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YEAR**

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

www.undertheedge.net

300

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Let True Love Begin...



Newly-weds Tessa Andrews and Matt Taylor (see page 2) - photo courtesy of Jodie Ann Photography

A Winter Wedding at St Giles



What a perfect winter's day for a wedding! Friday 1st December saw yet another day of sub-zero temperatures, with a heavy frost, but clear blue skies and crisp sunshine. How lucky it was for Tessa Andrews and Matt Taylor's wedding at St Giles' Church. With Tessa's close connection with the Church, originally through Great Longstone primary school, and then through the junior and occasionally the adult choir for many years, it was the ideal venue for the wedding, and the church has said how delighted they were that Tessa and Matt chose St Giles for their big day. The ceremony was followed by a reception at the White Lion, where Tessa worked for several years as a teenager. Matt grew up in Derby, which is where he and Tessa now live, and it was lovely to see so many of his family here to celebrate with them. Fay Waltho was an exceptional bridesmaid who, together with a calm and collected Best Man Josh Wilkins, kept everyone in order throughout the day.

Parish Clerk Recruitment

Great Longstone Parish Council is recruiting a new Parish Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer for a flexible, home-based post working around 40 hours per month @ £12.63 per hour (£505.20 per month). Full details, along with the Job Description and Person Specification and details of how to apply, are on our website at greatlongstone.net/parishclerk.

Ideally, we are looking for someone with previous experience and a recognised qualification in local government administration, or the commitment to study and obtain the ILCA qualification within six months and to obtain the Certificate in Local Council Administration (CiLCA) within two years of commencement of the post.

For an informal discussion, please email Mrs Wendy Long, Chair of Great Longstone Parish Council, at jwandew.long@btinternet.com, or the current clerk at parishcouncil@greatlongstone.org, to arrange a convenient time to speak. To apply, email your CV to the Chair no later than midnight on Sunday 7th January 2024. Interviews will be conducted on the evening of Wednesday 10th January in the Village Hall.

Simon Headington, Vice-Chair GLPC



It really was a magical day, and our thanks go to all who helped make it such a success, especially everyone at the church, including Frank Hammond, who brought in Rev Brenda Jackson and organist Barrie Birkin, Jane Beale and everyone else who contributed to the lovely flower arch around the church door, David Beale for gathering together the choir, and of course all the bell ringers who rang out beautifully across the wintery landscape. Huge thanks also go to everyone at the White Lion for creating a fantastic reception and working so hard to serve a delicious three-course roast dinner to 50 people, no small task! Thank you too to local florists *Violets and Daisies* who provided the flowers and made the church look so lovely and to Jodie at jodieannphotography.com for taking such beautiful photos throughout the day. And of course the biggest thank you goes to all who came to wish Tessa and Matt well, it was truly a day to remember! **Marion Andrews**

Longstone & District Horticultural Show

This year's show will be on Saturday 17th August in the Village Hall. A full schedule will be published in a later edition of UTE, but the handicraft classes are: Hand Knitting, Crochet, Cross Stitch, Patchwork and/or Quilting, Canvas Work (*any article is eligible for all these classes*), Embroidery (*anything not in the previous classes*), Soft Toy, Picture (*any medium*), Photograph (*featuring gates*), Woodwork (*any subject*). Children's classes: Decorated Eye Mask, Drawing/Painting on an Olympic Theme, Lego Olympian.

Jennifer Rowson

Longstone Local History Group

This friendly group continues to meet at 7.30 for a 7.45 start in the Village Hall on the third Tuesday of each month. In June and July, we usually have a 'historical' walk somewhere locally. No meeting in August, but in September we take a day trip to somewhere exciting! The next meeting will be on 16th January, but unfortunately I cannot say what the talk will be as we have not yet finalised the programme. All are welcome! **Angela Robinson**

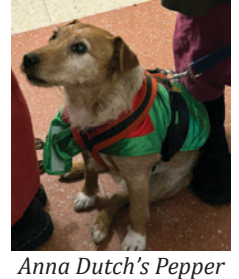
25 Years at the Helm - Congratulations, Doreen!

Editors come and editors go (18 at the last count), the eight Chairmen rather less frequently, and a mere four prudent Treasurers have kept UTE finances on the straight and narrow over the years, but there has only ever been one Secretary since our inception, Doreen Nicholson!

At UTE's Christmas gathering with mince pies and mulled wine for those who have helped over the last year, our Chairman Eileen Adamson gave special thanks to Doreen for her quarter-century-long service, and presented her with a bouquet of flowers. Doreen then did the honours by cutting a

special celebration cake produced by Peak Pantry of Top Yard.

The Editors over the years have been Brian Edwards, Chris Raynor, Sally Hughes, Suzy Barton, Sarah Shimwell, Holly Waine, Anne Bennett, Paul Gill, Callum Salfield, Mike Cummins, Simon Thorpe, Mark Taylor, Ian Gilbert, Alison Waltho, Michael Beale, Adam Rae-Smith and Steve Glossop; the Chairmen Brian Edwards, John Spencer, Sally Raynor, Harold Richardson, Peter Askew, Rev Chris Benson, Rev James Croft and Eileen Adamson; and the Treasurers Simon Headington, Jim McDonald, Sally Kehr and Richard Carter.



Anna Dutch's Pepper



Angela and Mike Robinson



Hayley Godbehere

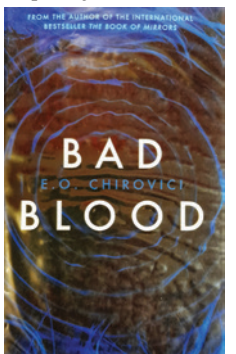
Bakewell Library Recommends...



1942: Britain at the Brink by Taylor Downing. In 1942, there was a domestic crisis in Britain. Public morale was collapsing with a widespread feeling that Winston Churchill was no longer the right man to lead the nation. Following a series of major military fiascos, motions of No-Confidence were debated in Parliament and a credible rival for the Prime Minister emerged. If Britain had been forced out of the war in

1942, it would have been almost impossible for the US to fight back in Europe. *1942* tells the story of this precarious moment when the British people nearly lost.

