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# UNDER THE EDGE

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

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## Callum Leaves Under The Edge

It is with regret that we announce the departure of our Executive Editor Callum Salfield. His decision to leave Great Longstone in favour of the bright lights of Chesterfield means that he will be resigning from his duties with our newspaper.

Callum will be greatly missed and we would like to say Thank You on behalf of all the Under The Edge team for his contribution and wish him well in his new home.

We assume that he will still be back in the village from time to time, presumably when he is needed at the White Lion to help keep the darts team off the foot of the table.

**Mark Taylor**

## New Editor(s) Needed

As observant readers will have noticed, we have lost two editors over the last two months, which leaves us with just a team of two editors to produce Under The Edge.

We would therefore be delighted to hear from anyone out there who fancies trying their hand at editing. The task of producing the newspaper takes approximately 10-20 hours per issue and we rotate the responsibility around the team, so in a team of three editors that would be four issues per year per person.

No prior experience of editing is necessary, just a bit of computer literacy, an interest in local affairs, as well as a burning desire to support the best local newspaper around! All software training will be provided.

Anyone interested should get in touch by emailing [editor@ute.org](mailto:editor@ute.org). We'd love to hear from you....

**Mark Taylor**

## Christmas Wedding at Great Longstone Methodist Chapel



Great Longstone Methodist Chapel was treated to its first wedding for five years when Lansbury Sessions, a Longstone resident, and Pamela Crawford married there at 1pm on the 22nd December. The Chapel, which was dressed with seasonal floral arrangements, was filled to capacity with forty guests who all appreciated a wonderful candle lit service taken by the Reverend Margaret Roe. Guests then

enjoyed sunny views of Chatsworth as they travelled to the reception at East Lodge Country House hotel at Rowsley for a wedding breakfast and evening event which rounded off an amazing day for everyone. Due to work commitments, the happy couple intend to honeymoon during Pamela's half term school break in February.

**Jane Reynolds**

## Heading South Again!

Helen Turton, Great Longstone's very own Antarctic explorer, is at it again. If you had been wondering why she could be seen pulling tyres through the village and up to the Edge, the answer is that she will soon to be heading off to the South Pole as part of the Commonwealth Women's Antarctic Expedition.

She would like to invite you all to a talk about her previous journey to the South Pole via the Falkland Islands and South Georgia. This will take place at the Crispin on 18<sup>th</sup> Feb at 7:30pm. Entry

is free and all donations will go towards the Commonwealth Women's Antarctic Expedition. Best of luck Helen!



## Message from the Ambulance Service

We all carry our mobile phones with names and numbers stored in its memory. If we were to be involved in an accident or were taken ill, the people attending us would have our mobile phone but wouldn't know who to call. Yes, there are hundreds of numbers stored but which one is the contact person in case of an emergency? Hence this 'ICE' (In Case of Emergency) Campaign.

The concept of 'ICE' is catching on quickly. It is a method of contact during emergency situations. As mobile phones are carried by the majority of the population, all you need to do is store the number of a contact person or persons who should be contacted during emergency under the name 'ICE' (In Case Of Emergency). The idea was thought up by a paramedic who found that when he went to the scenes of accidents there were always mobile phones with patients but they didn't know which number to call. He therefore thought that it would be a good idea if there was a nationally recognised name for this purpose.

In an emergency situation, Emergency Service personnel and hospital staff would be able to quickly contact the

right person by simply dialling the number you have stored as 'ICE'. Please forward this. It won't take too many 'forwards' before everybody will know about this. It really could save your life, or put a loved one's mind at rest.

For more than one contact name simply enter ICE1, ICE2, ICE3 etc.

Please pass this around to as many people as possible as this can help in an emergency.

## Message from the Peak District National Park Authority



Residents, visitors and businesses are being asked to comment on options that will be used to decide whether future planning applications in the Peak District are acceptable or not.

The Local Development Framework will be the master plan against which all planning applications in the national park are judged from 2011 to 2026.

The legal document will affect everyone who makes a planning application, whether they want to alter their property, build a new home, add an extension or create a business.

It will also look at issues like:

- How much affordable housing should be built
- The impact of climate change on the Peak District landscape
- How many wind turbines or other renewable energy schemes should be allowed and

- How much tourist accommodation should be allowed.

Councillor Hilda Gaddum, chair of the authority's planning committee, said: "This public consultation is not about some stuffy legal document that will sit on a shelf. It is a policy that will directly affect the lives of everyone who lives in the national park until 2026.

"So it is really important that residents, visitors and businesses tell us what types of development they would like to see and what aspects of the landscape they think should be protected by planning law.

"Planning issues in a national park arouse strong emotions. This is because we have to strike a difficult balance between our legal duty of protecting and enhancing the landscape with the need to ensure that our villages and towns remain vibrant, living communities.

"This is a chance for all those interested in the national park to tell us how they think that balance should be achieved."

The public consultation runs until 10 April and can be seen by visiting [www.peakdistrict.gov.uk/ldfconsultation](http://www.peakdistrict.gov.uk/ldfconsultation) and following the on-screen instructions, which allows comments to be made online.

Summary and full-length versions of the consultation document have been produced. Both have seven sections with different options to consider. The sections are:

1. Landscape
2. Climate change and natural resources
3. Housing
4. Settlements
5. Transport
6. Economy
7. Minerals.

Responses to the consultation can also be made by email to [policy@peakdistrict.gov.uk](mailto:policy@peakdistrict.gov.uk) or by



### The Packhorse Inn Little Longstone

David and Lorraine welcome you to The Packhorse.

