



The Bugle



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

No. 266

June 2024

'Winter welldressing' on display in Youlgrave

Youlgrave's 'winter welldressing' has returned to Youlgrave Church, following Sheffield Museums' exhibition Ways of Water, where it was seen by over 30,000 visitors, ahead of the village's traditional welldressing festival on 22nd June.

Youlgrave's designs are renowned for their art and intricacy, and as one of the oldest in Derbyshire our welldressers were delighted to take part in the Ways of Water exhibition in Sheffield earlier in the year. This 'winter welldressing' is on show in Youlgrave Church until the end of June and showcases the art of welldressing in a very different and longer lasting medium.

The Ways of Water exhibition was the brainchild of artistic duo Matterlurgy from London and explored local, historical and contemporary relationships to water. From wells to reservoirs, human culture has built architectural, political and spiritual connections to water based on health, economics and futurity. Youlgrave's involvement was very much inspired by its own unique water supply.

This year's mid-summer welldressing will explore themes of the natural world again, climate change, the threats to bees, our village's precious water supply, the village's Pommie Pilgrimage and its Labyrinth, and inequality in society.



21st June 1986: Youlgrave Band marching along Church Street for the Well Dressing parade (photo by Alan Smith).

Phil Smith, AKA Grouchy Grouter and welldressing designer said: "It's been a busy year in Youlgrave with the darker winter months taken up with the winter welldressing and then planning for the

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Youlgrave Bowls Club: Day trip to Blackpool

Friday 7th June

Spaces available for 'Non-Bowlers'.

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Friday 7th June, Friday 5th July

3.15–3.35pm Holywell Lane

3.40–4pm Grove Place, Youlgrave

For all your local information:

www.youlgrave.org.uk

www.middletonbyyoulgrave.org.uk



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Youlgrave Silver Band

We are still on the look out for new players! Rehearsals every Thursday night at Youlgrave Methodist Church from 7.30 till 9.30pm.

If you are looking to learn then don't worry you can come to our learner band every Thursday at 7pm before normal practice. Instruments available. Everybody welcome!

Any enquiries please send us a message on Facebook @youlgravesilverband Or contact our secretary Judith on 07734 714227.

The concert list so far

- ◇ **Saturday 22nd June**, 2.30 pm. YSB welldressing
- ◇ **Sunday 23rd June**. 6pm, Wesleyan Chapel, Welldressing service and a concert after.
- ◇ **Wednesday 3rd July**. 7.30pm. Bands in the Park, Bakewell.
- ◇ **Sunday 28th July**, 3pm till 5pm, Bonsall Carnival.
- ◇ **Sunday 1st September**, 7pm, Barringtons, Whitworth Centre.



The Youlgrave branch of the Royal British Legion invites you to its forthcoming events:

Thursday, 20 June at 7.30pm

Why did so many people leave Youlgrave in the 19th century?

A 30-minute talk by Ian Webster.

Venue: The Knoll Club, Coldwell End.

Free admission. No advance booking required. The bar will be open after the talk.

Saturday, 29 June at 2.30pm

Tour of Thornbridge Brewery, Bakewell, plus tasting session.

Cost: £18.00, which includes the tour

and tasting of six thirds of a pint of beer

Transport from Youlgrave at 2pm.

Please email rbl.youlgrave@gmail.com to book a place.

These events are open to all and membership not required.



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Continued from front page

Pommie Pilgrimage. That's one of the things I love about this village, there's always some energetic community project on the go!"

Five full sized welldressings and a smaller school welldressing will be on display from Saturday 22nd June with a service of blessing led by Youlgrave Band at 2.30pm.

To get involved with the making or other preparations contact Ian Knight on 07826 854235 or via the Youlgrave welldressing Facebook page.



Above: Youlgrave's welldressing team with their acclaimed 'winter' design in Sheffield.

The winter welldressing will then be transferred to the custody of Bakewell Museum at Bakewell visitor centre.

Youlgrave Welldressings 2024 dates

Friday 7 June:	5pm	Boards in River (meet at the Welldressings Shed)
Monday 17 June:	5pm	Puddling (meet by the River)
Saturday 22 June:	6am	Boards go up
Saturday 22 June:	2-4pm	Road Closure
Saturday 22 June:	2:30pm	Procession and Blessing of the Wells
Friday 28 June:	2-5pm	Boards stripped /dismantled



Left: The Church Choir in full voice as Bank Top Well is blessed during Youlgrave Welldressing, 21st June 1986 (photo by Alan Smith).

Reminiscences of 'Midsummer Day' 1926

What magic in these words, as we look back almost seventy years ago!

Only those who have been born and bred in this village can fully realise the meaning of Midsummer Day in Youlgrave. So much to do and see! Tap dressing, band playing, club walking, and the final attraction the cricket field and Hurdy Gurdies!

A whole year bound up in a day – Midsummer Day. What eager hands and feet rushing about for moss and flowers, climbing the hillside, knocking at the doors. “Please have you got any red daisies? Please have you got any pinks? etc, etc. And how we asked each other “Which tap are you helping?”

The one of course your father helped to dress. And the taps! Top Tap, Bank Tap, Frank Evans Tap, The Cross Tap, and the Bottom Tap.

And what a thrill when we were allowed to stick in the Indian corn in the borders!

