

THE GRINDLEFORD NEWS

January 2021



The Grindleford Community Shop

ST HELENS CHURCH AND GRINDLEFORD COMMUNITY SHOP JOIN FORCES TO BRING A NEW CAFÉ TO THE VILLAGE Special edition – from our roving reporter

A NEW PARTNERSHIP FOR THE FUTURE



Behind the masks – this is our own Cate Hammond, t/p Grindleford Shop Committee Chair, and Paul Moore, our lovely new vicar. I love the way you can see they are both smiling broadly despite the face coverings. Cheeriness will find a way.

Good news for 2021. We are enormously pleased to announce that St Helen's Church and Grindleford Community Shop are joining forces to bring you a new café in the back of the church nave. The church has been extremely generous in teaming up with us to create this new village resource, which opens the door to all manner of exciting opportunities.

We will be providing our usual excellent coffee, tea and homemade cakes to visitors as ever, but also to our own villagers. Those of you who remember the Saturday morning pop-ups will recall how nice it was to drop by, buy bread, and have a coffee with whoever happened to be around at

the time. We'll lay in some newspapers at the weekend and order extra croissants. We think it's going to be lovely and quite like old times.

We're also hoping that you professional types will use the café to have informal meetings and planning sessions, again over a cup of our nice coffee, with cake to help the thought process.

We're hoping to attract more cyclists too, to boost our profits and also because we just like cyclists. We may not ever quite be another Monyash, but we are at the bottom of the climb back to Sheffield and if we can provide a warm, pleasant space even in horrible weather we are confident that some of these splendid people will frequent us more often.

And in the nice weather of course we still have the garden to sit in under the shade of the old oak tree.

Then slightly more formally, we are hoping to set up some groups, in particular an Alzheimers or Memory café for dementia sufferers and their carers. There is a big gap in the village for that sort of provision, which has by its nature to be during the day, which is when pre-school is in session. We will also be hoping to provide a place for our older teenagers to meet up after school, if we can get a youth worker organised – something for the future maybe. Paul will also be looking to set up Messy Church.

There will be some changes to the interior of the church, to allow a thriving, integrated space. The plans will make better use of the existing space while still preserving the church as a place of worship and, of course, for weddings, baptisms and funerals. Any alterations will be 'undoable' ie the church can easily be put back to its current state when needed.

Please note that no events will take place in the new café which would normally be in the Pavilion. After a rotten year with all events cancelled, the Pavilion needs our support more than ever and has two lovely spaces, including the new room and extensive outdoor provision. So when we can again, keep making those bookings! The church/shop café will be available during the day when the Pavilion is in use.

Part of the project will be to relocate the shop kitchen so that we can knock out the internal walls and put a couple of tables in the shop space. This will allow us to hold group sessions in one of the café areas and still welcome individual tea drinkers in the other. The sky's the limit!

All of this is very exciting and will be a huge step forward for the shop. We hope that, working in partnership with us, the church will also massively benefit, not least in terms of being able to deliver their community outreach alongside the shop's community events.



*Beautiful Christmas window
lights done with the school*



*There has been much evidence
of elves this year. These two
below, plus another, put up 1.4
km lights round the village*



Plans for raising money and involving the community are still in their very early stages and we will keep you abreast of developments as we go along. We are really enjoying working alongside the PCC, as our two organisations have very similar objectives, and two together is much more effective than two apart. We are very happy about our new partnership. If you get the chance to bump into Paul, (not so easy at the moment – but I am writing this on the day the Oxford vaccine was approved, so soon, hopefully!) do please stop and say hallo, he’s lovely!

Meanwhile, we look forward to seeing you down at the new church/shop café sometime this year. There will be vouchers in the newsletter so if you are a resident your first cup of coffee will be free. Tantalising.

Word of the Year 2020 was probably ‘unprecedented’, with ‘lockdown’ in second place. Not words I had envisaged using very much way back in 2019. I am hoping the words for 2021 are going to be things like ‘community’ and ‘hugging’ and ‘new beginnings’, and maybe some good things will come out of the pandemic, like better working practices, less carbon based travel and stronger community bonds, not just in Grindleford but across the whole Hope Valley. And

perhaps, this year, we might see work starting on the new playground upgrade, Grindleford's latest big project. (Do please donate! Ask in the shop for Bev's details if you are not an online giver type). I think we all take our hats off to the younger ones for their stoicism in what must have been a bewildering year.



Handsome George, Lord Maynard. George can be found in the Grindleford Dog Calendar, he is Mr October.

And finally, please may we wish you all a Happy New Year for this year just begun. Thanks for sticking with us through the last one. It was a nasty one, but everyone pulled together so heartwarmingly, ever since March; we had the support network and the prescriptions service, Christmas lights and the carol singing, the Grindleford dog calendar, the foodbank and the masks contributing towards it, mini-Christmas cakes in the shop, you lot working in the shop and shopping in the shop, the tethered Goat, which was much, much more fun and successful than we had

any right to expect, a Remembrance Day service despite everything, with Terry coming up trumps with hot drinks on a cold day; Rob providing us with mouthwatering takeaways from the Maynard, and many other inventive ways to stay together despite everything. Lots of heroes in amongst that list. Would we like to live anywhere else? We would not, I'll bet!



Christmas cakes-inna-basket – only at Grindleford Community shop. Local kindly eggs and some of our famous Grindleford honey, plus homemade jams, gingerbread men and fudge. Awesome! It was a Happy Christmas one and all.

An irresistible seasonal joke



Please can you help me bring about a new playground for the children of Grindleford and those who visit the area?

As a mum of two, I'm very aware of how much all our children have had to give up over the course of the last year with the covid pandemic. Unable to see their friends and family, unable to play in playgrounds even, sometimes some very challenging family illnesses, and the difficulties of home schooling whilst parents are trying to work – it's been a very hard year for them. Like a lot of parents, I feel the children deserve something that's just for them: something that goes some way towards acknowledging what they had to give up, and that, with a vaccine not too far ahead now, hopefully signals that one day things will return to something approaching normality.

Grindleford Pavilion playground has been looking rather tired lately, particularly after it had to be taken out of use for health and safety concerns during the first lockdown period of the Covid pandemic. Whilst there are plans to give the area a quick lick of paint to make it useable in the short term, what the children of the village really need is a new creative and engaging playground to be built from them on the existing site. The site is not Council run, but owned by a charity (Grindleford Playing Fields Trust) on behalf of the village. The charity doesn't receive any public subsidy to manage the playground and is reliant instead on voluntary contributions.

A group of parents, acting on behalf of the Playing Fields Trust are willing to put the necessary time in to bring this project to fruition, and what is being envisaged, following an initial round of consultation on social media, is a natural play space, using environmentally sustainable materials that meets the needs of tiny tots to teens, that is fully accessible and, importantly, that uses the existing challenging site as a natural asset, rather than sees it as a disadvantage. We are still planning further rounds of consultation to test out these ideas with children, parents and grandparents, before settling on a workable solution for everyone to enjoy, but initial images shared with parents and children have seen a very lively and positive response to such a rethink.

We have already made contact with three companies who can carry out this type of work and understand the costs for such a scheme will be considerable – potentially between £20,000 and £30,000 in total. We have only just begun to fundraise but already, we have £1,600 put aside from an insurance claim after the rocking elephant play equipment broke, a contribution from our local Councillor and £500 from the District Councillor. We will be approaching businesses, clubs, organisations, trusts and foundations too. Unfortunately, we are limited in the events we can run at the moment because of the ongoing pandemic so need to rely on the generosity of statutory organisations, trusts and foundations for the majority of the money.

Would you consider making a donation towards realising the project too? Public donations like yours will give us a good chance of convincing the trusts and foundations that the project is viable, and importantly, has the support of local people and visitors. Of course, the committee would be grateful of any contribution, so please do consider us for any amount, as funds allow.

If you would like any further information at all, please don't hesitate to get in touch with me. And thank you in advance for your support. £30,000 is a colossal sum to raise for the children and I sincerely appreciate your help. <https://www.gofundme.com/f/a-new-playground-for-grindleford?>

Very best wishes, Bev Shephard

On behalf of the Playing Fields Committee, a registered charity in Grindleford.

ADDENDUM

Since The News received this article, the Playground Fundraiser reached, then surpassed, it's £3000 target. It's current total stands at £8000.

Horticultural Society

Grindleford Horticultural Society wishes its members and all the community best wishes for the New Year and we look forward to a better 2021. We hope that we can soon resume our monthly talks or, in the summer months, some outings.

We hope to start planning for the Horticultural Society show which is scheduled for August 21st .

Note that no fees are due in 2021 for current members.

As with all small societies we are always on the look out for people prepared to get involved in the running of the society. So if you are interested please don't hesitate to contact us.

Contact details : kay.allinson1@btinternet.com

St Helen's Church

Happy New Year!

Many of us are heartily glad to see the back of 2020, the year of Covid chaos, with so many sad losses of friends and loved ones, lost jobs and earnings, lost flights, deposits, holidays, haircuts, and lost learning for many children and students.

Let's hope in 2021 we'll see a change for the better, with vaccines bringing V for Victory over Covid, and the return of vacations, live music, drama, and communal singing and, yes, a return to proper hugs.

