



The

Bugle



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

No. 32**February 2001**

NEW YEAR NEW PANTO

As we start getting used to writing 2001, yes, it still catches me out now and again too, the Bugle Editorial Team would like to again wish all our readers a Happy New Year.

Yet again we are to be treated to another of Youlgrave's Pantomimes. As ever, because of the huge amount of time invested in rehearsals and preparation, the show promises to be of the usual high standard. When I spoke to the Producer recently she was expecting a visit from the RSPCA to ensure that they could provide the correct environment to accommodate the 'Racing Camel', which will be arriving any day now!

May I please take this opportunity to invite any readers out there to put pen to paper and make contributions to the newsletter? 'The Bugle' exists as a voice for people living in and around Alport, Middleton and Youlgrave so please don't hesitate to shout out if you have something that you'd like to be heard. We are always happy to receive factual and fictional pieces, as well as notices and forthcoming events. Come on, get blowing those trumpets!!

Youlgrave Pantomime

'Ali Baba and the Forty Thieves'

23rd January to 3rd February

Matinée Saturday 27th January

Tickets available from Margaret Gladwin
(tel. 636558), adults £3, children £1.75.

Please make your calls before 9pm.

Bugle Sponsorship

I would like to sponsor 'The Bugle' for 2001 and I enclose £10. I would/would not* like to be listed in every edition. (*please delete as applicable)

Name: _____ Details: _____
(please print clearly) (up to 50 characters total)

Telephone number: _____ Please make cheques payable to 'The Bugle' and send all payments and details to Ann Knowles, Garden House, Fountain Square. **Please note that sponsors' details will not appear in the next edition for those that have not re-subscribed.**

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NEWS FROM YOULGRAVE SCHOOL

Christmas has passed, but while the Christmas Play is still in our memories, a group of the older children share their true feelings about this annual celebration.

The Plays over the Years

My name is Joe Day. I am ten years old and in Year Six. When I was in Year One I was a sheep. I just had to crawl on my hands and knees down the aisle with the shepherds.

I was a camel when I was in Year Two. I had to stand at the top of the Church and walk to Mary and Joseph and the doll. I enjoyed being a camel. That was my favourite play.

In Year Three I was a shepherd with my friend George. We had to look after our sheep. I loved being a shepherd. It was great fun.



One of the
Wise Men by
Richard Oldfield

The Christmas Play in Year One

Hello! My name is George Roper. I am 11 years old. When I was a sheep in Year One all I had to do was crawl down the aisle, just go onto the stage and wait until the play had finished. I enjoyed it because I hardly had to do anything. I don't really like the Christmas plays because I don't like singing and acting. I prefer to play football instead.

The Donkey

When I was in Year Two I was a donkey although I didn't want to be one. I wanted to be

an Angel because I liked the costumes better than the donkey costume. My friend Emma was an Angel. She wanted to be Mary, but she was happy to be an Angel. I was upset. I didn't get to sing because I was a donkey. When I was in Year Three I liked the play better because I was a Shepherd and I could sing.

Laura Rose Wilson, age 9

New Millennium Heroes

When I was in Year Four I was a Flag Bearer in New Millennium Heroes. We had to practice in the Scout Hall with Mrs Croasdel. I wanted to be an Angel, but I didn't get the part. I wanted to be an Angel because I liked the costumes. My favourite song was New Millennium Heroes!! I enjoyed this play.

Emma Fraser-Smith, age 10

Our Christmas Play

I think this year's Christmas Play was the best one ever. And I liked all the Christmas plays I was in.

I was a Wise Man with Rodell and Robyn Taggart. When I was coming onto the stage I nearly tripped over my Wise Man costume. Alfie Adlington was my camel. I'm not that keen on singing but I enjoyed the loud bits. My favourite part was the Medley, because it had ALL of the songs in.