So to bed the previous night, tired out, but with dreams of a marvellous day on the morrow – Midsummer Day – confident “Our Tap” would get the first prize.

The day arrived. What a busy morning! Second best clothes to get out, shoes out of their boxes from under the bed and the little drawer in the bedroom unlocked from which a tissue paper parcel was taken “The Club Sash”.

How we gathered round to look at the lovely green sash worn by members of the Foresters Club, and after many instructions, not to mess our clothes – they were our second best – not to climb walls etc, we went to see the Club Walk.

What a thrill! The changing of the Guard at Buckingham Palace could have given no bigger thrill. The band in their uniforms, the lovely banner of the Foresters Club, then the men in their bright green sashes, with little green fingers clasped as they walked in twos. There was one special figure in the procession “My Father” in that lovely green sash – mustn't miss his!

Service in Church followed the procession and dinner in the huge tent. What a dinner! How they sang its praises! To us children it was a Royal feast just to hear about it!

Procession again after tea, then – a very important occasion for us children – meeting Aunts, Uncles and Cousins, because this meant so many relations, so many pennies for the “Hurdy Gurdies”. We were rich on Midsummer Day, if it only amounted to sixpence and very often went home not having spent up. How we looked at those pennies, and how many time we counted them, for this was one of the three days in the year we had money of our own. A birthday penny, a bright penny in our stocking at Christmas, and a Midsummer Day penny!! After all, our pleasure in the cricket field was not in spending all our pennies but rather in seeing all the things that there were to amuse those who had more money than we – Cocoa-nut stall, Aunt Sally, Try your weight, Shooting gallery – not spending a penny to win a pound but getting real enjoyment for our penny. And so, tired out, but happy we wended our way home. It didn't matter if “Our tap” hadn't won the first prize.

A year today we would be dressing it again and we might win first prize then. It would be Midsummer Day!



The Foresters Club Sash worn by members parading at Youlgrave.

L. Wragg, Youlgrave

Steve Blackshaw (1941 – 2024)

As many people will already be aware, I say reluctantly and with great sadness, that Steve has recently died.

He was born in Stockport, where during his school life he played football and cricket for the school. He thoroughly enjoyed both games and his love of most sports continued throughout his life.

Steve's father had worked in the furniture industry for many years and Steve followed in his footsteps, initially working in the Stockport/Manchester area. He had a young son named Stephen, from a previous marriage and they both lived with Steve's parents in Davenport, Stockport. I was introduced to Steve by mutual friends in 1972, which happily led to us marrying in March 1975, after acquiring our own home near to Stephen's Grandparents.

Within a year or so Steve was asked to manage a Waring & Gillow store in Leicester, which then took the three of us to Thurlaston, a village smaller than Youlgrave. Whilst living there we were blessed with our son Jon in 1979, and daughter Kate in 1982, a welcome brother and sister for Stephen. We had ten very happy years there, but then Steve started to work for DFS and was asked to go to the Darley Dale branch; consequently that brought us to 'beautiful Youlgrave'.

We have now lived in Youlgrave for 38 years, and not surprisingly during that time our family expanded and we became the proud grandparents to four grandchildren. Steve was devoted to all his family and we have been very fortunate to have many happy and very special years together, needless to say he is now so very much missed. Nevertheless, there is no better place than Youlgrave to be coping with our loss, the community is as wonderful as the beautiful surroundings! We have had so many caring sympathy cards, and so much support from so many people. It has been akin to having a big extended family, heartfelt thanks go out to you all.

We must give special thanks to Revd Geoff Clay who supported us through such a torrid time, playing a very big part in making the celebration of Steve's life a success, along with the Revd Jane Clay, of course, and not forgetting the church wardens and Jan Wilson for their contribution. We were overwhelmed with the number of caring people in Church, and the very kind donations made to the British Heart Foundation which amounted to £751, a substantial amount. Again thank you so much for your generosity, your continued support, friendship and for everything.

With gratitude and warm thanks to you all, from myself and all the family.

Kath Blackshaw



Pommie People performing again!

Maggie Ford and David Frederickson – both professional actors for many years – will be opening in a short tour of *A SLIGHT ACHE* by Harold Pinter at Youlgrave Village Hall on **Thursday 11th July (7.30pm)**.

This funny yet disturbing play beautifully celebrates Pinter's fascination with the unexpected arrival of an unknown guest. In *A Slight Ache*, the 'guest' is a Match Seller who sets off a chain of events which unravels the fabric of the relationship between a comfortable married couple, Flora and Edward. Their lives will never be the same again.

The roles of Flora and the Match Seller will be performed by Maggie and David, with Edward being played by Lewis Hancock. Ava Hunt directs.

For Maggie, at 84 years old, it's a return to the stage after many years following a prestigious and diverse career including being in the original cast of Joan Littlewood's renowned production of *Oh What a Lovely War!*, *Mary Shelley* for the BBC and two years at the National Theatre.

"Learning such a complicated role after a 35 year gap is proving VERY challenging!" she said. "David's powerful but silent presence is definitely easier!"

After the performance, which is about an hour, there will be a chance to discuss the play with the performers and director. In spite of the humour, the themes raised include: class and sexual violence with links to the #MeToo Movement. But Pinter himself would never say what his plays meant! So...?

