

# The Bugle

A chance to blow your trumpet for the villagers of  
Alport, Middleton and Youlgrave

No. 43

March 2002

## An invitation to the Reading Room

Many readers will by now have visited Youlgrave Reading Room, restored to its former glory after an exhaustive refurbishment. And the historic building, situated next to the George Hotel, is set to hold a stimulating series of events.

**Adult Education Sample Day** is on Saturday 16 March, with tutors in attendance. Probable topics include Computing for All; Using a digital camera, scanner, or any other software package; Trace your Family History; Sign Language; Creative Writing; Family French for Holidays; Garden Design; and Diane Kettle's Art Class. Come along and discuss what will be on offer (for session times see local noticeboards).

Regular events include the **Drop In Morning** for all ages, every Tuesday, 10am-12.15pm, with newspapers, cards, Scrabble, talk, tea and coffee. (Are there any volunteers who will offer to transport those who have difficulty getting about?)



*Eyes down for bingo at the Reading Room. (Photo: Bill Moore)*

It's **bingo** every Wednesday at 7.30 pm. Numbers mean prizes! And there's also the possibility of regular **Literary/Debating** and **Classical Music sessions**, probably using one-off meetings to gauge interest. Watch the noticeboards! Finally, the Reading Room AGM is on Monday 8 April, 7.30 pm.

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## Discovering the secrets of a treasure chest

This time we share the splendid work done by Year One at Youlgrave School.

Camilla Parker (5) imagined she had found an old chest on the beach. It once belonged to an old lady and inside were: 10 silver and gold rings, 9 beautiful jewels, 8 fur muffs, 7 big black scary spiders, 6 little fans, 5 long red ribbons, 4 painted wooden dolls, 3 old coins, 2 sparkly silver dresses, 1 yellow necklace.

Alice Marsden and Talita Henderson (both 5) decided that the chest was lost when the old lady, called Claire, was a teenager. Her servant forgot about it while he went to swim in the sea wearing his long red and white striped swimming costume. Claire was tall and slim with golden hair. She wore a gold dress under her red pinafore, which was decorated with yellow lace, and her black boots were fastened with silver buttons.

Aiden Marsh (5) imagined that he found a dirty old chest in a river. This one belonged to a pirate and contained: 10 maps of islands, 9 gold coins, 8 golden cups, 7 yellow and blue bags to carry sticks, 6 telescopes to look out

to sea, 5 skull and crossbone flags, 4 sharp pointed swords, 3 feather pens to draw maps, 2 books of maps to help find treasure, and 1 small creepy black spider.

Oliver Harrop (5), Kieran Travers (6) and Adam Wilson (5) described the pirate: Edward James, the black-eyed pirate was very big and strong.

He wore a chain round his neck, a bright red coat with golden buttons, trousers rolled up to show his wooden leg, a spotted handkerchief round his head, and a black hat with a feather in it. On his shoulder he carried a many-coloured parrot. He hid the chest in the river so no-one could find it, but drew a map for himself. Great work, Year One!



*A pirate, by Oliver Harrop*

*Mrs Ryder*

## Youlgrave W.I. spends an evening in New Zealand

At the February meeting a letter was read out from Stanton W.I., who were to represent us at the I.G.M. in Brighton and unfortunately cannot do so. We unanimously accepted Jennifer's offer to fill the vacancy. The arrangements for the Spring Group Meeting, hosted by us, on Tuesday 23 April, are coming together quite well, but please bring your efforts for the competition (a congratulatory message to Queen Elizabeth) to the March meeting.

To celebrate the Queen's Golden Jubilee this year a social afternoon has been arranged at Garden House—and hats are the order of the day.

The Speaker for the February meeting was unable to attend, so Roger Easton very kindly fixed us up with a TV and video

recorder and we were able to enjoy a talk and video by Jennifer on New Zealand. In New Zealand the climate is temperate, like our own, but there are volcanoes, geysers and hot pools. The flora includes 2,000 indigenous plants, and there are flightless birds—yes, more than just the kiwi! Apart from the cities the homesteads were all bungalows, all the settlements had their own museums which were very important to them; and above all the people were very friendly. Thanks to Jennifer and Roger for a very enjoyable and instructive evening.

