

UNDER THE EDGE

INCORPORATING THE PARISH MAGAZINE
GREAT LONGSTONE, LITTLE LONGSTONE,
ROWLAND, HASSOP, MONSAL HEAD, WARDLOW

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50P

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Backdale latest...

Here is a statement issued today (23rd October) by John Lomas, director of strategy & development for the Peak District National Park Authority:

"On 28 July 2008 the National Park Authority and the Secretary of State were granted permission to appeal against Justice Sullivan's High Court decision given in March this year. Sullivan's decision had effectively allowed significant extraction of limestone from Backdale to continue.

"The Authority has been pressing for the Court of Appeal hearing to be held in December, whereas those acting for Bleaklow Industries Limited had requested a delay until after 1 April 2009. We have now been advised that there are now no available dates in the Court of Appeal until February, and the case has now been set for 10/11 February 2009."

Dear Editor

Many thanks to my many friends for their sympathy, following the loss of my darling husband at the end of March this year, and for the attendance of Great Longstone Methodist churchgoers at the funeral over here in Lincoln.

It was so kind that you travelled over to pay your respects and show your support - I am also very grateful for help received from the Police, Ambulance, Royal Hospital Chesterfield and church ministers.

Thank you again and I would like to wish everyone peaceful and joyful Christmas.

Liz Allen
Lincoln

Laden's Bin in Longstone!



Spooky! Find out where Osama Bin Laden was spotted on page 4...

Tribute to Llinos Hodgson: 1928 - 2008

Llinos lived in Great Longstone for many years and celebrated her 80th birthday on October 18th at a wonderful party organised by her daughter Sarah, with assistance from family and friends, at a packed Dove Holes community centre.

Llinos was an extremely gifted pianist and accompanied both the Tideswell Male Voice Choir and Baslow Choir for many years before, recently, ill-health prevented her from further participation.

During the party evening however, we were entertained by both choirs and other friends but the highlights were Llinos accompanying the Tideswell choir and later playing a duet with close friend Eileen; the celebration was a fitting occasion for a very lovely lady!

Sadly, however, the illness that Llinos had been battling bravely for the last

few years resulted in her admission to Ashgate Hospice on October 27th where she died on November 2nd with the funeral taking place at Hutcliffe Wood crematorium, Sheffield on Thursday November 6th.

The well attended service was simple and moving, reflecting the love and admiration so many of us had for Llinos.

Our sympathies are extended to daughter Sarah, son Peter and their families who she was so proud of, not forgetting her other daughter Elspeth who will have more difficulty coping than we can possibly imagine.

Pam Smith

REMEMBER!

Please don't forget to leave Santa a mince pie and a glass of sherry on Christmas Eve...he's only human you know!

Crispin charity walk raises £2,500 for St Giles' roof fund...



Mike Cummins (left) and Paul Rowlinson (Crispin landlord – far right) hand over the cheque for £2,500 to St Giles' vicar Christopher Benson.

Fund reaches £2,500

The recent Crispin Inn charity walk day has now raised more than £2,500 for the St Giles' church roof fund – an incredible amount for the inaugural and now, annual, event.

Pictured receiving the cheque is Vicar Christopher Benson who was delighted that the local community had come together to support the church after the recent theft of lead from its roof. Final thanks are also extended to those who donated raffle prizes on the day helping to make the event such a resounding success.

Plans are already afoot for a similar day next year and a provisional date of Saturday October 17th 2009 has been pencilled in, barring any unseen conflicts with other village events. It is hoped that Thornhill House will accept the invitation to benefit from the efforts of walkers on that day; another excellent cause well worth the support of all who live in the area as I'm sure you'll agree. Mike Cummins

Alternative report on behalf of the 'eight milers'

We all had a splendid day. Thank you to everyone who helped and to the walkers who were so generous. Special thanks for the excellent marshalling at difficult road crossings, always there when needed.

As the (eight mile) leader of a proposed walk and having passed the age when I felt the need to prove anything much I gathered my flock of eleven souls together and explained that we were going to take it steady, enjoy the sunshine and savour our beautiful countryside. I aimed to get back at about 2pm, in good time for pie, peas & music.

I was a bit surprised to find that I had lost two of my party by the time we reached the cattle grid on Moor Road. How can you get lost on Moor Road in broad daylight? The two "mispers" signed in at the Crispin before going home so all was well but.....?

We had a good look at the interesting mining and botanical sites on the moor but there was not enough time to linger as the pie & peas were a powerful motive for pressing on regardless. By the time we had got to the long east/west intake wall and sharp left turn for Wardlow my party had grown to sixteen as I had picked up some ten mile walk stragglers and a couple who had gone on north towards Foolow before realising that Wardlow was over there on the left!

We could see people all over the fields to Wardlow, some Crispin ten milers, others seemed to be bemused ramblers caught up in the great ten mile race. By this time I had over twenty people nominally walking with me. After Wardlow, more walkers and the ubiquitous and talented Frank Parker with his camera.

