



The

Bugle



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

No.18

September 1999

Bugle's Back

Well, here we are again after a short break. A little bit of sun and quite a lot of rain. The weather forecaster on Radio Four's Farming Today reckons the summer is over. I hope

not because there are still crops in the fields and the runner beans have only just got going.

Perhaps we will have an Indian Summer to ripen the vegetables for the Horticultural Society Show on 4th September. We might even get chance to enjoy one of Andrew McCloy's walks before the days shorten.

As the children go back to school, don't forget the new adult education courses are starting again

this month; see for example the local history courses on the back page. You'll have had a prospectus – don't leave your booking until it's too late.

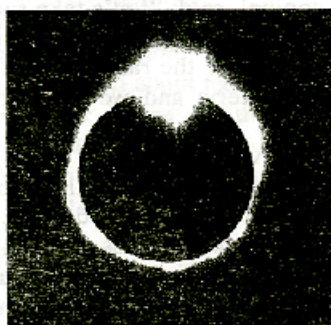
Some Millennium projects are anxiously awaiting the results of outstanding grant applications. We hope to review progress next month.

Thanks again to our deliverers – it's no mean feat getting to every house in the village.

ECLIPSE

When I saw my first total eclipse in 1995, people warned me that when you've seen one, you long to see another – and it's true. So I knew I would have to travel in 1999. Cornish weather in August is just not reliable enough so I decided to head for Munich: right on the path of totality, better weather prospects and, most important, a good friend lives there. So I got a very cheap flight and set off on Tuesday 10th August. When I arrived the weather forecast was truly terrible, so all we could do was hope. So we set off for the Englischer Garten in the morning where we met up with friends bearing wine, food, a tent, umbrellas and lots of optimism. It started to pour with rain immediately... But then the sun came out

and we were able to watch the progress of the moon's shadow pretty well through patchy cloud. As totality came nearer and nearer so did a large grey cloud. We became quite desperate. But then the cloud seemed to stop, we saw the incomparable diamond ring effect as the last rays of the sun shone through mountains on the moon and then... totality! At this point it was safe to look



The 'Diamond Ring' Eclipse this year
Image used courtesy of ITN

directly at the sun. At least two of our group burst into tears, quite overcome by the extraordinary beauty of the corona. In the pearly whiteness of it we could see four or five red prominences. During this period of slightly over two minutes the quality of the light, or lack of it, was very strange. There were some faint shadows caused by the corona, the temperature had dropped considerably, the birds were silent but, though I looked, I did not see any stars. Then protection was needed again as a second diamond shone out followed by the thin crescent of the emerging sun. And at that moment the heavens opened and it poured! We were so lucky as we discovered later; by chance we happened to be in one of the few places in Munich that did not have cloud cover at totality. So now I'm planning to try to be in the right place in 2001 – I can hardly wait.

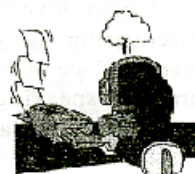
BMA

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'Pots From France' Exhibition and Sale

Mr Middleton's Green Gardening

Sixty years ago Mr Middleton wrote a gardening column for the Daily Express in the form of a strip cartoon (after all most gardeners have their brains in their fingers!). He has long been a favourite author. So when the Editor asked me to contribute an organic gardening (OG) column I agreed provided I could model it on the original Mr M.

Mr Middleton wrote before there was any interest or knowledge about OG. His writing is peppered with phrases like "give everything a thorough spraying with a good insecticide to get rid of as many pests as possible." Yet he suggested giving Chrysanthemums a regular feeding of liquid cow or poultry

manure and recommended soot water to keep the foliage clean and a deep green colour. So, this year I have been using liquid poultry on my tomato plants and it has been very successful.

While I keep the seeds from peas, beans and tomatoes, I have never tried keeping potatoes for seed but this year I am going to follow his advice as a step towards ensuring that my next year's potato crop is organic. I am going to follow his advice namely; mark healthy plants now before the foliage disappears; lift them by the end of the month (it does not matter that they are unripe or immature); keep them in a dark, dry, cool place in a dry (non peaty) material and, during the winter, have a good look at them to make sure that they are in good condition. At least you will know that they have been well looked after. Middleton 2.