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01629 640932 or 07837 051653

writing to Brian Taylor, Policy Planning Manager, Peak District National Park Authority, Aldern House, Baslow Road, Derbyshire, DE45 1AE.

Details of how to read or get paper versions of the consultation can be obtained from the authority's customer service team on 01629 816200 or by emailing:

customer.service@peakdistrict.gov.uk

All the comments from the consultation will be used to produce a final draft version of the Local Development Framework by the end of the year.

A further public consultation will then be held before the document is sent to the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government to approve. The plan is expected to come into force in 2011.

## Palestinian Orphans

If like me you have watched the latest bombing of Gaza with horror and you want to do something practical to help, besides donating money to charities working in the area (e.g. Medical Aid for Palestinians, Save the Children, Oxfam, Red Cross) and lobbying the government to work for a lasting peace, here is something simple. I have a friend in Bakewell who knits jumpers for Palestinian orphans. The orphanage is in the West Bank. (She has not been able to get a contact in Gaza and, of course, the siege has made sending aid there very difficult.) You can help by donating any odd scraps of knitting wool. She needs 4 ply and double knitting wool, preferably in bright colours. White is the colour of mourning and so is not suitable. Please contact me if you have odd balls of wool you would like to donate, or if you would like to help with the knitting. Sue Hepworth, 640630.

## T.M. PROPERTY SERVICES

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## A Post-Christmas Poem

After Christmas Break

It rains, it snows, it freezes  
Ice on paths and roofs and roads  
Birds huddle in trees and bushes  
The redbreast alone shows off its  
clothes

Frost as lace and oh so fragile,  
Bedecking tree and hedge alike.  
Not a breath of wind or whisper  
In a wondrous winter light

Our breath is like a puffing billy  
As we mount the Peakland trail  
Hills and valleys stretch before us  
Shrouded in a misty veil

"If only I had a balaclava  
To cut out cold and damp alike"  
Spectacles steam up and darken  
"Watch out, take care, beware the  
bike!"

The pubs are full and warm and  
cosy

Locals, strangers, lovers too.  
Turkey, Cranberry, roast potatoes  
A festive feast of Christmas food

A welcome smile and happy  
Christmas

Is offered in the village shops  
Papers delivered just as usual  
Their daily ritual never stops

Around the fire, with curtains  
drawn

A book or paper on our laps  
Cut off and glowing in our home  
Hot tea and cake and jammy baps.

Paul Newman

## A Letter to Under The Edge Regarding Dogs

Following on from the article in last month's U.T.E, as parents and guardians of children who use the recreation and children's playground regularly, we are sick and tired of the ongoing problem of dog fouling. This matter has been raised time and time again at Parish Council meetings and in the pages of UTE. We have been informed by the Parish Council that a letter has been written to one known village household who has been seen continually walking a dog unleashed on the Rec. and the children's play area. More broadly, the issue of dog fouling continues to be a health hazard to our children and for anyone using the Rec., as well as an unpleasant spectacle for the public in general. We find it astounding that in this day and age, certain individuals can be so thoughtless, arrogant and selfish to allow this to happen...yet it does. As a group of village members who are collectively very concerned about this issue, we hope this letter pricks the consciences of the one or two irresponsible dog owners to change their practices when it comes to exercising their dogs.

Yours sincerely,

**E. Richards, L. Brennan, T.D Ash (grandmother and dog owner), F. Milburn (dog owner and babysitter), B. Waddington, C. Waddington, H. Hodgkinson (dogowner), S.C. Drest, L.E. Cocket, R. Marroch, L.Hopkins, D. Whiteley (dog owner), S. Pawley, Y. Gallacher, J. Fawcett, L. Stokes (grandmother and dogwalker), J.A. Green (grandmother and dogwalker), J. Fawcett, M. Oliver, S.D.J. Barrett, R. Clarke (dog owner), R. Shimwell, M. Headington, E. Agutter, D.E. Nichalson, A. Mactaggart (dogowner)**



*Great Longstone nestling under the hills*



## New Year's Day Walk 2009

Yes there was one again this year but UTE comes out too early in November and too late in January to advertise the walk successfully. Apologies to those who were missed out of my personal delivery system. Please note up in your diaries to telephone 01629 640315 after Christmas for information for January 1<sup>st</sup>. 2010. Details will also be on the village notice board.

18 humans & 2 dogs set off on a frosty but lovely winter day and as the ground was hard we were able in comfort to take the muddy path to Monsal Head and then down to Ashford via Pennyunk Lane. Two tricky road crossings and then along the bottom boundary of Thornbridge to the Monsal Trail & back home via the station. The traditional mince pies and drinks followed at Cluden Bank.

This is a lovely walk in spring & summer but very muddy except in very dry or frosty conditions and I do recommend it as a pleasant two to three hour excursion. There used to be a colony of black rabbits on the Thornbridge boundary near Longstone Lane but I haven't seen them for some time. Does anyone know if they are still there?

John Poulter

## Thank You Longstone!

After the New Year's day walk we received the following delightful letter (slightly abridged) from two young holiday visitors who were staying in the village.