Frank is always around making a pictorial record of village events and is sometimes missed out of the list of thanks. Surely a tribute is required to his professional skill in being so unobtrusive and catching us all unawares so often.

A lunch stop overlooking Ravensdale soon got rid of most of the additions to my party and I was relieved to set off again with only thirteen walkers including nine of my original eleven.....how can you lose two people on Moor Road?

A small reward, a chocolate éclair, was provided for my party at the (alleged) purest spring water in the White Peak and this helped me to marshal everyone up the hill to Cressbrook and steer them past the attractions of Di's

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Brew Stop which seemed to be full of the hard men & women participants in the ten mile race relaxing over tea & coffee. An important factor for the youngest member of my party was the need to finish on time so that he could get to Chesterfield with his mother and spend his birthday money. His wise father bought him off with a coke and assurances that we were on schedule and on we went.

A crisis arose at Monsal Dale Station, the attractions of ice cream, toilets, café & hotel at Monsal Head proved too irresistible to twelve of my party so I sent them on their way with my good wishes and a certain envy. I was pleased that I still had nine of my original starters with me before the party split up.....where on earth had the missing two gone wrong on Moor Road?

Now please do not think that I went down into the valley bottom and then up and out all the way to Monsal Head because I am a fitness freak, a purist or the like. Put this thought well out of your mind as the attractions of Monsal Head's facilities did beckon.

I went because we have a most determined resident of Great Longstone who said that she intended to do the walk, the whole walk and nothing but the walk. As leader I had to go as well. Two of us can now claim to have covered the full eight miles. Congratulations to my forceful companion. You know who you are.

Back to the Crispin for a warm welcome, food, music and the grand raffle. A profitable event for St. Giles and a great day out thanks to the wonderful seasonal weather. There are some safety and organisational lessons to be learned for 2009, but all in good time.

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The shorter walk..

What a surprise to find some 40 people wanting to do the short walk including many children and dogs! Ages ranged from babe in arms to 80's.

A few different starting times seemed to have been issued but we all got away by 1.30 pm, I was getting a little alarmed as some of the 10 mikers had already returned to the Crispin for pie and peas.

The first bottleneck was the 'Derbyshire Squeezer' stile out of the church yard onto Church Lane - unless the dog had the body of a racing snake then it was a case of nipping across to the church gates or lifting it over the wall. Once through we walked along the road taking the first footpath on the left and proceeded east towards Rowland. At the first climbing stile I was asked 'How many more of these difficult stiles? Off the top of my head I said 'oh, only one more' I think there were six, so apologies to those who found them difficult.

I felt a bit like a sheep dog whipping from back to front to try and keep an eye on everyone, even then one member managed to fall when I was not looking....she bravely finished though, anxious to collect her certificate.

We gathered together at the road in Rowland, when, I think, something rather alcoholic was being passed around, before going up the village then taking the left hand path (2 more stiles!) across to the top of Hardrake Lane. Down the lane then right through the gate and off towards Stancil Dale. Once here everyone knew where they were and broke for home, lured by the thought of Pie & Peas.

I hope everyone enjoyed the walk as much as I did, we were so lucky to have sunshine, making the Longstone scenery even more beautiful, whilst at the same time raising money for the church roof.

Well done everyone.

Where do you want to go next year....up on the Edge?

JEAN GLEDHILL

Piggin' Eck, I'm Top Dog!



'Mr Pig' (Crispin Inn pet pooch) trotted off with the trophy for highest Sponsorship raiser (almost £200) at the recent Crispin walk day - and some of his mates thought he was 'barking' for even doing it!

Editor required for UTE

Under the Edge magazine is always on the lookout for enthusiastic volunteers to help compile the monthly newsletter - writing, editing, proof reading, compiling, photography, distribution and taking notes at the Parish Council meetings... are just some of the duties involved if you have the spare time to devote to the task.

There is also now a vacancy for another volunteer Editor (shared responsibility every 3 months) to join the team!

If you think you could offer a few hours a month or even a few hours occasionally, please let us know by emailing editor@ute.org.uk - we'd be delighted to have you on board, every little helps!

Computer Problems?

- Hardware Faults/Upgrades
- Tech Support
- Software Problems
- Broadband/Internet Setup
- Virus/Spyware Removal
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Osama and his 'mates' discovered at horrendous Halloween night at White Lion...



Loathsome, unspeakables caught on camera...

A disgusting, horrible evening was loathed by all at a recent Halloween night at the White Lion, Great Longstone. Queen witch, Marlene prepared a wicked collection of unmentionables for the dozens of awful children to lay their scruffy mits on in the ghoulish grotto that was once a fine pub; fried newts tails, roast

hedge-pig snouts and other slimy 'refreshments' were devoured by the mob of human hideousness who turned up to take part in this annual festival of darkness and ritualistic dancing to what is referred to by Earthlings as 'pop music' - or something like that...