Tickets cost £10 and are available via Youlgrave Post Office or online at www.avahunt.co.uk, email info@avahunt.co.uk, Twitter [@avahunttheatre](https://twitter.com/avahunttheatre).

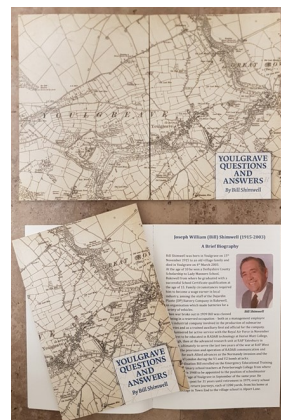


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'Youlgrave Questions and Answers' by Bill Shimwell

Newly extended and edited booklet featuring a biography of the author by his sons, new colour photographs and additional questions and answers and editorial notes.

An interesting and entertaining read and an invaluable source of fascinating and quirky information about Youlgrave. For sale £10 each.
Available from Youlgrave Post Office.



Youlgrave Show 2024: Timetable announced

Youlgrave Horticultural Show is returning this autumn after a 9-year break on **Saturday 14th September** at Youlgrave Village Hall. The provisional Schedule listing all 83 classes was published in last month's Bugle and can be seen on the village noticeboard on Holywell Lane, the noticeboard at the top allotment at Coldwell End, and on-line at www.youlgrave.org.uk/youlgrave-show.

As a reminder, the different classes are:

- ◆ Vegetables and Fruit
- ◆ Flowers
- ◆ Floral Arrangements (locally grown)
- ◆ Baking and Preserves
- ◆ Handicrafts
- ◆ Children's Work.



Youlgrave Show in 2010.

Show Timetable:

Friday 13th September

- | | |
|-------|---|
| 6-8pm | Social room open for payment of entries |
| 6-8pm | Non-perishable items & photography to be displayed in main hall |

Saturday 14th September

- | | |
|------------|--|
| 8am-10am | Perishable and remaining classes brought for display |
| 10-12 noon | Hall is closed for the confidential judging process. |
| 12-2.30pm | Viewing, cups of tea, chit-chat |
| 2.30-3pm | Take home any items you want to keep |
| 3pm | Auction of produce for YHS funds |

How to enter the Show

1. Pick up entry cards from the village shops, fill in one per exhibit with your name and class.
2. Bring your entry cards to the Village Hall social room (Friday 6-8pm or Saturday 8-10am) with payment of 50p per entry. Children's entries are free. Entries are valid once stamped.
3. Display your home-grown and hand-made goodies in the Village Hall 6-8pm on Friday night before the show (non-perishables) and 8-10am Saturday morning of the show (all items). Place your stamped entry card face down with each item.

And some rules:

1. Every exhibit must be locally grown, made or produced by the entrant within the last 12 months. A couple of exceptions to this are stated in the Schedule.
2. Food items must be displayed on a suitable plate or dish and covered.
3. More than one entry per class is allowed.
4. Exhibits displayed at your own risk.
5. The Judge's decision will be final.

Pommie Panter Fell Race scales new heights

Panter 2024 is all done. We'd like to say a very big thank you to everybody that helped out, ran and came out to support. All we have had is very positive feedback and rather a lot of it. We sold out again at increased numbers vs last year which meant that the race raised a nice round sum of £1,000 and 4 bags of Doritos. The cash has gone to the Parish Council to fund the deflated dolphin sanctuary and I've smashed back the Doritos as my admin fee.

There are lots of photos and full results on our Youlgrave Harriers website. We had new Bugle champs this year who were: 1st Bugle Female **Jenny Reeves**, 1st Bugle Male **Robert Collins** (see below and right/Andy Mutley Photos).

If you're feeling inspired why not come along to a Harriers club night on a Tuesday and Thursday, it's all free and mixed ability? We meet from about 18:45 for a 19:00 start on the Alport Lane playing fields.

If you're feeling like another race we also organise the Winster Hill race Thursday 4th July at 19:00, entry is available on our website. £5, all monies go to the Winster Wakes fund raising.

Thank you!

Youlgrave Harriers

www.youlgraveharriers.com



Having had the pleasant task of presenting the medals once again, I wish to express my thanks to Youlgrave Harriers. In particular, John and Fran, together with their gang of helpers including the marshals, the competitors and everybody involved. A brilliant event and a cracking day enjoyed by so many, some travelling miles to compete in the event. The weather was excellent and to finish outside the George Hotel was a stroke of genius. Well done everybody and I look forward to next year's event.

*Graham Elliott
Chair, Youlgrave Parish Council*

News from Youlgrave, All Saints' CE Primary School



Year 6 Celebration Day

Our Year 6 children enjoyed a celebration day after completing their SATs. They visited Whitworth Park and were joined by other local schools and thoroughly enjoyed the day, taking part in Tai Chi and sporting activities.



Labyrinth

We all enjoyed visiting the Pommie Pilgrimage Labyrinth on Friday 24th May. The whole school walked to the labyrinth and managed to walk all the way round.



Chicks

Children from Class 1 were very excited as they had the chance to watch chicks hatch. Thank you to Mrs Teeboon for organising this for the children to experience.

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From the Churches

Apart from Derbyshire, of course, my favourite county is Northumberland which I have been visiting for at least 50 years. It is a county of fabulous beaches, breathtaking castles and amazing saints. Wikipedia lists over 50 Northumbrian saints. I have only heard of about 4 of them!