This book puts the year 1942 into a new perspective. The book is both revealing and engrossing. It is full of facts and figures along with personal anecdotes from people around the world. For a non-fiction book, it was an easy read and kept my interest. **Rating 4/5**



Bad Blood by E.O. Chirovici. One rainy night in New York, psychologist James Cobb gives a talk on the art of recovering lost memories. Afterwards, he's approached by a stranger: a dying man who 40 years ago, woke up in a hotel room with a murdered woman. He had no memory of what happened. Now, he needs to know whether he was an innocent bystander - or a killer. Intrigued, James begins to unpick the

tangled threads of this decades-old mystery; but everyone involved has a different story to tell. As his interest becomes an obsession, secrets from his own past start to surface. He begins to suspect that someone has buried the truth deep enough to hide it forever.

I enjoyed this book. It was fast paced and hard to put down, and the author is very descriptive in his writing, meaning that the characters really come to life. It has a very good twist at the end. However, I did find that as the entire novel is written in first person, it gets slightly confusing when the second 'first person' turns up. **Rating 3/5**



The Widow's Promise by Jennie Felton. Carina Talbot's life is shattered when her beloved husband Robert is found dead in mysterious circumstances. Suddenly, she must take on sole responsibility for their two young children whilst finding a way to continue running the farm and prevent Sally (her beautiful yet headstrong sister-in-law) from making choices which will affect them all. Help comes in the form of two men in her life: local landowner Lord Melbrook, a scarred war hero with a generous heart, and a mysterious stranger who claims to have been friends with Robert.

An absolutely fabulous read, with an enjoyable storyline and easy to follow but unpredictable plot. A perfect family saga. The descriptions of the era are very authentic. A great light read. Would definitely recommend. **Rating 5/5**

Aimee Mills

Hillsprings LAUNDRY

CLOSURE

Sadly, Hillsprings Laundry in Stoney Middleton will remain closed until further notice because of extensive fire damage.

Margaret Davis

Use It or Lose It

It's been awful seeing Heather with so few people in her shop recently. What are people thinking of? People have told me how much she did during COVID-19, and she's someone whom people turn to for information and help too, now. This should be reciprocated with regular shopping, so the community makes sure she can keep the Village Shop going. Prices for most items are very competitive, especially when you take fuel or delivery costs into account.

Besides catering for the community and manning the shop day in day out, and sourcing meat and difficult to get items, she's a brilliant baker and takes on new recipes and ideas with alacrity and wonderful results – mini mince pies, brown sugar meringues, even a *pain surprise*. Nothing daunts her.

Name and address supplied

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Ashford Arms Opening Soon!



UTE readers who currently enjoy dining at the Maynard Arms, Grindleford and the George Hotel, Hathersage (sadly closed for the time being as a result of the Storm Babet floods) will be delighted to know that they will soon have the same delicious fare within walking distance, thanks to Station Road resident Rob Hattersley (Managing Director of Longbow Bars and Restaurants).

Rob is currently overseeing the finishing stages of a £1.6m complete refurbishment of the Ashford Arms (a casualty of COVID-19), in collaboration with Heineken, that will tick all the boxes of a premium pub experience. Rob himself was nearly bankrupted by the pandemic, as the first lockdown came six weeks after the Maynard's opening. Having sold his house to finance the project, Rob had to go on Universal Credit to keep the business afloat, but he hasn't looked back.

The Ashford Arms will boast nine new bedrooms and a completely redesigned restaurant seating 107 diners, provide employment for 45 locals, and only use local suppliers for all its produce.

Charlotte Bennett

A Letter from Longstone

I recently obtained a piece of postal history from 1851, that I thought might interest UTE readers. It's an envelope addressed to Emma Longsdon (1827-1874) from her father, William Longsdon (1790-1876), and sent to her c/o John Benjamin Smith MP (1794-1879) in London. The Longsdons were a long-established family in Little Longstone from Medieval times. William had been living at the Manor House there since the death of his elder brother in 1827. Emma and her younger brother, Charles, had both been born in the USA, where William had been running a cotton business. They were brought to England by their father when he came back to take over the family estate.

Both William Longsdon and John Benjamin Smith were involved in the Manchester cotton trade and were, presumably, business colleagues and maybe family friends; in his younger years, Smith had been a witness to the

'Peterloo Massacre' in St Peter's Field, Manchester, when a peaceful demonstration had been charged down by cavalry in August 1819. He later became interested in politics, becoming an MP and Chair of the Anti-Corn Law League.

The 'Penny Red' stamp has been cancelled by an oval postmark with the code number '41' for Bakewell. On the reverse, you can track the letter's progress down to Bakewell by an undated postmark for 'Great Longstone', presumably where it was posted, a further undated postmark for 'Ashford' before the 'Bakewell' postmark dated 'NO 28 1851'. There is also a red circular postmark showing its receipt in London.

Ian Durban



January Gardening Notes

The start of another year – 2023 seemed to pass so quickly. I think that January is one of the quietest months from a gardening point of view, and it is so wet that it is not fit to be outside. If you are very keen, you could start sowing seeds in the greenhouse or on a window sill, but I shall leave it for a month or two. I still have some clearing to do in the allotment but that can wait till we get some dry weather. I love Brussel Sprouts with my Christmas dinner, and they have done very well this year. I still have some kale and cabbage left, but have not grown sprouting broccoli this year as the pigeons stripped them last winter. We are just finishing the last of the pears, our first crop after having had the tree for five years.

I try and keep the borders tidy by pulling out annuals that kept flowering right up until December, when the sharp frosts cut them down. I had some lovely yellow flowers on the mahonia but the frost finished them off as well. The same applied to my pot plants, which I shall clear out and spread the spent compost on the borders. I have done some quite drastic pruning of trees and shrubs, so hopefully they will come back well in the spring. I leave quite a few plants in the borders for architectural interest (*see photo*) and for cover



for the wildlife. We have a hedgehog that has built himself a little house of leaves to hibernate through the winter. I will take the opportunity to clean my garden tools, cleaning off soil and giving a light coating of oil and sharpening shears and secateurs. **Andy Hanna**

Bakewell and Ashford Film Society



BASH's next film is *The Great Escaper* at the Medway Centre at 7.30pm on Sunday 14th January. *It centres around an*

elderly couple, who have been together for seventy years, living semi-independently in a care home. During a routine chat with their nurses, Rene (Glenda Jackson) discovers that her husband Bernie (Sir Michael Caine) had wanted to go to the 70th anniversary of the D-Day landings, but all the tickets had gone. She makes it clear that he ought to just go! With a carrier bag and a few quid, he takes a ferry and heads off.

