



The Bugle



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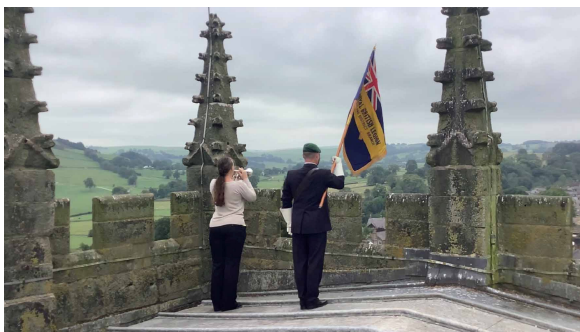
No. 228

September 2020

Youlgrave remembers the 75th anniversary of VE and VJ Day

At 11am on 8th May and 15th August this year, Youlgrave remembered the 75th anniversary of VE Day and VJ Day and 75 years of peace.

The Youlgrave Branch of the Royal British Legion and bugler Helen Mellor commemorated the anniversaries together. Helen beautifully played the Last Post, Reveille and National Anthem on both occasions and Nick Barnwell dipped the Standard for the occasion on top of Youlgrave Church tower.



Helen Mellor and Nick Barnwell on top of Youlgrave Church tower.



David Camm and Gordon Shipman after the recital and laying of the wreaths.

David Camm, Chairman, recited the Act of Remembrance followed by the Kohima Epitaph for VJ Day (Nick Barnwell for VE Day) and wreaths were laid by both men, and Gordon Shipman, to commemorate this significant anniversary. A wreath was also laid in memory of Peggy Johnson, Royal British Legion member and a former Wren in WWII, who celebrated her 100th birthday on 4th August, and who sadly passed away shortly after.

Thank you to all those who turned out to both events to share in these special occasions.

Youlgrave Branch of the Royal British Legion

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Car park cash box stolen from Coldwell End car park

Your parish council is disappointed to report that our post-mounted Honesty Box at Coldwell End car park was sheared off and stolen around 19th August. As it is regularly emptied, the donations would have hardly been worth the effort, but the proceeds ensure that visitors cover the maintenance and cleaning of the toilets they use; and the costs to replace the box won't be cheap. Please be vigilant for our community assets and report any incidents to both the police on 101 and the Parish Clerk or Councillors.



Before and after.

Council has increased its cleaning to ensure toilet facilities were reopened and maintained to deal with the flood of tourists to the Dale, and is giving its full support to our new PCSO who has suggested that double yellow lines are introduced to curb inconsiderate parking. This is something that the Parish Council has repeatedly raised with the Highways Authority (Derbyshire County Council), but so far with no success. In addition, Council has been active all summer in calling out Derbyshire Dales District Council to deal with the excess waste from so many visitors and to try to get the message across to "take home what you bring". Particular thanks must go to our District Councillor, Graham Elliott, for his efforts all summer to address this problem.

Our next meeting is on 29th September at 7:15pm. It's currently by Zoom, as we are still advised to keep to that method, but a final decision will be made when the agenda is set and posted on www.youlgrave.org.uk and PC noticeboard during the preceding week. *Matthew Lovell, Clerk to Council*

YOULGRAVE WATERWORKS: SECOND INSTALMENT DUE

Youlgrave Waterworks would like to remind our customers that the second instalment for those paying by this method is due on 1st October and all accounts are due in full by 30th October 2020.

Whilst Covid has hampered some of our plans, the renewal of the pumps and pipework at the back-up source has been our major investment to date this year. Our AGM is still planned to be held in the Reading Room on 19th October at 8pm unless Covid requirements prevent this. We will let you know if there is a change of venue, or we have to hold a Zoom meeting, in the next Bugle.

waterworks@youlgrave.org.uk

Derbyshire County Council: lorry prosecutions will continue

Lorry drivers who continually flout weight restrictions on roads and bridges are being warned by our Trading Standards team that they will be prosecuted, after nearly 40 successful cases were brought by officers in just 6 months. We successfully prosecuted 38 cases between October 2019-March 2020. Drivers were caught across the county in 11 different locations, with 4 'hot spots' of Stanton by Dale, Swarkestone Causeway, Winster and Youlgrave accounting for 30 of the cases brought. All but 5 of the 38 defendants came from outside of the county and the fines were up to £880 plus costs.

An offence is committed when a lorry driver breaches a weight restriction we have put in place. These restrictions typically prohibit lorries above a certain specified maximum gross weight from entering villages. Drivers of vehicles significantly over the weight limit and repeat offenders are then considered for prosecution. It's the driver that tends to be prosecuted as they've effectively ignored the prohibition signs which are in place at each restriction. DCC Cabinet Member Cllr Carol Hart said: "The latest prosecutions show that there are particular areas where offences occur and we're vigilant in monitoring these, but residents throughout the county can be our eyes and ears and report any suspected violations which we will investigate."

DCC press release, 07/2020



Fountain Square (photo by Martyn Gillie).

Community Speed Watch Group proposed for Youlgrave

I write with concerns regarding the safety of pedestrians, pets, residents' parked cars and property, due to vehicles travelling through the village and around at speeds in excess of the speed limit.

I have been in touch with an officer from Derbyshire Constabulary and he suggests we set up a Community Speed Watch volunteer group in Youlgrave. I have agreed to find as many volunteers that I can and let him have a list of names.

Each individual would receive training in the use of the hand-held speed cameras and would be authorised to use them to record the speed of vehicles travelling through the village. We would place notices in the village on the day to say that there was a speed camera in operation. Volunteers would be in groups

of three and would be required to wear a high vis jacket.