Dear John and Joyce

We are writing this letter to thank you for taking us on a fantastic walk. We were able to take some fabulous photos and we worked together to draw this

picture (the station, some dog paw prints and two bedraggled walkers probably J & J). We hope you like it. We were also able to bond with the village. You all made us feel very welcome and part of the community.

It was very kind of you to invite us back to your home. We loved your paintings and enjoyed the drinks and mince pies plus playing with your dogs Meggy and Brandy. We have heard what good your village has done doing the walks such as raising money for the roof of the church. We really hope you keep it up as myself Holly Louise and my little sister Chantelle really really would like to come back here and enjoy another village walk.

You and everyone else made us feel very welcome, we really do hope to see you again at some point.

Yours sincerely  
Holly Louis and Chantelle

(Submitted by John & Joyce Poulter)

## Derwent Valley Flower Club

At the AGM in January, the re-elected committee of Derwent Valley Flower club welcomed Judith Edwards and Glenys Smith as new committee members.



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The review of 2008 showed that the cost of staging monthly demonstrations by invited Flower Arrangers continues to rise with the increase in hall rental fees, flowers and fuel allowance. Therefore extra fundraising is essential. It is hoped that this vital support will be forthcoming and that friends and visitors will also become members of Derwent Valley Flower Club. This would give the committee the confidence to continue to book entertaining demonstrators. (Incidentally, subscriptions for 2009 are now due!)

The programme for 2009 was announced and arrangements discussed for the workshop by Katie Peckitt of Sheffield to be held on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> February in the Village Hall, Calver at 7:45pm. Everyone welcome to either just simply watch the Workshop or take part (for which we ask you to please book a place.) For further information and to book a place at the Workshop, please call 01433 630161.

Pauline Booker

## In Defence of February!

February seems to be a month liked by few people. Ask people to list their favourite and least favourite months and, often, February comes out at the bottom of the pile; "It's cold and dark and gloomy. At least in January, you have the excitement of a fresh start with the New Year but by February, all enthusiasm is gone and you just have a dreary heel-dragging slog towards spring."

So here are some cheery facts about February to convert the sceptics to this glorious month:

- In Spain and South America, February is the month of carnival, as Mardi Gras marks the start of Lent.

- Some, especially restaurant proprietors, regard February as the month of love with St Valentine's Day on 14<sup>th</sup>.

- The flowering of Snowdrops, traditionally a symbol of hope, says that spring is not far away.

- It is one of the months in which you have a holiday from paying your Council Tax!

- With it being the shortest month, you have fewer days before the next monthly pay-packet.

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· The days are getting longer. By approximately three and a half minutes per day.

· One for rugby fans. February sees the beginning of the Six Nations Championship.

· February is the only month chosen to vary in length as a tool for forcing the Solar Year of 365 Days, 5 Hours, 49 minutes and 12 seconds into our Gregorian calendar. There is a leap year in every year that is divisible by four, but not by one hundred unless it is also divisible by four hundred!

· My birthday is in February. An honour I share with Charles Dickens, Thomas Edison, Charles Darwin and Samuel Pepys, amongst others.

Convinced?  
**Mark Taylor**

## Local Crime Mapping

Derbyshire Constabulary have added a new feature to their website which allows you to look at detailed crime figures for any area. Simply go to <http://crimemaps.derbyshire.police.uk> and enter the village or postcode you are interested in and details of overall crime levels as well as breakdowns per crime type can be found.

Always keen to do the legwork on behalf of our readers, UTE can tell you that, according to the website, the Tideswell Area (which contains Great Longstone and has a population of 5,400) had an average of 10.7 crimes per month in 2008, which was the same as the previous year. This figure is then broken out into Burglary, Robbery, Vehicle Crime, Violence and Anti-Social Behaviour. All the local crime numbers are described as 'average.'

## A Message from Derbyshire Constabulary

The Tideswell Area Governance Group meeting will be held at Bakewell Town Hall on 28<sup>th</sup> February at 7pm. This meeting is convened to review targets set for local law enforcement over the last year and to set targets for the future.

All residents are invited to attend and make their feelings known about local policing. As targets will be set at this meeting, it is important that all villages are represented so as to avoid them not having their case heard.

## Bakewell Medical Centre

[www.bakewellsurgery.co.uk](http://www.bakewellsurgery.co.uk)

As from 21st January 2009 early morning surgery is held on Wednesdays every week.

**Opening Times** - Monday 8 am to 8.30 pm, Tuesday 8 am to 6.30 pm, Wednesday 7am to 6.30 pm, Thursday and Friday 8 am to 6.30 pm.

Please ask at reception for details of how to register on 'EMIS Access' – once registered, patients can book certain GP appointments, order repeat prescriptions and update any address/contact details online.

We are all settling in nicely to our new building and we hope if you have attended the surgery you have appreciated it too.

If you have attended surgery recently you will have been asked to complete a confidential 'Patient Questionnaire' – the results will be published after the end of March. Thank you to those patients who have completed a 'Questionnaire'.

**CLOSURE FOR TRAINING** – Closed: 24<sup>th</sup> Feb 12.30pm to 4 pm

## Ashenfell Surgery Baslow

[www.ashenfellsurgery.co.uk](http://www.ashenfellsurgery.co.uk)  
Reception: 01246 582216

### Opening hours

Monday to Friday 8.00am – 6.30pm

### Flu Clinics

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

### Online bookings

You can now book appointments/order repeat prescriptions and update any changes to your address, contact details etc via the website - please ask at reception for details of how to register for Emis Access.