The Medway Centre is wheelchair friendly and we provide film subtitles and a hearing loop. You can join BASH Film Society via our website bashfilms.org.uk, sign up on the night or you can telephone the membership secretary Joy Thrower on **01629 814863**. **Joy Thrower**



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Help to Lead BECT



Could you be a new Trustee at Bakewell & Eyam Community Transport? This local charity is currently recruiting for new Trustees, and no previous experience is necessary.

BECT is looking to add to its current Board of seven Trustees, three of whom joined in 2023. The commitment is around four hours per month, mostly attending six Board meetings a year and reading papers before each meeting. Trustees are focused on strategy, performance, and assurance, ensuring the charity is delivering its strategy and business plan.

The full application pack can be found on BECT's Facebook page or on their website at [bect.org.uk/copy-of-our-team](https://www.bect.org.uk/copy-of-our-team), or call us on **01629 641920** or email info@bect.org.uk for a written version. The deadline for applications is Wednesday 31st January.

In early 2024, BECT will also be recruiting for new volunteer minibus drivers. If you are interested in further details, please email info@bect.org.uk.

Steve Chu

Sheffield Visually Impaired Walking Group



SIVIWG was founded over 23 years ago to help visually impaired people (VIPs) enjoy the physical and mental benefits of walking in the fabulous countryside around Sheffield. The group walks four times a month throughout the year, with walks of varying length and difficulty to cater for all levels of walking ability. VIPs walk with fully sighted guides on a one-to-one basis, and change guides regularly throughout the walk so that everyone gets the opportunity to chat to different people. VIPs' level of sight loss can vary between a slight impairment to total blindness. Guides also vary - some work full time and enjoy the opportunity to get out with like-minded people on their day off, while others are retired and welcome the social aspect of the group whilst knowing they are helping others. Occasionally, we hire a coach for a day to walk further afield, and we have an annual holiday, which this year took us to the scenic island of Anglesey.

We are a very lively and friendly group, and welcome new members, whether VIPs or fully sighted people interested in joining as guides. We can reimburse guides' travel expenses and lend rucksacks or walking jackets to get you started. To find out more, contact Sue Hill **07970 311329** (email susanmaryhill56@icloud.com) or Martin Wing **07747 443812** (email mrmartinwing@gmail.com). Visit sviwig.co.uk for more information. **Sue Hill**



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Longstone Area Sports Association

Friends, Longstonians, Country Folk,

Following on from the generous approach the Cricket Club has taken in gifting their facilities to the village, a proposal has been drafted to establish a sports and recreation association. A number of models have been considered, and the one selected has been chosen to provide the greatest flexibility of use. To that end, a standard constitution template has been adapted to match our potential needs – you can look at it online at greatlongstone.net/sports.

The priority is for a truly inclusive association covering Great Longstone, Little Longstone, Hassop and Rowland, hence the proposed name of Longstone Area Sports Association [LASA]. There is an enthusiasm from various parties in the village to see the Rec and the cricket buildings having a wider use, with broadly-defined recreational activities. This is a village facility for us all to use and grow as an association.

The concept is for an overarching sports and recreational association, overseen by a committee to facilitate use of the Rec amenities, alongside fundraising, while acting as a point of contact to help assist other interested sports and recreational organisations, such as football, cricket, croquet, tennis, and bowls. To deliver on the success of this enterprise, we are looking for as much support as possible from those – both young and old – who feel they might be in a position to contribute. This could range from being an active committee member to more small-scale contributions such as email-outs or fundraising. Every little helps.

We aim to establish a temporary committee to get the LASA up and running in 2024. So over to you, please come along to our inaugural meeting at the Village Hall on Wednesday 17th January at 7pm – do let anyone know who you think might be interested, as well as thinking about how you might be able to contribute. We welcome your ideas and input.

Mike Meurer



Our December meeting was a very enjoyable Christmas Party with thirteen members attending. The committee did the catering and everyone exchanged a Secret Santa gift.

Next meeting will be our New Year Lunch at the Crispin on Thursday 4th January, 12 for 12.30pm. Anyone wishing to come, please ring Zoe on **07876 481946**. New members always welcome.

Zoe McGregor



ChatGTP generated poems - ask anything...

Write an acrostic poem using the word LEAP:

Leaping into the unknown, we find
Energy coursing through body and mind.
Adventure awaits with every bound,
Pushing limits where courage is found.

Write an acrostic poem using the word LEAP but don't include leaping:

Lively moments, swift and fleet,
Eager hearts in rhythmic beat,
Anew, we soar, our dreams take flight,
Purposeful steps, embracing light.

Write an acrostic poem for LEAP about looking forward to the New Year:

Lingering memories of the past year fade,
Eagerly awaiting the new year's upgrade.
Anticipation dances in hearts free to explore,
Promises and hope of what's yet to be in 2024!

Thank you for all your support and we have lots planned for next year. Our next Book Swap Café is on Wednesday 31st January in the Village Hall from 2-4pm. Watch this space!

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Parish Council Notes

The following are extracts from the official minutes from the Parish Council meeting on 13th September. These are published on the Parish Council noticeboard outside Longstone School as well as on the village website greatlongstone.net.

Attendance

Cllrs Simon Headington (Meeting Chair), Phil Barrett, Jane Rigby, James Cox, District Cllr Kelda Boothroyd, 1 resident and Sarah Stokes (Parish Clerk). Apologies were received from Cllrs Long and Briggs and County Cllr Sutton.

Declarations of interest

Cllr J Cox declared an interest in the weedkilling quote.

Public comments

Monsal Head Toilets: District Cllr Boothroyd is a director of this scheme, and former Cllr, Clare Gamble still does the accounting for it. It is unusual to have a Community Interest Group run it, and Kelda aims for it to be run jointly by parish and District Councils, with her help collecting funds as she currently does. The Clerk stated that the toilets lie in Ashford parish. Income this year has been bad at an average £70 per week. The cleaner costs £10 per day plus other expenses. The Clerk has looked in great depth at this toilet project for the neighbouring parish, and emphasised that Little Longstone Parish Meeting was not happy when Baslow toilets remained open by raising car park charges to fund the toilets directly and still being run by DDDC, while the Monsal toilets (with a similar verified footfall of 111,000 visitors a year) were closed by DDDC with no funds from the car parks to go towards the toilets, which have had funds from Little Longstone PM. Kelda stated that there is a review of the toilets with DDDC.