Investigative reporter

Spear Financial opens in Great Longstone

The recently opened office on Main Street in Great Longstone is that of Spear Financial Ltd, an Independent Financial Advisory group offering a broad range of financial advice. The business is owned and operated by Chris Spear in shared premises opposite the White Lion.

Formerly employed by a large firm of accountants in Sheffield, Chris has finally realised his three year old dream of opening his own business close to home and is hoping to grow the company by building lasting relations with the local community.

Chris and wife Carly live in Bakewell with their four children, three of whom already attend the school in Great Longstone.

For more information about the services offered by Spear Financial, Chris can be contacted on 01629 640 908

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Longstone & District Horticultural & Garden Society

Society revival night announcement...

The revival of the Society will take place on Wednesday, 10th December at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall.

The first part will be a talk given by Lucy Wright, proprietor of Longstone Hardy Plant Nursey on Station Road. Her theme will be 'A little bit of heaven on Earth' where she will explain how her nursery differs from others. She will also include an item on plants that can flourish in the area according to their seasons.

The second part will be much more fundamental for the revival of the Society. Money has already been raised from members, as well as the reimbursed sum of £453 received that has yet to be banked. The last account has been closed, and another needs to be opened but this cannot be done without having a mandate from the Society and authorised signatories.

The terms of the constitution will need to be drafted by a new committee that has yet to formed, hence the need for election of officers and committee members at the meeting.

The meeting is open to all, members or not, who live both outside and within the ecclesiastical parish of Great Longstone, Little Longstone, Hassop, Rowland, Wardlow and Monsal Head.

Hugh Wright

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Farming Notes



Ellis Oldfield and his dog, Pip, delivering fertiliser to the farm.

It's not yet Christmas and we are already thinking about spring as we have just had next year's fertilizer delivered. It comes in 600kg bags that we can handle with our trailer and loader. Local farm worker and lorry driver, Ellis Oldfield and his Jack Russell Pip, deliver it from Immingham docks to the farm.

As you can see, Ellis is a hardy soul and seems to dress for summer whatever the time of year! We need fertilizer to grow grass for a heavier silage crop and keep lush grass growing throughout the summer for the dairy cows.

Last year we paid £179 per ton but this year farmers have had a price shock with the price escalating to £410. Even as a small dairy farm such as ours, it means that an extra £5000 has to be found. This increase, together with the rising prices of cattle feed and fuel, has made it a difficult summer. As nitrogen is linked to energy, recent falls in the price of oil should start to bring prices down.

I hope so or else, Ellis will need more than Pip the Jack Russell, to protect his valuable load.

Roger Cox

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Simon & Catherine tie the knot

This happy picture shows Simon Davidson following his wedding in Yorkshire last month to Catherine Wragg. Having originally met as students at Oxford University they both moved to London to start their careers in Accountancy and Banking. Job transfers to New Zealand then gave them a great opportunity to experience life "down under" for a year before returning to the UK.

Although now based in Edinburgh they still manage the occasional return trip to Great Longstone where Simon's parents live.



WI Report for November

Since my last report we have been very busy. We have had an outing to David Nieper at Alfreton, which included a tour of the factory where we were able to see the wonderful nightwear made by them. This was followed by afternoon tea and a little retail therapy in the factory shop.

We were the hostesses at our Group Meeting at the end of October where we provided an Italian themed meal for the other five WIs in our group. This was followed by an entertaining talk by Alva di Cira entitled "Keeping up Appearances Italian Style", in which she told us of her experiences in Italy following her marriage to an Italian man she met at a dance in Chesterfield.

Our next outing was very entertaining indeed. We were going to Dobbies Garden Centre at Chesterfield but ended up at the Dukeries Garden Centre at Welbeck Abbey! Our very apologetic driver finally got us to Dobbies. We all thought it was a novel variation on the buy one get one free idea and decided that as the Dukeries looked good as well, we should return there for a proper look next year. We did have coffee there before heading off to Dobbies, which was an excellent outing with good food and of course shopping!

Our speaker at our last meeting was John Lower who told us about the Chesterfield/Worksop Canal, its history and the progress of its renovation. The renovation has been an ongoing project since the 1970's and has involved much hard work by a dedicated team of volunteers and some contract workers. There is now only a short section of canal to be restored but in places this involves re-routing the original canal

where houses etc have been built, quite an awesome project.

Eventually when the restoration is complete the canal basins in Chesterfield will also be restored to their former glory and the whole of the area will have hotels and other leisure facilities. It sounded a very exciting prospect for Chesterfield and hopefully will be as successful as similar projects have been in Manchester and Nottingham.

Our next meeting on December 3rd is our Christmas Party and as I won't be reporting again until after the festive season is over I'll wish everyone a very happy Christmas.

Davia Broome

Christmas Crackers!

Father Christmas' sledge broke down on Christmas Eve. He flagged down a passing motorist and asked, 'Can you help me fix my sledge?'