This is a great opportunity to make a difference to the safety of all residents, pets and visitors alike.

I'm sure that there are many places throughout the village that would benefit from having a deterrent in place.

If you would be prepared to give a few hours every now and again please give me a call on 07877 556318. The more volunteers we can get will allow a regular presence on the streets and show the offenders that they will have to slow down through Youlgrave or face the penalty.

Many thanks
Eileen Bacon (Mawstone Lane)

Youlgrave Surgery Flu Services update

For the attention of all patients eligible for flu vaccinations 2020

Making an Appointment:

- If you are **over 65** and eligible for the flu vaccination you can telephone the Practice NOW to pre-book your appointment (*not all clinic dates will be available from this date*)
- If you are **under 65 'at risk'** and eligible for the flu vaccination, **from Monday 21st September** you can telephone the Practice to pre book your appointment (*not all clinic dates will be available from this date*)
- Under 18's & Children's flu vaccinations can be pre-booked from early October.

Attending a Flu Clinic Guidance:

- If you are **unwell** or experiencing any **COVID-19** related symptoms such as a high fever and or a persistent cough or loss of taste or smell you **must not attend** the Practice for your flu vaccination, please telephone the Practice to reschedule your appointment.
- You should **attend** your flu vaccination appointment **alone**, unless you require a carer with you for support. This is to ensure that we can manage appropriate queues and Practice footfall to protect both valued patients and our staff.
- Vaccinations will be delivered in **order of appointment time, not arrival time**, therefore, you will only be allowed to queue up to 5 minutes before your appointment start time.
- Please **do not arrive late** for your appointment, if you are late you may be asked to wait until the end of the clinic to receive your vaccination.
- If you **require seating** whilst in the queue, please advise staff upon arrival.
- The **Flu Clinic queue** will be co-ordinated from the Practice car park
 - Upon your arrival a member of staff will be available to mark your arrival.
 - Outside the Practice you will need to follow the Government **social distance guidelines**.
 - Upon entry into the Practice you will be required to wear a **face covering**, unless you are exempt
 - You should provide your own face covering where possible.
 - During the queue inside the Practice you need to follow the **tape queue lines** to ensure that you are following the Practice's **social distancing guidelines**.
 - After your flu vaccination you will be asked to **exit** the Practice via the **fire door exit** nearest to the consulting room and walk around the building to your car. This is to promote a one-way system and reduce any risks of social distancing challenges.

*** Please help us to help you by ensuring we have an up-to-date contact number and email address for you**

News from Youlgrave, All Saints' C of E Voluntary Aided Primary School

Reflections from Year 6, Class of 2020

The last term at Youlgrave Primary school before the summer holidays was definitely a strange one. On 20th March we all thought that it might be our last day at school, but we were very glad to be able to come back to school on 1st June - even if things were a bit different. We all had to wash our hands a lot more, our tables were spaced out in the classroom and we had to try and social-distance



Year 6 pupils relaxing on the playing field.

around school which meant we had to have a one-way system. At lunchtimes Mrs Prince cleaned our desks for us and then we ate our dinner in the classroom; and when we went out to play we had to stay in our bubbles, so the playground was split into three and we either played football, dodgeball or basket-ball.

Many of us came back to school on 1st June and some came back a bit later. We also had Oscar come and join us for our last half-term. His school wasn't able to open, but his Granny and Grandad live in the village so when they heard Youlgrave school was opening they asked if Oscar could come and join us for a while. It was really nice to have Oscar in school and he made some new friends ready for Lady Manners.

Even though we had to change lots of things we were going to do, we still had some fun in this last half of term. We did some work about moving up to Lady Manners, including lots of work in a transition booklet, we were able to use Ipads in school a lot and enjoyed our Wednesday afternoon Lego lessons. We had a zoom meeting with Mrs Osborne from Lady Manners and we also filmed our Leavers' video and spent some time down at Bankside filming our song.

We also really enjoyed being able to have our Y6 sports day where we were able to do our Year 6 dressing-up race. It was a very hot afternoon but we had lots of fun and an ice-lolly.

In the final half of term we shared many memories from the last seven years at Youlgrave All Saints' Primary and although we were upset to leave school we were all very excited to be going to Lady Manners.

Year 6 Class of 2020

Youlgrave Wildlife Notes: July and August

Our two main summer months have given us some extremely hot spells, some violent wind and rain storms and some spectacular lightning. The combination of warmth and rain has allowed our plants to flourish and a survey in early August produced the highest monthly count of flowering wild flowers, 94 species, in more than 10 years of recording.

It would seem that this has also favoured some late broods of birds. We have had several very young robins in the garden. One, on 26th August, had no sign yet of the red breast. A family of 15 long tailed tits was seen in West Croft Close, as well as numerous young finches and blackbirds.

One of our local success stories is the increase in numbers of red kites. Having nested at Keddleston previously, last year they nested at Chatsworth as well. I do not yet know if they nested locally this year, but sightings have become common place with three seen together at one point. Another bird of prey success story was a local peregrine falcon nest. This was raided just as the first clutch of eggs was due to hatch, but the birds nested again and were about to fledge when I last looked on 24th July. Young birds, with parents, have also been seen, though not necessarily the same family. Buzzards, too, have done well. A group of six, presumably a family, were seen on 17th August and buzzard cries can often be heard around the village.

Sparrowhawks have been frequent visitors to garden and kestrels are not uncommon. The swifts seem to have done reasonably well this year, though reports of numbers seen have been very variable. We certainly have a good population in Youlgrave. I thought they



Cinnabar moth caterpillars (photo by Maggie Ford).

had gone by 15th August, but then a flock of around 19 were seen on the 19th. These may, of course, not be our swifts, but some passing through on migration.