Old Infant School: A resident raised concerns over the proposed sale of this (latterly the village pre-school), asking the PC to help keep the historical building and apply for a community fund. Residents have gathered to look at options, and don't think the Derby Diocesan Board of Education have the right to sell it. A plan must be presented to DDBE before 11th October. The Diocese want to sell and are being unreasonable, asking the village to deal directly with the Estate Agents from now on. The resident is prepared to do whatever it takes to retain the community building, but the PC is an incorporated organisation and so

could apply for a grant. The PC agreed it could apply but it would then have to run the building, and would require a set of firm ideas and a business plan. There would be considerations for ongoing costs such as heating and maintenance - while it could be saved it could then become a liability. Kelda asked why the Pre-School closed - the main issues were rising rent and difficulties keeping staff. The resident pointed out that the Duke of Devonshire gave the land for the old infant school, to be used for education, and the village raised funds to build the school. The Duke should be appealed to (the Chatsworth Estates Dept have been contacted on the matter). The building and its ownership is not listed on the Derby D accounts, and should be kept as a community building for uses such as a gym or crafts. The building had appeared on Rightmove the day after school broke up, advertised as a 1-bedroom house subject to planning, for £150k. The resident asked if the school would be supportive, in principle, of acquiring the old infant school. The PC is disappointed not to have been consulted by the DDBE, but stated that they would support a plan to acquire it as a community asset providing there is a suitable business plan showing it is viable. The PC cannot produce this plan, as they do not have the resources. District Cllr Boothroyd offered a letter of support, if required. It was noted that there are now no childminders locally. The resident will investigate arranging a community meeting asap.

Recreation ground

Playground: Joinery work is underway, and small RoSpa jobs done. The Clerk has chased D Cox over power washing. Cllr Headington asked that the slide from the PC inspection report be looked at with a view to tightening work asap. RoSpa report will be looked at during the PC inspection of its land on 17th September.

Equipment for years 11+: The bench for the table tennis area has now been installed. The resident who had raised funds for the bench thanked the PC and all involved. There are no plans at present to put a fence up around the area.

Cricket and Football: The Clerk has chased D Cox over looking at a machine with Cllr Cox. Tree work to be carried out on 15th September. The socket work and goals have been moved, with caps now fitted to the original sockets. Cllr Cox volunteered his time

for raking and adding seed to the goal, materials to be funded by the PC.

Football Club/Cricket: The JFC have asked to play on Sundays 10.30-12.30, as well as their Friday 5-6 slot. The Clerk will book this in on the existing pitch to the end of December, with any other pitch options to be looked at following an open meeting being organised by the Cricket and Football Clubs, which the PC as land owners are happy about. The Clerk will look at changing the proposed date of the meeting to bring the matter forward, and will book the venue. Cllr Barrett and possibly A Davis are meeting with the JFC on 16th September to show them how to do the line marking. The JFC are to supply the paint for this and carry out thereafter. The JFC have asked for use of the pavilion tea hut; this will be discussed after the open meeting. The Clerk is looking into what the JFC pay Baslow Sports Association.

Other matters: Painting and staining are complete. New playground equipment is to be looked at in 2024. The Clerk felt it would be worthwhile looking at the Hathersage play equipment, for ideas.

Village greens/Village Hall

Allotments: Current funds for the allotment water project are £1,000 from DDCVS, £400 allocated from DDDC Local projects fund, and over £100 donated from the surplus vegetable stall. It was agreed to send off the 'Application for Ordinary watercourse land drainage course' form and funds of £50 to DCC asap. Cllr Barrett and project team are looking into an alternative scheme and will look further into the spring and possibly testing of the water. A revised technical drawing has been produced by A Cross. It was decided Cllr Barrett could proceed, in consultation with an allotment holder and appropriate technical expertise, with either of the two proposed solutions, without further reference to the full council, providing costs remain within the original budget of £1400.

Christmas 2023: J Fawcett is to confirm if a tree will be donated this year, otherwise the Clerk will purchase one and advertise for donations towards this. The PC has liaised with the band and the PCC and decided to remove two of the carols, Cllr Headington has produced a QR code to go in UTE and on site for the event, to link with carol details on the village website. Cones are also required for the

event. The PC asked that the band move up away from the road, but they have stated they need to use the streetlight. **Remembrance wreath:** The Clerk will pick this up, and Cllr Long will represent the council at the service.

Bunting: Information on the material used previously and length covered has been received and will be discussed at the next meeting. ADCC grant is possible.

Village Hall insurance: The main contact for the Village Hall insurance will now be the Village Hall. Information has been sent on the electrical report.

Closed Churchyard and cemetery Sara Barrett had organised a well-attended meeting to collect seeds for the biodiversity project, with a walk up Hardrake Lane. It was decided Cllr Headington should trim back the ivy from the west wall side, and that the ivy be weed killed as per the spec.

Mowing: Management of the area needs to be reviewed for the next tender. Cllr Boothroyd reported that DDDC will be mowing every 4 weeks in closed churchyards.

Footpaths and roads

Speeding/streetlights/grit bins: The Clerk will check grit bins and order for the PC bins and ensure the DCC ones are filled, along with salt piles.

Drain issues: The Chair had met with County Cllr Sutton and helpful residents to identify where the drain issue on Church Lane is, near the Village Hall. Cllr Sutton has now reported back to DCC with photos and site info. Cllr Boothroyd will check where PDNPA/DDDC are at with the dog poo bin at The Willows and its emptying. PDNPA will carry out work to the ramp at Skew Bridge onto the trail over the winter.

Council Administration

Land registration: Solicitor is in the process of registering the fields, track and Builders' yard land.

Community website: PC meeting dates need updating on the website.

Two vacancies for Parish Councillors: The Clerk will put insert in next UTE.

Recruitment of new Parish Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer: The Clerk is working with the Chair over an advert via DALC (which other Derbyshire Parish Clerks will see), a job description, and handover file.

Financial matters

Balance of a/c's: RBS current £1,000, RBS deposit £21,339, Unity Trust £3,116. It was decided to move funds back across into the Unity account to allow for expenditure.