Bus Walks

Youlgrave author, Andrew McCloy, has recently published another walking book titled 'Bakewell by Bus and Boot'.

As the title suggests, this book centres on the 'greener' option of using public transport. Available in local bookshops, it will hopefully encourage some of our visitors to leave the car behind - something villagers in Youlgrave will certainly appreciate. In terms of sheer numbers, the Peak District is the second most visited national park in the world (the

first is Mount Fuji in Japan). Peak National Park studies show that over 22 million visits are made to the Peak every year - and most of them are by car.

The book features eight walks, which vary in length from a 3½ mile amble to a more serious 8½ mile outing. Andrew sells the walks right from the front page using the features to be found on them such as the wild flowers in the dales, lead mining and the railway routes.

Who knows, if more visitors use our public transport, we might see improvements to the buses or at least reduce the risk of losing the service we've got.

The Bugle Editorial Team would like to wish many happy returns to two of our satellite readers, Mrs R Lawton (91) and Miss B C Foster (90), who have birthdays in September and both happen to live in Prestatyn.

Helpers Needed

The British Red Cross in Derbyshire are looking for a contact person in each village or parish. This person would be someone who could act as a source of information about Red Cross services and activities for their neighbourhood or village. This will involve:

- Allowing their name to be circulated in the local area, so that people know how to find out about the Red Cross.
- Holding a file of information (supplied by Red Cross) in order to be able to help people access their services.
- Circulating publicity from time to time in the area e.g. post office, library or parish magazine... or 'The Bugle'.

If anyone is willing to help, please contact Mrs. I. C. Newman, Overdale, Coldwell End, Youlgrave. Telephone 636 084.

Pots to Pommie

Drinking tea from a hand-made pot, holding a bowl when you can feel the marks made by the potter, putting flowers in a one-off vase, feeling the weight and texture when no two are alike. This is all part of the pleasure of using studio pottery, domestic ware made by artist potters.

I also love travelling in France, discovering out of the way places, and meeting people on whom I can practice speaking the French I learnt as a student in Paris.

On one of our trips Margot Bartlett, 'ma copine', said: "Let's take some pots back to Youlgrave for an exhibition so people can see the range and variety of French pottery; and we'll try to sell a few!"

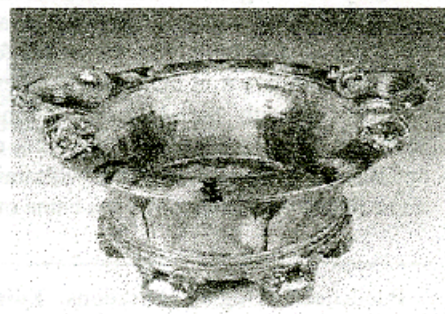
That was five years ago. Since then we have held 10 exhibitions and people visit from far and wide. What particularly pleases us is that, at the last count, 54 houses in Youlgrave, Middleton and Alport now have at least one French pot. In millennia to come archaeologists will have a field day wondering at the strange concentration of French pottery just here!!!

The next exhibition, which runs for four weeks at Bankside Cottage, starts the first weekend in September. We think it's our best selection to date, with

useful functional and decorative pieces in a variety of styles.

Please come along; it's an exhibition, so you don't have to buy, and we offer every visitor tea or coffee served in a hand-made pot.

Jack Blackburn



An example of the work of Richard Dewar, which Margot and Jack import.

'Pots from France', Bankside Cottage, Bankside, Youlgrave 636789

Standing Stones, An Eclipse and a Didgeridoo

The big E day arrived, but I hadn't decided as to where or indeed if I should watch it. Still living on Bankside, high up and south facing, it was as good a place as any. But . . . I felt it should be a little bit more special. An ancient, mystical place perhaps, a place where even on an ordinary day, there is a feeling of time standing still? Arbor Low, the obvious choice.