Richard Oldfield, age 10

This Year's Play

Today I am going to write about this year's play. The play was called Rock around the Flock and the shepherds were: Richard Bright, Peter, Clark, Edward, Carl, Markus and me. I enjoyed being a shepherd. Two people sang solos, Melissa and Joe. Joe was the Good Shepherd. He was very nervous, but sang beautifully. Melissa was Mary and she sang two solos. The three main shepherds, Peter, Richard and Clark had the most to say. I don't really like plays because I don't like singing.

Sam Wilson, age 11

This Year's Christmas Play

In this year's Christmas Nativity Play I was a Wise Lady. I thought I had one of the most boring parts. I wanted to be Mary, but my friend Melissa got the part, although she wanted

Sheffield Youth Theatre visits Middleton

On the brightest Saturday afternoon of the winter, Sheffield Youth Theatre visited Middleton Village Hall to present their current production, Alfred, King of Wessex. Written by the group's director, Meg Jepson, the play



Maddie Gould and Jemma Monkhouse using
the furniture to enhance their performance

tells of the story of the highly civilised King and his struggles against the Vikings.

The performance began, with original music composed by a cast member, in the yard outside, and then moved inside to make imaginative use of the indoor space. The small appreciative audience were very close to the action, and the young actors, including Jemma Monkhouse who lives in the village, adapted well to the new venue.

I was particularly impressed with the clarity of their speaking of a text written without any concessions to the age of the performers, all of whom showed great confidence and stage presence together with the discipline to concentrate throughout a long demanding play.

It was sometimes difficult to follow the story, and to understand exactly who was who among the many characters; and I much preferred the dialogue-based to the more declamatory passages of the script. However, overall the enterprise was very worthwhile, and it was very encouraging to be invited to such an enterprising occasion in the context of a small Peak village.

Jack Blackburn

NEWS FROM YOULGRAVE SCHOOL

to be an Angel. My friend Frances and I wanted her to be an Angel, but Frances was an Angel instead of Melissa. The reason why I wanted to be Mary was because she got to sing two solos and I like to sing.

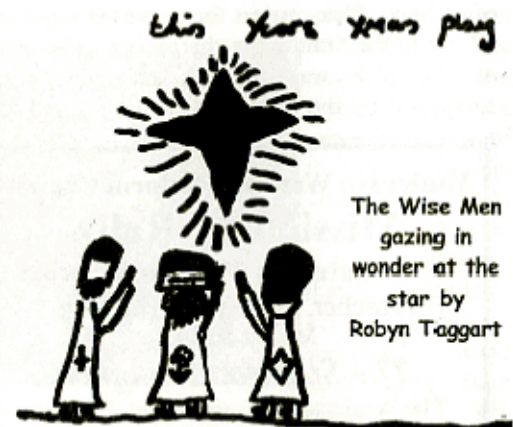
Last Year's Christmas Play

Last year I wanted to be a Peace Dancer and I was chosen to be one. Last year's play was my favourite. I wore a baggy top and baggy trousers with sequins on.

Robyn Taggart, age 11

Thank you to all the writers, especially Joe and George, who also helped me put this page together.

Mrs Ryder



Walking makes for a long life (Hindu proverb)

Andrew McCloy's guidebooks available locally

FRED TALKS QUARRYING

Fred Billinge is well known for his jokes, stories and music, but his first real job was in a quarry at 14 - the school leaving age in 1924. His father, Albert Edward Billinge, was a stonemason from Carsington and he helped Fred get the job.

They cycled daily from Youlgrave to Stanciffe Quarry, Darley Dale. Fred's old sit-up-and-beg bicycle cost 50p. One morning he and his dad were cycling to work in the dark. At the Peacock Inn in Rowsley a policeman suddenly stepped out and stopped Fred. The policeman said there had been complaints about people cycling without lights and pointed out that Fred had no light. His dad was able to say that it was alight earlier, and that Fred's oil lamp must have blown out. The policeman let him off. Fred saved up and was eventually able to buy a Sunbeam cycle for £6.50.