The most famous is probably St Cuthbert and when I was in Northumberland earlier this month I thought about him a great deal particularly in connection with our Pommie Pilgrimages.

Cuthbert was a person who travelled a great deal in northern Britain telling people about God's love, praying for them and showing great generosity to the poor. He spent the last part of his life on the Farne Islands, off the Northumbrian coast, and reluctantly became Bishop of Lindisfarne two years before he died.

The monks of Lindisfarne wanted to make Cuthbert's body a focus of pilgrimage and so it became for about a hundred years until the Vikings attacked Holy Island. The monks then carried his body onto the mainland to Chester-le-Street where it remained another 100 years when they set off

Church Children's Music Group

Calling all primary school children! The Children's Music Group meets in church on Mondays in term time, 3.30-4.30pm. There are refreshments, singing, playing hand bells and craft. Do come and join us! For details contact Sandra Akerman: sandrajaneakerman@hotmail.com



St Cuthbert's shrine in Durham Cathedral.

again, firstly to Ripon and then to a peninsula formed by a loop in the River Wear where Cuthbert's body finally came to rest, Durham.

Today many people visit his shrine in the magnificent Norman Cathedral and it will be visited by Pommie Pilgrims in September.

Cuthbert was known for his humility, generosity and prayerfulness. The monks who were with him when he died are said to have recorded his final words

'Always keep God's peace and love among you... Live in mutual good-will.

Never think you are superior to other people who do not share your faith and way of life.'

Saints are supposed to inspire us. Cuthbert inspires me and I pray that his final words may inspire us all whether we are people of faith or not.

Jane Clay

Join a conversation with the bishop to discuss what matters to you in our parish – see page 18 for details.

Services for June

Sunday

2nd 11am Holy Communion
9th 11am Morning Prayer
16th 11am Morning Prayer

Well Dressing

Sat 22nd 2.30pm Blessing of Wells
Sun 23rd 6pm United Service at
Wesleyan Reform Chapel

Sunday

30th 11am Holy Communion

For services at other churches, contact:

Methodist – Margaret, 636558

Wesleyan Reform – Isobel, 636251

CHURCH CONTACT POINTS

General enquiries:

Dan Cocker, Church Warden
dan.churchwarden@gmail.com.

Funerals:

Andrew Parker, 01629 636757,
andrewparker10@yahoo.co.uk

Weddings:

Denise Figg, 01629 636526,
denisefigg.wed@gmail.com

Retired clergy:

Revd Geoff Clay 07833 252803
geoffclay@me.com

Revd Jane Clay 07802 630877
Ejaneclay@icloud.com

Revd Richard Tucker 01629 636074
rev.richardtucker@gmail.com

A warm welcome

COFFEE MORNINGS



*Drop in for a chat, fun and
friendship*

10am–12 noon

Wesleyan Reform Chapel

1st and 3rd Wednesday every
month. Homemade cakes, tea &
coffee, optional activities

In aid of Tearfund

Have your say

There will be an open meeting on
Saturday 24th August at St Michael
and All Angels Church, Earl
Sterndale, SK17 0BY at which
anyone from Youlgreave, Middleton
or other parishes in our grouping will
be able to voice their comments and
ideas on the proposed organisation of
the group of parishes and role of the
new vicar or priest in charge for
Youlgreave, Middleton and other
churches.

Everyone is invited from 10am until
1pm.

If you would like to attend, feel free to
email dan.churchwarden@gmail.com
in order to be kept informed of any
further details of the meeting.

Join a conversation with the bishop

At our annual parochial church meeting there was lively discussion with the archdeacon about our parish and the wider group of parishes of which we are part, now being without a vicar or priest-in-charge so soon after our previous interregnum.

As a follow-up, the Bishop of Repton, the Rt Reverend Malcolm Macnaughton, will hold an open meeting for all in the parish on Tuesday 11th June at 7.30pm in the nave of Youlgreave church.

This will be an opportunity for our views to be listened to by one of the top two senior people in the diocese, as well as to highlight the many impressive things that are happening in the parish that will help in seeking and selecting a new vicar or priest-in-charge.

In the meantime, services and other church activities continue very much as usual with the help of our team of retired clergy and visiting clergy.



Rt Reverend Malcolm Macnaughton, Bishop of Repton, will be joining Youlgrave's parishioners on 11th June.

Do you sing?

Youlgreave and Middleton churches both have a strong tradition of singing as part of services, with excellent organ accompaniment. How would you like to see that tradition developed and how would you like to be part of it? Opportunities include:

- joining a four-part choir to sing anthems, carols or other pieces for special occasions, eg a harvest festival or a service of lessons and carols soon before Christmas;
- singing a simple setting of Choral Evensong as a congregation;
- singing hymns as part of a choir; and
- any other ideas you have, which may include more modern music.

Please email dan.churchwarden@gmail.com if you would like to be involved in any of these. These opportunities are open to all with an interest in singing, whether regular churchgoers or not. Many of these opportunities include singing for a one-off event rather than a regular commitment. Our children's church music group is doing a wonderful job of training the next generation of musicians, but there are still plenty of opportunities for the current adult generations.

Church email news bulletin

If you would like to receive a weekly email with further details of services and other news about the churches in Youlgreave and Middleton, please email dan.churchwarden@gmail.com.