We're told it may take a long time for things to settle down to the new normal, and things will never be the same as before. It's been said, 'We're not living in an era of change, but a change of era' – a cool, but rather puzzling quote from Pope Francis, that for some reason reminds me of that Zen moment before dawn on a winter's morning in January when you struggle into your jumper, and wonder why it's always on back-to-front.

The question is, will we just wait for all this change to overtake us, like a juggernaut roaring down the middle lane of the M1, or will we step up and work together for a positive change, for the kind of future that we want for ourselves, our children, our grandchildren on this our little blue planet home? If we want a greener, fairer, safer, healthier, more caring, less stressed-out life after lockdown, a life that allows our human spirit to flourish and creates generous community, now's the time to get together and start building it. So what's your vision for the new normal here in Grindleford?

At St Helen's Church, we're hoping to build on the very successful partnership between the church and the community shop. We want to expand our welcome through the week, and become more of a community hub for everyone in our village and our many visitors to meet and find sustenance and refreshment for both body and soul. Can it be done? Watch this space. I'll keep you updated.

Paul Moore is Priest-in-Charge of Grindleford, Bamford and Hathersage. He's addicted to music, and hates rice pudding.

Robin Ashmore

Robin was born in 1952 into a farming family in Lincolnshire. He attended school in Pocklington, Yorkshire where he excelled in art and formed his anti-establishment values which he keenly applied to man-made empires; both political and religious. After leaving school he toured Europe with a friend and ceased shaving as soon as they began their journey, his beard recently celebrating its 49th year.



A man of deep faith, Robin joined ashram communities in Nottingham and India and discovered his lifelong love of meditation. He went to Nottingham Art College and applied for a job as a picture framer, a craft that was a mystery both to him and his employer at that time. Once he had learned the skill of cutting glass he applied his talent of beautiful presentation and became proficient in the Victorian art of wash and line mounting for watercolours and hand cutting all of his mounts; selling much of his work at Covent Garden Market and the top UK craft fairs.

He met Julie first in Nottingham then in Wales where he pursued her, mainly by bicycle, to become his wife and mother of his family that became three amazing children. It was always Robin's dream to open his own gallery and framing workshop and he moved his business to Grindleford in 1995 where it grew organically into a well respected and loved place to find fine art landscapes of the beautiful Peak District location.

Even though he lived with the symptoms of MS Robin kept his adventurous spirit alive ranging across the Peak District by mobility scooter, taking photographs and making friends with other MSers in our area. He always kept a positive mental attitude often quoting Steven Hawking, "Be grateful for what you have done, never regret what you cannot do and always keep a sense of humour."

He passed away comfortably at home in November deeply loved and sadly missed by many.

BARRY FACER (1945 – 2020)

The Facer family, by many measures, are not an “old” Eyam or Grindleford family – the surname makes no appearance in the Eyam Plague records (so topical at this time of Covid-19). Harry Facer moved to Eyam with his wife, Elizabeth, and daughter, Evelyn, from Great Bowden, Market Harborough, in 1906 at the request of the new Eyam Rural Dean, Reverend Francis Longsdon Shaw. Reverend Shaw had been Rector at Great Bowden, immediately before arriving in Eyam, and he soon installed Harry Facer as Head Gardener at Eyam Vicarage. (Note: Reverend Shaw also introduced the annual Plague Commemoration Service and helped build the Church Rooms).

But, when Barry Facer passed away earlier this year it was clear from the huge number of messages posted on Grindleford and Eyam Facebook forums that the family had now strongly established themselves as part of the local community and, speaking as one of his nephews, that simple fact has meant so very much to his family at this difficult time.

Barry Facer, grandson of Harry and Elizabeth, was born in Eyam on the 21st December 1945. Along with Malcolm, Shirley and Andrew he was one of four children of Ivor and Edith Facer of Audrey Cottages, Eyam. Barry grew up living in Audrey Cottages until the family moved to live at New Road, Eyam, when he was a teenager, in the late 1950’s. He attended Eyam Village School and, later, Hope Valley College. He was also a member of the Eyam Church Choir and there is at least one photo in the family archive from the 1950’s of a very wet Barry, and the rest of the choir, processing to Cucklet Delph for a Plague Sunday Service in the face of a rainfall deluge.

After leaving school he worked in various local shoe factories, including “Wests” in Eyam and “Lennons” in Stoney Middleton and he also worked, for a time, in the Laboratory at Glebe Mines on Farnsley Lane, Eyam. Later he helped David Ellis on a local window cleaning round until, on David’s retirement, Barry took the round over himself (bringing in additional help when needed). Few could have failed to recognise Barry as he drove around the area in a collection of brightly coloured Lada cars (the vivid green and orange ones are etched in to my memory) each sporting roof racks sufficient to carry his all important ladders. And Barry’s window cleaning round covered a large area, including Bakewell, Calver, Eyam and Grindleford.

Then in 2005 disaster struck and Barry was injured in an accident when he fell from his ladder and was badly hurt. His days of window cleaning were now over and he found new employment over the next few years helping out with food service at “The Grouse Inn”, Longshaw, “The Derwentwater” in Calver and “The Sir William” in Grindleford. But then came his favourite role

of all time as Grindleford School “Lollypop Man”. Anyone who knew him knew how much he enjoyed that role and how it was, very literally, just up his street.

But it is through the world of sport that Barry will most likely be remembered by many readers. As his brother, Andrew, slightly tongue in cheek comments “Barry was always quick to let you know of his sports successes”. At school he was a sportsman rather than a scholar and this continued in later life. Mike Jackson remembers *“I think I was about 10 which would make it mid 50’s. I used to come to Eyam on a Saturday with my Mum to see my grandparents. I played Cricket with Barry using the side wall of the Royal Oak as wickets. My endearing memory of Barry is cricket. He would bat and bowl either handed and I think I was in awe of him. We played for hours on end.”*

Barry played for Eyam Cricket Club, along with his brothers Malcolm and Andrew and his Brother In Law, Barrie Goodwin, and stayed loyal to the club even when, as rumours suggested, he was approached by Grindleford CC and Calver CC both trying to convince him to come and play for them. He did play twice for North West Derbyshire CC (playing in the same team as Bob Winthrope, who also played for Derbyshire Seconds, and Andy Bowers) and he was offered a trial with Derbyshire CCC but never took it up.

What Barry did play for Grindleford, as well as for Eyam, was football and he formed part of a highly successful Grindleford FC team under Eddie Turner as Manager. Included in that team were local players Peter Booker, David Turner (son of Eddie), “Spider” Green, John Mosley, Eric Fletcher and Mick Fletcher. What is perhaps less well known is that Barry’s skills on the football pitch resulted in a trial with Rotherham United FC who were then under the Management, between 1965 and 1967, of Jack Mansell. The trial went well but, unfortunately, Barry was not asked back for a second trial and his professional career ended before it had begun.

Barry also excelled at Darts and played for many years for “The Derwentwater Arms”, Calver, in local pub leagues. But perhaps his greatest hour came in the late 1980’s when he played against, and beat, Keith Deller in a challenge match at the “Derwentwater Arms”. Keith Deller had won the 1983 BDO World Darts Championship, beating Eric Bristow, John Lowe and Jocky Wilson on the way, and had won the Unipart British Professional Championship in 1987 and, as the story goes, he arrived at the Derwentwater in a chauffeur driven Rolls Royce. The format for the evening was that Deller would take on all challengers so long as they put up a £5 or £10 stake and, should he lose, he would return the stake plus the same again as a prize. The story goes that after Barry beat him Deller slipped out of the pub, quite quietly, and never honoured the prize money. Not all sport had to be competitive though and Barry also enjoyed playing a round of golf with friends, often at the Tapton Park Course in Chesterfield. Barry also managed to fit in the time to be a proud gardener.

Barry was married twice but he had no children of his own, but he quickly became a part of his second wife's family when he moved to live on the Main Road, Grindleford, in the late 1980's. As Sue Bardwell remembers, *"Most of my memories [of Barry] are when my son Ben was very young. Barry would take him walking for hours in his push chair. Barry would also take Ben to his Auntie Bettie in Stoney Middleton where they would play cards. Barry always had a smile for everyone when he was on his window cleaning rounds and then as the lollypop man"*

Barry later moved to live on Mount Pleasant Road, Grindleford, and it is there that he spent the last years of his life.

Having only ever lived in Grindleford and Eyam throughout his life, Barry knew many people and many of those friendships went back for decades. Neil Barber remembers *"I grew up and went to school in Eyam, so I have known Barry for most of our lives. Over 3 years ago we bumped into Barry at the bottom of the Moor in Sheffield. We started giving him a lift home [each week] as we live in Hathersage. On the journey we had many a chat, reminiscing about people and days gone. He used to get Eyam News from David Reaney on their journey into Sheffield on the same bus. We were gutted [to hear he had passed away]. Such a shame, he was such a nice lad and we miss him greatly"*

Barry sadly passed away, on the 9th April 2020, after a short illness.

Given the very necessary rules around public events and Covid-19, it was not possible to hold even a small burial service, in Eyam Churchyard, until the 6th November 2020 and it seems fitting to end this piece with words, written by Barry's sister Shirley, that were read out at the graveside ...