Two monthly report: Cllr Headington

went through the budget overview and forecasts for 2024-25. Funds for the allotment project are in the figures. There is a predicted £1,000 deficit by the end of the financial year. Reserves are required for unexpected external Village Hall costs.

Other matters: The mowing tender documentation will be looked at early in 2024, due to planned changes to the document and cost savings. Plans to replace the defibs in 2025 will be allowed for unless donations are made.

Annual Governance and Accountability external audit: PKF's completion notice is awaited, following further questions relating to the increased value put on the Village Hall.

Precept for 2024/25: A 5% increase to the precept was proposed (same as last year) for approval at the next meeting.

Other matters: Invoices have been sent out for allotment rents. The PC has paid back HMRC for duplicated VAT claim.

Planning

Applications: NP/DDD/0723/0875 and NP/DDD/0723/0875 (Listed Building consent) Shackerley House, Main St, Great Longstone. Erection of timber framed conservatory replacing existing conservatory. **No objections**

Decisions: NP/DDD/0722/0871 (Listed Building consent) Lower Stables at the Hall, Main Street, Great Longstone. Internal alterations, replacement door and additional roof lights. **Granted**

Living on land without planning permission being sought for occupation: Verbal requests had been made to the PC with regards to Sunnybank. As the Parish Council is not a planning authority, anyone with concerns must address the Peak District National Park Authority.

Police report

PCSO Boswell reported one crime of assault since the last meeting.

Dates of next meetings

7pm 24th January, 13th March, 22nd May (Annual Meetings), 8th November.

Contact Details

Sarah Stokes, Clerk to Great Longstone Parish Council, Longstone Byre, Little Longstone, Bakewell DE45 1NN. Tel: **01629 640851**. Email: parishcouncil@greatlongstone.org

Little Longstone Parish Notes

These are extracts from minutes of Parish Meetings in Little Longstone Chapel on 26th October and 4th December.

Attendance: Mr J Cotterill (Chair), Mr K Adamson, Mrs D Gregory (Trustee), Mrs E Lee, Mrs C Cotterill, Mrs J Gledhill and Mrs S Stokes (Parish Clerk). Apologies for absence received from Mrs C Burns, Mrs J Mantell (Trustee), Mr G Brooke, Mrs A Plowright, District Cllr K Boothroyd, Mr R Gregory, Ms A Gregory, and Mrs E Adamson.

Declarations of interest: The Chair declared an interest through his connection to Bakewell and Eyam Community Transport.

Financial matters

Clerk's expenses were £1,898, £1,674 for hours worked plus costs for records office, wheelie bin signs, printer repair and poppy wreath.

Xmas trees to be delivered week of 27th November with further miniature trees if required - the 6 in pots last year cost £25 each, but it looks like only two may be required this year.

Village maintenance costs will be £5,100 for 2024 (this year £4,948). Weedkilling is needed near the stocks.

Donations/funds/projects and subscriptions for 2023/24 will be considered at next full meeting, once DDDC give exact numbers on the electoral roll to determine S137 funds. Funds given in 2022/23 were Pre-School (S137) £600, Pre-School Chairs fund £400, UTE subscription £750, BE Community Transport subscription £1,000, LEAP subscription £850.

Additional savings account: The Chair is looking at a different account for the funds held by Mansfield Building Society, but there are very few accounts available for a Parish Meeting.

Other matters: Grit, gritting and snow ploughing costs were approved. It was decided to purchase 8 hi-vis 'Marshalls' Gilets', to replace light weight versions for parish events, similar to those bought by GL for £10 per Gilet in 2021. All audits for 2022-23 are complete.

Planning Applications: NP/DDD/1023/1169 Redundant building, Butts Rd, Little Longstone. Conversion of traditional building to form holiday accommodation. **No objections**

Child Aged 3 to 4 Years Old?

If you have a child born between 1st September 2019 and 31st August 2020, you need to apply for an infant/primary school place for them by midnight Monday 15th January, even if you have approached a school and maybe put their name down. Full information at derbyshire.gov.uk/admissions or from **01629 537479**.

NP/DDD/1023/1223 Listed building consent Dean Cottage, Bottom Hill Rd, Monsal Dale. Change solid timber T&G door for half glazed timber door. **No objections**

Monsal Dale. 4 Interpretation Boards, for special habitat and species in the dale, how to be safe around cows and activities which are not permitted. **No objections**

Planning Decision: NP/DDD/0223/0151 Monsal Head Hotel, Monsal Head. Reintroduction of hotel's northern restaurant entrance, refurbishment and change of use from former Stables bar to hotel rooms over existing two storeys, and addition of structure to form outdoor kitchen.

Granted

Monsal Head car park: The Chair reported that it was the plan to remove Jackie Mantell as Trustee of the 'open space' short term car park and add another at this meeting, but recent information from the DDDC Solicitor and our Solicitor meant the PM must wait until we can confirm if a DDDC Proper Officer should be a trustee and on documentation. A deed document awaits the final change of trustee.

Ice cream tenders: Members were pleased with the nice and bold advert in the Peak Advertiser. The sealed bid procedure for new licence from Jan '24-Dec '26 was discussed. The Solicitor had confirmed that the PM are not bound to accept the highest price or indeed any tender. The Clerk noted that for several previous ice cream licences, the PM looked at bids 'for the good of the parish.' The following criteria when opening the sealed bids were agreed: price, reputation, insurance and conflict, and to be for the good of the parish.

Ice cream sealed bids: Three requests for the tender document had been made and two sealed bids received. The Chair opened these in front of the members and trustees of the 'open space' (Monsal Head short term car park). Fredericks of Chesterfield submitted the higher bid. Hobbs Café attached a letter to their bid, stating their awareness of the lower amount, due to inside and outside maintenance jobs to be carried out on the café that they had taken over in 2023, and also stating that they would separately like to work with the parish on helping with funding for projects, through craft events, etc. Based on the criteria above, and noting that the site attracts about 110,000 visitors annually, all

present voted on a show of hands for Fredericks to be awarded the lease.

Car park lease with DDDC for Dec 23 - Dec 33 was approved by LLPM on 28th September. As with trustee document, the PM awaits information as to whom should be signing the lease. Due to the deadline of end of November 2023, it was resolved that the Chair and Vice Chair, who are also Trustees, be on the document, or the Chair (Trustee) and a representative from DDDC. The document is to be amended accordingly.