Swallows and house martins got off to a bad start this year. The very hot weather when they should have started nesting meant that nice damp mud was hard to find. Some swallows, at least, have had late broods and both have been flying freely over the village. A mixed flock of around 30 have been over the village around the 25th. I hope this doesn't mean they are leaving us early. I would have thought they should be here for a few weeks yet.

Now for the saga of the swans. When I first saw them, soon after hatching above Conksbury Bridge, there were five cygnets, sometimes climbing on the parents backs. Swan families usually keep together, at least up to their first winter, but just three cygnets were seen near the swimming pool, with no sign of the parents, around 15th July. Then one disappeared and the remaining two were taken back to the parents on the Lathkill. Briefly, there were three again when two of them took off down river. A

dysfunctional family, I feel! [See Judith Orchard's article below – Ed.]

Once again Youlgrave has been host to peacocks (or hens). A white one caused some havoc at Coldwell End and another visited Conksbury Lane.

There have been plenty of butterflies recorded during these last two months. Comma, peacock, red admiral, various whites, small tortoiseshell and gatekeeper have all been seen.

Some cinnabar moth caterpillars have been doing their best to control ragwort and a hawthorn shield bug was found.

The weather does seem to have favoured the birch trees as we have been covered in tiny birch seeds recently.

A shrew and a vole were seen down Holywell Lane.

My thanks to the contributors to this article: Andrew M, Penny, Simon, Maggie, Edwina, Richard, Kathryn, Mike, Ian, Pat, Laetitia, Edwina, John, Andrew L and Trevor.

Ian Weatherley
48iweatherley@gmail.com

The story of the ugly ducklings

Once upon a time there were seven ugly ducklings. They lived by a bridge in a river called the Lathkill. They didn't look like their parents who were elegant white swans. They were all fluffy, gangly and grey. One day they floated down river with their parents, to where two rivers meet at a place called Alport, and when they swam round the river bend none of them had the strength to swim back up the waterfalls. Some people saw them and thought "How sweet!"

They were big enough to feed themselves and were not worried when they swam up the next river, called the Bradford, but people only saw five of them, and thought "How sweet!" The parent swans swam and flew around the area, but never saw them as they were grey, fluffy and camouflaged.

More people saw the swans on the lake in the beautiful valley, but didn't know they had lost their cygnets. Soon there were only three and they played with the people swimming in the river. They didn't know it was dangerous or where their siblings or parents were. They didn't know that people had been watching them and had been ringing lots of places to get them help and rescue. For days they had been trying to contact the RSPCA, the RSPB, Derbyshire Wildlife, the police, Swan rescue and others. Everyone promised to help, but no-one did, and soon there were only two. The people were so worried that one day, while the river warden tried to find the parent swans, some nice people threw towels over the ugly ducklings and took them out of the river and into a car back to the Lathkill. Soon the swans were reunited with the two ugly ducklings and they all lived happily ever after.

So, thank you Jim, family and friends for taking action, and in the future, please, when you are walking the riverside and see things that are not quite correct, ring Jan Hobot, the river warden on 07718 636128, who can take action at the right time.

[The third cygnet was found two days later and returned to its parents in the Lathkill.]

Judith Orchard



Clarice Brenda Kenworthy (1929 – 2020)

Brenda was adopted at 10 days old by Mr and Mrs T. Oldfield. She spent her childhood in Youlgrave with two wonderful people who took on a small child to care for. They already has two sons of their own and grandchildren, so no small task at their ages. Brenda went to Youlgrave School, and along with her best friend Margaret Boardman she attended the Wesleyan Reform Sunday School.

After finishing school Brenda went to work at Old Hall Farm and during the 1947 snow was delivering milk around Youlgrave along with Jim Shimwell. She often told the tale of how very cold it was and that people really don't know what cold weather is today.

Her granddaughter, Olivia, often laughed when Nana started on about 1947!

Later Brenda left to work as a nanny to the two Walker children of the famous Walker Christmas puddings, where she stayed until she married her husband, Joe, on 20th December 1952 in Youlgrave Church. Another cold, snowy day.

Rachel Housley (daughter)



A beautiful place – but still a green desert for bees

There have always been beekeepers in Youlgrave trying to produce honey, and since 2009 when the group was trained every method has been tried with enthusiasm and optimism. People often ask for honey and it seems this area just cannot produce what it should. Having tried various methods, including colony homes, feeds, treatments, genetics, apiaries in the village, this year I set up two extra out apiaries in Birchover and Rowsley. My new colonies in those environments are producing more in their young lives than my new or old ones here. Why?

Having considered all reasons, I believe there is a lack of forage/food. Our season starts late with flowers by the end of May, and the early cold ends the foraging even if flowers such as ivy, (a godsend for bees,) are available in autumn. June is wonderful with the limes here, but come July there is nothing. August is known as the 'gap' here. It's the June gap in the south. So what can be done?

Most foragers work alone and fly from flower to flower. You will see Bumble bees everywhere in your garden. Honey bees talk to each other and tell their friends to go to the place with the most flowers and the highest % nectar, and will fly up to one and half miles to get it. We need your help. – and your garden will benefit. So as you start planting bulbs, take cuttings this autumn and set seeds in the spring, please consider areas to plant plants for pollinators, but also particularly for the honeybee, who has a short tongue, and will be directed to larger areas of the same flower, or even better, bush or tree. Take note that all pollinators need simple flowers with just one ring of petals for each flower.