"As we say our final farewell to Barry – a much loved brother, uncle, cousin and friend, we thought these words seemed appropriate. As most of you here know – he spent a lot of his former years playing Cricket for Eyam (just over this wall actually). So, we thought we would borrow some words from another gravestone in this churchyard – that of the local cricketer and umpire Harry Bagshaw.

*"For when that one great Scorer comes
To write against your name
He writes - not that you won or lost
But how you played the game"*

We say "Well played Barry"

Simon Goodwin

28th December 2020

Professor Iain Wilkinson

7 July 1964-27 October 2020



Iain's determination in the face of adversity was admired by all who had the pleasure to know him.

Iain's son, Luke Wilkinson, says, "Having faced adversity from birth, my dad, Iain, acted on this and used it to drive him towards becoming a specialist in his field. This determination was something I was oblivious to for much of my life, however now I realise this was a perfect sum of his character. He allowed his health problems/disabilities to guide him towards academic and medical progress rather than disabling him from other aspects of life. It's this cup half full perspective, backed up by innate intelligence and consistent hard work, that made Iain the successful man from a Cornish campsite that he was."

Iain excelled in Physics and Maths and obtained a BSc with Honors in Physics at the University of Lancaster then a Masters in Radiation Physics at St. Bartholomew's Hospital Medical College, University of London before gaining a PhD. He had a very successful career, laterly working for The University of Sheffield where he was Head of Adult Neuroimaging in the MRI unit in the Medical School and the Advanced Imaging Lead for the Sheffield NIHR Biomedical Research Centre and had worked at the University from 1997 until his retirement earlier this year.

Iain loved the outdoors and walking in the Peak District regardless of the weather and spent some of his retirement travelling.

Although no longer with us the legacy of his work will continue to benefit and inspire others, Iain will be fondly remembered and sadly missed by all who knew him.

GRINDLEFORD IN WORLD WAR I

The Story of the Parochial Roll of Honour of 1915

(a Calendar for 1916, and a Booklet)

“I believe that some of these Calendars will be preserved and handed down to succeeding generations, and so help to inspire children yet unborn with Eyam's immortal tradition”.

[Rev. Francis Shaw, Eyam Rectory, 25 December 1915]

“So this is Christmas... War is Over”

[John Lennon, 1971]

I began writing this account in the run-up to Christmas 2020, with John Lennon's words “War is Over” echoing in my ear, and reflecting when our current “War” against COVID-19 will be over. Similarly, for the Rector of Eyam, Francis Longsdon Shaw in 1915, “The Great War”, as it became known, was not yet over. In the next three years, he would hear of the horrors of the Battle of the Somme (1916), and of Passchendaele (1917), and it would be another year before the Armistice was signed, in November 1918. The same year also saw the outbreak of “Spanish flu”, an influenza pandemic said to have infected around a third of the world's population, from its outbreak in February 1918 to 1920. History does surely repeat itself!

The Background

As early as December 1914, the Duke of Devonshire had expressed a desire to create a “Roll of Honour” - a permanent record of the Derbyshire men who took part in the “great war”. A year later, our good Rector took this a step further, to produce a Roll of Honour for the parish of Eyam. The men of Grindleford featured in this Roll, and the research it prompted, are the focus of this article.

The *Sheffield Daily Independent* of 11th December 1915 published one of the first announcements of the Reverend Shaw's plan:

We have received from the Rector of Eyam a copy of the Parish Calendar for 1916. It is a local Roll of Honour, for the portraits of fifty local men who have joined the forces are given. Linking the present with the far distant past there is a picture of the Rev. William Mompesson, Rector of Eyam, 1664-1671. It is 250 years since Eyam's deliverance from the plague, and as brave men were called for then, so brave men are called for now.

We congratulate the Rector, the Rev. F.L. Shaw, on the happy idea he has carried into effect in the production of this calendar. Its interest will be great many years hence; and

whatever the good folk of Eyam may think then, of one thing we are assured : they will recognise that the Rector in 1915-16 was a man of ideas and knew how to get them carried into effect.

The *Sheffield Daily Telegraph* of 22 December 1915 commented on “photographs, splendidly printed on fine quality paper, of fifty of these men [which] appropriately surround the portrait of the Rev. William Mompesson, who so nobly ministered to his stricken flock 250 years ago”. adding that “the parochial roll of honour also includes the names of twenty-two others serving their country”. [there are in fact 34 names of those also serving]

The Reverend Shaw’s hopes that some of the Calendars would be preserved have indeed been realised. One of the Calendars was on show at Eyam Museum’s Exhibition in 2014 to commemorate the Centenary of the Outbreak of World War I, and a Booklet, with similar content, has been preserved in my family.

Neither of the above newspaper references mention the Booklet, but it has the same portraits, and the same list of “Others Serving” as the Calendar. In his introduction, the Reverend Shaw likened the sacrifice of the people of Eyam in the plague epidemic of 1665 to *“the not less creditable response made by Eyam men to-day to the call of their country”*.

It has been suggested that the Booklets were given to the men as they left the village to enlist, and were meant to be carried with them into battle, and indeed this does appear to be the case, since a book “Roll of Honour” was recorded amongst the effects of young Randall Cooper, who died in 1916. However, this does rather beg the question of why I have one! I understand my copy was given to my grandmother, Ada Reeves, but to the best of my knowledge, none of my grandmother’s family were serving during the War. I can only conclude it was given to her as she’d expressed an interest in preserving it - I would like to think so, at any rate, as today it is one of my most precious family heirlooms.

With this in mind, earlier this year (2020), I began a project to identify the men of Grindleford featured in the Booklet, and to track their progress throughout the War. This must remain a “work in progress”, as since I began, I discovered there were many more, whose names were not in the Booklet, but are equally deserving of recognition. Some of their names are also recorded on the War Memorial on the Village Green, and on the Memorial in St Helen’s Church, which also has the names of 4 men who returned home. Others have been discovered in old Newspapers, along with many other fascinating accounts - of the many tragedies, but also of happy reunions; of courage, of pathos, and the spirit of human endurance - the “everyday” soldier would have seen it all.

Let us pause to take a look back at the first Christmas of the First World War.

Christmas 1914



Stille Nacht, heilige Nacht... Alles schläft; einsam wacht

A first-person account in the Derby Daily Telegraph of 31st December 1914 recorded:

... a memorable Christmas Day in our trenches, as we had a truce with the enemy from Christmas Eve till Boxing Day morning, not a shot being fired... The Germans started singing and lighting candles about 7.30 Christmas Eve, and one of them challenged any one of us to go across for a bottle of wine.

One of our fellows accepted the challenge and took a big cake to exchange... We then went half-way to shake hands and exchange greetings with them... The Germans seem to be very nice chaps and said they were awfully sick of the war. We were out of the trenches nearly all day Christmas Day collecting souvenirs.

Reading between the lines, this, and similar newspaper reports may have served to make those back home feel comforted, but thereafter those in command were to decide the opposite was the case, fearing it would undermine the “fighting spirit”... and therefore it was never allowed to happen in subsequent years.

Christmas 1915

One can imagine that in 1915, those serving, and families at home, may have been hoping for the same “Christmas Truce” as in the previous year, but it was not to be. It did, nevertheless give the Reverend Shaw an opportunity to address his “Dear Brothers”, in what we might imagine, for its day, was the equivalent of a Zoom conference call from a room in Eyam Rectory, on Christmas Day. A reproduction of the top portion of the Calendar can be seen below, where I’ve substituted the image of Rev. Shaw for that of William Mompesson:



Revd. Shaw's address (in my Booklet) reads: "As I look at the portraits in this book, and read the names of those who are serving their Country from this Parish, I try to picture you all before me on Christmas Day, and myself conducting a short service of prayer and praise. Of course there would be an address, and this is what I should say: Brothers! I am proud of you, for there is not a man here who hasn't shown that deep down in his heart there is the spirit of Him Who on this day "for us men and our salvation came down from heaven".

Following the Rector's address are the 50 portraits of 'sailors and soldiers', after which is a list of 34 others also serving their Country. There are 20 pages overall, and on the last page are some verses headed '1665-1915', written in August 1915 by "S. L. O'F." This is believed to be Sarah Longden O'Ferrall, a sister of the Reverend Shaw, and the mother of Lieut. Cyril Lucien O'Ferrall, whose portrait is one of the 50 in the Booklet.

The Booklet is approximately 3"x5", and has a light brown 'linen-look' cover, on the front of which is a simple red cross, below which is the caption "In Hoc Signo Vinces". The photographs in the book also include those who survived as well as those who may sadly have died in the fighting. Of the latter, it is a sobering thought that for many, it would be in July the following year, 1916, like young Randall COOPER, mentioned above.

Many of the soldiers and sailors had already been investigated as part of Eyam Museum's Exhibition, but I wanted to take this a step further, by limiting it to the men of Grindleford. My initial difficulty was in deciding who these were! A typical portrait includes the name of the soldier

or sailor, and the regiment, or service they were attached to, but when the forename was limited to just an initial, it was by no means easy. The list I came up with is included in the table below, with forenames added in square brackets. Surnames in capitals refer to individuals with portraits. Names in mixed case are included under “Others Serving”.