Toilets: These were closed in November due to lack of money in the bank, as the toilets had not made as much money over the summer. Cllr Gee (Bakewell) is now on the CIC toilet committee. Cutting opening hours and less cleaning are two options, as income is approx. £70 a week, expenses £700 a month. Former Cllr Clare Gamble has resigned and Kelda Boothroyd is having difficulty accessing the bank a/c as it is online. DDDC looking at installing payment gates and helping through the provision of cleaning supplies and utilities. Cllrs' aim is for the toilets to be run by the DDDC again. Volunteers were asked for help to collect, count and bank money, but it was resolved not to give any funds or help collect the money. The Clerk is to inform the Cllr that the toilets are not in the parish of Little Longstone and should be run by DDDC, as are those with similar visitor numbers in Baslow, where the car park funds go directly to the toilet upkeep. District Cllr Boothroyd is involved in the DDDC toilet working party which is looking at all the toilets in the district.

Monsal Dale/Viaduct: PM had met with Chatsworth Estates and Peak Park in Monsal Dale on 1st August. Chatsworth has installed photo posts, where visitors and locals can report changes through photos. Mr Adamson has organised people to photograph on a quarterly basis, as a record, looking at changes of views. PDNPA have volunteers cutting back the weir path in October; the fence next the weir is to be removed (but not the railing near the weir) as people were climbing over. Mr Adamson is trying to arrange a meeting with a senior PDNPA person to look at the trees below the viewpoint area. The aim is to keep the view open while encouraging nature. Ash die back was noted. PDNPA own the viaduct as part of the Monsal Trail. The meeting had been very effective, in looking at specific areas, with those who would

be doing the cutting back. Where trees grow in the river, it is helping to slow the flow of the water and flooding.

Well dressing: This went ahead in July, with the band event cancelled (no payment was made). The Chair stated that a platform over the troughs should be looked at to hold the heavy well boards, as the weight is an issue, offered his labour and will look into costs for materials. It was decided the Clerk should look at bands such as the Grumpah band, or other bands with 'humour' for 2024. The band should be a smaller group, in case poor weather dictates moving inside or under a temporary covered area.

Parking/speeding/streetlights: Dog poo just into lane adjacent to the GL border is a regular occurrence despite dog poo notices. Work has been carried out to the noticeboard, but the glass then collapsed and needed further repairs. It was decided to go ahead with a new oak noticeboard for £850. A new hand rail and post had been put in by PDNPA on the path leading up from The Packhorse. DCC/PDNPA and the landowner are looking at a path and fencing in the field adjacent the Monsal Trail, where there is a new gate, on the path leading towards LL. DCC/PDNPA are working on a new finger post sign at Monsal Head, which points in three directions. PDNPA are aware that the sign is still missing down on the trail, DCC have been asked to replace the faded 30mph signs in the village.

Parish Email: The external auditor requires the PM to have a separate email address prior to the next audit. The Clerk will set up this email early next year (possibly Kualo, used by GLPC), to cost about £71 a year plus set up costs.

Traveller Sites: DDDC are looking at a better system for accessing sites and looking at sites on the market. Progress is being made on the woodyard site between Cromford and Whatstanwell.

GL PARISH COUNCIL

Community Website
greatlongstone.net

Clubs and Organisations

Information and Contact Details

Village Hall

Information and Calendar

Parish Council

Information and Services

Agenda and Minutes

Facebook Page

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Great Longstone Community

Cressbrook Dale Owners Thumb Noses at Peak Park

Rachel Elnaugh and her group Phoenix Rose (Cressbrook Dale Estate Private Members Association) have so far completely ignored the Peak Park Authority's Planning Enforcement Notice that requires them to remove the unauthorised car park hardstanding, steps, path and teepee by 22nd August, and to reinstate the land by 22nd November. According to Jenny Caven of the *Save Cressbrook Dale* campaign, "not only is there no sign of any compliance, in fact the owners of the land are digging to expose foundations of a structure that they claim to have identified, and say that they hope to build a chapel on the site. They also claim to have plans to build an entrance to the land, and have blocked a path that has been used by walkers and members of the local community for many generations".

Discussing the plans for a chapel on the site, a member of Phoenix Rose told *Derbyshire Live* "We have already made a start on uncovering the foundations, which are grown over with brambles and are very distinctly different to the surrounding grassland. We're inviting everyone who feels inspired to come along and get involved. It's a great way for you to experience the magic of Cressbrook Dale as well as for us to get to know one another better. We'll then start the resurrection early next year, using natural materials from the land as far as possible."

Meanwhile, Rachel Elnaugh has written to Michael Gove (Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities) to complain in the strongest possible terms "about the unlawful, inappropriate and dispiriting actions of the PDNPA", claiming that they "have been bullied, intimidated and persecuted by them, driven by a local Hate Campaign organised by former employees of (or persons closely connected to) PDNPA. It is commonly spoken within the local area that the PDNPA is corrupt. That you only get planning permission if you either a) know someone on the 'inside', or b) are Aldi. The result is that the PDNPA has turned the Peak District into a Museum. What the Peak District truly needs is Visionary, Enterprising and Inspiring leadership - not an army of clipboard-bearing jobsworths touring the area in their electric vehicles looking for nits to pick."

The Old Slaughterhouse



This picture is copied from an old postcard I have in my possession. It was taken about 1915 at the bottom of Moor Road. The house belonged to a Mr Furness and it was demolished when the road to Monsal Head was widened, probably in the 1920s.

The building on the right was the village slaughterhouse. Animals were killed here to supply the local butchers with meat. It opened around 1900 and closed about 1970. It was then converted into a house.

When I was younger, this area was always known as Orr's Corner, as the Orr family had a farm just to the left of the picture. All the farm buildings have now been converted into houses.

Ian Cox

The Voice to Parliament - a Sorry Tale

John Spencer helped Brian Edwards edit UTE in its very early days, was its Chairman in 2002, and has contributed regularly ever since. He moved to New South Wales in 2003 from Great Longstone. Now 87, he spends most of his time in downtown Sydney.

Two hundred and twenty years ago, Britain declared that the Great Southern Land discovered by Captain Cook was to become a colony and part of the British Empire. No one asked the local aboriginal people for their opinion or sanction – it was simply assumed to be ours and aboriginal people were classified under flora and fauna, so it didn't really matter. The discovery of this ancient continent was ideal for cattle, sheep and grain of all sorts. To release these great opportunities, millions of acres were torched and burned to the ground, fertilised and became highly profitable for European-style farming. The earlier settlers were utterly ruthless and the pleas of local indigenous people were not only ignored, but seen as a challenge to progress, and for many years aborigines were annihilated, with their children removed from their homes and put into institutions.