And our farmers could consider leaving more areas to flower, combining trees and bushes with their stone walls. Maybe then maybe together we can provide the village with local honey regularly. Judith Orchard. 0773 4714227

A short history of Youlgrave C of E School

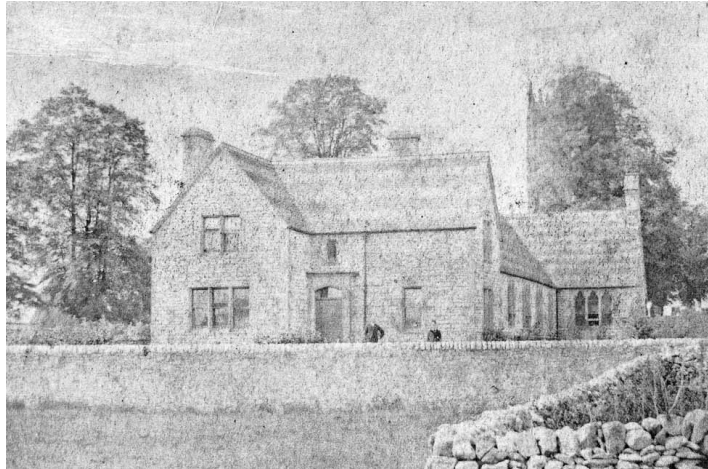
Prior to 1867 there were no formally established teaching facilities in Youlgrave and the surrounding villages. A school building committee was formed comprising the Rev William Malam (vicar), Samuel Bennett (Alport), Thomas Robinson (Birchover), George Kenworthy and George Coates (Youlgrave).

Mr S. Rollinson, the Chesterfield Schools architect, was appointed. His approved design was a building with two long

classrooms containing cloakrooms for boys and girls, a small classroom, an attached school house and a range of service rooms along the south boundary wall containing the coal stores, privies (earth closets) and a boys' urinal. The classrooms were designed with high ceilings. High Gothic style windows were situated on gable walls providing good ventilation, necessary during hot summer days because hygiene standards in the 1860s were not as good as today and crowded classrooms became very hot and smelly.

The building was constructed of coursed local limestone walling with gritstone finishings, quoins, lintels, jambs, cills and window surrounds. The roof was laid with three courses of red plain tiles, alternating with three courses of patterned tiles from the ceramic ridge down to the verge.

The structure was erected by local craftsmen William Shimwell, William Toft and Thomas Kenworthy at a cost of £1,131 12 shillings and sixpence (or £1,131,



Youlgrave School House and part of the school, from the east side, taken before the infants department was added in 1892.

62½p). The school was also used as a Sunday School and quoting from an early document: "The Sunday School scholars numbered nearly 200 boys and girls, most of them attended up to being married, Mrs Malam teaching the first class of girls, Rev Malan teaching the boys. They did not think themselves too big or too old to attend, so different from today."

A plan prepared in 1909 by S. Morewood, architect, Bakewell, shows extensions carried out at that time: a small room on the north west corner at the front of the building and a new cloakroom at the rear of the nursery classroom.

Further internal alterations and external additions have been added at the rear of the building in line with changing educational requirements, all the rear of the school.

However, the school today looks little changed from what it looked like in 1909, especially when viewed from Alport Lane.

Gordon Coupe, Youlgrave History Society

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YOULGRAVE CINEMA RE-OPENS

We still have 2 unshown films left over from April and May in the 2019-20 season, and aim to show them both during September, as always, in the Village Hall. Last season's members will have priority at these showings, and have the right to free admission. We are asking that members are in their seats by 7.20 pm, so that seats not taken can be offered to non-members. The charge for non-members will be £4.

So, on Friday, 4th September we will be showing “Red Joan”, and on 18th September, “Can You Ever Forgive Me”.

NEW SEASON - We start the 2020/2021 season on Friday, 9th October, at 7.30 pm, with the opening film, “The Personal History of David Copperfield”. In view of the uncertain situation there will be no membership this year, and our cinema will be open to all. Everyone will pay on the night, £4 per film. Each film will be advertised on posters around the village and at the showing of the previous film.

For your diary, the proposed Fridays for the 2020/21 season are as follows:

2020 - 9th October, 30th October, 20th November, 11th December,

2021 - 8th January, 19th February, 19th March, 16th April, 7th May

Our aim is to keep everyone safe, and a detailed risk assessment has been conducted by the Cinema committee with the Village Hall. The results are shown opposite.

We look forward to welcoming you on 4th September, and so does Judy Dench, in “Red Joan”.



Youlgrave Cinema – Covid 19 Precautions

We aim to keep everyone safe and, to that end, a detailed risk assessment has been conducted by the committee and Village Hall.

Anyone who has displayed symptoms associated with Covid 19 in the past 14 days or who has, in the past 14 days, been in contact with anyone displaying such symptoms, should not attend.

The following is a list of the precautions we will be taking:

touch points around the entrance, toilets and hall will have been disinfected.

hand sanitizer will be placed in the lobby, and must be used by all on entry.

there will be a maximum of 30 seats available.

audience members will come straight into the hall and take their seats.

contact details will be taken.

it will be possible to reserve seats by phone, but reserved seat must be taken by 7.20 pm on the night.

the cost of seats will be £4 per film which will be collected before the film starts (we ask that you bring the correct change if possible).

we will not be providing wine in the social room after the film.

the toilets in use will be those in the entrance lobby, and only one person will be allowed in at a time.

audience members will have access only to the main hall, entrance lobby and toilets.

social distancing will be observed throughout, including entry and departure.

ice creams will be sold. Buyers are asked to form a distanced queue, and have the correct change available, if possible - Bradwells Tubs £1.75, Magnums £2.

masks must be worn – except when eating ice creams!