First Name	Surname	Regiment
Pte. Frederick	Brocksop	16th Sherwood Foresters
Sapper John [George]	Buxton	Royal Engineers
Sergt. R. [Randall]	COOPER	12th York & Lancaster Regt.
2nd Lieut. Donald [Worrall]	Greaves	Royal Garrison Artillery
2nd Lieut. Vernon Edward Worrall	Greaves	6th Duke Well. Regt
Pte. Joseph	Hodgkinson	3rd Sherwood Foresters
2nd Lieut. Frank [Sydney]	Holland	6th Duke Well. Regt
Farrier Tom	Hudson	Army Service Corps
Pte. Maurice	Kent	2nd Grenadier Guards
Pte. John	Kenyon	16th Sherwood Foresters
Gunner Edmund	Middleton	Royal Field Artillery
Pte. J. [John]	MIDDLETON	Royal Field Artillery
Pte. J. [Joseph John Saywell]	OUTRAM	King's Own Yorkshire Light Inft.
Pte. Arthur	Roose	Royal Field Artillery
Lieut. G.G. [Geoffrey Gregory]	ROSE-INNES	1/6th City of London Rifles
Pte. Benjamin	Thompson	Royal Horse Artillery
Pte. F. [Frederick]	THOMPSON	King's Own Yorkshire Light Inft.
Pte. F. [Fred]	UTTLEY	King's Own Yorkshire Light Inft.
Trooper Charles	Uttley	1st Life Guards

Individual biographies, and service histories are beyond the scope of this account, but may be the source of a future articles, or material for a website, similar perhaps to “Hathersage Remembers”, Hathersage’s own tribute to the Fallen. I have yet to decide.

In the meantime, I will conclude as I began, with another quote from John Lennon:

A very Merry Christmas
And a happy New Year
Let's hope it's a good one
Without any fear

Very happy new year to you all. Thank you for reading this account.

Happy Xmas (War Is Over)" - a single released in 1971 by the John & Yoko/Plastic Ono Band, with the Harlem Community Choir. [ex. Wikipedia]

The words of "Stille Nacht" ("Silent Night") were composed in 1816 by a young Catholic priest, Father Joseph Mohr, In the aftermath of the Napoleonic Wars. It was first performed on 24th December 1818 in Oberndorf, Austria. [ex. Wikipedia]

There are several interpretations of this Latin phrase. The most common is that it refers to a vision of a fiery cross in the sky, experienced by Constantine, prior to the battle of Milvian Bridge, accompanied by words from God that under His standard, the sign of the cross, he would be successful in the coming battle.

Hathersage Royal British Legion - 1914-19 World War - <https://www.hathersage-remembers.org.uk/>

Grindleford Parish Council

Sarah Battarbee, Parish Clerk,
Overgrindle, Sir William Hill Road, Grindleford, Hope Valley, Derbyshire S32 2HS
☎ 01433 630674
✉ grindleparish@gmail.com

Due to a number of factors Grindleford Parish Council had a fairly substantial underspend at the end of 2020 and has therefore been able to fund a number of projects. (This underspend was a one-off because of specific circumstances, and the Parish Council is usually at the limits of its budget under normal circumstances.)

The new playground upgrade. The Council is very pleased to pledge £2,000 for this important project which will benefit the younger residents in the village, who have been hard hit by the pandemic, and their parents; support the pre-school and school; and improve the overall desirability of Grindleford as a place to live. The Council will continue to look for other ways in which it can support this project.

Safer Roads Green Villages. £250 was donated to support this initiative which aims to find a new and more collaborative approach to the issues of walkers, cyclists and cars in the Hope Valley.

£250 has also been given to **the tree planting initiative** for the purchase of tree stock. Planting will begin when Covid allows in Oxhay Woods, in collaboration with the National Trust. A small planting project is also planned along the bank in the bonfire field.

£50 has been donated to the Peak Park towards their initiative to **plant sphagnum moss**, in order to preserve the peatlands which are in a parlous state.

The Council are also planning to **replace the noticeboard**, currently at the foot of the bridge. Current plans are to resite it nearer to the village noticeboard by the bus stop, so that it is easier to check notices on both boards at the same time.

Grindleford Village Precept. PLEASE READ THIS CAREFULLY AS IT AFFECTS YOU.
Every Parish Council receives a precept from the County Council each year to fund its activities. The precept is raised as part of your Council tax. At present, Grindleford's precept covers annual expenditure (insurance, bus shelter cleaning, upkeep of Jubilee Gardens etc) with only a small margin left over.

In thinking about our budget for the year ahead, councillors have become conscious that we set a low precept relative to many (but not all) neighbouring villages. A significantly higher precept would allow us to be more active and able to fund more projects in the community.

In practice: A 25% rise would mean an annual increase for a Band D property of **£4.13** a year which would generate an additional **£1,750** a year for village projects;

A 50% rise would mean an annual increase for a Band D property of **£8.25** a year, which would generate an additional **£3,500** to support village projects.

Each % rise would cost about 16p. For a Band C house, multiply by 8 and divide by 9.

At the Council meeting on 10 December, the majority view was that we should look seriously at a significant increase, before making a decision at the January meeting. **Councillors would welcome any views that people have before coming to a decision.**

The Council is keenly mindful that a rise in Council tax in this Covid year is something which needs to be approached with caution and sensitivity. The balance is between protecting household budgets, if only by a small amount, at this difficult time, against providing support for village projects.

If the majority view is to leave the precept as it is, then the Council will reflect that in the decision they make on 14 January.

The precept will be considered again in January 2022.

Questions you might like to answer are:

- Are you content for the Parish Council to raise the precept to support village projects such as the playground upgrade?
- How much should we raise the precept by – for example £4.13 for the year, to raise £1750, or £8.25 for the year, to raise £3,500? Or leave the precept broadly the same?
- Do you agree that this additional money should form a funding pot for village projects?

Please email grindleparish@gmail.com with the title 'PRECEPT' by 12 January 2021 at the latest.

The precept needs to be agreed at the Parish Council meeting on 14 January. Thank you.

Flooding update. The flood action group met the Environment Agency and Severn Trent a few weeks ago. The chair of the Parish Council has written to the Leader of Derbyshire County Council asking for support in resolving flooding issues in the village. You can see the letter on the Parish Council website.

Trees. It's been reported that there will be a number of roadside ash trees cut down between January and March, at Longshaw, on the approach to the station café and on the Froggatt road. This is because of ash dieback. Many of our local trees are ash, and we can expect to lose up to 90% of them over the next ten years. Our hillsides are going to look very different. Planting schemes therefore have a special significance -we are not planting new trees so much as starting to replace the existing ones which we are shortly to lose.

Speeding and traffic issues. A new group has formed to look at the linked issues of speed and parking. They are currently awaiting further information from our County Councillor. The Parish Council is organising some Speedwatch training for volunteers from the village, within the 30 mph sign. Anyone wanting to report speeding outside the 30 mph should get in touch with CREST. <https://www.crestderbyshire.org/about-us/report-a-speeding-concern/> You can also register with Derbyshire Alert to receive emails about what's happening in your local area; choose from news on local incidents, community news, crime prevention advice and significant or high priority messages. These messages are sent by the police, Neighbourhood Watch and other organisations dedicated to community safety. The service is free. You can register at [register for Derbyshire Alert](https://www.derbyshirealert.co.uk/pages/3528/1/Home.html) or visit <https://www.derbyshirealert.co.uk/pages/3528/1/Home.html>

Disturbance at the station. The Council has been in correspondence with, and has met Network Rail to address the issue of noise and disruption at the station. Network Rail have responded positively and has agreed to change working practices to mitigate some of the effects of the work being carried out at the yard. The situation is being monitored and the Council will intervene further if necessary.



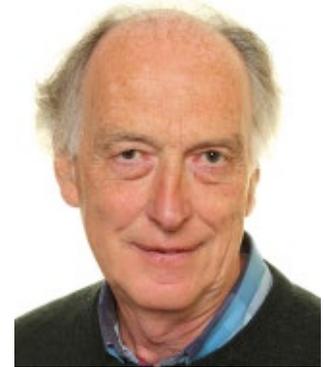
The Parish Council wishes all residents a Happy New Year with hopes for a better year to come. Thank you to everyone in Grindleford who has pulled together in 2020 to help out, cheer us up and just stand ready.

Meetings 2021. Parish Council meeting dates are published in the noticeboard at the foot of the bridge. If you have any issues you would like to raise, please email me on the above address.

Sarah Battarbee

Parish Clerk grindleparish@gmail.com

Peter's Page



News from Derbyshire Dales District Council

Over the past few months, the District Council has been concentrating on supporting local businesses, especially in the tourism sector, as they struggle to cope with the impact of the Coronavirus pandemic. The funding made available by central Government has to be administered locally. Many Council staff have taken on temporary new roles during this difficult time, and worked quietly and efficiently, with over £31 million in grants paid out. Whilst we are in Tier 3, assistance continues to be available for affected businesses, so keep an eye on the DDDC website for details.

(www.derbyshiredales.gov.uk/your-council/news-and-publications/latest-news/3056-daily-business-support-update)

For those interested in local politics, the Council no longer has a Conservative majority, following the resignation of one of their Councillors from the Party. The Conservatives are still the largest Party, but we may now see a more collaborative way of working.

So far this year, the Council has given an extra £300,000 to Freedom Leisure, who run the Council's leisure centres - including Bakewell Pool. The company have said they will probably ask for even more after April; I am unlikely to support this, as I think enough is enough and many other businesses (including Hathersage Pool) have had to get by without financial support from the Council.

