



The

Bugle



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

No. 26

June 2000

FLAMING JUNE

I'd like start this month's 'Bugle' by thanking everyone for the very positive feedback that we have received about 'Bugle 2000'. It has certainly made all that hard work worthwhile. We have further copies available so if anyone didn't get a copy delivered, come and see me (Emma) at Square House, Middleton or Ann at Garden House, Fountain Square, Youlgrave. We will also be providing copies for sale in the village shops at £2.50 each.

Alternatively, copies are available by post, priced £3.00. For postal copies send a cheque or Postal Order payable to 'The Bugle' to the address shown at the foot of this page.

IMPORTANT NOTICE: the 1940's Tea Dance that we advertised last month has been cancelled. Unfortunately it clashed with the Vicarage Garden Party and the opening of the new Bowls Pavilion.

This got us thinking . . . there used to be a book in Holland's Butchers in which anyone organising an event would write down the details and check for any clashes. If the book is still there, it's apparent from the 3rd May clash that it's not being used. This is where the 'Bugle' could be of some use.

As soon as your organisation, group etc begin to plan an event, just contact me, I can put the event on my calendar and advise you of any other event on the same day. If there is a clash, the 'Bugle' won't get involved with any decision making, we'll just tell you what the conflict is and leave you to sort out the way forward.

You can contact me by phone but for accuracy I'd prefer to receive something in writing (on paper or by e-mail).

Please note that my e-mail address has changed to e.youatt@ntlworld.com (e-mail sent to my Virgin account will still get here for some time).

District Council Matters

Some time ago I reported the heavy cost of repairs to council houses that the Council could not afford. Consultants were appointed to suggest the best way forward.

As a result of the consultant's advice, the Council took a very important decision on Thursday 18th May. We decided to consult all council house tenants on a proposal to transfer all the houses from the Council's ownership to a new landlord – a Local Housing Company, similar to a housing association.

Councillors asked the consultants who suggested the transfer a lot of searching questions. There were far too many to list them all here in the 'Bugle'. They included the nature of the new landlord, the future for the current staff, rent guarantees, how much control the Council would keep, the amount of capital the Council could spend on new houses and about the Right to Buy.

About 80 council house tenants attended the meeting, mainly from Matlock.

There will now be a long period of very careful explanation, consultation and negotiation. Eventually, all tenants will have a vote – a secret, postal ballot – whether or not to be transferred to the

new landlord. The decision will be by a simple majority of those that vote.

It is a complicated matter, with wider consequences for future tenants and for other council tax payers. I was satisfied that the process is sound, but because some advice from Government is awaited, I voted to consult the tenants later in the year.

The majority vote at the meeting was to start the process straight away. Tenants will get an offer document and will have their own independent advisor, paid for by the Council.

I have a copy of the consultant's report.

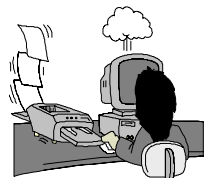
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READER'S LETTER

Dear Bugle,

I teach Social Policy, scribble about rural matters and spend several weekends a year at a cottage in Youlgrave. One of my latest concerns is the relationship of temporary residents in rural settlements to the common cause i.e. the 'health' of local social/political/economic life. I suspect the 'Anoracs' (Association of non-residents in rural communities) could contribute much more than they do.

There's an awareness of the 'problems'; in this case we'd be talking about the shortage of affordable housing for local people on low incomes, and maybe something about the fragmentation of the local social structure as people come and go. Not surprisingly, the

'Anoracs' are seen as one of the symbols of the problem - there is little or no 'health' in them. As a result they feel (if feelings about these issues do pass through their minds) guilty and helpless.

How can they play a more constructive part in the development of more equitable social policies in the countryside and a more coherent social life?

Seems vague? Well, I believe in travelling hopefully. The key thing to me is to know fairly accurately how many Anoracs (owning/using property on a regular basis, but not permanent residents) could 'belong', then finding ways to cultivate them - at least a two stage process:

1. Identify the Anoracs who live temporarily in a defined place(s).
2. Construct a calendar of local events -

very local - and circulate it with an appropriate letter to the Anoracs - the aim being to develop a sense of commitment among them by letting them know proactively when they could best support local activities - from football to jumble to church/chapel etc. (In an ideal world, there'd be a small research grant at this point - I could probably find a little).