We meet next on 12 March, and the Speaker's subject is the Aquabox. Please bring something to go into the box when despatched to a Third World country.

*K.M.B.*

## New village policeman finds the right beat

Outlaws beware: there's a new sheriff in town! He's tall, square-jawed and dresses in black—but there the similarities with Lee Van Cleef or Clint Eastwood end. Instead, he drives a regulation white car (not a horse, unfortunately), and glorifies in the rather enigmatic title of 'Beat Manager'. But you'll be pleased to know that he's still a very nice chap.

PC 417 Iain McGregor has taken over from John (Jack) Elliott, who for all too short a time was Youlgrave's 'Village Officer'. They have now been replaced with so-called 'Beat Managers'. What's the big difference, then?

"Rather than be responsible for one or two villages and carrying on a response role, I have been taken off response duties and have 16 communities south of Bakewell to patrol and liaise with," explains PC McGregor. "These include Youlgrave, Winster, Stanton, Birchover, Flagg, Monyash, Taddington and Chelmorton across to Hartington and Earl Sterndale. I shall be responsible for liaising with the community, Neighbourhood Watch, local schools, parish councils, visiting other local groups, and occasionally holding surgeries and foot patrol."

Iain McGregor began his career with

### *Music Fest reaps rewards*

Organisers of the well-attended and evidently successful Music Fest, held on Youlgrave's playing fields towards the end of last year, handed cheques of £1,000 to Youlgrave Primary School and £1,000 to Lady Manners School. Well done, Phil!



*PC Iain McGregor*

British Transport Police in London, and assisted at the Clapham and King's Cross disasters. He transferred to Shirebrook, Derbyshire, in 1989, then moved to Bakewell in 1992. He says working in a rural situation of strong local communities suits his personality and style of policing. "After 15 years or so in the Police this is the kind of work I've always wanted, and I look forward to the challenges ahead. I hope it will ultimately bring the Police service closer to the community we serve."

Married with two boys, Iain enjoys winter sports such as cross-country skiing and skating (the sledging conditions this winter in Chatsworth Park were particularly fine, he reports). He also enjoys playing classical and jazz tunes on the clarinet and saxophone.

If you wish to speak to Iain regarding community-based matters call him on (01629) 762029. If you need to report an incident call the Police either by using 999 for anything urgent, strange or unusual, or call Buxton on (01298) 721000.

### **Have wheels will travel...**

Derbyshire Constabulary's new Mobile Police Station will visit Youlgrave every second Friday of the month, parking at the top of Holywell Lane between 12.30-4pm.

According to an official statement: "The Station will be used to communicate and distribute information from agencies such as Victim Support, and it is hoped that it's physical presence will help reduce the fear of crime, improve safety, including road safety."

**March special offers: minced beef 98p lb/215 kg**

**Braising steak 188p lb/415 kg, stewing meat 180p lb/396 kg**



## Drumming up a village rhythm at the African Tea Dance

Come and join the Bangbutt-Youlgrave Village Link

group, and learn how to drum and dance the African way with the charismatic teacher Raymond Otto. (Do you remember him visiting Youlgrave School about ten years ago?)

It takes place between 2-5pm on Saturday 13 April (*not 23 March as previously advertised*), and celebrates nearly ten years of contact with Bangbutt and is for ALL ages. Dance, drum (or just watch others!), sip tea, share letters and photos of our friends in Bangbutt. About 20 of us exchange news with

the people of Bangbutt, a village in the West African country of Sierra Leone, and at this event we hope to share some of the very different ways of life we have learnt from our friends there. Tickets are £2 for adults, and £1 for children (this is to cover the cost of the hire of the hall and for Raymond Otto).

The afternoon refreshments will include tea or coffee, orange, buns, cakes and biscuits, and there will also be a raffle. Either book your tickets in advance by ringing 636601, or purchase them at the door. If you have any African artefacts to lend or can help decorate the Village Hall, please call Maggie Ford (tel. 636189) or Barbara Scrivener (tel. 636601).

## New book aims to capture the spirit of Youlgrave

Mary Bartlett and Bridget Ardley have been asked to compile a book entitled 'The Spirit of Youlgrave' by Landmark Publishing of Ashbourne. It will be part of a series about different parts of Derbyshire, and the books are aiming to provide a photographic history of the area throughout the 20th century.