Fred's first job was as a pick-carrier. Stonemasons used picks on the rough gritstones, or Harstones to 'dress' them. The picks were pointed at both ends, about a foot long and were blunt after half to three-quarters of an hour. Pick-carriers took seven or eight at a time to the Smithy for sharpening. The end of the pick was heated, hammered out, sharpened by the blacksmith and tempered to

harden it. When it rained the lads helped the blacksmith. The men also sent lads on errands, so Fred was sent to buy tobacco from John Siddall, a crane driver who owned a shop and post office. When he asked for change his hand was squeezed painfully.

The soil and sub-soil was removed to expose the stone. Here Fred once found a burial urn, now preserved in Weston Park Museum, Sheffield. The first layer was of poor quality stone and was used in the base of reservoirs in the Derwent Valley. Next was a layer of clay and then three to six feet thick of solid, fine gritstone, used in Manchester Town Hall extensions, Sheffield City Hall, and St George's Hall, Liverpool.

To get the stone, holes two inches wide were drilled and then nicks were reamed down the sides of the hole. The powder-monkey filled the hole with gunpowder, placed a fuse on the powder, capped it and fired the shot. The men wished the shot 'get well'. The stone should split in a line between the nicks in the shot holes. A big bang meant it had not fired well and the stone was cracked.

Fred tried working as a stonemason, but preferred crane driving and drove steam and electric cranes. Quarry work was hard and dangerous. If it was too wet to work a whistle was blown to stop, but without work they were not paid. Wages were poor, labourers earned £2.50 a week and stonemasons about 7p an hour.

Fred was in the Royal Engineers during and after the Second World War. Cranes and crane operators were essential for the success of the invasion of Europe. In the D-Day landings Fred landed on Juno Beach with the French Canadians. He operated a 19RB crane to lift supplies for the invading force and to load stretchers of wounded for return to England.

Fred travelled with the invading forces through Caen, Boulogne, Rouen, Brussels, Lyon and Paris. The invasion force had to supply everything itself and Fred operated cranes at Dieppe, Le Havre, Antwerp, and Marseilles.

PDR

The Attack on Beans and Bacon

On a fine November morning three dedicated and determined people kept their promise to meet at 10am at 'Beans and Bacon', a sadly deteriorating pond less than half a mile beyond Youlgrave. Thanks to permission from a local farmer, several attempts by Scouts and Guides and Derbyshire Wildlife Trust have been made over the past three decades to keep the pond frog and newt-worthy. Long ago it was known to be a very good pond for wildlife, especially newts.

Having unfortunately gained a foothold in the pond, the dreaded horsetail dominated. The last two attempts to tackle it with heavy rakes from the side to keep the draggers and heavers relatively dry were abysmally unsuccessful despite the tremendous effort invested in raking the material out of the water and up the steeply sloping concrete sides.

This time was to be different. War was declared and the defending force agreed that it was necessary to get amongst the enemy and saw and hack and pull at the roots of the invading force and then heave each soggy clump up onto the bank. This went on for over two hours, by which time about three quarters of the area had been regained.

Two of the team, volunteers from the "Peak Park Working Party Department," were in Wellingtons and more or less kept their boot tops above the water level but half way through the 'water torture' one of the team tugged too heavily at her pre-cut clump and fell

backwards into the churned-up goo. Commiserations followed and the battle continued. The one member of the 'Crazy Gang' not in wellies wore tough old hiking boots and, accepting of the inevitable wet feet, spent the morning up to his knees and elbows in the deeper areas. At the end of this commando style operation his fingers were white and his feet in need of TLC.

Probably because the quality of the 'Beans and Bacon' has deteriorated to such a degree, we didn't come across any wildlife over wintering. If there were any creatures, we think they would probably be at the marshy area at the end of the pond, which remains undisturbed.

The Epilogue

The booted member of the team has been back since to retrieve tackle that was accidentally covered by a mound of soggy horsetail and now the open water and marshy area looks much more welcoming to any creatures who might care to settle at 'Beans and Bacon.'

The hoped-for rehabilitation of this once very attractive pond will probably be speeded up by adding toad and frog spawn from overstocked pools in the spring. Hopefully the residual waterweed and pond life should provide a high standard of bed and breakfast accommodation.