### Results

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

### Parking

Please note that limited overflow parking is available at the Cavendish Hotel.

### Minor injuries

The Whitworth Hospital, on the A6 between Darley Dale and Matlock is used to treat minor injuries and provide care and advice outside of normal surgery hours, including weekends and Bank Holidays. They offer a 24-hour service. Please telephone 01629 593003 for further information or contact NHS Direct on 0845 4647.

### Emergencies

If you have a serious problem such as chest pain or severe bleeding telephone 999 for an ambulance.

### Please Note

The Surgery will be **closed** for Staff Training on the following Friday afternoon 27 February 2009 until 5pm. For emergencies call 01246 582216

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## Parish Council Notes

Readers are reminded that the following is only an account of the Parish Council meeting held on 21<sup>st</sup> January 2009 and not the official minutes, a copy of which can be seen on the village notice board.

The Chairman gave his usual warning regarding public participation during the meeting and invited PC Kevin Lowe to present to the council before the meeting officially began.

### Police Presentation

PC Lowe was at the meeting to present information on a new initiative for local policing which will involve more information being presented to the public regarding crime statistics as well as increased time spent visibly patrolling the area. Great Longstone was the first Parish Council to receive this presentation and PC Lowe admitted that the details of how the initiative will actually be delivered were still being worked out, particularly when it came to the new requirement for him to spend eighty percent of his time out of the office on patrol. He struggled to contain his scepticism that the remaining one hour and thirty eight minutes of his day would allow him to adequately complete the rest of his duties.

Information on current crime statistics for the Tideswell Area (within which Great Longstone falls) as well as details on crimes committed in Great Longstone itself were presented to the Council.

PC Lowe finished by stating that he would be back every month to present on local crime to the Council. Given that Great Longstone has only registered one reported crime in the last three months, these presentations will probably not be of the 'please don't have nightmares' variety.

There then followed a brief statement from Godfrey Frankland about the recent incident at the cricket pavilion. He spoke after being warned by PC Lowe that he mustn't say anything which would impact the ongoing investigation into this crime. Choosing his words very carefully, he went on to say that his aim in speaking was to inform the Council that various rumours that had been circulating regarding the incident were completely untrue, particularly those involving syringes being found on the scene. As he continued to describe the scene of the crime as it had been found

he was dramatically stopped by PC Lowe and warned not to continue for risk of jeopardising the police case. All very exciting!

### Other Public Comment

Once PC Lowe had left the meeting, Godfrey Frankland continued with a question about the registering of the Recreation Ground after the Cricket Club received a letter from the Land Registry asking if they wanted to register the land. The Chairman replied that the Council were involved in a process of registering all unregistered land and that the Recreation Ground was on their list.

### Open

With all public involvement now over with, the meeting was opened at 7:59pm.

### Apologies for Absence

There was a full turnout from the Parish Council with the only apology coming from District Councillor Bentley.

### Minutes of the Last Meeting

The minutes of the last meeting were proposed as a true record and duly accepted as such.

### Declarations of Interest

Hugh Wright declared an interest in the item on maintenance of roads and footpaths. Peter Thompson and Roger Topham declared an interest in the item on the Village Hall.

### Police Matters and Neighbourhood Watch

Neighbourhood Watch was reported as 'quiet.' Hugh Wright warned people with respect to the recent cold weather not to walk away and leave cars unattended with their engines running as this could be a temptation too far for passing car-jackers. This crime is technically known as 'Frosting' for those of you who are sticklers for the exact terminology.

### School Matters

Nothing to report

### Planning Matters

There were no new planning applications to discuss. Three applications have been granted and they were:

Building to house livestock – Standhill Farm

Extension to bungalow – Cascades, The Close

Change to pitched roofs – Whiterake, The Close

### Financial Matters

The balance of the Current and Deposit Accounts were confirmed as £1,000.00 and £7,348.85 respectively.

The Clerk's salary of £353.88 for the month of December 2008 was approved.

The financial statement was discussed and apart from some money owed by DDDC to the Parish Council for grass cutting at the Church; it was deemed to be all in order.

New mileage rates were discussed. The official proposal is that mileage allowances are paid based on the size of the engine of the car used; the bigger it is, the higher the allowance. Peter Thompson pointed out that this was a strange state of affairs that seemed to give no incentive for people to use a less-polluting car. It was therefore proposed and accepted that the Council adopt a flat rate instead. The lowest rate of just over 40p per mile was chosen. This discussion was rendered slightly academic when it transpired that no councillor had claimed any expenses in the lifetime of this current Council.

### Maintenance – Roads and Paths

A new footpath hole has been reported.

Suzy Barton pointed out that some of the roads were exceptionally muddy at the moment and wondered whether there should be an obligation upon those responsible to clean up, as has happened sometimes in the past. After some general discussion it was decided that this sort of thing will always happen when the weather is like it is now and whilst it was not ideal, doubt was expressed as to whether there was a workable solution. Nothing was proposed and the meeting moved on.

### Maintenance – Recreation Ground

Repairs are to be carried out on the playground equipment to repair wooden panels which have suffered from delamination. This reporter is not intimately acquainted with the playground yet, but it sounded rather like almost every piece of equipment needed replacing and that this would be done

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over the next two years, one piece at a time to keep the playground operational. Discussion was had over the materials that are being used with talk that maybe if more expensive wooden (or even plastic) panels were used, the lifetime would be longer. It seems the consensus is to begin replacing with panels that have an expected outdoor life of around two years. This coupled with the two year renewal period should create Great Longstone's equivalent of the Forth Rail Bridge.