Pommie Pilgrims' Progress – and so far no 'Bunyan's'



May has been a very busy month for the Pommie Pilgrimage. After our first walk to Derby on Palm Sunday a number of Cathedrals have been visited: Chester, Birmingham, Worcester, Hereford, Leicester, Southwell, Bury St. Edmunds and Manchester; and pilgrimages have begun to Sheffield, Wakefield, Chelmsford and Lincoln.

We have received enthusiastic and warm welcomes, often with a prayer of blessing for the pilgrims.

One of the highlights came at the beginning of the month when our Labyrinth was officially opened at 2pm on 4th May, World Labyrinth Day. Before that, at 1pm, Pommies walked our Labyrinth for peace, joining with 'Labyrinthers' from all over the world walking at that time.

The following day the Parish Church held its monthly family service on the field and walking the Labyrinth formed an important part of the service, as well as singing our Pommie Pilgrimage hymn with its two specially written verses. Thank you again, John Bunyan.

*We are pilgrims like our Lord,
He liked to wander.
Journeys which we read in God's word
Are tales to ponder.
We'll walk from place to place,
A prayer in every pace
And so receive God's grace
As Pommie Pilgrims.*

*In our Labyrinth, newly mown
We'll walk together
Friends with strangers, or alone
In Youlgrave weather!
We'll walk in joy and peace,
Each turn our prayer increase.
God's love will never cease
For Pommie Pilgrims.*



Children from Youlgrave Pre School and Primary School walked the Labyrinth.

Since then the Labyrinth has been walked daily. On 23rd May 13 children from our Pre School walked it. Their faces showed their delight and when the first preschooler got to the centre she said 'Can we do it again?' Our Primary School walked it the following day.

If you want to find out more you can follow us on Instagram and Facebook or on the Pommie Pilgrimage 2024 Just Giving page where the total raised so far has reached a tremendous £22, 567.

Finally a date for your diary. There will be a Pommie Pilgrimage Pimms Party on 19th July. It will hopefully take place beside the Labyrinth. Watch out for more details. Remember - Connect, Walk, Donate.

Jane Clay (and thanks to my friend Ian T for the bunion joke!)

Pommie People

This month's interviewee is **Maggie Ford** (84), whose life in the arts has been as an actor, theatre director, writer, producer and speech and voice coach. Locally she established Bankside Wildlife Garden, supports Bradford River Action Group and made an acclaimed film about Youlgrave well dressing called *Made of Clay*.

Where were you born and what is your earliest memory?

I was born in Coulsdon, Surrey, the edge of suburbia with woods and fields behind our house. My earliest memory was being in an Anderson air raid shelter in our living room in the middle of an air raid with my mother holding her hands over my baby brother's ears as she said the blast could destroy his ears – let alone us of course.

Where did you go to school and what was your favourite subject?

I went to Coloma Convent Grammar School and when not creating havoc leading a gang of girls, was passionate about drama. When I left – in floods of tears, as I loved school – the Head Mistress – Mother Mary Cuthbert, said "It's been pretty bad having you Margaret, but I suppose we've enjoyed it!"

What person has had the most influence on you?

A wonderful English teacher, Miss Cambell, who gave me both a love of literature and an insight into how class and gender had an impact on all our lives. I realise now that she was a feminist, although the term in those days was rarely used – certainly not in a girls school in Croydon.

Tell us something about you that not many people will know.

I was once a Roman Catholic and a single mother trying to carry on a career

20
Q&A's

pommie
people



as an actor. The acting continued but the Catholicism did not.

What do you do for a living and how did you get into it?

The passion for drama continued and got me into the RADA at the age of 17, the first step on pursuing a career as an actor. Initially my work was all in theatre, as television was still relatively new. But I played some wonderful parts, everywhere from a season in Pitlochry with a great Yugoslavian director, to touring Europe in Joan Littlewood's production of 'Oh! What a lovely war.' Later, television roles appeared including playing Mary Shelley in the BBC production of 'Byron'. Then a 2-year stint at the National Theatre working with some great actors. After 30 years I decided to concentrate on directing and studied Fiction Film making at the NSFTV

in Sheffield, which brought me up to Derbyshire where I rented a house with a friend in Bakewell. Then I came to live in Youlgrave for the next 32 years.

How do you relax?

I love walking the hills with my dog Willow – who is more well known in the village than I am!

What living person to you most admire and why?

Mary Beard. She is a fantastic historian and endlessly funny and inspirational.

Where's your favourite holiday destination?

Two places with very similar environments: Stiffkey on the Norfolk coast and Le Hourdel on the Baie de Somme. Both fantastic wildlife areas with seals and lots of diverse birds.

What book are you reading and/or what music are you listening to at the moment?

I'm reading 'Witches Garden' about plants and folklore and 'Middle England' by Jonathan Coe – wickedly funny.

What's your favourite time of the day and why?

About 6pm. A time to relax, cook and contemplate on what I have achieved that day – if anything!

What's your favourite food or meal?

Moules Mariniere with French bread and white wine.

What's your favourite sport and do you/did you ever play it?

I watch tennis and at one time played a bit. Sport not really me.

Are you a cat or a dog person?

DOG! I wouldn't dare say otherwise with Willow by my side.

What are you most proud of?