The Local Plan for the Peak District National Park is going to be reviewed - not before time, as it dates from 2011. The Plan sets the planning policies which guide what happens locally, so although it's quite a complicated process, it's important that people take an interest. I'm sure the Parish Council will want to express their views, and there is also an initial public consultation available at (www.peakdistrict.gov.uk/planning/policies-and-guides/the-local-plan)

Our bus (and train) services are still running as usual, and both Stagecoach and Hulley's take all necessary precautions on board. The 65 runs to Buxton (via Calver, Eyam and Tideswell) and Sheffield/Meadowhall (via Fox House and Ecclesall Road); the 257 runs to Bakewell (via Calver, Stoney Middleton, Eyam and Baslow) and Sheffield (via Hathersage, Ladybower and Broomhill). The timetables are in this edition of the Grindleford News. I also post them on the Mount Pleasant bus shelters, but unfortunately they get ripped down after a while.

For those unable to use the regular buses, Bakewell and Eyam Community Transport have restarted their "car scheme" for essential journeys. Again, full precautions are taken, and the drivers will wait during appointments etc. To book a journey tel 01629 641922 (10am to 2.30pm) or to make a general enquiry tel 01629 641920 (9am to 5pm)



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7 days a week

AT A GLANCE BUS TIMES - MONDAY TO FRIDAY

DEPART Buxton Market Place	DEPART Grindleford Mt. Pleasant	ARRIVE Sheffield Interchange	ARRIVE Meadowhall Interchange
0650	0745	0826	0852
0910	1002	1036	1101
1110	1202	1236	1301
1310	1402	1436	1502
*1540	1703	1739	-

*(1610 on school holidays)

AT A GLANCE BUS TIMES - SATURDAYS

DEPART Buxton Market Place	DEPART Grindleford Mt. Pleasant	ARRIVE Sheffield Interchange	ARRIVE Meadowhall Interchange
0700	0752	0826	0850
0910	1002	1036	1101
1110	1202	1236	1301
1310	1402	1436	1502
1610	1702	1736	-

DEPART Meadowhall Interchange	DEPART Sheffield Interchange	ARRIVE Grindleford Mt. Pleasant	ARRIVE Buxton Market Place
0912	0935	1009	1105
1112	1135	1209	1305
1312	1335	1409	1501
1514	1540	1617	1709
1653 (X17)	1745	1827	1919

DEPART Meadowhall Interchange	DEPART Sheffield Interchange	ARRIVE Grindleford Mt. Pleasant	ARRIVE Buxton Market Place
0912	0935	1009	1105
1112	1135	1209	1305
1312	1335	1409	1501
1514	1540	1617	1709
1645 (X17)	1745	1820	1912



Highwayman “Swift Nick” and the Grindleford Bridge Shoot Out

Seventeenth century “Gentleman Rogue” John Nevison became one of the most famous of all highwaymen. He hailed from Wortley near Sheffield, where he was born into a good family in 1639 during the reign of King Charles II. He turned to a life of crime initially in the south of England. However, unlike many other highwaymen his reputation was not sullied by murder and extreme violence – in fact he was polite to his victims and stole from the rich and gave to the poor. He earned the nickname “Swift Nick” which was possibly given to him by the King himself due to his dash, ingenuity and fearlessness.

His reputation and notoriety grew with various escapades involving him leaping a chasm between two cliffs to escape pursuit and feigning death by the plague to be carried out of Leicester Gaol in a coffin and then making good his escape.

He appeared in the Hope Valley and preyed on local travellers. One day he befriended a farmer and innkeeper from Padley who had money in his pocket having just sold some cows at Bakewell Market in order to raise the money to pay his rent that was due at Michaelmas (the 29th September). The pair started drinking in the Castle Inn in Bakewell and then the merry farmer and his new friend set off for home.

When they reached Stoke they passed an avenue of dark trees and “Swift Nick” drew his pistol and demanded the bag of gold from his suddenly sobering companion. The farmer begged Nevison not to take his rent money as if it were not paid he would be evicted. The money was still taken but Nevison said he would repay the rent money on the eve of Michaelmas. At which point he turned his horse and set off up the steep rough road to Eyam.

Nothing more was heard by the farmer and at midnight on Michaelmas hope turned to despair. Suddenly, two gunshots rang out from the direction of Grindleford Bridge where an armed night

watchman kept guard. Suddenly there was the sound of galloping hooves followed by that of breaking glass – the rider then rode off into the night.

Beneath the broken window lay a bag containing the borrowed gold together with an extra guinea wrapped in a note bearing the words “Interest for the loan of rent money.”

The story unfolded that Nevison had been up to his tricks at Bakewell market and had been chased towards Grindleford Bridge where he attempted to ride through the river to avoid being seen by the bridge night watchman. However, he was seen and was shot at and “Swift Nick” returned fire before making off towards Padley Woods. No one was injured.

He moved on and continued his life of crime as a highwayman. He was becoming well known and whilst evading capture he shot and killed a Constable called Darcy Fletcher who had a warrant for his arrest. There was a price placed on his head and eventually his luck ran out when in 1684 he was arrested having been found fast asleep in a chair in an Inn.

Nevison was tried for a variety of crimes including the murder of the constable and he was convicted and hanged on the 4th May 1685, aged 45.

Footnote: “Swift Nick” has been called Derbyshire’s Dick Turpin – in fact Turpin was a violent criminal who has been credited with the famous 230 mile ride from Kent to York. In fact it was “Swift Nick” who rode from Rochester, where he had committed a robbery, to York to establish the alibi that he could not have committed a robbery so far away. In fact he played bowls with the Mayor of York who was an impeccable alibi witness and Nevison was acquitted.

Mike Willis

GN’s New Years’ Honours List.

A timely sincere thank you goes to all the stalwart volunteers who ensure that every copy of the News is delivered to your door. If you don’t already know who they are, you will know now!

Upper Padley area delivered by Steve and Janet Slingsby.

Nether Padley, Tedgness and Padley Hill delivered by John and Ellie Wood.

Nether Padley, St Helen’s delivered by Heather Jacques.

Sir William Hill, Commercial Road delivered by Veronica Simpson.

Main Road, Derwent Avenue/Close, Mount Pleasant and Stoke delivered by Alan Jacques.

Thanks very much to you all – keep up the good work!



200 Club - Time You Joined?

We are trying to actually get to a full 200 members for our 200 Club. There have been a large number of new members recently, which is great news, but we do have a few more vacancies and it would be lovely to reach 200 full membership this year. The start of January is the very best time to join as you get the maximum chance of winning the prizes for the coming year.

The current subscription is £12 per annum, paid by standing order.

Prize money is as follows:

Monthly except Christmas: one x £40

Christmas: £200, £150, and £50

Half the monies collected are returned to members as prizes.

These prize amounts are reviewed annually and if more members join then we can increase the extent of prizes. Traditionally there have been larger prizes during Carnival month and hopefully these can be reintroduced if more members join.

The club is regulated by rules approved by the national lottery and amusement act.



Please consider joining if you are not already a member as this is an important element of financial support for Pavilion and Playing Field activities. For more information contact Joy Benn (01433630221).

National Lottery Project

We are very nearly there on the project funded by **The National Lottery Community Fund**: Securing Dry Accommodation for Indoor Activities and Maximising Inclusivity for those Activities.

The outstanding issues are all finishing jobs; one of them is to establish a working down-pipe drain at the

corner nearest the car park to stop it overflowing and freezing on the approach walkway.

Play Area



Much of the play equipment is now quite old and the whole play area would benefit from a more far reaching development. A sub group has been formed looking at schemes and raising funding. There are two key initiatives at this time.

First a consultation questionnaire has been circulated to canvas opinion about the best way forward for the play area. Please take time to give your views about the type of play area you would like.

Secondly the sub group have been actively fundraising through a gofundme page. If you would like to contribute, the link is: <https://www.gofundme.com/f/a-new-playground-for-grindleford?>

Looking Forward to Post Covid, What Activities Do You Want?



We have lots of ideas, or have had proposals, for additional or enhanced activities which might be run in our expanded Pavilion facilities once some normality returns post Covid.

These ideas include: Art club, Craft club, Computer sessions, Board Game club, Sewing club, History group, Supper club, Lecture & wine club.

There would need to be sufficient interest of course. We would welcome your feedback on any of these and your suggestions of other activities you would like to see happening here.

Helpful Technology

The Pavilion already has WiFi for the benefit of this who hire the facility. There is also a hearing loop in the big room to assist the hard of hearing.

Now, thanks to the generosity of a village resident, we have a 55inch 'Samsung Flip' touchscreen digital interactive whiteboard available for users. This can be used as a simple whiteboard, but can also incorporate images or content from a computer and display the active screen of a computer. For any presentation you can create, save and share your material.



You can display images and video. 'Slide shows' and 'films' can therefore be shown on this screen using this technology.

Grindleford

Allotments

Although individual allotments have been kept at their best this year, with many members having more time to tend them, the general repair jobs we usually do in teams have been more tricky to organise. At 2019's AGM we set up a number of working parties to undertake a variety of major improvement projects. The one we managed to make a start on during 2020 is the transformation of the orchard area into a wildflower meadow. We had already removed some deer-damaged fruit trees in 2019 which gave us a larger, clear central area. This area was closely mown during September and October followed by some scarifying sessions and then the seed sowing. We are keeping our fingers crossed that the germination rate is high and we get a good show of wild flowers later in the year.