'Sorry,' the motorist replied. 'I'm not a mechanic - I'm a chiroprapist.'

'Well, can you give me a toe!'

Father Christmas:

I thought I asked you to go out there and clear the snow!

I'm on my way, Father Christmas.

Father Christmas:

But you only have one welly on!
That's all right! There's only one foot of snow!

What's On in December and over the Christmas period

PUB ROUND UP

'Use them or lose them!'
www.pubisthehub.org.uk/

CRISPIN - Great Longstone - 01629 640 237

Tuesdays from 6pm

2 for £14 night (steak, fish, gammon etc)

Daily pensioners' specials

(2 courses for £6.50)

Fridays from 9.30pm

Quiz night

Christmas Fayre

Available daily from December 1st - 23rd

Monday December 29th from 7.30pm

Charity Darts & Dominoes evening - proceeds to Macmillan Nurses

Kitchen closed

Mondays (except Bank holidays)

WHITE LION - Great Longstone - 01629 640 252

Daily

Takeaway Fish and Chips (except Tues & Sun)

Christmas Menus

Available from Dec 1st (not Christmas Day)

Sunday December 21st from 4pm

SANTA ARRIVES!

Grotto and loads of fun for all the family...

(but, bring your own pressies please!)

New Years Eve

Fun Casino night...all welcome!

PACKHORSE - Little Longstone - 01629 640 471

Thursdays from 9pm

Quiz night

Christmas menu from Dec 1st - Dec 24th

3 festive courses for £16

(Available lunch & eve, bookings only please)

EYRE ARMS, Hassop - 01629 640 390

Christmas menus available from December 1st

Fixed menu option (not available Sat nights or Sunday lunch)

2 courses £12.65

3 courses £16.50

Check with pub for times - 01629 640 390

The Thornbridge Hall Christmas Food & Drink Fair

*In partnership with Peak District
Foods*

Sunday 14th December 2008 10am -
3pm - Admission Free

Around 30 retailers will be selling products including handmade chocolates, traditional puddings, rare breed meats, smoked produce, coffee and preserves. Visit the award winning brewery (weather permitting) and buy some fine real ales to take home. There will be the chance during the day to relax in our underground bar and explore the gardens. For more information about the Thornbridge Hall Christmas Food & Drink Fair please call 01629 640617

Christmas Carols & Festivals

For full details, dates and timings for carol services, carols by candlelight, festival of nine lessons and carols and more please see page 11 of this issue.

Christmas Fair

All Saints Christmas Fair
Monday 8th December 9.30am -
12.30pm - In Bakewell Town Hall

Come and buy your Christmas presents, indulge in the chocolate fountain and have coffee with friends. Stalls include cakes, bric-a-brac, toiletries, books, jewellery, tombola and Christmas decorations.

Proceeds to go towards repairs to our historic church.

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Friday 5th Dec 6.30pm

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PARK PANTRY Desserts & Gateaux

Try and Buy night

White Lion

Thursday 4th Dec 6pm-8pm

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Sat 13th Dec 7.30pm

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£5 (Children & Students free)

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4th January

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SHELDON CHRISTMAS LIGHTS

Saturday 13th Dec 5.30pm

Meet Santa, have a turkey sandwich &
more!

Matlock Farmers Market 9:00am - 3:00pm

On the third Saturday of the month.

Saturday 20th December



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Local virtuoso in concert at Edensor



Come to hear Tim Wright (pictured left) in concert!

Local violinist, Tim is joined by pianist Jordan Bailey, both students at the Royal College of Music. Tim, who hails from Great Longstone, has already thrilled many local people with his virtuoso playing. On Saturday December 13th, at 7.30pm, at Edensor Church in Chatsworth Park, they will perform the ever popular Bruch's Violin Concerto in G minor, and Brahms's Sonata for Violin No 1 in G major.

Tim Wright is currently in his first year at the Royal College of Music, London. In addition to the demands of college life, Tim also enjoys giving recitals and playing in chamber music groups. He is a regular visitor to the Music in the Mountains Summer Festival in southern Spain playing both solo and chamber music concerts. He also had a very successful tour to Belgium in the summer playing the Panufnik violin concerto with the Peak District String Orchestra, which he was also leading.

Since being in London, Tim has played the violin solo part in Beethoven's Missa Solemnis in place of Peter Cropper during rehearsal at St John's Smith Square. As a result, he has been given the opportunity to perform the Brahms violin concerto with the orchestra.

Jordan Bailey has studied music for 16 years engaging with various teachers all over the world. In addition to participating in numerous international festivals he has performed in half a

dozen different countries and throughout the East coast of the United States. Jordan received his BMus from The Hartt School of Music in Hartford, Connecticut where he studied piano performance and historical practices in music history. He is currently studying with Gordon Fergus-Thompson for his MMus at the Royal College of Music in London.

Mulled wine and mince pies will be served in the interval and tickets are available in return for a £6.50 donation to Village Aid. Bring your friends for a Christmas musical treat, and send some real cheer to Africa as well!