At another level, I'd want to place more emphasis on the affordable housing issue, but in the meantime Anoracs exist, and as Shakespeare said, 'if you prick them they bleed!'

Not quite a plan of action, but more a half-baked idea. If anyone has any thoughts on how to make the best of this situation, please contact me via Emma.

best wishes, Duncan Scott

Village Hall AGM

At the recent AGM of the Village Hall, the election of officers saw some changes. After 25 years of service, Margaret Gladwin and Sandra Roper were hoping to pass on the reins as Secretary and Treasurer respectively.

As is often the case with committees that run smoothly and efficiently, there were no aspiring wannabes. After long silences and nervous glances, Anne Croasdell was elected Secretary.

Margaret will, however, remain Booking Secretary and anyone wishing to use the hall should contact her (tel. 636558).

No-one, however, stepped forward for the post of Treasurer, leaving Sandra in a difficult position. She has agreed to remain in office in the meantime but a replacement is needed.

If we were to computerise the accounts, would this make the job more appealing? . . . Anyone interested should contact the Secretary, Anne (tel. 636887).

All members of the Committee would like to thank Margaret for her many years of service.

The next meeting will be on Monday 12th June at 7.30pm.

Youlgrave Day Centre and Monday Club

Come and join us every Monday (except for Bank Holidays) in the Village Hall 10am - 3pm. Transport is available, for details contact Daphne Jackson (tel. 636392).

Enjoy coffee and biscuits, a game of dominoes or just a chat. A cooked meal costing £1 is provided, followed by varied afternoon entertainment. Tea and biscuits are served before returning home. There is also charge of £1 for a full day or 50p for an afternoon only.

Frank Brandon 1916 - 2000

Frank Brandon was truly a local man; brought up in Hartington, he and his wife Annie were married in All Saints Church, Youlgrave in 1936.

Frank drove a milk lorry, collecting from different farms taking the milk to the dairy in Sheffield. In the afternoons he worked on the land for William & Luther Shimwell at Old Hall Farm.

He enlisted in 1939 and was away for six years, first in England, then France until just before Dunkirk, where he sustained an ankle injury. When he was fit again he went to the Middle East and was there for four years as an ambulance driver. He was awarded the Africa Star and 1939-45 Star.

After the war, he returned to Youlgrave

to milk collecting and farming and later worked at Friden Brickworks in the sandpits, then at Shining Bank quarry driving an excavator. He Retired in 1978.



He had two sons, Donald and Michael and his wife and he enjoyed some very happy holidays taking the boys to Butlins. When the children left home, Frank and Annie started to go abroad for holidays. They also went dancing regularly at Hartington Village Hall, where they made many friends and spent many happy hours until they reached their seventies.

Frank was quite an athlete in his younger days before he married, winning trophies for cycling and running. However, a bad chest wound in the war left him with bronchitis for the rest of his life. Annie recounted; 'When he came out of the army we did not think he would see 70 but he hung on till the age of 83, which was wonderful. In spite of everything, we had a happy life together, though not always easy. I miss him sadly, but I am thankful he is at rest from his suffering.'

Youlgrave Welldressings June 24th to 29th Welldressers needed

MADE OF CLAY A MILLENNIUM VIDEO

'MADE OF CLAY' is a 45 minute video about the people and Welldressings of Youlgrave, a village clinging to the hillside above the sparkling clear waters of the river Bradford in the Peak District.

The film takes an affectionate sidelong glance at a village noted for being a 'bit different'.

Taking you on a journey of Youlgrave past and present, the film echoes the seven days it takes to create a Welldressing and the seven days of its life before it crumbles into dust. It is a film full of funny stories, 1937 archive film, rich Derbyshire characters and very beautiful Welldressings.

The video has been produced and directed by film maker Maggie Ford, herself a resident of Youlgrave. 'Made of Clay' has been compiled by professionals, some of whom live in the village, and draws on a vast array of skills from many other Youlgrave residents. Paintings and poems have all come from the children of Youlgrave, some of whom appear in the film. The trainee assistants to the camera crew were recruited from young people in the village. Members of the WI and the Well Dressing Committee have been central to the research as well as assisting the funding process for this venture.

'Made of Clay' has its premiere in Youlgrave Village Hall on Saturday June 10th at 7.30pm. There will also be a preview showing of the film at

WELLDRESSINGS; ALL CHANGE FOR THE NEW MILLENNIUM

The warm wet weather seems to have produced even more abundant flowers in the fields and hedgerows this spring, a welcome reminder that welldressing season is upon us again, but under new management.