#### **Maintenance – Other**

It had been noticed that one of the headstones in the Churchyard had been damaged by the recent frosts with the front of the stone now threatening to fall off. The Chairman confirmed that maintenance of Churchyard does not fall under the mandate of the Parish Council therefore a Church Warden will be notified.

#### **Freedom of Information Act**

This agenda item led to a prolonged discussion which took a while to decipher from the public gallery; however the abridged version goes something like this. Like all public authorities, Great Longstone Parish Council is obliged under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 to make certain pieces of information available to the public. This involves the production of what is called a Publication Scheme which sets out the classes of information the Council holds and how the public can gain access to it. Great Longstone Parish Council has decided to adopt the Information Commissioner's Model Publication Scheme, details of which can be found in many locations on the internet. The Parish Council's Publication Scheme will be presented on the village website ([www.greatlongstone.net](http://www.greatlongstone.net) – under the 'Councils' page) but has not yet been published pending further Council discussion. The website currently contains the Parish Council's timeframe of information release with the first tranche expected by the end of January entitled 'What we spend and how we spend it.' This will include the Annual Report of the Parish Council. The Annual Return will also be available but only on hardcopy at a cost of £5 per copy. Any information that is online is also available in hardcopy at a price of 10p per page.

I expect this to be a regular Agenda item as the Council complies with their obligations over the next few months

but it will no doubt delight all you lovers of transparent government.

#### **Pillar Box**

Following on from last month's discussion on moving the pillar box to allow better access, the Clerk reported that a letter has been sent to the Post Office but as yet there has been no reply.

#### **Village Hall**

Well, if the Freedom of Information discussion had appeared protracted, it was soon put in its place by the Village Hall item. Ostensibly this agenda item concerned a request for funding from the Village Hall for new heating equipment for the Snooker Room. However this rapidly catalysed a return to the discussion regarding the trust agreement between the Parish Council and the Village Hall. A summary document was circulated by Roger Topham which outlined the maintenance and financial responsibilities of the Parish Council with respect to the Village Hall, as currently agreed. The report finished by proposing that the current agreements are retained and that expenditure for the heating is approved. This proposal was rejected after an objection by Simon Headington. Instead the report was accepted as just representing a fair summary of the current situation. Simon Headington said he wanted the past agreements to be reviewed and updated, pointing to the fact that currently the Parish Council is exposed to the risk of unlimited liability. Other members of the Council did not agree that this will ever be a major problem in practice.

Estimates for the cost of the new heating were presented by Roger Topham. Although previously the Village Hall had met all costs from its income, on this occasion they are asking the Parish Council for the money under the current agreement between the two

bodies. As the funding had not been included in the Parish Council Precept it was pointed out that the money was not available at the moment and if the funding request was accepted it still could not be paid straight away.

Simon Headington asked if it was possible to see the finances of the Village Hall to understand why this funding request had come through now when none had been received before. He also requested that the Parish Council minutes from the relevant meeting in 1994 be exhumed to check whether the agreement apparently made was binding, even though the legal opinion sought by the Village Hall was that the agreement document held water.

In the end it was proposed and accepted that if the Village Hall has a good reason why they cannot pay then the amount required would be put on the precept proposals for next year.

Simon Headington finished the discussion by asking that from now on all official communications between the Parish Council and the Village Hall go only between the Council Clerk and the Village Hall Secretary to reduce the risk of miscommunication. This was agreed.

#### **Rural Services Network**

From the public gallery it was not obvious what this agenda item was referring to. The Chairman gave a brief description about it being a rural liaison service and a 'lobbying and communication thing.'

#### **Retirement of the Clerk**

Now the big news hit. David Burns has given notice of his desire to retire at the end of the financial year. The Parish Council are going to draw up a job description for the role of the next Clerk and begin the process of looking for a candidate. The position will be advertised in Under The Edge and the Peak Advertiser.

.....Continued Overleaf

### **James H. Bentley**

District Councillor for  
Litton and Longstone  
Ward

Tel: 0780 317 8031

or

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## Parish Council Notes (Cont.)

David Burns was thanked for everything he has done for the Council in his time as Clerk.

### Late Items of Correspondence

Whatever had been received led to a discussion about the problem of leaves collecting underneath the bench opposite the bus shelter. It was wondered whether the clearing of these might be something the Volunteer Force might be tasked with. Some councillors objected to this saying this was not what the Volunteer Force was set up to do and that maybe Bruno should be approached with the job of removing the leaves. Others on the Council questioned the sense in paying to sweep leaves away that may just collect there again. Simon Headington suggested that since most of the councillors hadn't seen this problem for themselves, maybe they should take a look before deciding on a course of action. It was then suggested that any councillors going up to take a look might like to take a brush with them and see whether the problem couldn't be sorted there and then!

### Village Open Day

This actually turned into a discussion about a bike track at the Willows although it was not immediately

obvious what relevance that had to the agenda item. There was an agreement that maybe the Village Open Day could be used to solve whatever problem there appeared to be at the Willows.

### Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting will be on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> February in the Village Hall.

### Close

The meeting was closed at 9.53pm whereafter the councillors, clearly now flagging under the burden of governance, dragged your correspondent across the road to the White Lion for some much needed refreshments.