All the money raised will go to support sustainable development projects with rural families in Africa. To learn more about Village Aid's current activities, why not go to www.villageaid.org Tickets are available from Susanne Garnett at Village Aid, 01629 - 814434, or email Susanne@villageaid.org.

Santa's on his way soon!

We all know that Santa's coming on Christmas Day but did you know that he's making an extra appearance this year?

It's true, he's coming to the White Lion, Great Longstone on Sunday December 21st at around 4pm. So you'd better watch out, you'd better not cry, you'd better not pout I'm telling you why - Santa Claus is coming to Town!

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Present

Councillors S. Barton (Chairman), Mrs S. Barton, Mrs W. Long, H. Wright, R. Topham, S. Headington, P. Thompson and S. Mason. D. Burns (Clerk), District Councillor J. Bentley and 2 members of the public.

Public Questions and Comments

Godfrey Frankland said that the cricket club had no objections to the proposed fence around the play area but what about the rest of the ground which is also used by large numbers of young children. He was concerned that fencing off just the playground could give out a wrong message about dogs on the cricket field. He also pointed out that it would result in an increase in mowing costs.

The Chairman said that he and Councillor Mrs Barton would be declaring a prejudicial interest in the planning application for further extraction of fluorspar at Arthurton West and would not be taking part in the discussion. However, under the terms of the Code of Practice adopted by the council, they do have the right to speak during Public Questions and Comments. He then went on to give his interpretation of the application and his opinion as to whether it should be approved or not. Councillor Mrs Barton

said that there was serious fly tipping taking place at the site.

The Chairman then opened the meeting at 7.45pm.

150/08 Apologies for Absence

There were no apologies.

151/08 Minutes of the Meeting held on 15th October 2008

Councillor Mrs Barton proposed the minutes a true record. This was seconded by Councillor Topham with all in favour.

152/08 Declaration of Interest

Councillor Wright declared a personal interest in items 8 (1) in that he is employed by DCC, item 6(4) in that he and his fiancé will benefit from an approval of the application and item 6(5) in that he is a personal friend of the applicants. The Chairman and Councillor Mrs Barton declared a prejudicial interest in item 6(1) in that they are members of the Save Longstone Edge group committee.

153/08 Police Matters / Neighbourhood Watch

There nothing relating to this area on either of the above.

154/08 School Matters

There was nothing to report.

155/08 Planning Matters

NP/DDD/10/08/0895 - Extension of time for extraction of fluorspar, Arthurton West.

At this juncture the Chairman and Councillor Mrs Barton retired from the room and Councillor Mason took the chair. After much discussion Councillor Topham proposed that the application be rejected. This was seconded by Councillor Mason and carried by 5-1. The two retired councillors were then

called back into the meeting and Councillor Barton resumed the chair.

NP/DDD/10/08/0937 - Extension to bungalow, **Cascades, The Close.**

Approval of this application was proposed by Councillor Headington, seconded by Councillor Mason and carried by 7-1.

NP/DDD/10/08/0936 - Replacement of agricultural building, **Standhill Farm, Beggarway Lane.**

Approval was proposed by Councillor Mrs Barton, seconded by Councillor Mrs Long with all in favour.

NP/DDD/10/08/0918 - New side entrance lobby, **The Crispin Inn, Main Street.**

The Chairman read out a letter of strong objection from a neighbour of the Crispin Inn. Following considerable debate, Councillor Thompson proposed approval of the application. This was seconded by Councillor Mason and carried 7-1 abstention.

NP/DDD/11/08/0977 - Conversion of flat to pitched roofs, **Whiterake, The Close.**

Approval of this application was proposed by Councillor Mrs Barton, seconded Councillor Mrs Long and carried by 7-1 abstention.

156/08 Financial Matters

a) To note bank balances.

The balance on the current account was noted as £1000.00

The statement for the deposit account was noted as £8131.15

b) To approve payments

Cheque No.

1. D. J. Burns (Salary October 08) £353.88

2. G. L. Senior Citizens Club (Donation) £100.00



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4. D. Longden (Repairs to sign on Rec) £57.00

Approval of the above payments was proposed by Councillor Mrs Barton seconded by Councillor Mason with all in favour.

c) To discuss the monthly financial statement

Councillor Wright reported that everything was in order.

At this point the Chairman suggested that, due to the time, the meeting should now proceed with items 8, 9, 10 and 16. He further proposed that, following this, refreshments be taken whilst a PC projector is set up to assist in finalising the precept and that items 11 - 15 inclusive be deferred to the next meeting.

157/08 Maintenance

ROADS AND PATHS

1. Pavement Repairs - After some discussion it was proposed by Councillor Mrs Barton that, in the matter of prioritisation, the Clerk should write to DCC re the state of the pavements on Grisedale Road West. This was seconded by Councillor Mrs Long with all in favour.