Eventually, after much debate, aboriginal people were finally recognised as people and allowed to vote in elections. However, they were never included in the Australian constitution which, as the only genuine Australians, they considered both unfair and illegal. "After all," they pointed out, "they had been here over 80,000 years!" Predictably and reasonably, they recently requested that either a treaty or a special arrangement be made, enabling them to have a conduit to Parliament enabling them to put forward special indigenous questions for discussion and debate. Similar systems have already been agreed in all other Commonwealth countries where colonial systems had originally been. This proposed addition to the constitution was called 'A Voice to Parliament' and was formally put to the population in an election (with compulsory voting). There was much acrimonious debate and contentious arguing on the media and in parliament, but it was finally sadly, and tragically, rejected by nearly two-thirds of the population – a result confirming not only that the majority of non-indigenous residents are racist, but also confirming their descent from illegal colonial immigrants.

John Spencer



January Farming Notes

At the time of writing it is 11th December, and the days are feeling short and gloomy as we approach the winter solstice. I know I'm not alone in finding this time of year a bit of a challenge! The fields are extremely wet and muddy, off the back of the last week when we had about four inches of rain and two storms. The livestock and buildings have weathered the bad conditions but we have had some trees damaged by the weather, so after each storm there's a clear-up of the wood and debris that gets scattered around. The sheep are eating a mixture of grass and hay now, the hay giving them a good energy supply to get through the bad weather. We have had the occasional glorious frosty morning, which I have enjoyed immensely (taking lots of photos) and it makes all the mud and gloom disappear for a brief time, for which I am very thankful.

Winter jobs we have planned are to improve a few gateways between the fields. It is a gradual task, and we try and upgrade a few each year. Some we have made wider,

which helps with the tractor and farm machinery access, as some of the old gateways are only 8 to 10 foot wide whereas any new gateway we install will be 12 foot. We have the loan of a pneumatic post-knocker that is driven by the tractor - this has made life a lot easier to put in fence posts. In the past, we would do all the post holes by hand, which makes the job a lot slower and is more physically demanding. So with the use of some proper kit, we have been able to improve more of the farm's boundary fences. This summer and autumn, we have done around 400 metres of new fencing, two gateways and fenced off two new bale heaps. When we have some drier weather, it will be good to get some more done, but at the moment, it's too wet to work on the fields and we only take the tractor across the land when we absolutely have to! So as the year draws to a close, I find myself looking forward to better days and the slow transition towards spring again.

Joanna Shimwell





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Dear All,

I hope you have had a wonderful Christmas full of peace, joy and love, and I wish you a very Happy New Year. 2024 is upon us and perhaps, like me, you are wondering what the year ahead might look like. It will no doubt continue to be a tough time for many as we negotiate the continuation of winter and rising energy costs, but it always lifts me when I see how even in January the days are just that bit lighter and longer. 22nd December was the day the year turned, as it was officially the shortest day and the official beginning of astronomical winter. Things can only get brighter and hopefully warmer!

Now is the Season of Epiphany and following the visit of the Magi to the manger at the beginning of January, right through to the last days of the month when Jesus is presented at the Jewish Temple, as was the custom, we are very much celebrating Christ as the light that came into the world. In the words of St John, this light is a light no darkness can extinguish. Our service for the Presentation of Christ at the Temple is on Sunday 28th January when we welcome the Reverend Graham Piggot to lead us. A few days later it is Candlemas Day, exactly 40 days after the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ, when traditionally candles

were blessed on that day and candle-lit processions used to take place before church services. In fact, people used to consider Candlemas as a halfway point through winter while they waited for the spring. So hopefully the weather will be getting even better by then!

Early in the New Year, we are hoping to begin work on upgrading the sound system here at St Giles. It is now just over three years since the death of our much loved Professor John Tarn, organist and choirmaster at St Giles for more than 40 years. Apart from a highly enjoyable year when the excellent Stella Roberts played the organ for us, we have had to make do with recorded accompaniment for our congregational singing. There is a shortage of church organists, so this is a reality we have to live with. The sound system in St Giles was designed primarily for speech rather than music so it falls a long way short of replicating the wonderful rich sound of a church organ. Under John Tarn's guidance, music became a very important part of our worship. The inherent power of the sacraments is brought out even more by music as it reaches and expresses our deepest feelings far more powerfully than words alone. Enhancing the sound quality in our church will not only add to our worship experience, it will also benefit other occasions when music is

required, particularly weddings and funerals. St Giles has been blessed with the generous legacy that John Tarn left in his will and it is appropriate that some of it is spent on improving the sound of the music we experience in our church.

So we begin our New Year full of hope, with new things to look forward to, and as we travel through the month of January, let us remember how those famous three wise men looked up to the skies and trusted in the stars, without knowing exactly where they were going. With faith, they set out on a journey to look for Jesus. They had observed his star rising in the east. Each year, as we remember the visit of the Magi, we sing the chorus '*O star of wonder, star of night, star with royal beauty bright, westward leading, still proceeding, guide us to thy perfect light*'. So I pray that you may also be guided to the perfect light of all – God in Christ – the most perfect light!

With every blessing,

David Beale

Matlock Food Bank

If you would like to make a donation, did you know that there is a reception point in St. Giles at the back of the church? This is regularly sent to Matlock as the donations fill up.

Thank you to all who contribute to this much needed cause.

Richard Carter

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St. Giles' Churchwardens Contact Details

Richard Carter 01629 640155
richardcarter155@yahoo.co.uk

Frank Hammond 07935 873930
cubanheel26@btinternet.com

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**St. Giles Great Longstone
& Church of the Good
Shepherd, Wardlow**

Services in January

7th January - Epiphany

9am Eucharist (Wardlow)
11am Parish Eucharist (St. Giles)

14th January - Epiphany 2

11am Morning Worship (St. Giles)

21st January - Epiphany 3

9am Morning Worship (Wardlow)
11am Parish Eucharist (St. Giles)

**28th January - Presentation of
Christ in the Temple**

11am Parish Eucharist (St. Giles)

January in the Garden

Lawns: Continue aeration treatment. Repair turf if weather is favourable. Prepare top dressing for spring use.