**Mark Taylor**

## New Village Hall Booking Secretary

The Booking Secretary for Great Longstone Village Hall has changed and Jane Littlefield has taken over from Julia Morgans, who is now the Treasurer.

Please call Jane on 01629 640943 or email [jane@robertopham.plus.com](mailto:jane@robertopham.plus.com) for all bookings.

The Hall is an ideal venue for parties and meetings and costs just £4 an hour for residents.

**Julia Morgans**

## The Ralph Rider Trust

The above trust is able to make small grants to organisations or individuals in the **Monyash** and **Little Longstone** area to help relieve sudden distress or meet a particular need.

Are your heating bills causing hardship? As long as you are not in receipt of any other benefit towards heating costs but are having difficulties meeting your bills you may be able to receive a grant. Other examples of help given include payment of travelling expenses for hospital visits, convalescent homes or similar institutions. We can give assistance towards the supply of tools, equipment, books, payment of fees for education, instruction or examinations. Grants towards provision of equipment and funds for recreational pursuits or training intended to bring the quality of life of the beneficiaries to a reasonable standard are also available.

Applicants must be able to demonstrate evidence of need, produce receipts etc. All applications are confidential to the Clerk and Trustees only

Applications should be made in writing (there is no formal application form) and sent to The Clerk, Mrs J Jackson, Senlac, The Ditch, Chelmorton, SK17 9SG, or by telephone 01298 85691 or email [senlac99@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:senlac99@tiscali.co.uk).

**Jean Jackson**



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## Letter from South Longstone

Once again summer is here. Although it is pleasant to feel the warmth, sit outside and go to beaches, there is also a palpable sense of vague apprehension and unease. Whilst Sydney celebrated the New Year with the largest and most extravagant fire works display ever with over a million revellers (half of whom seemed to be from the UK and the rest of Europe), we now face a very different fire display. The above average rainfall last year and the tinder dry under growth puts us all in a high fire risk zone. Not surprisingly last week a lightening strike, common at this time of year, ignited the vast area of remote bush land fifteen kilometres to our west. Within hours thousands of acres were fiercely ablaze across dry creek beds, roads and containment lines, fanned by hot winds and a temperature of over forty degrees. Local residents hastily checked emergency water tanks, hose pipes and roof sprinkler systems. The local fire brigade held an evening education session to brief us all how to prepare our selves and our properties if it should reach us.

For several days the air for hundreds of miles reminded one of a smoggy day in pre-clean air act days in Sheffield, as a faintly acrid veil of smoke filled the atmosphere. Mercifully after a couple of days a cold front from the south brought relief to the teams of fire fighters, as cool air and drizzle came to their aid and we all breathed a collective sigh of relief. Until next time!

South Longstone is fifteen kilometres from the ocean but we are all very much aware that for unexplainable reasons there has been a significant increase in deaths and injuries to swimmers from large marauding sharks who appear from the depths and make unprovoked attacks, even in shallow waters, on unwary swimmers and snorkelers. This week there have been three such attacks in New South Wales alone. On a more positive note, our local community (less than a thousand) are planning a meeting to discuss the possibility of erecting a wind generator on one of the surrounding hills. We are told that just one such machine could supply the energy requirements of the local community giving us independence from escalating power bills. Somehow it has drawn my mind to the steep escarpments of Longstone edge where the wind always seemed to blow incessantly.

Although South Longstone is a long way from Northern Queensland we have been both amused and aghast by the recent incident of one Malcolm Willis who was found guilty of having a blood alcohol level of 0.146, nearly three times the legal limit and fined A\$ 900. Willis, who is already serving a three year sentence for driving a car under the influence, was told by the magistrate that he was being let off lightly as the legislation in Queensland is tougher for riding a horse whilst intoxicated than for a motor vehicle and that he should now travel by Shank's pony or rein in his drinking.

Whatever 2009 may bring, we would like to wish all those in Great Longstone all the best wishes and good health for the future in these uncertain times.

**John and Pat Spencer**

## Longstone School Admissions Consultation

The Governors of Longstone CE (Aided) Primary School, The Cross, Great Longstone, Bakewell. DE45 1TZ, wish to consult with the local community about their proposed admission arrangements for pupils entering the school from September 2010 onwards.

A copy of the proposed arrangements can be obtained from The Clerk to the Governors c/o Longstone School.

Any comments should be returned to the Clerk no later than March 1<sup>st</sup> 2009.

A public meeting will be held at School on Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> February at 19.00.

**Sarah Stokes  
Clerk to the Governors**

## Traidcraft

The year ended on a high with monthly sales at £1248, bringing the total sales for 2008 to £10,481. This is a magnificent sum and thanks are due to

all the team and to all our customers. It represents a very substantial contribution towards helping many people and communities to earn their own living.

People say to me quite often, 'I do like to support you and your colleagues' to which I try to reply 'your support is much appreciated but please remember its not us you are supporting'. If you buy Traidcraft tea you are supporting the farmers in Tanzania, Uganda, Kenya or Southern India who grow it. If you buy cookies it's the sugar producers in Malawi, the growers of nuts in Bolivia, or ginger in India or cocoa beans in Ghana whom you are supporting. Crockery from Thailand, Nativity sets from Vietnam, necklaces and bracelets from Peru, purses from Indonesia, baskets from Bangladesh, dishes from the Philippines. All these have been purchased and many more in the last few months and those who produced them are the people you have supported. Thanks to our customers they can earn a living for themselves and their families. You are not giving them charity, you are giving them a livelihood and that is what they want and need.