Norman Wilson, who was elected Chairman in 1966 . . . yes 1966, has decided to stand down. Fred Shimwell also announced his retirement as one of the Vice Chairmen, but he will continue to design the Bank Top Well (for the 51st year!). Shirley Brassington (previously Vice

3pm. The event is part of The Millennium Festival celebrations.

Tickets are £2.50 for the 3pm showing and £3.00 for the 7.30pm showing (evening ticket includes a glass of wine). Bookings are being taken by Harold Lowe (tel. 636821).

For television companies, an excerpt of the video will be available.

Further information from Maggie Ford (tel. 01629 636189, mobile 07970 970 289, email maggie@maggie27.freemove.co.uk).

This project has been funded by: Awards for All, Leader II, Creative Enterprise Fund, West Derbyshire Rural Development Programme Small Grants Fund, Derbyshire Dales Community Grant Scheme, Youlgrave WI, Eileen Grace and the Duke of Devonshire.

Chairman) has been elected Chairman, and Fred Baker and Nick Stacey are the new Vice Chairmen.

This year will be Margaret Fell's 50th as the designer of the Coldwell End dressing. She intends to make it her last.

And so we approach the end of an era which has seen Youlgrave recognised throughout the County, in Italy, and more especially, Germany as ambassadors of Derbyshire welldressing. When Fred and Margaret started designing in 1950/51, there were only a handful of welldressing villages in Derbyshire. There are now no less than 77 places that display welldressings, many of which have taken their inspiration from Youlgrave and benefited from the willingness of Jim Shimwell and others to share their experience and expertise.

This is also a special year for other reasons. Norman Wilson's book tracing the history of Youlgrave welldressing called 'The Tapdressers: a Celebration' is now in the shops. On June 10th Maggie Ford's millennium film about the people and welldressings of Youlgrave 'Made of Clay', starring all manner of Youlgrave celebrities, will have its premiere in the village hall at 3pm and again at 7.30pm. A short Granada TV film made during last year's welldressings will also be shown, and Norman's book will be on sale.

So it is quite a tradition for today's and tomorrow's welldressers to live up to. As ever the Welldressing committee is anxious to encourage as many people as possible (of whatever age from children to OAP's) to give welldressing a go. You don't need to be particularly talented at anything; there's a lot of laughter; it's therapeutic, and a great opportunity to natter on to whoever you find yourself next to.

ROOK PIE

The Beebe family had always been friends of ours and so it was quite natural that I should call and have a chat with old Asenath Beebe who lives alone in her cottage at the end of a lane leading down to the dale.

All her working life had been spent as housekeeper to Mr Wright, a bachelor farmer at Gratton. She didn't have many visitors and was never happier than when she got me to sit in her old rocking chair and tell of the goings on in the village. She often reminisced about the 'mester' and how he dined alone with her while the hired hands fed in a separate room off scrubbed tabletops – but, mind you,

the same food as the 'mester' who, according to Asenath, always kept good 'board'.

On one of my visits she mused, 'It is May 12th today, they'll be shooting the rooks at Gratton.' I pricked up my ears and carefully drew out the details. Mr Wright and his selected friends met about mid morning armed with their rifles and set off for the rookery, where the young rooks were just beginning to venture to the edge of the nest. The next day Rook Pie was served by Asenath.

'Could you still make Rook Pie?' I asked. 'Yes,' Asenath replied wistfully, 'chance would be a fine thing.'

I bade her goodbye and sauntered off down the village street. You won't believe this, but the first chap I encountered was an old friend carrying half a dozen rooks.

'I don't suppose you would like these rooks?' he asked. He nearly fell over when I said yes; in fact I almost snatched them from his hand! Retracing my steps to Asenath's cottage, I held the rooks behind my back and knocked on the door. It isn't often that one sees such a look of pleasure on someone's face as appeared on hers.

'I shall skin them and clean them up and tomorrow you shall join me for Rook Pie.'

I joined her the next day to share her 'black birds baked in a pie.' The pastry was scrumptious, as was the tender white meat of the birds. There was a delicate taste of herbs too but that secret Asenath kept to herself.

I pushed back my chair from the table, replete and with not a single thought for the rooks!