Roses: Continue planting in favourable conditions. Firm in bushes loosened by wind. Prepare ground for new planting in February and March.

Herbaceous plants: Cut dead tops off non-shrubby plants from borders. Fork over surface of soil between plants. Apply organic mulch.

Dahlias: Examine stored tubers. Cut away rotted portions of tubers and dust with flowers of sulphur.

Chrysanthemums: Under glass, take cuttings of large exhibition varieties. Control aphids.

Sweet peas: Dress beds prepared for planting with hydrated lime. Under glass, sow seeds in gentle heat.

Trees and shrubs: Winter prune wisterias. Cut back young shoots within three inches of old wood. Thin out dead and diseased branches from established trees and shrubs.

Fruit: Inspect stored fruit, discarding any rotted and diseased fruit. Continue pruning. Burn prunings. Check stakes and ties. Continue spraying with winter wash. Take gooseberry and blackcurrant cuttings.

Vegetables: Plant rhubarb and spread strawy manure over each plant. Cover established crowns similarly. Cover plants with boxes to encourage early growth.

General tasks: Order seeds, onion sets, gladioli, garden sundries, weedkillers and fertilisers. Send mowers, shears and cultivators for sharpening and servicing.



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Rosie Glass' Cracking Chestnut Soup

'Chestnuts roasting on an open fire' goes *The Christmas Song*, written in the blistering summer of 1945 'to stay cool by thinking cool', and this delicious and hearty soup from Rosie Glass perfectly evokes the Christmas spirit. Peeling chestnuts used to

Serves 4

225g peeled chestnuts

1 carrot

1 onion

1 stick celery

2 ham stock cubes

1 tbsp white miso paste

1½ pints water

For the croutons:

110g stale white bread

4 tbsp olive oil

1 rasher bacon

½ tsp thyme

be a fiddly business, but these days you can get vacuum-packed peeled chestnuts all year round (Rosie gets hers at the Grape Tree in Bakewell).

The soup itself couldn't be simpler to make. Chop the celery, onion and carrot and put all the ingredients in a saucepan. Season with pepper and salt, bring to the boil and simmer gently for 45 minutes before blending to a smooth puree consistency.

Meanwhile make the croutons - finely chop the bacon and remove crusts from the bread before cutting into cubes. Heat the oil and bacon in a pan on a medium heat for five minutes, then turn the heat up and add the bread and thyme. Toss the cubes around, constantly moving them until they are a deep golden brown and very crisp. Remove them with a slotted spoon and drain on kitchen paper towels.

To serve, pour the soup into bowls (you can optionally add a dollop of creme fraiche on top) and sprinkle a few croutons on each bowl.



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Tuesdays - Art Group, GL Village Hall 1.30-3.30pm

Thursdays - Knit and Natter, GL Village Hall 1.30pm

Fridays - Whist Group, GL Village Hall 7pm, £2.50

4th January - WI New Year Lunch, The Crispin 12 noon (page 7)

14th January - BASH, *The Great Escaper*, Medway Centre, 7.30pm (page 5)

16th January - Longstone Local History Group talk, GL Village Hall 7.45pm (page 2)

17th January - *Stately Gardens of Britain* talk, Thornbridge Hall, 11am £15 (with Cream Tea)

17th January - Longstone Area Sports Association meeting, Village Hall 7pm (page 7)

24th January - GL Parish Council Meeting, GL Village Hall 7pm (page 9)

30th January - Peak District History talk, Thornbridge Hall, 11am £15 (with Cream Tea)

31st January - LEAP Book Swap Café, GL Village Hall 2-4pm

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Recreation ground, on the Cricket Club tea hut.

Little Longstone

Main Street, in telephone box opposite the Packhorse Inn.

Longstone Business Park

At entrance, next to barrier, on Tilly Studios building.

Thornbridge Hall (10am-4pm)

At Quackers café and by Carriage House, accessible from Monsal Trail.

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Baslow Health Centre

www.baslowhealthcentre.co.uk

For consultations and medical advice, please contact the surgery. A GP or Nurse will call you back to discuss your concerns and if necessary arrange to see you in person. Please collect prescriptions from Reception (allow three working days) and leave samples from 9am to 6pm.

Normal Surgery Opening Times:

Mon- Fri 8am - 6.30pm

Closed: Bank Holidays and afternoon of Wed 10th January

Phones: Mon-Fri 8am - 6.30pm

Telephone Numbers:

Reception 01246 582216

District Nursing Team 01332 564900

Health Visitor 01246 515100

Please ring for test results after 2.30pm as we do not get results until lunchtime.

For Urgent Calls when the surgery is closed, phone 111

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Let it Snow! Let it Snow! Let it Snow!...



This perfect Christmas photo was taken by Joanna Shimwell on Sunday 3rd December - sadly the next day the snow all melted...

A Note From The Editor

Thank you to everyone who submits material for publication and especially our regular contributors. Enquiries and submissions should be sent to:

editor@undertheedge.net

Please include your name and contact details. Copy deadline for small notices or changes in the next issue is **10am** on:

Thursday 18th January

Please submit larger items, or give notice of the space you need, by the previous Sunday if at all possible. Photos should preferably be at least 1MB (1500x1500 pixels) and in colour. Printed photos should be scanned at 300 or 600 dpi. We can scan material if you do not have access to a scanner.

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

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Correspondence address for those without access to email:

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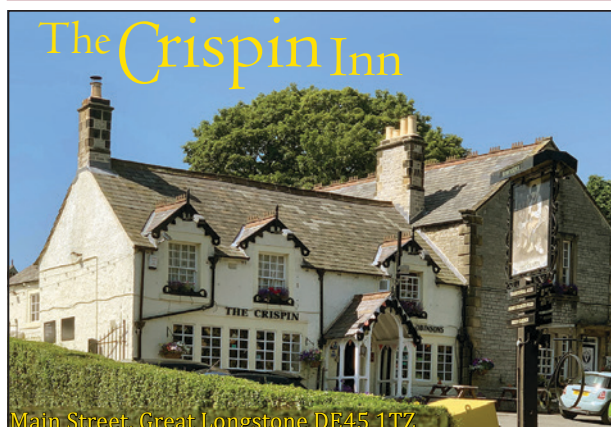
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