Please carry on supporting them throughout 2009.

**Peter Bird**

## Darts and Dominos League Update

After week seventeen in the Darts and Dominos league, the standings for Great Longstone pubs are as follows.

In the Darts, the Crispin are in 11<sup>th</sup> and the White Lion are second from bottom in 18<sup>th</sup>. Both teams have games in hand over their competitors.

In the Dominos, the results have been slightly more favourable with the White Lion in 9<sup>th</sup> place and the Crispin in 15<sup>th</sup>. Again the 'games played' statistic is in Longstone's favour.

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## My Friends,

Taking the next step can be as easy as walking across the carpet, or as hard as doing the crux on some extremely difficult climb at Curbar Edge. We can take it with the enthusiasm of someone going to meet a friend or the reluctance of one walking the plank. Although with being a Christian, keeping still tends to mean stagnation, and stepping back is regression.

What the next step is will depend on who we are and where we are. For one person the step might be towards the church: actually coming to church on Sunday. They may have to overcome the fear of stepping inside, and not retreat because they find things unfamiliar or confusing. Or they might have to overcome their memories of what church was like when they were children, or their prejudices about what they think churchgoers believe or are like now. For another person the step might be to take what happens in Church on Sunday morning into the rest of the week: to step outside with Christ's love and try to live it out at home and at work. Or the next step may be to acquire the habit of a daily pattern of prayer, or to explore the richness of prayer at a greater depth.

What the next step is will depend on who we are and where we are.

Looking around in church at our congregations it strikes me that a step which a number of you ought to consider is Confirmation. Each Sunday there are adults and children who do not receive Holy Communion because they have not been Confirmed. They come quite regularly but have not taken the step which leads to receiving communion. Perhaps some are not ready yet for the step, or are not prepared at this stage to take it. But if you are one of those who have not been Confirmed please ask yourself what is holding you back.

This year our Confirmation service is on Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> May, 7.00pm in St Giles with Bishop Jack who, until he retired, was the Bishop of Sheffield. Confirmation classes will be offered. For both adults and children they will consist of a brief course on some of the basic features of the Christian life, and provide an opportunity for you to ask questions. There are no exams that you have to pass! It is not a test; rather it is an opportunity.

As for the Confirmation itself the service is part of Christian initiation and signifies both our desire to be followers of Christ and our need of God's help to do so. Those who are Confirmed therefore affirm for themselves the promises of baptism, and the bishop lays his hand on each person's head in turn. They then receive the promise that throughout their participation in the life of God's People, the Church, the Holy Spirit (meaning the life and presence of God) will be there to enable them to follow Christ.

If anyone is interested or wants to find out more about Confirmation please get in touch with me as soon as possible (01629 640257).

Yours sincerely,

**Fr Christopher Hugh Benson.**

## Notes from St Giles

After the long Christmas and New Year break I'm settling down and can remember which day of the week it is when I wake up. I'm sure I'm not the only person who has been confused; senior moments don't come into it!

We have had some spectacular sunny days with sharp frosts which have given the trees a beautiful covering, particularly on New Years' Eve. Mostly, though, it seems to be dull, misty, wet and gloomy.

Nevertheless, the evenings are light for a little longer and the gloom was most definitely dispelled on Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> January at 7:00pm in St. Giles' church when our pantomime 'Tobias and the Angel' began. Although outside it was very windy, cold and wet, our audience was so in tune with the cast and script that the laughter just engulfed us all. The participation of everyone trying our exercise dance, timed by a masterstroke after the interval, which included mulled wine and nibbles, was tremendous fun. The cast, aged between five and eighty plus, have thoroughly enjoyed being a part of such a fun occasion. We cannot thank Kim Edmonds enough for writing, directing and producing the show, and for her clever schedule for rehearsals and encouragement. Unbelievably, even after all the frustrations of coping with under learnt lines and people missing rehearsals, rumour has it that the next show is already being devised. Why does she do it?! And aren't we glad.

Suddenly, before we are aware of it, we realise that Lent begins on Ash Wednesday the 25<sup>th</sup> February. This will bring a more reflective time for us all, preparing for the most important part of the Christian year, Good Friday and Easter Sunday. Traditionally we give something up for Lent. Perhaps, instead, more of our time could be spent with lonely or infirm people we know, having a chat and a cuppa or helping with shopping. This village seems to have a good network already but help is always needed.

These days, we all seem so busy that it is good to find time to sit quietly and reflect on the good things that happen, which can counteract the despair we all feel at times with the current hardships which surround us.

Faith, hope and love always help.

**Pam Smith**

## Women's Day of Prayer

There will be an ecumenical service in St. Giles Church Great Longstone on Friday 6<sup>th</sup> March at 7pm for the Women's World Day of Prayer. The speaker is Mrs. Beryl Briddon and she will speak on the subject "In Christ There Are Many Members Yet One Body". The service is prepared by the Christian women of Papua New Guinea. Everybody is welcome and refreshments will be provided.