And we all hope things will be back to normal in the not too distant future.



Church Farm Diary, September

What wonderful summer weather we have had! It's been very good for crops and gardens, but not for fruit. Out of all our fruit trees we have only one with apples on. I am told that this is because of the very strong cold wind we had just after a frost, so no doubt apples will be expensive this back end.

Silaging is coming to an end and we have had lots of good crops, but reading in the Farmers Guardian I see that oil seed rape is having a hard time, with lots of crops have been damaged by Cabbage stem flea beetle. Bee keepers are already feeling the impact of the decline in OSR area with honey yields down this year. Farming depends such a lot on nature.

I have not ventured into any town yet. If I can manage without I'm fine. With the help of deliveries and local shops everything will be OK. What it will be like when the dark days and nights come will be another story, hopefully there will be a vaccine for covid by then. Youlgrave has been very lucky to not have been too affected by the virus, just by loads of people coming to the 'Swimming Pool', and we are all hoping that they have not brought any germs with them.

The picture of this plant that I found on the riverside is still a mystery. One picture is of the plant before it flowered; it then looked like a Triffid and when it grew it was quite disappointing as it looked more like an elderflower. If anyone has any idea what it is I would love to know.



Marjorie Shimwell

WANTED: 4+ BEDROOM DETACHED HOUSE IN YOULGRAVE

We are lucky enough to have lived in Youlgrave for the last four and a half years and have loved every second. The recent "lockdown" period has made us all appreciate how fortunate we all are to live in this village, in such a beautiful part of the English countryside and Peak District National Park. With the family having grown since moving in, though, we recently conceded to the fact that we need to find a bigger house. Our house on New Road has therefore now sold subject to contract however we'd really, really love to stay in the village. A good sized garden is important to us and we would consider a 2-3 bed house with scope to extend. If anyone is considering selling up or knows of any properties that may become available soon that fit these criteria, we'd love to hear from you. Also, we're likely to go into a rental property otherwise, so again if anyone knows of a 3+ bed house available for rent in the next couple of months for 6 month+ period, please get in touch.

Many thanks, Tom & Gill Williams, tomwilliams82@hotmail.com or 07843623635

Recipe of the Month: Mexican chicken stew with rice & beans

Ingredients

1 tbs olive oil
1 onion sliced
2 red peppers deseeded and chopped into large chunks
3 tbs chipotle paste
2x400g chopped tomatoes
4 skinless chicken breasts
5oz long grain rice
400g pinto beans drained
small pack coriander most chopped and few left whole
juice of 1 lime
1 tbs sugar
natural yogurt to serve

Method

Heat the oil in a deep frying pan and fry the onions and peppers for a few

mins until softened.

Stir in the Chipotle for 1 min followed by the tomatoes.

Add the chicken breasts with up to a tomato can full of water to cover them and gently simmer for 20 mins until cooked through.

Meanwhile bring a large saucepan of water to the boil and add the rice and cook for 12-15 mins, add the beans and stir in the coriander and lime juice check for seasoning.

Lift the chicken onto a board and shred using two forks.

Stir back into tomato sauce with sugar then season.

Serve with rice and a dollop of yogurt sprinkled with black pepper on the side, then add then whole coriander to chicken.

Marjorie Shimwell

Shoebox collection is going ahead in spite of Covid19



Nick Cole, Director of Operation Christmas Child UK: "Throughout the pandemic Samaritan's Purse has been able to respond to meet the physical and spiritual needs of so many. I've personally overseen the use of our Operation Christmas Child warehouse to pack and deliver essential PPE kits to over 400 projects across the UK. Our field hospitals have treated COVID-19 patients in Italy and New York and our teams are working hard to fight the virus around the world.

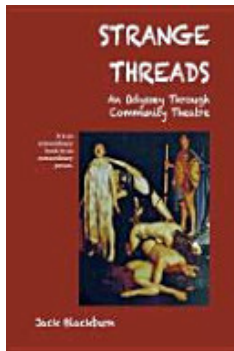
Alongside this work I believe it's time to ensure vulnerable children have a reason to smile. Through Operation Christmas Child we can create thousands of joyful moments and give lasting hope as children receive shoebox gifts."

So here in Youlgrave we'll carry on with this good work of bringing happiness and delight children who have suffered so badly during this pandemic. Leaflets will soon be available in the churches, shops and pubs with all the details especially, and this is very important, with any changes of things that CAN'T go in your shoebox. You can also buy a shoebox and chose what goes in it...all on-line! Go to <https://www.samaritans-purse.org.uk/what-we-do/operation-christmas-child/>

Boxes will be collected, (not sure how/where yet!) probably weekend of 31st October/1st November. For more information and offers of help please, contact Barbara Scrivener on 01629 636601.

Pommie: The Village Play

Having been one of the extremely vulnerable and seriously locked down since early March, it's brought back to mind how wonderfully the village mixed and worked together on 'Pommie', the village play, nearly 40 years ago. The following account of the way we pulled together in those more carefree times is an extract from my book 'Strange Threads'. It's about my Community Theatre work in the Peak District and beyond. By **Jack Blackburn**.



Barbara and Alistair Scrivener recall memories:

It was very dark. I could hardly see anything but slowly I managed to pick out strange shapes, and then realised the shapes were men, standing very still. To the left an old woman sat on a stool, dressed in black with a white crocheted shawl over her shoulders. Slowly she rose and spoke. I can't remember the words she spoke but the tale was, for me, one of the most moving scenes in the play. She was retelling the tragic happenings in 1932 at the Mawstone Mine on the edge of the village. It was here, at one of the very last lead mines in Derbyshire, that 8 miners became trapped underground after an explosion. None of them survived.