RECREATION GROUND

1. Play Equipment - Inspection Log and update on fencing - Councillor Topham said he will carry out an inspection next week. The Clerk reported that he had sought three quotations from local tradesmen. The first declined to quote on the grounds that it would be very expensive and highly vulnerable to vandalism. The second had not responded and the third had quoted £2108. Following a suggestion from the Clerk, Councillor Headington proposed that fencing be included in the proposed re-vamping of the play area. This was seconded by Councillor Thompson with all in favour.

2. Beech Hedge - The Clerk reported that neighbouring residents were totally opposed to removal of the hedge. In view of this it was agreed that the councillors meet on Saturday morning, 21st November, to decide on the height it be reduced to. Councillor Headington proposed that this item be carried forward to the next meeting and that the Clerk be instructed to book the services of the relevant contractor. This was seconded by Councillor Mrs Long with all in favour.

158/08 Correspondence

1. Bakewell Community Transport - Invitation to AGM and Social Evening - Noted.

2. East Midlands Regional Assembly - Partial Review of Regional Plan - Clerk to circulate details.

3. Communities and Local Government - A Consultation - Clerk to circulate details.

4. DALC - Letter re council involvement with young people - Clerk to reply accordingly.

5. DALC - Notice of Planning System Training Course - Councillors Topham and Mr & Mrs Barton to attend.

6. PPPF - Newsletter Autumn 2008 - Noted and circulated.

7. Clerks & Councils Direct - November 2008 - Noted and circulated.

8. DALC - General Circular Nos: 51 and 52/2008 - Noted and circulated.

9. DRCC - The Playing Field Autumn 2008 - Noted and circulated.

159/08 Late Items of Correspondence (Received since circulation of agenda)

1. DCC - Local Accessibility Strategy Consultation - Clerk to circulate.

160/08 Date of Next Meeting

The Council resolved to meet on Wednesday 17th December 2008 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall

The Chairman adjourned the meeting at 9.00 pm for a short refreshment break and reconvened at 9.10 pm.

161/08 To Finalise 2009/10 Precept

Following lengthy and in depth considerations, the precept was set at £15099 with all in favour. A proposal that £1500 be moved from reserves to a Village Hall contingency was deferred until the exact legal position on the Village Hall could be definitively established. In order to bring the precept increase to an acceptable level, the proposal carried forward from last year to substantially increase the general reserve was deferred.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 10.00 pm.

BAKEWELL MEDICAL CENTRE

FLU VACCINATIONS - If you are eligible and have not yet had your flu vaccination please contact the surgery on 0844 477 3408 to make an appointment. We are pleased to announce the opening of the new surgery took place on 12th November. Thank you to Mr Robert Ball and the Mayor of Bakewell for performing the official opening and to all members of staff and the Patient Participation Group for their hard work on the day, which was a great success. The surgery WILL NOT be closed for training in December. We will notify you of the 2009 training closure dates in due course. We will be closing on the following dates over the Christmas period 25th, 26th December and 1st January 2009.

In October Dr William went on a six-month sabbatical and his patients are being seen by a female locum GP Dr M Paterson. Please note she does not see patients requesting advice regarding termination of pregnancy, oral contraception or the morning-after pill.

James H. Bentley

District Councillor for
Litton and Longstone
Ward

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or
01629 640486

email:
james.bentley@derbyshiredales.gov.uk

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Xmas - the true meaning of Christmas!

My Dear Friends,

Back in the late 1940s C S Lewis gave a radio broadcast on the true meaning of Christmas. He was earning a name as a controversial speaker and in line with his reputation he commented on the increasing commercialisation of the festival and its secularisation. He called on real Christians to put Christ back into Christmas. He named the commercial and secular version "Xmas", and ever since, among certain Christians, the word Xmas has been anathema.

Of course Christmas is the folk festival par excellence: it is the festival which is most popular. Behind the 19th Century German embellishments - Christmas trees and Santa Claus - and the sentimentalism of Charles Dickens, there is the more ancient holly and ivy (not to mention the mistletoe) and the Roman festival of Saturnalia with its midwinter merrymaking as the shortest day arrives and the darkness is at its deepest. It is all part of the appeal of Christmas when carol services and midnight mass draws crowds.

"Why don't they come in the rest of the year?" moan zealous and insecure church people, and some clergy cannot resist the temptation to nag their Christmas congregations about this. It is all part of the mentality of "them and us" which wants the Church to consist only of "real" Christians. This is not a new issue. There have always been those who have wanted a pure version of Christianity with no blurred edges. They have wanted people to be either in or out and have enjoyed being able to condemn those they have classified as outside, as they congratulate themselves on being in. Perhaps instead we should take the lead from

the shepherds in the nativity story who said, "Let us now go and see this thing which has come to pass." After all, despite all the commercialism, secularisation (and sentimentalism) of Christmas, what people seem to be seeking is precisely the light that Christ came to bring to our world. And never mind if people do this only fitfully.