The Youlgrave book will include Alport, Middleton by Youlgrave and Lathkill Dale, and should cover all aspects of village life with plenty of pictures of local people. They envisage sections on farming, mining and quarrying, mills, the school, churches, the water company, shops and pubs, the band, local groups, village hall, etc. So have you got any photographs, old and new? They will only have to be borrowed for a very short time in order to be scanned, and then they will be returned to the owners. If you think you can help please contact Mary on 636223 or Bridget on 636611. And thank you, in advance.



Collectors' postcard of Church Street

Top side/silver side 289p lb/635 kg

## How important is a village post office?

*Official statistics from the Countryside Agency show that 546 rural post offices closed between 1997 and 2000, and the decline continues (Over Haddon's recently shut, for instance). The proposed development of Thimble Hall in Fountain Square has focused attention on the future of Youlgrave Post Office, and as an independent local petition supporting Youlgrave PO is launched we present two different points of view.*



Youlgrave needs its post office because it is one of the focal points of a village and can determine if a village survives and thrives, or becomes just a collection of houses.

Hundreds of residents rely on the post office for collection of various benefits and the convenience of the other 170 services offered by Post Office Ltd, such as the payment of utility bills, catalogue returns and accounts, posting letters and parcels, using the banking services available, holiday insurance and foreign currency, E111s, purchase of various licences—to name just a few.

Many of these services are available in other forms such as direct debits or by telephone/internet. However, if too many transactions are lost by the post office it would not be viable for the future. The support of those who care for the retention of the post office is vital and much appreciated.

Should there be no post office in Youlgrave people with cars, or those who can get on a

bus, will have to go to Bakewell to do their post office and banking business. While there, they may do their other shopping, with a knock-on effect for the other village businesses. The consequences for those less mobile, housebound and sick residents would be a sad loss of local amenities.

Jennifer and myself have been fighting locally and nationally for the future of the post office and its place in the modern world. The introduction of banking facilities and hopefully a government information centre brings new services into the village.

**The slogan "use it or lose it" is still true today!**

- Many thanks to all the residents who wrote to Royal Mail asking for a new, larger post box. The resultant pillar box and resiting of the original to Grove Place is a great asset to the village.

Roger Easton

### Development of Thimble Hall

*It was Dame Daffodil who said to Humphrey at this year's Panto that her village shop was "...an endangered species...use me or lose me". But would he listen? We all want our village shops to thrive, but all of them are reliant on our tourist trade, whether it's people passing through or our regulars at the campsites and holiday cottages.*

*Development of Thimble Hall is vital to the commercial well-being of our community and all the people it employs. Its central location will*

*breathe new life into Fountain Square. We have in our midst a little gem. I believe we would be fools to thwart or disregard its potential for all our benefits. Let's look carefully at the plans and support the best—it would be a shame for it to become a derelict eyesore.*

Anne Croasdel

What do YOU think about the future of Fountain Square and the local shops and services? Write to The Bugle and make your voice heard.

We are PROUD to sell local British meat!

# Panto still going strong after 40 years

This year has seen the revival of *Youlgrave pantomime*. Not since the heady days of Major Mockett has pantomime been seen in the village. There were Gang Shows and Boy Scout concerts, but now a former star of the 1937 Scout concert (*Snow White* as I recall) has come forward as Producer of 'Babes in the Wood' and what an excellent job Norman Wilson has done.

Many aspects of the pantomime stand out and I will allude to my favourites, but all round the whole production was admirable. Bernard Hadfield used his experience with the *lola Players* to be

smoothly sophisticated but at the same time slightly seedy in the part of *Squire Broke*.

Vivien Wragg as *Principal Girl* was beautiful and sang like an angel while Mary Witham must be the archetypal *Principal Boy* with voice and thighs to match. Jack Rowland played the *Sheriff* with a twinkle in his eye but the show was stolen for me by Tom (*Mighty Fine*) Rhodes as *Idle Jack*.

I also spotted a particularly villainous member of the *Sheriff's band*. John Roper could have a great future in Panto if he sticks at it.