There are many lasting memories but this is the most poignant. I doubt there was a dry eye in the whole audience. Standing figures in blue light lamented by a solitary wife, over voiced by the tape of a surviving miner of the period.

This was one of 12 scenes in the play called Pommie (the nickname of Youlgreave) directed by Jack Blackburn in the summer of 1986. (Barbara)

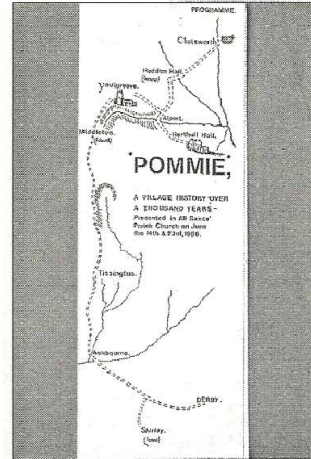
It all started like this... A letter arrived at Youlgreave vicarage from some Americans who were coming to "look up their roots" as Americans do. The carved tomb of Thomas Cockayne in the church led to a proposed visit from the American branch of the Cockayne Society whose request to visit Youlgreave gave birth to the idea of a performance to celebrate the occasion when the letter was passed on to me. (Alistair)

We visited Jack Blackburn and suggested to him the possibility of some sort of pageant. This did not interest him, but he said he would work with us on a village play from ancient to modern times.

* * * * *

I was delighted when Alistair and Barbara asked me to help create a performance in the village where I had come to live 4 years previously. Village plays, living memory theatre and community drama were growing phenomena in the 1980s. Perhaps in some ways a response to the Thatcherite claim that there was no such thing as society? I had already contributed to the production of a historical play in the village of North Wingfield and closely followed the progress of a living memory project at Junction 28.

This new invitation was an excellent opportunity to extend my experience. I wanted villagers involved at every level, which include writing the scenes that required specific scripting. Seven people took up the challenge of researching and writing a scene each: I took on a couple myself and prepared linking narrative. First drafts were skeletal, basic information passed between 2 or 3 cyphers, but the writers quickly learned how these might be flashed out with character traits, incidental action and tangential dialogue: "Nar then, listed to me wilt tha' for a change." "No, I won't; tha's had thisay let me tell as it were". "Ah shut it - tha knows nowt", etc. And of course the same technique is equally effective with the upper classes: "Forsooth, I wouldst that thou wouldst list me sire." "Nay, sir knave, not I, for thou hast spoke since cockcrow as it were." "Pray silence fool, thou knowest naught of that which thou dost speak" - as she scratches her bum, etc, etc.



And it was fun to meet and plot and thicken every scene. I wanted a balance of seriously dramatic and comic scenes with as much lively action and visual stimulation as possible, the whole punctuated with music and song appropriate to the chronological succession of the scenes.

Youlgreave has a particularly large and impressive church where the play was to be performed, and I wanted use to use the space as adventurously as possible. The project had the support of Derek Gibling, the vicar, and the Bishop of Derby gave his blessing. We were able to remove some pews, install raised platforms, fix screens and set up a complex sound and lighting rig which did not interfere with the architectural integrity of the building. The scenes began to fall into place.

* * * * *

Barbara and Alistair Scrivener continue:

The idea for the opening scene of the play grew from the premise that there were a number of interesting historical themes that would work well dramatically. The idea that took hold was to trace the early growth of the village from key wood or stone carvings. For example, the carved pagan image of the bat creature in the parish roof became a 'Chinese Dragon' that screamed it way into the nave as a symbol of disorder, to be confronted by the arrival of Christianity; a musical sense of harmony provided by a viol consort, the Plant family of Bakewell.

From this starting point the script developed. However, somehow a play materialised. BUT next were needed actors/actresses... from a small Derbyshire village. It was amazing where they all turned up from and even more amazing to find so many people with undiscovered acting skills! The oldest performer was in her late seventies, the youngest were infants from the village school.

And so the play took form under Jack's expert directing powers. There was a dog on stage and a real hawk. The costumes looked authentic, we had early music with viols, and people all dancing and singing portraying scenes of past life in the village.

There was a duel which was incredibly realistic with swords flying in all directions up and down the central aisle. This memorable scene resulted in the death of Thomas Cockayne, and the death-scene was very moving.

Another memorable scene was the opening of the first tapped well in the village in 1829. Since that time we have been proud to have our own private supply of good fresh spring water. This was a hilarious scene presented as a Mummers Play with Judith Green dressed up as the well and all the lines in rhyming verse. It was acted by many of the local lads of the village, who on performance nights had to be extracted from the nearby hostelry to which they retreated in order to gain courage to play their parts, and they certainly brought the 'house' or rather, the church, down!

In the end we had 79 actors and singers and musicians performing, plus another 30 offering backstage and front of house assistance. At the very end every single one was on stage singing the finale song specially written all about Pommie being a fabulous place.

Each performance was sell-out and the Americans were most impressed. It is fascinating looking at the video of the play now, some 28 years later, seeing youngsters who were eight, nine or ten then who are now thirty-five years old, many married with their own children at Youlgrave School.

Charlie Watson describes his involvement in the play:

Easy to understand – we're going to do a play about Pommie, you're going to write it and you're going to act it.

Not easy to understand – how?

Easy to understand – I'll direct it.

Again not easy to understand – but how can we write it if we can't write, let alone act if we can't act?

