oxalates they contain and it is the stems that we use as a food source. But herbalists have also traditionally used the root and underground stem (rhizome) as a medicine for digestive complaints such as diarrhoea, and in larger doses it has a laxative effect. Rhubarb is sometimes also applied directly to the skin to treat cold sores and contains several chemicals which might help heal cold sores.

However, even the stems of the vegetable contain a significant amount of oxalic acid and thus it may not be advisable to eat rhubarb regularly if you are prone to conditions such as gout or kidney stones as it may exacerbate these conditions.

Rhubarb is one of the least calorific of vegetables and it is an excellent source of dietary fibre. The stalks are rich in B-complex vitamins such as folates, riboflavin, niacin, vitamin B-6 (pyridoxine), thiamin and pantothenic acid. Red colour stalks contain more vitamin A than green stems and this vitamin is a powerful anti-oxidant which is needed by the body to maintain the integrity of skin and



mucus membranes. It is also an essential vitamin for healthy eye-sight.

In common with other dark greens like kale and spinach, rhubarb contains good amounts of vitamin K. Vitamin K helps promote bone formation and strengthening. It also contains minerals such as iron, copper, calcium, potassium and phosphorus. However, most of these minerals cannot be absorbed by the body as they are converted into insoluble complexes by oxalic acid, which are then excreted from the body.

Rhubarb can be harvested from late winter/early spring through to June and July. Some later varieties can be harvested right through until September or October.

There are a number of evergreen herbs which can be used throughout the winter months and even though they are not looking their best they are still tasty and offer therapeutic and nutritional benefits.

Rosemary (*Rosmarinus officianalis*) is a member of the mint family Labiaceae together with other herbs, such as oregano, thyme and lavender. They are all highly aromatic herbs and characterised by their square stems and whorls of little white, blue or pink flowers. The name 'rosemary' derives from the Latin *ros* meaning 'dew' and *marinas* meaning 'sea' - 'sea dew'.

It is traditionally used to impart flavour to meats, and like many herbs which are used in cooking is a good digestive herb and can counteract indigestion caused by eating foods high in fat. It also contains significant amounts of iron, calcium and vitamin B6.

Rosemary was traditionally used to relieve muscle pain, improve memory, boost the immune system, improve the circulatory system and promote hair growth. It can also raise blood pressure in those whose blood pressure is on the low side.

It contains antioxidants and anti-inflammatory compounds which may benefit the immune system and improve blood circulation especially to peripheral regions and to the brain, this may be why it has gained a reputation as a memory enhancer. In addition rosemary contains an ingredient, carnosic acid, that is able to fight off free radical damage in the brain. Carnosic acid has also been found to promote eye health and may help slow down macular degeneration.

All good reasons to include rosemary in your Sunday roasts and other recipes. Alternatively you can make a vinegar from it or simply steep a sprig in a mug of boiling water for five minutes and drink it either on it's own or with a little honey.

Thyme (*thymus vulgaris*) is an easy herb to grow and is very hardy even during the coldest of winter months. It is a fantastic cough and cold remedy, acting as

an expectorant to clear the lungs of mucus and as a antitussive, reducing spasmodic coughing. It also has a strong anti-microbial action to help rid the body of infection. It contains the compounds thymol and carvacrol which are highly antiseptic. In flu-like illnesses it soothes a sore throat, relieves aches and pains, and promotes sweating during fever which aids the body's natural healing processes to take place.

It's another good digestive herb and can be used to settle stomach cramps and indigestion. There has been extensive research around its ability to inhibit the growth of the bacteria *Helicobacter pylori*. A significant proportion of stomach ulcers are caused by this bacterium and it is implicated in chronic gastritis and even gastric cancer.

Ulcers cause painful, burning sensations and can result in more serious complications such as stomach bleeding and weight loss. Treatment of *H. pylori* may include dietary and lifestyle changes and combination drug therapy. Out of a range of plants tested by researchers, thyme and cinnamon showed the highest inhibitory effect on *H. pylori*. It is therefore worth considering taking thyme both as a preventative measure and for helping to alleviate ulcers especially in the early stages.

Thyme tea sweetened with thyme honey is a good way to get these benefits. Like rosemary a couple of sprigs can be infused in boiling water and drunk several times a day. Thyme essential oil can also be used in room diffusers and this is an effective way to treat coughs and congestion.

Meanwhile I'm looking forward to longer days and seeing those first buds on the trees and then I'll know that spring really is underway.