My very talented pianist son and equally talented granddaughters. And instigating the Bankside Wildlife Garden project for the village.

What's the most embarrassing thing that's ever happened to you?

Turning up to see a Joan Littlewood

production and being asked to replace one of the actors as she thought they were no good! She wanted to rehearse me into the show the next day – and bring my 3 month old baby with me! THEN she said the 'baby' – Dorian - could be in the show as well rather than the stuffed baby doll. But would he cry? Of course not – he was enthralled by the music and singing!

What's your most prized possession and why?

The veil my mother wore to go on a pilgrimage to Lourdes – the last thing I was able to do for her before she was killed in a road accident when I was 19.

What skill would you like to learn?

To swim properly with confidence.

What's your favourite local view/place/location?

The view of the Lathkill at the bridge at the bottom of Raper Lane

What do you like about living in Youlgrave?

Of course the people – and the wonderful community spirit.

What could be improved about Youlgrave?

Something has to be done about second homes, in particular, as well as holiday lets, or the village will die. It's time we thought about quotas.



Maggie in the 1970 BBC TV drama 'The Six Wives of Henry VIII'.

Granby House, Youlgrave

Do you feel the need for more company or support, but don't want a care home? Or do you have an elderly relative who wants to be closer to you? Granby House could be the answer.



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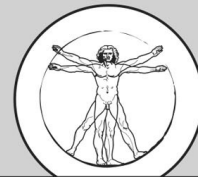
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GONG BATH



*23rd June and 28th July
9:40am for a 10am start until 11am
Youlgrave Village Hall*

About the Event

An immersion in sacred sound, a moment to deeply relax, to have your mind quietened and your spirit at peace.

The sounds created by the Gong wash over you as you lay warm and comfortable on the floor.

Like ripples created from a pebble skipping over a pond, Gong Sound gently reverberates over, around and through your entire body to calm, relax and soothe.

Your heart rate slows, blood pressure lowers slightly and your breath is restored to its natural rhythm.

What to bring

Something super comfy and thick to lay down on.

A thick blanket/sleeping bag but ideally both for warmth, a pillow for your head, something warm and comfortable to wear while you rest. Water to drink afterwards

Limited number of tickets £14 available on 07969 393833

Youlgreave Church Community

Invites you to Our

Youlgreave Village History Tour & New Church Plans for Loos and Kitchen Facility Event.

*Sunday 2nd June, from 2-5pm
Youlgreave Church*

*For more information email Lucy and the team:
youlgreavechurch@gmail.com*

*Come and enjoy a self-guided tour of our beautiful village (£1)
and afterwards view our Loos and Kitchen Facility plans for the
Church over home-made refreshments.*

We look forward to seeing you there!

*Event Organised by Youlgreave Church's New Fundraising Committee: Working
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Youlgrave Wildlife Notes: May 2024

In spite of the variable weather the Youlgrave swifts arrived exactly on time. Down New Road they appeared on 5th May, the same as last year. They are now screaming round their nest site near Holywell Lane. I am intending to hold a village swift walk for Swift Awareness Week which is from 29th June to 7th July this year. Provisionally this will be on Tuesday 2nd July, meeting at the playing field at 7pm. Look out for posters nearer the time.

Swallows and particularly house martins seem to be in very short supply this year. Warblers, most of which are summer visitors, are doing rather well. Raper Lane has always been a good spot for them and blackcap, willow warbler, chiffchaff and probably garden warbler have all been reported there. The garden warbler can be rather problematical as it is difficult to spot and has no distinguishing features whatsoever. Its very melodious song is also very similar to the blackcaps, too, and I'm not convinced that the bird song app, Merlin, always gets it right. However, they have definitely been seen up at Coldwell End. A flock of linnets and goldfinches was also reported from Raper Lane. A whitethroat and three red kites were reported from the top of Moor Lane. Dippers seem to be seen mostly either at the top of the Dale or down towards the Alport and into Lathkill Dale.

On my wildlife walk on 24th May we found 64 species of wildflower in bloom. In April I found 41 and in May



Musk thistle.

last year I found 50. Cow parsley is lining the paths and the liquorice smelling sweet cicely can be found at the bottom of Holywell Lane. The seed pods taste of liquorice and anaesthetise the tongue. Always be wary of the Umbellifer group of flowers, though. Hemlock and hemlock water dropwort are also in this group and are intensively poisonous and giant hogweed can produce a very nasty, persistent, rash. Our leadworts, alpine penny cress and spring sandwort can still be found and the blue ivy leafed toadflax is very common on walls. Buttercups have now taken over from dandelions turning meadows yellow.

The floating white flowers of water crowfoot are just coming into bloom in the river, while the kingcups are fast going to seed. Yellow irises are blooming by the New Dam and along the river. I was pleased to find around 10 twayblades near the fourth dam. The lack of grazing in the Dale has meant that their old habitat is becoming very overgrown. Only 3 showed any sign of flowers, though. The beautiful musk thistle is just coming into flower. A few mayflies were dipping on the river. The aurora was seen by some lucky people at around midnight on the 10th.

My thanks to all contributors to this month's article, Pat, Tony, Laetitia, Chris, Caroline and Simon

Ian Weatherley
email 48iweatherley@gmail.com



Church Farm Diary, June

If you could manage to get some June hay you were lucky, now it is so easier than it was years ago with all the machinery we now use. You can get it under the barn much quicker now if the weather is good, with silage it does not matter too much about the sun if it is not raining.

