
UNDER THE EDGE

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

www.undertheedge.net

No. 332 September 2026

ISSN 1466-8211

Close but No Cigar



Maximum obscuration during the eclipse, with 91% coverage at 7.12pm, viewed from a garden in Great Longstone



These photos were taken right at the eclipses's start at 6.12pm, then 6.53pm, 7.27pm and lastly 7.50pm, 20 minutes before its end

The last time a total solar eclipse was viewable in the UK was on 11th August 1999 in Cornwall and South Devon, when the clouds parted for the lucky few at the critical moment, and the next one will not occur for 64 years, on 23rd September 2090. This year's eclipse, on 12th August, is the best of the rest by a long way, with 96% totality over Cornwall – the next best was in 2015, at only 80% totality. Thanks to the relentless sunny weather we've been having, viewing conditions were near perfect. However, although it did indeed get darker, because our eyes are so good at adjusting to lower light levels, a partial eclipse will always lack the high drama of a total one.

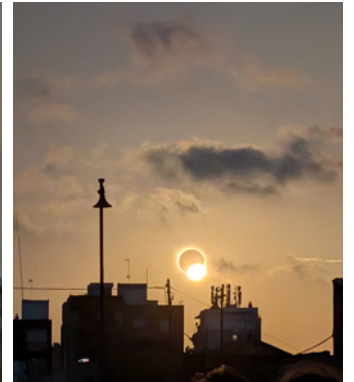
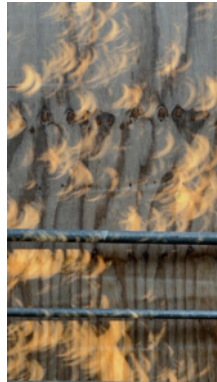
Longstone Gripped by Eclipse Fever



A huge crowd gathered at Monsal Head for the auspicious event



Eclipse viewing at Thornbridge - it's behind you! – Jim Harrison told Emma she needed a colander and she believed him...



Barney's reaction to the eclipse – Eclipse sun passing through trees onto fence – Jonathan Knight's photos from Valencia

Thanks to those little entrepreneurs, Emily and Sophie Morris, anyone who wanted to could view the sun safely through their glasses. Their father Allen had told them last year about his excitement over the 2015 partial eclipse, and how another one was coming up in 2026. Spotting a great business opportunity, they got him to order 500 pairs straight away. They sold out just a few days before the big event, netting themselves just under £400. Well done, girls! What will you think of next?

Birds did indeed go silent as the darkness increased, and Judith Ward's dog, Barney, was convinced the end of the world was nigh, lifting his head to the sky in a desperate (and ultimately, from his point of view, successful) howl, to prevail on the moon to stop devouring the sun.

Some went further afield to enhance their experience – Jonathan Knight went to Valencia with friends to see the eclipse in its totality. He was in no doubt that it was worth the effort:

'Although they had seen a few over the years and around the world, it was my first. I was looking forward to it, but I was still surprised by the beauty and otherworldliness of the event.'

On the beach with thousands of others, as the sky slowly darkened and the temp dropped, totality was reached quite suddenly in the end and, oddly, I thought, met with cheers and applause. In our funky glasses, we could clearly see the jewelled corona and red solar flares in a night sky during the day. Stunning, weird and wonderful.

There is another eclipse coming along next year – I would highly recommend trying to experience it!

September Gardening Notes



A year ago, I was writing how dry and warm it was, but this year, it has been hotter and even drier – the ground is like concrete. The borders have suffered, so a lot of the plants are wilting and I am just trimming the dead growth out. I am undertaking a little project outside our rear kitchen door, which is full of perennials. I am going to remove the plants I want to keep, and then I will dig over the plot and incorporate lots of compost and grit. I will then plant it up with herbs such as parsley, basil and chives, and salad crops such as lettuce, radishes, spring onions, beetroot and courgettes. The tomatoes have been very good – the best ones being Tumbling Tom, Sungold and Moneymaker. They should last till the end of the month, when I will clear them all out and take the opportunity to give the greenhouse a good clean. It's also been a good year for the cacti and succulents – they

have flowered well and grown quite a bit, so I have potted a good number into larger pots. The containers have provided a real show (*see photo*) and deadheading will keep them flowering right into autumn.

The allotment has been a challenge with the water supply drying up, but nevertheless we have had a good amount of produce. Potatoes, beetroot, onions and cabbage have been smaller than usual, but probably to be expected with the conditions. The sweetcorn has been exceptional and obviously thrives in hot weather, as long as they are well watered in the early stages. The courgettes have also been prolific. It was the annual horticultural show on 22nd August, so I hope you entered, even if only for one category. Entry forms are always available each year at the shop or at Cox's milk parlour, as well as in UTE, **Andy Hanna**

MATHEMATICS TUITION

PGCE Qualified,
Registered Teacher with
years of experience.
Year 2 to 11 any level and adults

**Individual Schemes
of Work Employed**

Phone **07803 127337**
Email: lindacmason@hotmail.com





Bruno Cardona
Chimney Sweep

07849455794

 Bcardona1977@gmail.com 

G L MOTORS

SPECIALISTS IN
VW-AUDI-SEAT-SKODA-CUPRA
Servicing and repairs on
all makes of vehicles

**FOR FAST, FRIENDLY &
RELIABLE SERVICE**

Ring Steve or Oli
☎ 01629 640086

**Top Yard Garage, Main Street,
Great Longstone**

Handsome Hound



Father Lionel took this photo of Vanity (pictured with Jenny), who recently won the Handsomest Hound class at the Baslow Classic Car and Dog Show. Well done, Vanity!