We plan to renovate the vineyard: replacing posts and some serious weeding this January.





Fond Farewell or Good Riddance?

We know that few of you will have travelled by train from Grindleford Station since March but, when we are finally able to travel freely again, it will no longer be by Pacer! Originally introduced in the 1980's as a stop gap until more practical trains could be brought in, the last journey ended at 5.45 on the 27th November 2020 at Manchester Victoria Station, marking just over 35 years of continuous service in the North of England. During their time Northern's fleet of Pacers travelled more than 300 million miles; equivalent to 630 trips to the Moon and back.

Northern's new trains feature free wi-fi, air conditioning, at seat power and customer information/media boards with real time information. They are also more spacious and fully accessible.

These new trains were very much needed as passenger numbers continued their inexorable growth of over 10% per annum and in 2019-20 exceeded 200,000 at Dore for the first time since 1914!

Railway timetables changed on Sunday 13th December

Mid-December and mid-May are the usual change dates for the national railway timetables but of course this year there have been changes on other dates because of the need to react to the Covid19 Crisis.

On Sunday 13th December most train companies were taking stock of the Covid situation and what the appropriate level of service should be for the next few months. Long made plans for positive change and service improvements in December have generally been put on hold because of the pandemic. Sadly, some services will not be returning to pre-Covid levels for a while yet and there is constant pressure on train crew numbers as staff have to shield or isolate because of the risk of infection.

Manchester Piccadilly – Sheffield timetable continues as hourly.

However, as a result of continued challenges caused by COVID-19, a small number of services which were planned to be reinstated to the timetable from Monday 14th December 2020 will now be postponed until Monday 25 January 2021:

09:42 Manchester Piccadilly-Sheffield (11:07) and 11:14 Sheffield-Manchester Piccadilly (12:32)

The new versions of the timetables can be found at:

<https://www.northernrailway.co.uk/timetables>

East Midlands Railway: The new versions of EMR's timetables can be found at:

<https://www.eastmidlandsrailway.co.uk/timetables>

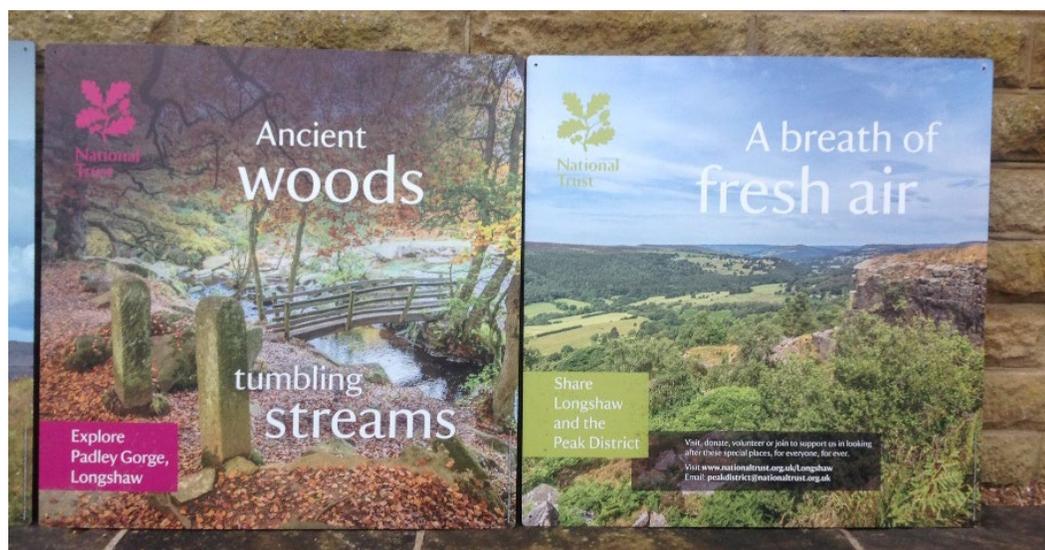
Anyone thinking of travelling by train may be interested to know that the Rail Safety and Standards Board calculated that passengers had a 1 in 11,000 chance of catching COVID -19 on a train. A statistic it was felt was actually a worse case figure with the risk probably even lower. The Head of The Rail Delivery Group said, 'Nobody has detected any residues of C-19 on any surfaces in any rail environment anywhere in the country...the railway is more or less as virus-free as the Rail Companies can make it.

Closer to home at **Grindleford Station**, Steve Slingsby and his son Rob re-erected our history boards, which were removed whilst the platform work was being undertaken, and will be putting up further boards to encourage visiting the Longshaw Estate by train. But our biggest job was the planting of the newly cleared border on Platform 2. With a planting scheme based on the original Midland Railway colours of maroon and cream we have combined a selection of hellebores, honeysuckle, red berberis, spindlebush, winter sweet and bulbs which we hope will give pleasure to anyone using the station. We managed to complete the planting on the afternoon that the the second national lockdown was announced – phew!



Northern have made improvements too, with the installation of LED lights. **And for those of you with hard to find houses, there are now Amazon lockers on Platform 1.**

Our final job of the year was to put up our Christmas lights so even the station played its part in the Carnival Committee campaign to light up Grindleford. We were also pleased to receive £74.85 for our funds from our collection box in the Station Café. Thanks to the café for allowing us to have it there and to all those who contributed.





Grindleford and Eyam Playgroup

Looking back at the Autumn term brings so many lovely memories of the children enjoying all the amazing activities on offer. Puddles have been jumped in, favourite stories have been shared and friendships have been made.

The trim trail at school has proved popular on Mondays and the Tuesday trip to the allotment is always fun as the children dig for worms. On our woodland days we have been exploring new paths and finding exciting places to play.



There has been lots of lovely, imaginative play on the patio and our outdoor blackboard is very popular.



Fundraising remains an important part of our year as we raise money to support running costs, buy new equipment and improve the care of the children.

This term we organised a raffle which raised £340, thank you to everyone who donated prizes or purchased tickets.

We have also sold some gorgeous tea towels decorated with the children's hand-prints, we hope everyone who received one on Christmas day was pleased to purchase one of these lovely items for just £5.



We also have a few of these lovely football tables available for sale, a bargain at £5. They may be a little pre-loved but would still make a great gift for lovers of the beautiful game.

Do you shop at your local Co-op?

By becoming a member and selecting playgroup as your cause you can support us while shopping. The Local Community fund donates 2p for every £1 spent. <https://membership.coop.co.uk/causes/48834>



A reminder that we continue to collect clothes for Recycle4School. We have a box at playgroup, so if you are planning a Spring clean please think of us! Clothes can be brought to the pavilion or get in touch to arrange collection.

We are also collecting printer cartridges so if you have any around or know of a local business who may have some please contact us.

Email gepsupervisor@hotmail.com to get in touch about any of these items

Remember you can follow us on Facebook or visit our website for more information

<https://www.facebook.com/Grindleford-and-Eyam-Playgroup-384845434973898/>

<https://grindlefordandeyamplaygroup.org.uk/>

St Helen's Church

News

A New Year's message from our new vicar

Our new vicar beat me to it in getting his copy in for Grindleford News, so his message is printed as a separate article elsewhere in this edition. He only arrived in mid-November and had found out about Grindleford News, written his article, and sent it in before I approached him to write for us. He has clearly hit the ground running and one can feel his influence permeating through the church already.

Comfort and Joy

The Church of England's theme for Advent this year was "Comfort and Joy". As there were fewer opportunities to do the things that bring villagers into church (such as Christingle and the usual Carol Service) we made a special effort to shine the light of Christ outwards into the village to give a message of joy and hope.

As well as the usual tree lights outside, we bought three wise men to glow colourfully near the church steps: they became famous after featuring in an article in Sheffield's "The Star" newspaper (along with a photo of the lights along the Main Road in Grindleford too!) with the headline "10 pictures of dazzling Christmas lights in Peak District villages that are helping to spread festive cheer".

Children from Grindleford Primary School produced dozens of colourful postcard-sized decorations that were hung in the side windows of the building, and local artists Veronica Simpson and Lex Robertson produced large statement pictures that were illuminated from behind. The photograph shows the splendid piece done by Lex Robertson, which was placed above the entrance door.



Church services

restarted...twice...with some innovative firsts!

We had a very rewarding start to our post-Lockdown 1.0 re-opening of our church for services, which included our first ever outdoor service (as far as I know) for Harvest Festival. The weather was kind and sunny and over 40 people came. Children and adults at one point processed inside in a socially-distanced single file to lay their gifts at the altar, where there were already generous

amounts of food and goods that villagers had donated for the High Peak Food Bank. After three more services, the building was closed again for Lockdown 2.0.

We re-opened on 6th December for a Holy Communion service at our usual time of 9.30am, which was the first service taken by our new vicar. And in another first, on 20th December, we had an outdoor Carol Service in the front churchyard, attended by over 100 people with jingling bells in strict 2m-distanced household groups. This happened at the same time as the so-called “Christmas Star” (the Great Conjunction of Jupiter and Saturn) was occurring in the sky above us and visible for the first time since 1226. What a lovely coming together of things that was!