The measured intensity of those blue eyes, the hit of the coffee, the shared shuffling, the start of some ideas, Jack sliding that line he does so well between little boy quiet in a corner and full-on-in-your-face telling.

Not easy to understand – but who on earth's going to come and see a bunch of am dram dramatists despoiling the venue of the church by their well-meaning venture, popping out historical tablets of Youlgrave (Pommie) in some vague attempt to be both informative and entertaining?

Easy to understand – Jack says who cares if nobody comes, it's worth doing and we'll be the richer for it.

Easy to understand – fine, don't then, I'll get someone else.

Not easy to understand and easy to understand – ego gets tripped, challenged, smarting I find myself saying OK I'm in.

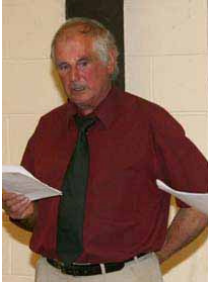
And so we came to do it. We actually did it. I got to play Sir Thomas Cockayne and fought a snarling, clatter of sword wielding fight the length of the nave with my friend Paul, viciously attacking as I parried every thrust, every sweeping slash. I got to die. He struck me with a cruelly savage blow. I staggered to my death at the foot of the altar steps. We floated and we were buoyed by Jack's confidence, encouragement

and sheer belief, we began to trust each other, then to enjoy each other, and emerged with a pathetic pride in what we achieved and the sheer doing of it.

And the church was full. And we had to do another performance.

Self-discovery and all that, but a helluva good time in the making.

Looking back – easy to understand.



* * * *

A second volume 'Stiltman' includes recollections of arrival with my family to live down Bankside in 1981. Both this and 'Strange Threads' are illustrated and available at £10 each. Proceeds to village charities. Call me, Jack Blackburn, on 01629 636689.



Dear Editor

My 4-year-old grand daughter, April Wilson, had been watching with great interest what her Auntie Laura, had been doing. When asked, Laura told April that she was raising money for charity to help people by selling off some of her paintings. April decided that she would like to do the same and that the money she made should go to (in her words) children that don't have any toys. So, with the help of her amazing Auntie Laura, she sold 16 of her original hand-drawn pictures (see example below) and raised a whopping £60, which has been donated to the Action For Children charity. We're all so very proud of her.

Karen Wilson
Youlgrave



Dear Editor

I would to say a hearty "thank you" to those who gave donations for the planted painted tins of edible plants and for the village shop offering space and looking after the plants. £100 was raised for Jigsaw Food Bank in Matlock. Well done!

*Phoebe Shaft
Youlgrave*

Bugle deliverers wanted for New Road and Alport rounds

Would you like to do your bit for the community and join the Bugle team?

We're looking for someone (or a family) to deliver to properties on New Road; and another in Alport. It's unpaid but easy – and you get some good exercise and meet people! Please call Andrew on 636125 or email him at andrew.mccloy@btinternet.com if you're interested or would like to know more.



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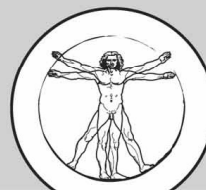
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Sustainable in Youlgrave

John Orchard explains how investing in domestic solar power has dramatically cut his energy bills and made his home self-sufficient.

Judith and I moved into Youlgrave in 2008. We became aware of Sustainable Youlgrave, a group with the aim of promoting sustainable living. Judith joined the committee with great enthusiasm and I followed later. The main problem with sustainable projects is that they are long term investments. Everyone wants to see results, but with sustainability, patience is the key.

On 1st October 2010 the Peak Park was no longer able to insist on a blanket ban on solar panels. On that day I installed my first panels. To begin with our house had an old and leaky water cylinder. I replaced it with a dual coil highly insulated cylinder in 2008 and waited. My first solar project was solar thermal panels, which fed one of the two coils with an alcohol-based solution heated by the sun in a closed loop. The heat generated kept the tank water at 60 degrees so the gas boiler had only a small input to hot water. As the other coil was part of the central heating system, load on this was reduced.

The result was 20% reduction in gas usage/energy bills. Over 10 years the system has paid for itself twice over and continues to give. The only repairs have been one vacuum leak less than £100 to fix and a failed sensor cost 60p but £300 for the cherry-picker to access it.

Next I installed a 4KW photo-voltaic array to generate electricity. It attracted a grant, but was still expensive at net cost £15,000. However, it also attracted a top Feed in Tariff (FIT) of 40p per unit or £1,500 per year. It has never had any problems. Over time FIT has changed and now is only 3p per unit unless, like me, you are on the protected tariff of



John's solar roof panels.

56p per unit.

I have added a battery, having waited until they were thoroughly tested, which stores unused power in the day to recharge my electric vehicles, or do the washing, etc, overnight. A solar powered immersion heater boosts the temperature in the water cylinder so no gas is used until four showers/baths have been taken in the day.

I have now reached the point of sustainability. My entire installation costs have been met. My total energy bills from a company called Bulb are less than the income from the solar panels, which should last at least another 15 years.

What of the future? Successive governments have reduced FIT payments until they were abolished in March 2019. The payment had "over performed". On a target of 500,000 installations, it had reached over 750,000 by 2015. Surely, that was a great success? What are still available are grants for ground and air-source heat pumps. These are most efficient on new build properties and, in

the case of ground-source pumps, difficult to retrofit.

But why is the government throwing money at insulation and ignoring the potential of solar energy? Since the FIT changes, employment in the solar power industry has dropped by 60% and yet we could build panels in the Peak District. Unemployment looms post Covid. Solar power could save these

jobs and more importantly the planet. Lobby your MP, county councillor and district councillor to return FIT payments that allow solar panel installations.