Renuka Russell

Parish Council Notes

Dog Fouling & Waste Bins. The ever-present problem of irresponsible dog owners not clearing up their animals has become worse over recent months. Areas particularly badly affected are Scott's Close footpath, Main Road from the Bridge to Goatscliffe and the Station Approach Road. There are penalties of up to £4000 in fines for persons responsible for allowing dogs to foul footpaths. Would ALL owners of dogs please clean up after they have fouled any public areas.

Derbyshire Dales District Council have recently removed the dog waste bins on the Old Playing Field and Station Road as part of spending cuts they have had to make. Please note that it is now permissible to place bagged dog waste in litter bins.

Mail Box by The Old Post Office. Royal Mail has been informed that there have been no collection times on the box for almost a year. The Council is assured that the box is emptied, but Royal Mail seems reluctant to inform customers at what times.

Projects for the Future. The Council are considering small scale improvement projects within the village. One area that will be subject to renovation and improvement will be the Jubilee Garden where the flagstones and seating are in need of attention.

If anyone has any good ideas of small scale schemes that would benefit the village, please contact the Clerk to the Council, or any council member, but please bear in mind that there are limited funds available.

World War II Commemoration. It has been suggested that some form of event could be held in the summer to mark the end of the Second World War. One or two suggestions have already been put forward and a meeting will be arranged to see if there is sufficient support to organise events.

If anyone is interested in helping to plan and organise this, or has any good ideas, please contact the Clerk to the Council.

Hope Valley Rail Line. Network Rail is due to announce updated plans to improve capacity on the route. The proposed passing loop at Grindleford has been dropped and an alternative site is likely to be put forward between Hathersage and Bamford Station. Network Rail plan to hold community consultation events in early 2015.

Elections. As well as the General Election on 7th May 2015, there will also be District and Parish Council Elections. The Polling Station is likely to be very busy!

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 on 01433 631586 or apjacques@supanet.com prior to the meeting.

Alan Jacques

Clerk to the Council

Grindleford

History Mystery...

In Search of the Lost Ford

In the process of delving into local history, one of my fellow researchers has turned up an intriguing mystery. There was, apparently, a ford across the Derwent from the Froggatt Wood side to the fields below Goatscliffe at Stoke. The reference is in a book entitled *The Best of the Sheffield Clarion Ramblers' Handbooks*, edited by David Sissons and published in 2002. Chapter 4 is 'The Story of Baslow's Big Moor' and refers to all the ancient crossings of the moor. A subsection of the chapter is called 'A Dronfield-Tideswell Bridleway by Hurkling Stone'. The particular reference to the river crossing is as originally written by G.H.B. Ward:

The way is difficult to trace down the wood (Haywood), but it comes out by the brook, where it is crossed by the well known track from Grindleford Bridge to Spooner's Lane, and thence into Froggatt hamlet. A little further south of the brook crossing, below the path, and nearer the river Derwent, is a narrow elliptical field and house ruin (and gate post) of the Froggatt family of Gregory called "Toad Pole". I strongly suspect that the true meaning is T'Owd Pole and the place where a post or pole once stood. The longer narrow field ... on the river side is "Long Field". Just SW of "Toad Pole" field was an old river ford. This track, across the Derwent, turns SSW and is lost in three flat fields, but recovered in Home Wood beneath Stoke Hall. It came out on the road 300 yards N. of Stoke Hall outbuildings, and went due W. and steeply up the enclosed dark tree-girt (and slate-quarried) "Blind Lane", which leads to the main road to Eyam. At the top it crossed the road, went SW across the field and into the old Riley Road, which was the older main road, leading past Riley Graves to Eyam. This is a charming road, but—to Blind Lane—a pack road lost probably almost one hundred years ago.

Can anyone offer any information as to the location of the old river crossing? If so, do please contact me.

Alan Jacques

01433 631586

apjacques@supanet.com

Contacts

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Book Worms & Book Group Too	Kay Beeston	631247	kdbeeston@talktalk.net
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Please report any 'Contacts' errors or omissions to the editor: timshephard@hotmail.com

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: grindlefordpre-school@gmail.com

Finally, don't forget 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

Any News?

If there's anything you feel should be covered in the next issue, please don't hesitate to contact the editor, Tim Shephard, on 639449 or timshephard@hotmail.com. You could either write an item yourself, or suggest someone else I could ask to write one.

The next edition will appear in April 2015; the copy deadline will be 1st April.

Any Events?

I am considering adding a Village Calendar to the Grindleford News. If you are aware of any events that ought to be included, please do let me know the details by phone on 639449 or email at tim-shephard@hotmail.com.

The next issue will appear in April 2015; the copy deadline will be 1st April.

Many thanks to all who have contributed to this issue.

THE GRINDLEFORD NEWS is funded by Grindleford Parish Council. It is produced quarterly and is distributed free to all households in the village. A few further copies are also available from the editor.