But how to view the big event? I had very vague bits of information about two pieces of white card and a pin hole, but on trying it out under ordinary daylight sun, it wasn't really very interesting – shades of Blue Peter trying to make two

loo rolls exciting. But luckily I had two visitors who were well prepared with everything, the information booklet AND two pairs of medically approved eclipse glasses. So off we went, fully expecting to be amongst a small handful of local people – WRONG!

Just after Long Rake the queues of parked cars began and on arriving at the stones, the festival atmosphere amongst the hundred or so people there was well under way. One or two were finding quiet spots and meditating, others were sharing eclipse glasses and welding masks. Others were struggling with bits of cardboard, though by that time I thought mine were more useful as a mini cardboard seat on the damp grass. I found a quiet spot and started to play my kleine sopranino – a tiny flute-like instrument that sounds like a bird. So, to join the birds before they fell silent, I played 'My Heart is Like a Singing Bird' – somehow it seemed like an appropriate thing to do.

Then the chill started and I joined the others on the bank. The sun was being 'eaten' by the moon. The light seemed to change to an icy bluish colour though it never actually went dark – just a sort of early twilight. But it definitely got very cold. At the moment of our 'total eclipse' the didgeridoo started to play in the centre of a circle of people. As the moon moved round, the cows started a very urgent mooing and all of them converged onto the standing stones field. The eclipse or the didgeridoo? Only they knew, but it was a humorous climax to a fairly magical morning. Oh, and I did look through the glasses and I can still see!

Maggie Ford

DISTRICT COUNCIL MATTERS

Community Forums

This is a new idea. The first North Area Community Forum took place on Monday 2nd August at Bakewell. The Council Chamber was full. Most of the time was spent on complaints about or requested improvements in the basics such as grass cutting, dogs, lavatories, cars and management of the new cattle market. The message was clear – the Council should get the simple things right first!

The dates and venues of future Community Forums were being decided as 'The Bugle' went to press.

What do we need?

I'll deal with complaints as they arise. I'm far more interested in projects. The Labour Group is listing what's needed for each of the Labour wards, including Youlgrave Ward. I would be very happy to work on,

for example, traffic safety (there is a Plan and a budget), social housing or the arts (there is a new arts officer, who will visit us in the autumn).

Please tell me what you think are the priorities for our five parishes.

Jobs

Our quality of life is as secure as anyone's – but our income can go down as well as up. We learnt of the closure – or sale – of Laportes operation. There are other closures in the District with many jobs thrown into uncertainty. What would our contingency plan be if other major employers were in trouble? At Bakewell, questions were asked about replacement(s) for Laportes, or re-use of the site if fluorspar production did stop.

John Youatt: telephone and fax 636241 or e-mail JRY241@AOL.com.

Can you answer a prayer? ACCOMMODATION URGENTLY NEEDED

A quiet cottage is needed by early September, to enable God's work to continue, within approximately a five mile radius of Youlgrave.

If you can help, or know someone who can, please contact the Bradford Dale Retreat on 636550.

The Bradford Dale Retreat is a small new retreat offering spiritual refreshment and support to those who need its healing atmosphere. It is open to those of any belief, or none, with an understanding that each person's relationship with God, their spiritual heart, is unique and precious.

Middleton Church

We are extending a very warm welcome for everyone to come and join us at St Michael's Church Middleton for our special Harvest Festival and Centenary service on Sunday 3rd October at 2.45pm. Rev Phillip Hacking, a leading Convention Speaker, will be taking the service with songs from Joy Gilbert.

There will be refreshments afterwards and we do hope you can come.



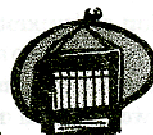
BEWARE OF SNEAK THIEVES!!

(A Message from Neighbourhood Watch)

There have been a number of house burglaries throughout the area during the past couple of months. Items ranging from alcohol, garden tools and money to jewellery, video recorders and silverware have been taken. In several cases the thieves have got in through insecure or even unlocked windows or doors and often when there was actually someone in the house. Please check that all your doors and windows are properly secure even when you are at home, and that the house is locked if everyone is in the garden. And always report anything suspicious to the police immediately.