When I was little I used to look forward to haymaking time, but I don't think my Dad thought the same, with one eye on the weather all the time. It's changed so much. First memories are of the loose hay being loaded up by pitch fork on to the back of the trailer, then Dad would make a hole in the middle so I could travel safely in the hay back to the farm.

Then came the baler. It was good if it worked properly. I used to stand on the back of it checking that the knotter was working; if it didn't we had to scatter the bale in the field to be able to bale it up again, then stack the bales up into 8's so it was easier to load them up. This was before we had a bale slave, as this collected the bales behind the baler in 8's, then you pulled a rope to release them.

Then – happy days – we had an elevator! This tall metal machine was pulled behind the trailer and you stopped where the bales were stacked in the field to put them on the base of the elevator. That then took them up to the top of the trailer to be stacked up. This was a brilliant invention, except it was very good at wearing holes in your knees of your jeans. We also used it at the barns to take the bales up.

I used to love going in the hay to ted it and then row it up for the baler. The tractors then did not have cabs on, so it was a good chance to sunbathe sat on the tractor. I was never very good at sitting still in the sun, so this way suited me, and with having an open cab you can enjoy the lovely smell of new mown grass that then smells of hay.

It also has a disadvantage of picking up nasty smells like the dead badger that was decomposing under the wall, so when I went up the hill it did not smell – but when I came down the hill it was terrible! The tractors with cabs miss all this.

Now there is no handling the large round bales that we have, so it's all machine work, which is a quicker way but not as memorable.

Marjorie Shimwell

Recipe of the month: Garden Veg curry

*This is a cheap tasty
curry the amount can be
easily changed.
Serves 6.*

Ingredients

*2lb mixed vegetables of
your choice
4 tbsp sunflower oil
2 large onions
2 garlic cloves chopped
5cm root ginger peeled
and chopped
½ teaspoon chilli
powder
400g tin chopped
tomatoes
170ml pineapple juice
150ml vegetable stock
Salt*

Method

*Cut the vegetables into
chunks.
Heat the oil in a large
pan and add the onions.
Cook over a low heat for
25 mins until the onion
is nicely brown.
Stir in the garlic and
ginger with the chilli
powder tomatoes and
pineapple juice and
stock, bring to a simmer.
Add the vegetables. If
you are using carrots
put those in first as they
take longer to cook.
Bring to a simmer and
cook for 15
mins, until
tender,
Serve with
naan bread.*





Youlgrave W.I. report

The Vikings took over the WI on May 14th, bringing 'Lauga' with her burial treasures on her way to the afterlife and Valhalla. Our two Sheffield re-enactors showed us many artefacts of the times, when women held the keys, whilst weaving and dyeing, farming and even fighting. Their survival instinct was apparent, while travelling the globe in their camps. One or two of our members possess the 'Viking finger' and are obvious descendants of these self-sufficient people. During the meeting, we were proud to present our long-standing WI supporter, Marjorie Shimwell, with a bouquet of flowers and a card, handmade by Rachel, for her 80th birthday. For our own 105th Birthday, we'll be enjoying a lovely lunch on July 13th at The Sycamore Inn, Parwich.



W.I. Vikings.

Our delegates for the WI Annual conference at the Royal Albert Hall on June 5th will be Val and Pam. Theresa, our Resolutions Officer, took a vote of agreement in May to accept the 2024 Resolution entitled 'Dental Health Matters'.

On June 13th, we have a welcome return to our own WI Open Gardens, with around nine gardens on show, from allotments to a pretty courtyard, to a terraced delight, and all followed by a picnic together to complete the evening. Sue Weatherly leads a Wildlife meadow walk on June 25th followed by a pub meal at The Bull's Head, Monyash, and Supper Club returns on June 27th. The Choir will be singing at the Wells Blessing on June 22nd, and performing for Rowsley WI on July 11th. The July 9th meeting will wind us round in circles as we have a go at Maypole dancing.

Our Petra the Pilgrim mascot is resting beside the Pommie Pilgrimage Labyrinth. She is squinting as unfortunately her sunglasses keep disappearing!

The June WI meeting is on Tuesday June 11th, with Sionead-Mair Richards. She was Sheffield Lord Mayor during the Coronation year and is also President of

Sheffield Welsh Society. This will certainly be a very lively talk, and she has family in Youlgrave, including one of our members. This takes place at 7.30pm at the Village Hall. Come along if you haven't been before, you'll be very welcome to see what we do.

Liz Hickman



Left: A birthday bouquet for Youlgrave WI member Marjorie Shimwell.

Wyns Tor Singers Summer Concert, with saxophonist Samantha Atkinson

Sat 8th June, 7.30pm, St John's Church, Winstar

Winstar's chamber choir, the Wyns Tor Singers, invite you to their summer concert in Winstar church. The choir will perform a varied programme of music, starting with a celebration of Bruckner's 200th anniversary. We follow that with a group of contemporary pieces with a Scandinavian theme, then finish off with some old favourites by Louis Armstrong, the Gershwin brothers, and Billy Joel.