Details of forthcoming services will be on the noticeboard in the church grounds. At the moment, people will need to book to attend indoor services by contacting Lynne Hawksworth on lm.hawksworth@btinternet.com, or 01433 631372. We will be following the latest Government and Church of England guidelines and face masks will need to be worn inside the church building.

The High Sheriff of Derbyshire’s Peak Pilgrimage



After Lockdown 1.0 restrictions were eased, the High Sheriff of Derbyshire, Tony Walker, walked the Peak Pilgrimage over several days in September and during it visited St Helen’s Church to get his Pilgrim’s book stamped and to collect his Bible verse sticker. He thanked us for our very warm welcome and wrote: “We really did appreciate learning more about the Church

and everyone enjoyed being able to get their stickers and enjoy hospitality from your lovely community shop”. He and his co-walkers raised £7500 for ACE Youth Trust. The photo shows the Bishop of Derby (left), Rev. Bob Jackson (centre), and the High Sheriff (right) and is printed with the kind permission of the High Sheriff.

Private prayer times

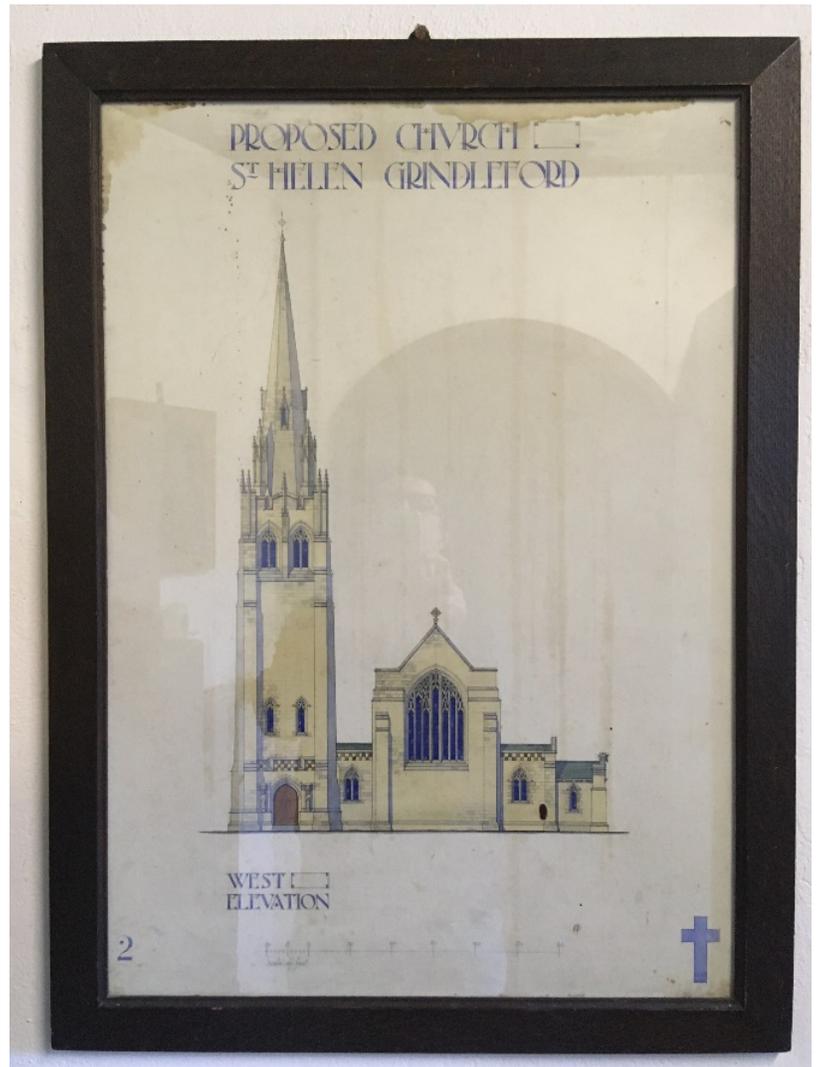
The church is open for private prayer on Wednesdays during shop opening hours. This is unsupervised and it is important that people coming into the church adhere to Government guidelines: sanitise your hands, wear a mask, keep your distance from others, and leave your contact details for Test and Trace. There are notices clearly explaining what is required to keep this time and space safe for all.

APCM

The Annual Parochial Church Meeting was held on 28th October. The PCC now consists of six members: Frank Galbraith, Lynne Hawksworth, Elaine Hutchinson, Peter Hutchinson (who is the Peak Deanery representative), Adrienne Kay, and Sheila Pigott. Nobody put themselves forward to be a churchwarden. Sarah Batterbee continues as treasurer.

The church that is and was to be

In the last edition of GN there was an article about Grindleford College, which included a photograph of the College and St Helen's Church, both surrounded by fields and looking very exposed. The church in that photo is pretty much as it is now, but that was not how it was originally meant to be. I thought readers might like to imagine how that photo would look if the original church building plans were carried out. Here is a photograph of an artists impression of the proposed St Helen's Church, complete with a quite magnificent tower. As an article in the Church Times a few years ago said: "St Helen's was already distinctive. Its hugely impressive Gothic Revival chancel betrays the original ambition for it to be a great church on a grand scale." It's not entirely clear why the tower was never built: it seems that the First World War and the subsequent recession put paid to fundraising and further building. The picture itself hangs in the vestry.



James Allen

National Trust, Longshaw Estate

Despite everything that took place in 2020, some things have stayed the same. Spring brought the return of swallows to nest in Longshaw Lodge, summer saw the haymeadows burst into colour, and autumn echoed with bellowing stags during the rut. Christmas trees sold out, and our woodland work has begun in earnest as we tackle ash dieback and create richer wood pasture habitats for wildlife.

Like everywhere in the Peak District, we did experience a major new phenomena – the volume of visitors to green places post-lockdown. Though this has brought its fair share of challenges, which were picked up by the media including BBC News, Telegraph, ITV News and the Guardian, it is also a reminder of the importance of beautiful places like Longshaw to provide much-needed solace and fun in the midst of difficult circumstances. Looking ahead, it seems likely that increased diversity and volume of visitors will be the “new normal” for us, so next year we are focussing our efforts on educating and inspiring visitors to look after the countryside they love. We are hugely grateful to community groups and our volunteers who pitched in with litter picking and visitor welcome over the summer and into autumn, so a big thank you to everyone for helping us to look after Longshaw.

Staffing changes have also taken place; we have said farewell to Jenny Gerrans, Visitor Experience Officer, as she has moved on to new pastures as a primary teacher. We welcomed all our team back from furlough in November, and the rangers are hard at work felling diseased ash trees. Sadly we have also said goodbye to some of our Peak District team as part of a restructure, following a £200 million loss for the Trust in 2020. We are looking forward to welcoming all our volunteers back as soon as it's safe to do so, and are thankful again for those who have given their time over the last six months.

We're excited to be opening our new café in early spring. The building project has continued on schedule throughout the year and we can't wait to welcome visitors to our greatly improved facilities, including a fully accessible café and toilets, double the number of covers, and covered outdoor seating. We're also looking ahead to the re-opening of our Welcome Building and welcoming school and community groups to the Moorland Discovery Centre.

Megan Carroll, Facilities Coordinator, Longshaw Estate, Nr Sheffield, S11 7TZ, 01433 631757
www.nationaltrust.org.uk/longshaw-burbage-and-the-eastern-moors

Hope Valley Climate Action meet Hope Valley Farmers

Hope Valley Farmers are a group of 45 farmers who share a common interest in conservation and want to pursue the benefits of joined-up thinking. Their farms cover a range of habitats: moorland, native woodland, species-rich grassland, riparian and rivers, and scrub. Hope Valley Farmers have short-term funding to arrange the delivery of presentations or visit experts, to further their understanding of a particular topic and learn about the practical elements. These have been varied in nature thus far, from Mary Colwell about curlews to Professor Ian Rotherham on rewilding. They have visited farmers in Betws-y-Coed who are doing work on moorland in order to sell carbon credits. Huge support has been received from Severn Trent (to help deliver improvements in soil health and water quality) and the Woodland Trust (with large scale tree-planting). Recently, members of Hope Valley Climate Action (HVCA) virtually met members of Hope Valley Farmers and learnt about the type of farm they have in the Hope Valley, and the environmental and conservation work they have been doing.

We heard from a farm of 120 acres of grassland which aims to maintain a parkland effect with individual oak, beech and rowan in enclosures. Wildlife corridors built of hedges link the woodland and copses, with a healthy brown hare population benefiting from this habitat. Kestrels have successfully bred in nesting boxes this year. The sheep are of high welfare marketed locally, with no air miles. Impressive infrastructure has been installed at another farm to deliver improvements in multiple areas. Slurry storage underneath the cattle shed has resulted in 60% less use of ammonium nitrate, representing a major decrease in reliance on artificial fertilizers. When the crops need fertilising, the slurry is injected into the ground instead of being sprayed over the surface. Injecting slurry, rather than spraying, reduces loss to the atmosphere and run-off. We heard from a small-holder who mostly farms sheep on their 50 acres. They haven't used fertilizer for at least 15 years – providing a great example of a low-input farm. They have planted 450 trees to date, consisting of a mix of nine tree species.