Anyone wishing to take part June 20th to 23rd phone 636341

Forthcoming Events

- Thursday 1st June** Launch of Norman Wilson's book, 'The Tap Dressers: A Celebration'. The Country Bookstore, Hassop Crossroads, Near Bakewell, 6pm.
- Saturday 3rd June** Youlgrave Church Garden Party, refreshments, stalls and other attractions. The Vicarage, Church Street, 2.30pm.
- Saturday 3rd June** Opening of Youlgrave Bowls Club's New Pavilion. Alport Lane Recreation Ground, 10.30 am.
- Saturday 10th June** 'Made of Clay', a Millennium video. Bookings taken (tel. 636821). Youlgrave Village Hall, 3pm & 7.30pm.
- Thursday 15th June** 'The Peak Past and Present', a presentation by climber and author Gordon Stainforth. Youlgrave Village Hall, 7.30pm. Tickets £4.00 (£3.00 conc.) from Derbyshire Libraries.
- Saturday 1st July** Abbeyfield Youlgrave and District Society Strawberry Teas. Granby House, Alport Lane, 3.30 - 5.00pm.
- Tuesdays** Yoga with Iris Pimm at Greenfields Farm Barn (tel. 636341), 7.00pm.
- Wednesdays** Diane Kettle's life drawing classes. Middleton Village Hall, 7.30pm.
- Fridays** Yoga with Iris Pimm at Greenfields Farm Barn (tel. 636341), 9.30am.

From the Cookhouse Door

Cheese and Broccoli Quiche

Ingredients

Flan dish lined with shortcrust pastry; 3 spring onions, finely chopped and softened in butter; Medium head of broccoli, cooked; small tub of cottage cheese; 1/4 pint milk; 1oz Cheddar cheese; 1 egg; salt & pepper; squeeze of garlic purée.



Method

Put the softened onions on bottom of pastry, then separate the broccoli into pieces and arrange on top. In a jug, mix the milk, egg, cottage cheese, salt, pepper and garlic purée, then pour the mixture over the broccoli. Grate the Cheddar cheese over the top and bake gas mark 5 until the filling sets - approximately 1/2 hour. Serve warm or cold with salad and jacket potatoes.

Marsh Marigolds

Have you seen the marvellous display of Marsh Marigolds this year? After walking up Bradford Dale, I wanted to find out more about these beautiful flowers.

We all know of King Cups, but the Marsh Marigold has many other common names, among which are Golden Cup, Soldier's Button, Brave Celandine, May-Blob or Mary-Bud. Their scientific name is *Caltha Palustris* - 'caltha' comes from Greek and means cup, the shape of the flower, and 'palustris' is the Latin for swamp, referring to its marshy habitat. During their evolution the flowers lost their petals and the yellow cup is formed by five petal-like sepals.



Marsh Marigolds have always been a favourite with poets and appear in lines such as, 'and the winking Mary-Buds open their golden eyes' from 'Cymbeline' by William Shakespeare and 'cups for kings to hold,' from 'King Cups' by Shacheverell Sitwell.

MR

BEANZ "R" US

Mr Middleton wishes that he had planted his broad beans in the autumn especially given the mild winter we had - but that's hindsight for you.

I am trying small quantities of white, red and a dark green variety. The runner beans are well away now, grown in the traditional method (toilet tubes with a suitable compost).

This year I am also trying soy beans - much liked by the Japanese - these are small podded and delicious after they have been steamed or boiled for a few minutes; they also have a very high protein content. Thompson & Morgan has a type which is supposed to be better adapted to the North's cooler summers so that should be OK then.

Another bean is called a black-eyed pea; all very confusing. Apparently if it is shelled and eaten young and green it is considered to be a pea but leave it to dry on the vine and it becomes the black-eyed bean you can buy for stews. Culinary reports will follow later in the year provided I get a crop.

So here is the garden hint. Never cultivate, harvest or even brush against bean plants when their foliage is wet. Rust diseases and blight are spread more easily among wet plants.

ANNUAL SPONSORS

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Youlgrave & District Horticultural Society - - - - -	636151
Youlgrave Neighbourhood Watch - - - - -	636611
Youlgrave Parish Council - - - - -	-
Youlgrave WI - - - - -	-

Annual 'Bugle' sponsorship £10. Please contact Ann (tel. 636362) or Emma (tel. 636775).

"Made in Clay" Village Hall, June 10th, 3pm (£2.50) and 7.30pm (£3.00). Bookings 636821