The choir will be joined by classical saxophonist Samantha Atkinson, from Nottingham. Samantha is just starting a music career, having trained at the Royal Birmingham Conservatoire, and will give us a lively performance of classical and modern saxophone pieces.

Do join us for this fun evening of fine music. Tickets £10 from Winstar Post Office, or on the door.



ECO4 Free boiler scheme

The free boiler scheme has now fully opened up for residents who live in the Derbyshire Council region and across. If you know anyone who has a boiler or back boiler older than 15 years, I work for a firm utilising a government scheme to help reduce fuel poverty and CO2 emissions. The old boiler will be replaced with a Worcester Combi Boiler which comes with a 10 year warranty.

At this stage the criteria which needs to be met is as follows:

1. The adult family income is under £31,000 before tax.
2. There is someone in the property with a medical condition related to limited mobility, cardiovascular, respiratory, including asthma or immunosuppressed
3. There is a family member in receipt of benefits such as working tax credit, pension credit, income based ESA, Universal credit, child tax credit.

This will entitle you to a free boiler subject to survey and grant approval.

Please contact Chris Simon on 07932 648207 for further information.

Information supplied and verified by Graham Elliott.

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Bradford River Action Group, water management & sustainability in the Bradford valley, 636189
www.riverintime.org.uk

Granby House, Housing for older people, 636836 www.granbyhouse.org

Middleton & Smerrill Parish Council
636151
parishclerk@middletonbyyoulgrave.org.uk
www.middletonbyyoulgrave.org.uk/parish-council

Middleton by Youlgrave Village Hall
07854 432101 peterjworrall@aol.com

Youlgrave Bellringers, 636576

Youlgrave Bowls Club, contact Ken Clayton, 630005, kenclayton@mail.com

Youlgrave Cinema, 636836

Youlgrave Community Land Trust, 636887
www.youlgravecommunitylandtrust.org

Youlgrave History Group, contact yhgenquiries2@gmail.com

Youlgrave Methodist Church, 636558

Youlgrave Parish Church, 636576

Youlgrave Parish Council, 636151

www.youlgrave.org.uk/youlgrave-parish-council

youlgraveclerk@youlgrave.org.uk

Youlgrave Preschool, 07494 522615

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Youlgrave Reading Room, 636477

Youlgrave Scout & Community

Youth Hall, 636887

Youlgrave Silver Band, Thurs 7.30pm

Methodist Hall, Learners 7pm, 07734

714227 www.youlgravesilverband.com

Youlgrave Village Hall,

enquiries@yvh.org.uk, www.yvh.org.uk

Youlgrave Welldressers, 07899

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www.youlgravewelldressers.co.uk/

Youlgrave Wesleyan Reform Chapel, 636251

Youlgrave Women's Institute, 07377
586330

Youlgrave Waterworks Ltd

James Bacon (leaks) 07866 365610

Admin matters: 01629 636151

waterworks@youlgrave.org.uk

Did you know that Bakewell and Eyam Community Transport offer a community car scheme?



This volunteer led service provides door to door transport to medical appointments for anyone living in the Derbyshire Dales and Hope Valley and provides a valuable service for those who would otherwise struggle to attend essential healthcare appointments.

A little of your time can make a huge difference to someone's health and quality of life – there is no regular commitment required; it's completely flexible to suit your availability. A friendly approach and access to a suitable car is all that is required and mileage expenses are reimbursed. Many of the journeys are to rural surgeries.

If you would like information about using the car scheme or are interested in becoming part of this valuable rural volunteer service please contact us on 01629 641920 or info@bect.org.uk or call into our office at Great Longstone Business Park for a chat.

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www.thebullsheadyoulgrave.co.uk/

Farmyard Inn 636221 joinus@farmyardinnyoulgrave.co.uk
www.farmyardinnyoulgrave.co.uk/

George Hotel 636292 georgehotelyoulgrave@outlook.com
www.georgehotelyoulgrave.co.uk/

Hopping Farm Caravan Site, Mrs M. Frost, 636302

The Old Bakery B&B and self-catering accommodation, Church Street, Youlgrave 630005, kenclayton@mail.com www.theoldbakeryoulgrave.co.uk/

Peak Pods En-suite glamping pods, Alport, 636874, www.peakpods.com

Youlgrave Youth Hostel, www.yha.org.uk/hostel/yha-youlgrave

Shops, Cafes & Home Delivery

Amy's Dairy Fresh glass bottled milk & orange juice, free range eggs, cream and yogurts, 636639 & 07799 880740

Peak Feast Bakers of delicious cakes, pies and treats, The Workshop, Moor Lane, 630000, www.peakfeast.co.uk

Youlgrave Village Shop Well-stocked convenience store, hot and cold takeaway food, including breakfasts, 630208

Youngs of Youlgrave Post Office & Village Store, newspapers, magazines, cards, stationery & groceries, plus free cash withdrawals and deposits, 636217

Fountain View Bakery, artisan bakers of bread, cakes & pastries baked on site, and served in our newly renovated café + Dark Woods speciality coffee with over 70 Great Taste Awards.

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Youlgrave Garage, Motor engineers and MOT Test Station, 636943

Cllr Laura Mellstrom, Derbyshire Dales District Council, c/o Town Hall, Matlock DE4 3NN, 07503 674335, Laura.Mellstrom@derbyshiredales.gov.uk

See inside back page for local community groups & organisations