Next time your heart sinks as energy bill goes up exponentially, don't just pay it and shrug your shoulders. Think if you could do more to manage your energy and use your roof for more than keeping out the weather.



A time to look forward

Good fortune shone down on us at our very first W.I. event since March. The forecast was dreadful, but for the evening of our Garden Trail the sky became blue; in fact, it was very hot, as were the colours of our floral efforts, interesting pathways and curios, and some clues were thrown in for fun. Small teams of members followed selected gardens using a clever grid created by Cath Fellows. The visitors were very complimentary towards every different property. Eventually a few of us remained behind to enjoy our picnics in the park under the welcome shady tree. A rare chance to meet and relax and generally catch up. Team Rimmer won the garden quiz, with Laetitia's team winning the open air quiz. Possibly two runners won a lively race with or without spoons and eggs (a ladel was supplied by one canny lady) but the winning didn't matter, as we all felt happy just to be together again.

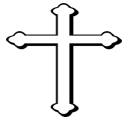
On September 8th at The Village Hall, at 7.30pm, we are resuming our W.I. meetings, this time with a felted jewellery item thanks to Sandy Read, with BYO supper, and both the W.I. and Hall regulations will be followed, as expected. Members will need to book in as we have a limit on numbers, but we hope that the evening will be a success. The subject of Craft stalls has been discussed, although our Craft Group has not been able to meet for a long time.



Two of us 'Zoomed' along with members from Derbyshire Federation, realising that we shared similar ideas and hopes for the future. We have a Zoom representative for the Autumn Federation meeting and are forming a Resolutions Group. Committee have been working hard to listen to members votes and ideas to produce a varied Programme for 2021. Several keen helpers have come forward to enable us to run the meetings more efficiently, with the extra precautions now in place.

In October we still have our Annual Coffee Morning booked in at the Village Hall on October 17th. Details of the October W.I. meeting will be announced shortly. As many other social groups begin to awaken, albeit with extra care, it is a time of hope and relief that we can look to more shared W.I. activities and a guaranteed future within the village. Best wishes to everyone.

Liz Hickman



From the Churches

Autumn draws in and the schools are going back...but to what? In so many ways the regular pattern of activity is less regular than ever! We know that covid-19 is in retreat, but far from defeated. The risk of spreading or catching it still governs much of the way life is organised and much of our behaviour in public. Many jobs are at risk. And the possibility of a no-deal Brexit looms... it's easy to feel very insecure. We need to find the confidence in God the Psalmist expressed in Psalm 46:

*"God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.
Therefore will we not fear though the earth should change,
Though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea...
'Be still, and know that I am God.'
I am exalted among the nations, I am exalted in the earth!'
The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge."*

The church did not cease activity during the lockdown –it simply became more small-scale and less visible. The sick were visited on their doorsteps, shopping was delivered to those who were shielding, the locked-in were phoned, Sunday reflections and prayers were emailed weekly to all who asked. Since late July, worship in church has been resuming gradually and under strict conditions – face masks, sanitiser...! Like others I have found it a real deprivation not to be able to sing. Hymns sung on YouTube or simply recorded hymn music have been played and we have hummed along.

We have not been able to share tea, coffee and chat after services, so a mini-picnic has been planned after church on September 6th – weather permitting, of course! Do join us if you can.

The church continues to be open, supervised, two sessions a week: Sundays 10am-12 noon, including the morning service, and Wednesdays 1pm-3pm.

SERVICES IN SEPTEMBER

Sunday 6th September

9.30am Stanton Morning Prayer
11.00am Youlgrave Family friendly Morning Prayer
Followed by outdoor drinks and refreshments, weather permitting
6.45pm Middleton Evening Prayer

Sunday 13th September

11.00 am Youlgrave Morning Prayer

Sunday 20th September

9.30 am Birchover Holy Communion
11.00 Youlgrave Holy Communion

Sunday 27th September

9.30 am Stanton Morning Prayer

11.00 am Youlgrave Holy Communion

Sunday 4th October

9.30am Stanton Morning Prayer
11.00am Youlgrave Harvest Festival Family Service
6.45pm Middleton Evening Prayer

See church noticeboards or websites for further details

For services at other churches:

Youlgrave Methodist contact Margaret 636558

Youlgrave Wesleyan Reform contact Isobel 636251

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Middleton by Youlgrave Village Hall
villagehall@middletonbyyoulgrave.org.uk, 636532
Youlgrave Badminton Group, Thurs 10-12 noon, Village Hall, John Youatt 636241
Youlgrave Bellringers, 636576
Youlgrave Bowls Club, contact Sharon Sansom, 636712
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Youlgrave Day Centre (Monday Club) at the Village Hall, 10am-3pm, contact Shirley Brassington, 636310
Youlgrave Methodist Church, 636558

Youlgrave Parish Church, 636576
Youlgrave Parish Council, 636151
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Youlgrave Preschool, 07494 522615
<http://youlgravepreschool.org/>
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Youlgrave Silver Band, Thurs 7.30pm
Methodist Hall, Learners 7pm, 630202
Youlgrave Village Hall, 01629 828215,
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CHURCH CONTACT POINTS

Wardens: Andrew Parker, 01629 636757,
andrewparker10@yahoo.co.uk (general enquiries, funerals). Brenda Harrop, 01629 636638
Baptisms: Andrea Willans, 01629 636004 or 07942 922307, mrswillans@gmail.com
Weddings: Denise Figg, 01629 636526,
denisefigg.wed@gmail.com

Deadline for the October issue of the Bugle: Friday 25th September



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