Saturday 4th September to Sunday 3rd October 10am to 7pm

Forthcoming Events



Saturday 4 th September	Youlgrave Horticultural Society Show. Youlgrave Village Hall. Viewing from 2.15pm, Auction 4.30pm.
Saturday 4 th September to Sunday 3 rd October	Pots from France exhibition and sale. Bankside Cottage, Bankside. 10am – 7pm (tel. 636789).
Tuesday 21 st September to 16 th November	'Ancient Roads and Trackways of the Peak District' adult education course. The Miners Standard Inn, Winster, 7.30 – 9.30pm.
Wednesday 22 nd September to 17 th November	'Exploring the History of the Limestone Landscape in and Around Parwich' adult education course. Parwich Memorial Hall, 7.30 – 9.30pm.
Wednesdays	Life drawing classes with Diane Kettle. Middleton Village Hall, 7.30pm.
Thursdays	Peak Rural Welfare Rights Project 'Benefits Advice'. The Doctors' Surgery, 10 – 11.30am.
Fridays	Yoga with Iris Pimm at Greenfields Farm Barn (tel. 636341), 9.30 – 11am.
Fridays	Yoga for over 50's. The Scout and Community Hall, 3.30pm.

Please let us have more details of events for the next edition

The Publishers accept no liability for the accuracy of the information given.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY YOULGRAVE WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

Youlgrave WI celebrated its 80th birthday at with lunch Hassop Hall on 11th August – Eclipse Day. We enjoyed a very pleasant meal in luxurious surroundings, then took photographs in the gardens. ACK

Courses in Peak History

Brian Rich, of Keele University, is running two local history courses in September.

The first course, titled 'Ancient Roads and Trackways of the Peak District,' begins Tuesday 21st September at the Miners' Standard, Winster.

The story begins with roads that the Romans built for their armies and later trade. The Anglo Saxons then added 'portways'. Royal hunting parties came to the Peak, and lead, millstones, coal, salt and wool were carried by packhorses and mules. Turnpikes were added in the 19th Century.

The course not only teaches, but will also look for new material. Those attending will help develop next year's course. Tempting...

The second course, 'Exploring the History of the Limestone Landscape in and Around Parwich,' commences Wednesday 22nd September at Parwich Memorial Hall.

It looks at the history of the seven parishes (including the intensive surveys at Royston Grange) from the new stone age to the coming of the railway. Also very tasty...

If you are interested, telephone Keele University (tel 01782 583436) for application details.

JRY

From the Cookhouse Door

Autumn Warmer

Ingredients

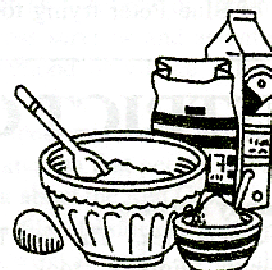
- 2½ oz margarine
- 2½ oz sugar
- 1 large egg
- 2 oz mixed fruit

Method

Cream margarine and sugar, add beaten egg plus ½ an eggshell of water. Fold in the mixed fruit and flour gently. Either microwave in a pudding basin until cooked (approx 3 – 3½ mins) or oven bake in a small sandwich tin (gas 5 approx 20 mins).

This is super served with Brandy Sauce -

1oz butter or marg. melted in a saucepan with 1oz plain flour then add ½pt milk, slowly bring to the boil whilst stirring. Then add 1 oz sugar and 1 tablespoon of brandy - or to taste!



ANNUAL SPONSORS

Dave Axon, DKFL Books and Software	650628	Iris Pimm, Greenfields Farm Barn	636341
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Viv Butler, Meadow Cottage Tea Garden.	636523	Pots from France	636043/636689
Ray Carter, Joiner	636269	QC Curtain Company	636161
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Andrew McCloy, Benchmark Books	636125	Youlgrave Silver Band	-
A Murray, The Wee Dram, Bakewell	812235	Youlgrave WI	-
Eleanor Pilkington, Peak PR	636871		

Annual 'Bugle' sponsorship is only £10. Please contact Ann Knowles (636362) or Emma Youatt (636775) for details.

'Pots from France' - Margot Bartlett and Jack Blackburn