There is a story about a rabbi who survived the Nazi concentration camps. He was asked if he thought Hitler was in the very deepest hell. "No" he replied. "Why not? Doesn't he deserve such punishment?" they asked him. "Yes" he said, "But I don't believe in a God like that."

The God we believe in, who revealed himself in Jesus, reaches out to us. He does not condemn; he welcomes. We may worship him only fitfully as, occasionally, we glimpse the light of Christ, but that should not be treated as worthless. Our enjoyment of Christmas, in fact, points to the very mystery of God's love. We should rejoice and enjoy it all. Merry Xmas!

Yours sincerely,

Fr Christopher Hugh Benson

(The "X" of Xmas is, of course the Greek letter Chi which in Greek looks like an X and is the first letter of *Christ*)

NOTES FROM ST GILES

Having been persuaded to take over from "our Harold" the joke seems to be on me. The job spec was "requiring someone who speaks the language?!" and is also partially computer literate." To attempt to follow on after Harold's long and dedicated service, it falls on me, an ex-Londoner who will not even have a computer in the house (a lap-top has

occasionally been smuggled in, but never stays very long)! Someone else will have to transcribe my meanderings on to a machine. Oh well, I can only try my best! Any complaints to Haven Cottage please. How can we express our thanks adequately to everyone involved in the walk on October 18th, which raised such a wonderful amount for the St Giles roof fund? Paul & Joanne at The Crispin and Mike Cummins deserve special thanks for initiating the idea and they must be delighted you all made it such a success. (I know the Vicar particularly enjoyed his pie and peas meal).

December has to be the busiest month for nearly everyone. During Advent we prepare to celebrate Christmas, the birthday of Jesus and without this event we probably wouldn't have a holiday, let alone a celebration! Children always have a wonderful time, learning carols and performing in Nativity plays, trying to be good in anticipation of presents. Families get together during the holiday and the awe on little children's faces as they view a crib scene, see all the lights and help to decorate the Christmas tree can bring back memories of the magic we once felt.

Our Toy Service on Sunday 7th December is a popular date, as all the toys that are donated will be sent to children who may not receive any presents. The gifts are wrapped with an indication of age and suitability and whether for a girl or boy.

A good evening is promised on Friday 12th December when the Cressbrook Band is giving a Carol Concert in St Giles at 8.00pm. On Sunday 21st December at 6.30pm we have our Candlelight Festival of Nine Lessons & Carols, a firm favourite for many people. On Christmas Eve at 4.00pm "Happy Birthday Jesus" for the tinies in church would be a lovely start to the Festival.

A very tongue-in-cheek joke I heard recently was about a person looking at Nativity based cards and enquiring plaintively for some cards that were more Christmassy!

I must give a plug for the Pantomime at St Giles on Saturday 17th January 2009. It promises to be very entertaining with a cast spanning many ages, well on a par with the previous superb performances from the junior choir. Have a wonderful Christmas everyone.

Pam Smith

Benjamin Wragg

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St Giles, Great Longstone, Calendar for December

**Reverend
Christopher Hugh Benson**
01629 640257

Advent 2nd & 7th

8.00a.m Holy Communion
11.00a.m Toy Service
6.30p.m Evensong

Monday 8th

7.30pm Deanery Synod, Tideswell

Wednesday 10th

10.15am Eucharist

Advent 3rd, 14th

11am Parish Eucharist
6.30pm Evensong

Monday 15th

6pm School Carol Service

Saturday 20th

4.30pm Wedding

Advent 4th, 21st

8am Holy Communion
11.00am Ante Communion
6.30pm FESTIVAL OF NINE LESSONS AND
CAROLS

Wednesday 24th

4pm "Happy Birthday Jesus"
11.30pm Midnight Mass

Christmas Day

11am Christmas Service
12 noon Christmas Eucharist

Holy Innocents 28th

8am Holy Communion
11am Parish Eucharist

SERVICES IN THE CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD, WARDLOW

Advent 2,7th Dec
9am Eucharist

Advent 3,14th Dec
3pm Carol Service

Advent 4, 21st Dec
9am Morning Worship

Christmas Day
8am Christmas Eucharist

DECEMBER IN THE GARDEN

Lawns:- Dig over areas to be seeded in the spring. Clean and overhaul machines and equipment.

Sweetpeas:- Cover frames with matting after frosts to avoid rapid thawing of autumn seedlings.

Dahlias:- Continue checking stored tubers for signs of rot, treat as needed.

Roses:- Prepare established beds for winter, shortening long growths to 2.5 feet (75cms) to stop wind loosening plants. Complete new planting if conditions allow. Collect and burn fallen leaves which show signs of black spot and disease.

Herbaceous Plants:- Continue tidying borders and digging between plants. Order seeds and plants for spring sowing and planting.

Chrysanthemums:- Firm ground around over wintering plants lifted by frost. Under glass - take cuttings of large exhibition varieties. Keep stools of garden varieties cool and not too wet.