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*St Giles' Church*

## Services at St Giles and Wardlow

### 1<sup>st</sup> February Epiphany 4

8.00am Eucharist  
9.00am Eucharist (Wardlow)  
11.00am Morning Worship  
6.30pm Evensong

### 8<sup>th</sup> February 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday Before Lent

11.00am Parish Eucharist and  
Baptism  
6.30pm Evensong

### 15<sup>th</sup> February 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday Before Lent

8.00am Eucharist  
9.00am Morning Worship  
(Wardlow)  
11.00am Parish Eucharist  
6.30pm Evensong

### 22<sup>nd</sup> February Sunday Before Lent

11.00am Parish Eucharist  
6.00pm Three Choirs Evensong  
(Bakewell)

### 25<sup>th</sup> February Ash Wednesday 7.00pm Ash Wednesday Eucharist

### Great Longstone Methodist Chapel

Local Minister  
Reverend Margaret Roe  
Tel. No. 812195

1<sup>st</sup> February  
10.30am – Pauline Dinsdale

8<sup>th</sup> February  
10.30am – Reverend M. Roe

15<sup>th</sup> February  
10.30am – Reverend May Gladwin

22<sup>nd</sup> February  
10.30am – Reverend David Willie

## February in the Garden

LAWNS – Aerate and scarify in dry conditions. Apply lawn sand and moss killer

ROSES – Support bushes lashed by winter gales and firm soil around them. Complete new plantings if conditions are suitable.

DAHLIAS – Examine tubers for rot and shrivelling. Cut away rot and treat with flowers of sulphur.

HERBACEOUS PLANTS – Clear dead tops of plants if not already done. Where top dressing with complete fertiliser and digging between plants has been deferred until now, complete if conditions allow.

SWEET PEAS – Break down and tread soil on planting site. Erect supports for plants to be grown on cordon system.

FLOWERS FROM SEED – Plan spring planting programme. Lightly fork beds prepared for annuals and work in a dressing of bone meal. Under glass sow first half of hardy annuals.

FRUIT – Continue planting in suitable conditions. Continue pruning. Prune newly planted fan trained peaches and nectarines. Spray against peach leaf curl with fungicide.

VEGETABLES – Buy or order potato tubers for early crops and sprout them in a light, frost-proof room or shed. Plant shallots. Late in the month, sow early peas and beans.

TREES AND SHRUBS – Continue planting deciduous trees and shrubs in favourable weather. Firm any loosened by frost. Clear moss and lichen from tree trunks with winter wash. Prune hard back to within a few inches of summer flowering varieties of clematis. Cut back all shoots which have just flowered of winter jasmine and thin out old and weak wood.

GENERAL TASKS – Destroy weeds under hedges. Have a soil test carried out in a new garden.

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## What's On



### Great Longstone is running a Talent competition

The competition will be held at The White Lion and is open to adults and children alike.

It will start Friday 6<sup>th</sup> March for Adults – Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> March for children, it will run over a period of 5 weeks

The two category entries will be

1. Anything goes (Dance, Poetry, Juggling, comedy, Impersonations etc
2. Music (singing – sole or groups, playing any musical instrument.

Whatever talent you've got, dancing, singing, playing a musical instrument, or any type of entertainment we'd like to hear from you

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED PLEASE CONTACT

Marlene 01629 640252 or email [marlene@whitelionpub.plus.com](mailto:marlene@whitelionpub.plus.com)

### Also on at the White Lion:

#### Valentines Supper

Sat 14th Feb

Menu on Request

\*\*\*\*\*

#### Charity Race Night

Fri 6th Feb

In aid of Cancer Research

\*\*\*\*\*

#### Take Away Fish Chips

Except - Tuesdays

or Sunday PM

\*\*\*\*\*

And don't forget your local quiz nights:

Thursday 9pm - Packhorse

Friday 9:30pm - Crispin

## BASLOW CHOIR SPRING CONCERT

Saturday 28th March

All Saints Church, Ecclesall,

Sheffield

7:30pm

To commemorate the 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the death of George Fredric Handel, they are performing three of his masterpieces: *O Praise the Lord with one consent*, *Zadok the Priest* and *the F major organ concerto*.

To supplement these glorious pieces, we will also be performing Beethoven's magnificent Mass in C

Conductor – Andrew Marples

Tickets - £12.00, Concessions - £10.00 and Students - £6.00 (*including refreshments*)

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### NEXT LIVE AND LOCAL SHOW

at the Ashford Institute

Don't miss the next Live & Local show, **CARATINGA CONCERT**, at Ashford Institute on **Saturday 14th March at 7.30pm**.

Tickets cost £7 for adults and £4.50 for Under 16s, and are available from Ashford Post Office, and from Ibbotsons of Ashford or by ringing the box office on 01629 812559

### BLUEBELL WOOD CHILDREN'S HOSPICE

Valentine's Ball, Saturday 14th Feb

Hassop Hall, Bakewell, 7:15pm for

7:45pm, Carriages 1am

Black Tie evening featuring champagne reception, five course meal, dancing and charity auction. Tickets £60 each. To book call Vicky on 07927 217 828.

## Matlock Farmers Market

9.00am-2.00pm

Saturday 21st February

Imperial Rooms

Imperial Road

Matlock

## Waste Collection Dates

Next Saturday morning collection

**WARDLOW** - 21st Mar - 7.45 - 9.15 on the main street. Stop as requested.

**LITTLE LONGSTONE** - 21st Mar - 7.45 - 9.00 by the telephone box.

**GREAT LONGSTONE** - 21st Mar - 9.15 - 10.30 by the War Memorial.

**CARDBOARD** - You can put your cardboard waste in your green waste bin.

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

## A Note from the Editor

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 19th February** 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

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