Now, in a world where we are pushing for climate change to be at the top of everybody's agenda, you may be wondering why HVCA is seeking to work with an industry highlighted as a key contributor to the very thing we are fighting against. This provides me with an opportunity to bring everybody on board the journey I have started towards a greater understanding of the role of farming in today's society. I tend to not get bogged down in statistics, because they can lack transparency in terms of what the numbers are based on. What I am concerned with is whether farming is intensive or sustainable. Intensive farming aims to maximise yield, achieved by methods

such as a heavy use of pesticides and chemical fertilizers. Sustainable farming is the balance between producing good quality food (which is good for our health), protecting the environment and conserving biodiversity. The latter is not easy, for you earn more if you farm intensively than if you farm sustainably. Supermarkets have been a key driver of this, by driving the price of food down into the ground. Sustainable farmers need our support now more than ever. A good place to start is by recognizing that there is a difference between intensive and sustainable farming, and to not tar all farmers with the same brush. Generalising in this way hinders progression in sustainable farming – if nobody recognizes, understands and actively supports sustainable farming, then we shall never progress to the bright future where this is the mainstream model. Furthermore, our local farmers are striving towards this sustainability. I have given examples of the environmental and conservation measures they have already implemented, and their work is ongoing. There will always be ways to improve and we can only look in at our own lifestyles to recognize that. It takes time to overhaul a system, and when you're doing this within the context of an economy that does not support it, it's difficult. So, let's empathize with each other and begin to work together.

If you are interested, feel free to email me at rebeccaclairethomas@gmail.com

Grindleford Primary School needs you!

Could you be a school governor? I write this as a member of the Grindleford Primary school board of governors. Our wonderful primary school has remained open for the whole of a very challenging 2020. Who could have predicted what would lie ahead for ourselves and our children when the spring term began last January? During the first lockdown the headteacher and staff were on site every day for the children of key workers and to support those children working remotely at home. Since restrictions were relaxed over the summer, they have all worked hard to operate safely under the current guidance, and during a second lockdown and further restrictions. The school is small and there are pros and cons to being a small rural school in the current situation but the major con at the moment is that none of the staff is able to take a break during the day as they have to remain with their bubble at all times and cannot meet together at all. The governing body salute their efforts and hope that they will be able to get some rest over the Christmas break.

The governing body have been doing their best to support the efforts of the staff via remote meetings and attempting to carry on with the normal business of education at a time when all our carefully made plans have been thrown into disarray. Everyone is really hoping that the situation will normalise a little as we start the new year. However, the school is now looking to recruit a volunteer to fill a vacancy on the governing board. The board is made up of nine members representing staff, parents, the Local Authority and the community (co-opted governors) and would welcome anyone who feels that they could offer their time to join as a co-opted governor. There are no particular qualifications for the role – just a desire to support the headteacher and staff in their work to raise the standards of achievement of all their pupils. I have summarised the responsibilities of a school governor below, but in my experience over the last two years it has also been an enjoyable journey – the face-to-face meetings (and also some of the remote ones) often include food – usually cake - and drink -tea in school and whatever you fancy when online - and good conversation (always) as well as the normal business discussions.

The Governing Body consists of nine members:

- 2 parent governors
- 1 LEA governor
- 2 staff governors
- 4 co-opted governors (currently 1 vacancy)

How much time does it take up? There are currently nine full governors meetings, three per term mostly in the early evening to cater for those who work full time. There may be occasional daytime meetings. There will be papers to be read in advance. There is a clerk to provide administrative support and all new governors receive support in the form of nationally designed induction training plus additional training for other functions and regular briefings by the local authority.

If you at all interested in joining please contact the chair of governors:

helenf@grindlefordprimaryschool.co.uk

Fathers Tales is back!

After languishing in the doldrums of the Internet for several years, Fathers Tales is back online! Thanks to my son, Simon and his friend Berie Stott it has been restored to its former glory and the new version will also have additional articles and photographs about the village.

Here is a resume of what it is all about and this is the website address. www.fatherstales.co.uk

My father was a great storyteller, especially of tales about Grindleford, the village that he loved so much. During his latter years he retold these stories to me time and time again. I always found them interesting, poignant and amusing – I never tired of hearing them.

My brothers and myself often suggested to Dad that he should get the stories set down in written form, to preserve them for posterity. He did make a rough start at this, jotting down the bare outlines of some of his favourites in an old exercise book. Sadly, he died before getting very far with them.

It was when this exercise book was found that I decided to type out the stories so that all three of us, Peter, Malcolm and myself could keep a copy as a family memento of Dad. When I had done this, I was left with only five or six pages of material, and I realised that many of the stories were missing. I then resolved to write down as many of them as I could from memory, plus the valuable help of Mother!

Like all good folk-tales they may not all be literally true, they may stray slightly from the original event. That though, is the story-tellers prerogative!

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&

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- **Annual subscription £12,**
- **to join contact Joy Benn (01433630221)**

Looking after ourselves, looking after each other.

How are you? No really, how are you? So often we might pass a neighbour and ask that question and then keep walking before they can answer. So I am asking you to take a moment, and stop and think about how you are.

Poll reveals concerns over Christmas loneliness in Great Britain

Two in five are worried about relatives or friends feeling isolated in the coming weeks

- [Coronavirus - latest updates](#)
- [See all our coronavirus coverage](#)



▲ Many older people will face Christmas on their own this year. Photograph: Shotshoo GmbH/Alamy

Since I read a report about record levels of loneliness in the UK I have been thinking about what we can do to help ourselves and each other in our community, especially as I work in the field of mental health. I thought I might share some of what I know can help us when times get tough. I don't write this as an expert telling you what to do, but as a neighbour sharing what they know from their own experience, and what they have learnt from helping others going through tough times.

You will have an abundance of ways to look after yourself. The key thing is to make it a conscious act. Stop and notice...How do I feel today? What am I thinking about? Am I doing too much of something? What can I do to make today a good day? Do I just need to accept that today is just not going to be a good one? There are lots of resources available to help you look after yourself. The next page outlines some of them

Action for Happiness

<https://www.actionforhappiness.org>

This is a great organisation with loads of advice on, well, happiness. They are very much based in research and established theories. They have an app for your phone, a ten day free coaching course on improving your wellbeing, resources on positive parenting and much more.

Mindfulness

Mindfulness has become a bit of a buzz word and sometimes is presented as an answer to everything including world peace! However, I know through personal experiences, and reading the research that mindfulness can really work, if you find the right approach for you.

“Mindfulness means paying attention in a particular way: on purpose, in the present moment, and nonjudgmentally.” Jon Kabat-Zinn

There are lots of resources out there to guide us in mindful moments. I recommend **Headspace**, an app and website that gives you a free ten day trial. It is free to any NHS worker. I also use the **Calm** app, which has a subscription but access to a range of meditation and mindfulness activities, chilled music, podcasts. Here is a simple 2 minute breathing exercise that I find helpful.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5DqTuWve9t8exercise>

Self compassion

In a world that encourages us to be hard on ourselves and others this book helps us to practice self compassion. The Compassionate Mind Workbook: A step by step guide to developing your

compassionate self. Chris Irons and Elaine Beaumont (2017). I'm happy to lend it out if you would like to look before you buy.

Mind.org.uk

A charity that provides advice and support to empower anyone experiencing a mental health problem, or people close to them.

In times of mental health crisis the [Samaritans](http://www.samaritans.org) are there on www.samaritans.org tel: 116 123, as is [NHS 111](http://www.nhs.uk).



Exclusive / Antidepressant use in England soars as pandemic cuts counselling access

Covid Most new and expectant mothers feel more anxious, finds survey

Case studies How anxiety during lockdown led me to prescription drugs

Sophie Heason

Group	Name	Phone	Email
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Goat	Dave Kirkup		info@grindlefordgoat.com
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Lunch Club	Carol Galbraith	631376	
Padley Chapel	Celia White	630352	celia.white@btconnect.com
Neighbourhood Watch	Peter Hutchinson	630351	
Grindleford News	Colleen and Diane		grindlefordnews@gmail.com
Parish Council	Sarah Battarbee		grindleparish@gmail.com
Play Group	Sophie Grant Pauline Bowman	07842 095402	gepsupervisor@hotmail.com
Playing Fields	Steve Benn	630221	highmead201@btinternet.com
Primary School		630528	info@grindlefordprimaryschool.co.uk
Primary School PTA	Lyndsay		Website:grindlefordprimaryschool.co.uk /pta or email via the school address
Rainbows	Chloe Fogg	639250	grindlefordrainbows1@gmail.com
St Helen's Church	James Allen		drjcja@gmail.com
Village Website	Matt Heason	639378	matt@heason.net
Youth Club	Ian Barker	639330	youthclubgrindleford@gmail.com

Useful Websites:

Grindleford Community Shop: www.grindlefordvillageshop.co.uk

Check out all the activities going on in our pre-school and primary school:

www.grindlefordandeyamplaygroup.org.uk and

www.grindlefordprimaryschool.co.uk

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

If you are new to the village 'welcome' and we have a dedicated section with

information: <http://www.grindleford.com/welcome-to-grindleford/>

Any News?

If there's anything you feel should be covered in the next issue, please send an item to the editors at grindlefordnews@gmail.com.

The *Grindleford News* is quarterly, appearing in January, April, July and October.

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 editors and is available to view on the Village webpages.