The rumoured possibility of a drain under the road to take excess water from the road and verge to the pond was explored with metal detectors and the roadmen that were digging up the verge were asked to look out for any drainage artefacts but all to no avail. It is now assumed that any incoming - and always welcome - water must come from the clouds. RS



Roy, Andy and Lynne hard at work 'mucking out'

Youlgrave Wesleyan Reform Chapel
Missionary Rally
 Saturday 17th March
 Preacher, Rev. Philip Hacking
 Musical Items by
The Stubwood Singers
 The Wesleyan Reform Chapel, 7.30pm.

Walking makes for a long life (Hindu proverb)

Andrew McCloy's guidebooks available locally

Life at Abbeyfield by resident Sheila Mather

If you are "getting on a bit", living alone and tired of cooking for one whilst coping with household chores and all the bills that we all have to deal with, how about having a look at life in an Abbeyfield Society House? You might be happily surprised and even think about it as a pleasant option for your own future. And there is one near at hand in Youlgrave!

Granby House, on Alport Lane (the main road but a quiet situation) is a warm and comfortable house where each resident has a charming room (en suite with loo and washbasin and in most cases a bath or shower) furnished and decorated to their own individual taste.

There is also a delightful heated conservatory with views towards Lathkill Dale, a view also enjoyed from our living room, where one can take morning coffee and chat or read.

The dining room is airy and spacious, and luncheon and high tea are served there each day. Breakfast is taken in our own rooms. The food is of the highest standard and we are fortunate in having two housekeepers who are excellent cooks, so all meals are eagerly awaited!

We have got our own keys and perfect freedom to come and go as we wish. We also have various entertainments, for example, fashion shows, whist drives, birthday parties etc., to which friends can be invited. Also we have regular outings - bus trips to interesting places, garden centres and shopping venues, where we have tea or lunch and guests are also welcome on these occasions.

Besides all these advantages, we are spared the worry of bill-paying, as all essential services are included in our very reasonable weekly rental (made possible by the Abbeyfield Society).

Now, why not come and have a look at us?

Walking makes for a long life (Hindu proverb)

Employment Opportunities Youlgrave After School Club

An After School Club at Youlgrave is planned from February 2001. The club will provide quality child care for children aged 4 to 11 years and will offer a range of resources to provide suitable activities to meet the social, intellectual and developmental needs of children, including recreational activities and play. If successful it is hoped to expand the activities to a Holiday Club in the longer term. Vacancies exist for:

Part-time After School Club Co-ordinator

Rate of Pay: £6.00 per hour
Location: Youlgrave School
Hours of Work: Monday to Thursday
3.15 - 6.15pm (during term time)

Applicants should be suitably qualified (NVQ Level 3 Playwork or equivalent or have a primary teaching certificate).

Part-time Play worker for After School Club

Rate of Pay: £4.00 per hour
Location: Youlgrave School
Hours of Work: Monday to Thursday
3.15 - 6.15pm (during term time)

Applicants with a childcare qualification preferred but not essential as training may be available to the successful applicant.

Job Description and application forms are available from the School Office (tel. 636289).

CIRCLE DANCING

Fridays 7.30pm - 10pm

Greenfields Farm Barn, Alport

Discover the fun of dancing, an opening into other cultures, a movement into silence, togetherness, a sense of wholeness.

You don't need a partner or any previous experience.

Cost on a sliding scale: £3.50 - £2.00. For more information contact Erika (tel. 813997) or Iris (tel. 636341).

An Unconventional Christmas

"We're going to spend three months of winter in Middleton by Youlgrave and stay for Christmas," we said. "We're going to experience striking autumn colours, crisp frosts and clear days, maybe even a modest amount of snow - a complete contrast to our typical New Zealand Spring and early Summer, changeable, windy, rainy and often with humid heat."

"You've completely lost your marbles," said our friends at home. "Don't you know how cold it is over there?"

"Are you daft," said our friends in the Peak, "leaving all that warm sunshine to visit England in the winter?"