Fruit:- Continue pruning and planting in suitable weather. Spray all fruit bushes and trees with winter wash when dormant.

Vegetables:- Continue winter digging, leaving ground rough. Prepare site for next year's runner beans. Under glass lift rhubarb and chicory for forcing.

Trees & shrubs:- Plant deciduous trees and shrubs in mild weather. Firm soil around the root. Tie branches of young conifers together with sacking to prevent heavy snow breaking them down.

General tasks:- Check tuber, corms, onions and other dormant bulbous plants and stored roots and fruits before severe frosts. Provide adequate protection. Beware of mice, trap or poison them. Lag outdoor water pipes and taps.

Merry Christmas from Frank!

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY St Giles'

Sunday 7th December
The Annual Toy Services
11.00a.m

Friday 12th December
Carol Concert in St Giles' with
Cressbrook Band at 8.00p.m

Sunday 21st December
Candle-light Service of
9 Lessons & Carols
6.30p.m

Church of the Good Shepherd WARDLOW

Sunday 7th December
The Annual Toy Services
9.00a.m

Sunday 14th December
Carol Service
3.00p.m

Great Longstone Methodist Chapel

Local Minister
Rev. Margaret Roe
Tel No 812195

7 Dec - 10:30am - Mrs. D. Jackson

14 Dec - 6:30pm
CANDLELIGHT CHRISTMAS SERVICE
Rev. Margaret Roe

21 Dec - 10:30am - Dr. R. Briddon

28 Dec - 11am - United Service at the
Parish Church

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Dispensary: 01246 582366 (line is open 12noon - 1.00pm and 2.00pm - 3.00pm)
District Nursing Team: 01246 584903
Community Matron/Health Visitor: 01246 583270

Opening hours
Monday to Friday: 8.00am - 6.30pm
(we do not close for lunch)

Flu Clinics

If you have not had your flu injection this year and you are eligible, please contact reception to make an appointment.

Results

Results are usually available within five working days. Please telephone the surgery on 01246 582216 AFTER 3.00pm for results.

Please Note

The Surgery will not close for Staff Training in December, but will be **closed** on the 25 & 26 December 2008 & 1st January 2009

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Melany Davison-West, PhD, BSc

Traidcraft

It's been a little disappointing that some of the craft goods and Christmas cards which customers have ordered have already sold out. I suppose it is a good thing in a way that there has been such a high demand, but I don't like to let customers down. Please place your orders as early as you can. Items ordered by Dec 16th will arrive in time for Christmas, provided always that they are still available. Sue Woollen organised a very successful chocolate coffee morning in Great Longstone. Quite a lot of people were introduced to the new chocolate range including some of the 'specials' - white chocolate raspberries, chocolate orange pieces, divine after dinner mints and many more - all of which proved very popular. I'd be pleased to help anyone else arrange something similar. Sales this month have been the best since last December at £1401 including £68 at the Oxfam Group open event, £63 at the Methodist Church Thursday Group, £48 at the Farming Service, £57 at the Christian Aid Coffee Morning, £30 at the Friday lunch club and £184 at the Coffee Morning in Bakewell Church. All in all a wonderful contribution to helping our suppliers earn their own living and provide for their families. Peter Bird (01629 813087)

Aggressive tree fellers

Two males wearing work jackets, have been visiting the homes of elderly residents on Eaton Drive, Baslow, offering to fell trees. They quote a price and when residents decline, they lower the price and become quite aggressive. Any further sightings of these males who are using an open backed vehicle, please take a note of the registration number/vehicle make and call 0845 164 1644, quoting incident no: 210 20/11/08.

Trisha Mellor, Buxton Police Station.

Neil's Taxi

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Waste Collection Dates

Saturday morning collection

WARDLOW - 17th Jan 2009. 7.45 - 9.15 on the Main Street.

LITTLE LONGSTONE - 31st Jan, 7.45 - 9.00 by the telephone box.

GREAT LONGSTONE - 31st Jan. 9.15 - 10.45 by the War Memorial

CARDBOARD - Can be put in your green waste bin.

GARDEN AND OTHER WASTE - Stonegravels, Chesterfield, is open 7 days a week.

Merry Christmas from the Editors...

Thank you to all the readers that submit material for publication and especially to those who regularly send in their articles.

The deadline for copy for the next issue is **Thursday 18th December**, 5.30 p.m.

Please remember to include your name and contact details with any copy that is submitted. Failure to do so will result in the editor being unable to publish your copy.

The editors and management committee do not necessarily endorse opinions expressed in articles and adverts.

Subscriptions are available, please contact Liz McDonald, Tel (01629) 640171

Other enquiries and correspondence to: Haven Cottage, Main Street, Great Longstone, Bakewell, Derbyshire.

Could you help with the publication of Under the Edge? Please let us know!
Email: editor@ute.org.uk

This month's editor: Mike Cummins

Next month (JAN): Simon Thorpe

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