Finally I must comment on the scenery and the music. Margaret Fell's designs were wonderful reflecting her talent as a *Welldresser* and I don't think I would be exaggerating if I described *Ida Smith* as a genius in her role as *Musical Director*. And *WB (Baron) Carter*, *Business and Publicity Manager*, ensured that *Pantomime* in *Youlgrave* has restarted on a sound financial basis.

I wrote these words in February 1962 as a review of the Pantomime for 'Tit Bits' magazine. I little thought I would be present 40 years on to

review "Puss in Boots" for The Bugle.

his year's production was a lavish spectacle with wonderful costumes and scenery and excellent performances but had too many songs for my taste. I am known for my preference for bawdy comedy and simple popular songs but I take my hat off to Jan Wilson (remember that name?) as Producer and Musical Director who had around her a wonderful team, too many to mention.

The performance of Mick Partridge was the highlight for me. He really was fantastic as the *Dame*.



**The Royal Hunt. (Photo: Mary Froggatt)**

*Youlgrave Pantomime* has always had consistent features which are its great strength, some of which have carried on from 1962 to 2002. As we all know Jan is Norman Wilson's wife, Margaret Fell is still Scenery Designer, Dorothy Sandell still helps with the costumes and my prophecy as to the career of John Roper was spookily accurate. Even the heating is still turned up to sell ice creams. (shades of Mr. Carter).

I wish *Youlgrave Pantomime* many more successful years in the future and hope that it remains consistent and familiar, for that is what we like, but continues to evolve into the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

Wilton Shagpile, Bugle Theatre correspondent

Can you help Little Boy Blue find his lost trumpet? An antique bugle used in this year's Panto has gone missing. Although it's not especially valuable it does have great sentimental worth, so if you have any information on its whereabouts contact Jan Wilson on 636284.

# The village noticeboard

**Youlgrave Playschool has now moved to the Scout Hut**, and continues to meet on Tuesdays and Wednesdays. There's also a new supervisor, Kate Wellington, who replaces Sally Fraser-Smith. A big thank you to Sally for all her hard work and good luck for the future. To enquire about a place at Playschool call Helen Mellor on 636974.

## Calling all campanologists (bell ringers)!

All Saints Church is appealing for new recruits, adults and children over 14 welcome, but you must be able to attend regular practice nights (Tuesdays, 7.30pm), as well as Sunday church services. Bell ringing is a unique English exercise known as change ringing, and it's not necessary to be a Church member. For more details contact Mr D. Camm (Tower Captain) tel. 636567, or Mrs Bartlett (Secretary) tel. 636223.

## Youlgrave School Association's Spring Fair

is on Friday 15 March at 7pm in the Village Hall. It includes a raffle, tombola, children's decorated cake competition and much more!

**Vacancies at Youlgrave Youth Hostel** exist for one full-time and two part-time assistants (all temporary positions). The start date is 4 March 2002, and the expected finish date is 1 Nov 2002. For more details and/or an application form contact Debby at Youlgrave Youth Hostel, Fountain Square; or tel. 636518; or email youlgreave@yha.org.uk.

## After School & Holiday Club: Youlgrave School

has now received a grant to run an After School Club and is currently applying for a grant to run a Holiday Club. The After School Club will operate from 3.30pm to 6pm Mon-Thurs during term time and the Holiday Club from 8am to 6pm Mon-Fri during school holidays. There will be a small charge for the use of the club but individual grants are available via the working family tax credit. If you are interested or want to know more there will be a free taster session for both children and parents on Saturday 2 March, 10am-12 noon. Why don't you come along and see what it is all about?

## 'A Springtime Vegetable Hot Pot'

Bill Moore, Stoneyside's answer to Jamie Oliver (*surely Antony Worrall-Thompson? - Ed*), suggests a simple but mouth-watering vegetarian dish, and wins himself a pot of the Editor's home-made Blackberry & Apple jam. So send your own special recipes and suggestions and whet our appetites!