We came regardless, never really felt the cold and were privileged to participate in an autumn that broke several endurance records. Seeing blossom on the trees in December only proves that nature is as confused as we are assumed to be.

Our education, heritage and tradition in New Zealand have been based so much on English images and literature that Christmas dinner in warm weather seems quite right. This trip has redressed the balance and satisfied our curiosity.

Amongst other things, the effort put into decorating the towns and villages, the concerts by local choral groups and other celebrations have put the seal on a very enjoyable time.

Despite the convincing efforts of the clouds, mist and rain to eliminate the blue sky, we have walked dales and edges, seen a lot of countryside, enjoyed the company of our friends and even made a few new ones.

There seems to be a more optimistic mood here than during our last visit four years ago and certainly a happy contrast with the prevailing mood of pessimism in New Zealand this past year.

We have enjoyed the courteous and friendly manner of the local people we have come into contact with, including the schoolchildren on the 'Tara Duck' bus. Our time here has been fun and encourages us to stay 'in t'Peak' again one day - in the springtime. Ian Patrick

From the Cookhouse Door

Brandy Croissant Pudding

Ingredients

4oz day-old croissants; 1 tablespoon chopped candied peel or mixed fruit; $\frac{3}{4}$ pint of milk; 2 eggs, size two; $\frac{1}{2}$ teaspoon vanilla essence; 1-2 tablespoons brandy.

Butter & granulated sugar for topping.

Method

Butter an ovenproof dish. Slice the croissants and arrange in a dish and sprinkle the peel over them evenly. Beat the milk, eggs, caster sugar, vanilla essence and brandy together and pour over the croissants and leave for 1-2 hours. Dot the pudding with butter and sprinkle with granulated sugar. Bake in a pre-heated oven, 350°F, gas mark 4 for 45-60 minutes or until golden brown. Serve warm with cream!



Andrew McCloy's guidebooks available locally

Forthcoming Events

23rd January
to
3rd February

Youlgrave Pantomime 'All Bats and the Forty Thieves'. Tickets available from Margaret Gladwin (tel. 6365588), adults £3, children £1.75. Please make your calls before 9pm. Matinee Performance Saturday 27th January.

Saturday 17th
March

Missionary Rally with Rev. Philip Hacking and Musical Items by The Studwood Singers. Youlgrave Wesleyan Reform Chapel, 7.30pm.

Weekly Events

Mondays

Farming Women's Meeting. The Meeting Room, Agricultural Bakerswell Centre, 10am - 1pm.

Tuesdays

Yoga with Iris Pinn. Greenfields Farm Barn, 7pm

Tuesdays &
Wednesdays

Youlgrave Playschool. Please contact Vivien Tabbeaux for details (tel. 636861). Youlgrave Village Hall, 9.15 - 11.45am.

Wednesdays

Diane Kettle's Life Drawing classes (tel. 636763). Middleton Village Hall, 7.30pm.

Wednesdays

Beginners Yoga. Greenfields Farm Barn, 7 - 8.30pm.

Thursdays

Beginners Yoga. Greenfields Farm Barn, 7 - 8.30pm.

Fridays

Yoga with Iris Pinn. Greenfields Farm Barn, 9.30 - 11am.

Fridays

Circle Dancing. Greenfields Farm Barn, 7.30 - 10pm.

Fridays

Gentle Yoga. The Scout and Community Hall, 3.30pm.

Fridays

Parent and Toddler Group. Please contact Vivien Tabbeaux for details (tel. 636861). Youlgrave Village Hall, 9.30 - 11.30am.

Important Notice

From Monday 26th February to Friday 2nd March, Bradford Road will be closed to vehicles whilst Peak Park carry out work on the trees in the Churchyard.

ANNUAL SPONSORS

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Youlgrave & District Horticultural Society	-	636943
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Youlgrave Parish Council	-	636611
Youlgrave Post Office	-	-
Youlgrave United Football Club	-	636201
Youlgrave WI	-	636038

Please note, this is the last time details will be listed for those that do not re-subscribe for 2001. Please see coupon on page one.