*Many meat eaters like vegetable dishes for the superior taste, so try this one, for two people. Take a casserole dish (around 7") and put up to 3 oz of red lentils in the bottom. Add, successively, slices or chunks of tomato, red pepper, leek, carrot, aubergine, courgette, parsnip, sweet potato, green broccoli, cauliflower, slices of onion, and topped by slices of potato.*

*Every few layers, add salt and pepper to taste, and a few of your favourite herbs. Dissolve an Oxo veggie cube in boiling water, pour over the dish, and add water so that around 1" is in the bottom. Cook for about 50 minutes in a 180°C oven. Test with a fork - the potato should be just starting to turn slightly brown. You will probably add other vegetables (our record was 14!) and adjust the herbs and water to your own taste next time you cook it.*

*Simple, tasty - and slimming? I'm still hoping for the last.*

**Mild cheddar 179p lb/393 kg**

**Free delivery on Wednesdays & Fridays, tel. 636234**

## Regular Events

<b>Tuesdays</b>	Drop-in Morning. Reading Room, 10am-12.15pm. Newspapers, cards, Scrabble, talk, tea and coffee. All ages welcome.
<b>Tuesdays</b>	Yoga with Iris Pimm (tel. 636341). Greenfields Farm Barn, 7pm.
<b>Tuesdays &amp; Wednesdays</b>	Youlgrave Playschool. Scout & Community Hall, 9.15 – 11.45am. Contact Helen for details (tel. 636974).
<b>Wednesdays</b>	Beginners Yoga with Iris Pimm, 7pm (see above).
<b>Wednesdays</b>	Diane Kettle's life drawing classes. Middleton Village Hall, 7.30pm.
<b>Wednesdays</b>	Housey, housey! Bingo, Reading Room, 7.30pm.
<b>Thursdays</b>	Beginners Yoga with Iris Pimm, 7pm.
<b>Fridays</b>	Yoga with Iris Pimm, 9.30am.
<b>Fridays</b>	Parent and Toddlers Group. Youlgrave Village Hall, 9.30 – 11.30am. Contact Emma Wardle (tel. 636265).
<b>Fridays</b>	Gentle Yoga. Scout and Community Hall, 3.30pm.
<b>2nd Tuesdays</b>	Youlgrave WI meetings. Youlgrave Village Hall, 7.30pm.
<b>2nd Friday in the month</b>	Mobile Police Station parked at top of Holywell Lane, 12.30-4pm. Free advice and information.

## Annual Parish Meeting

Youlgrave's Annual Parish Meeting is to be held at 7pm on Tuesday 26 March in the Village Hall Committee Room.

Reports, questions and discussion on a range of important local topics. Come along and have your say! (March Parish Council meeting to follow afterwards.)

## ANNUAL SPONSORS

Bull's Head Hotel	636307
George Hotel	636292
Hollands Butchers	636234
Peter Knowles, Architect	636362
Iris Pimm, Greenfields Farm Barn	636341
Anthony Wragg	636476
Youlgrave Bell Ringers	636223
Youlgrave Bowls Club	636467
Youlgrave Parish Council	
Youlgrave Post Office	636201
Youlgrave WI	

**SPONSORSHIP RENEWAL IS NOW DUE!** One issue, giving page footers on seven pages, costs £15, and Annual Sponsorship, giving an entry in this box if required, is also £15. For more details contact Ann (tel. 636362) or Andrew (tel. 636125).

## Forthcoming Events

<b>Saturday 2 March</b>	After-School and Holiday Club taster session, Youlgrave School, 10am-12 noon. Children and parents welcome!
<b>Saturday 9 March</b>	Waste Collection: Youlgrave School (8-9.45am), Bradford, Mawstone Lane & bridge (9.50-10.30am), Grove Place (11am).
<b>Friday 15 March</b>	Youlgrave School Association Spring Fair, Village Hall, 7pm. Raffle, tombola, cake competition and other fund-raising events.
<b>Saturday 16 March</b>	Adult Education Sample Day, Reading Room (see local notice-boards for session times).
<b>Saturday 23 March</b>	Waste Collection: Youlgrave School (8-9.45am), Bradford, Mawstone Lane & bridge (9.50-10.30am), Grove Place (11am).
<b>Tues 26 March</b>	Youlgrave Annual Parish Meeting, Village Hall Committee Room, 7pm. All welcome.
<b>Friday 29 March</b>	Confidential Advice Sessions with Matlock & District Citizens Advice Bureau, Youlgrave Medical Centre, 9.30am-12.30pm. <i>By appointment only.</i> Call 636207.