We are looking forward to seeing you again at our Harvest Festival with Pets at 10.30am on Sunday 4th October in St Giles, and afterwards for doggie treats and a 'bring and share' lunch in the Village Hall. All your friendly canine and feline friends are welcome. **Alison Waltho**

St Giles' Church, Great Longstone



Harvest Festival with our pets

followed by a 'bring and share' lunch in the Village Hall

St Francis of Assisi
died 3rd October 1226



Sunday 4th October
at 10.30am



All very welcome especially pets with their owners!

Harvest gifts: Food donations for the Matlock Food Bank, and cash donations to Homelessness Sunday appeal



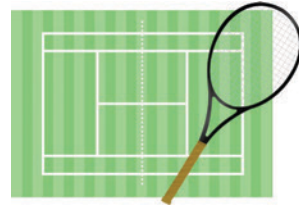
John Broomhead RIP

John Broomhead, long-term resident of Moorview, Grisedale Road, Great Longstone, died at Ashcroft Nursing Home, Chesterfield on 27th July. He was 95 years old, and he worked for Furness and Hassall in the office.

His funeral will be on 8th September at 9.45am in the Chesterfield Crematorium. All are welcome.

Peter and Renee Burns

Broken Glass on Tennis Court



What a fantastic summer we have had, and it has been great to see so many people enjoy the court this year for a variety of sports.

One real concern, that has been mentioned by a users over the last few weeks, is having to pick up broken glass from areas of the court. This does not appear to be a single incident.

This is notice of a ban on any glass items, in particular glass bottles or drinking glasses, being taken onto the court surface. Make sure your hydration bottles are not glass.

Given the numbers of children who use this facility, then the consequences of falling on broken glass or them picking it up must worry parents. This is also a reminder that all children should be supervised on the court, and that it is the parents' responsibility to check that the court is safe before their use.

In the interests of everyone's safety, please can you all make sure that all users are fully aware.

Thank you,

GLPC and LASRA Trustees

Harvest Festival and Pet Service

God finds us in our created world – celebrating St Francis' life of simplicity, kinship and compassion, 800 years after his death.

Please join us again this year with your furry, hairy, scaled, clawed (or horned!) beloved pet to take part in our harvest celebration. Everyone is welcome – we warmly invite farmers, residents, visitors, and allotment gardeners, with or without pets, for a short service of thanksgiving followed by a 'Bring and Share' meal in the Village Hall, hosted by St Giles and friends.

If you would like to, please bring to church – any time before 4th October – pictures, postcards, poems and stories sharing your experience of wonder for our created world, and maybe concerns and challenges we face, especially in producing and distributing food and our fragile environment. You might like to share fond memories of a beloved pet companion, also to be included in our prayers.

The harvest loaf will be kindly provided by Heather and Will Turner. Pot luck contributions for shared lunch are welcomed – doggie treats too! Non-perishable donations to Matlock Food Bank are always warmly received, as are cash donations toward Housing Justice at housingjustice.org.uk/donate-or-get-involved/homelessness-sunday. There is more information about the life of St Francis, and celebrations for the inspiration he brought, at spiritoffrancis.com/feast-of-francis.

Alison Waltho



Independent Adult Care Consultancy

**Clear guidance.
Expert support.**
Every step of the way

When you or someone you love needs support it can be difficult to know where to begin. At **Clear Steps Social Work**, I provide expert, compassionate guidance to help you navigate health and social care, identify funding, understand your options, and make informed decisions with confidence.



Nicola Robertson

BA (Hons), DipSW

Founder & Principle Adult Care

Consultant

Regulated by Social Work England



COMPREHENSIVE ADULT NEEDS ASSESSMENTS, REVIEWS & CARE PLANNING



NHS CONTINUING HEALTHCARE (CHC) SUPPORT



WELFARE & FUNDING SUPPORT, APPLICATIONS & APPEALS



SUPPORT TO FIND THE RIGHT CARE AT HOME / IDENTIFY A CQC APPROVED CARE HOME



ONGOING 1:1 SOCIAL WORK SUPPORT, CARE NAVIGATION & CONSULTANCY



HOSPITAL DISCHARGE & SUPPORT TO TRANSITION HOME



HEALTH & PROFESSIONAL COORDINATION, REFERRAL & MULTI-AGENCY LIAISON



SPECIALIST MENTAL CAPACITY ASSESSMENTS, BEST INTEREST DECISIONS & COURT REPORTS.



Based in Little Longstone, Bakewell. Serving Derbyshire, the Peak District and surrounding areas.
Supporting local families.



FREE initial telephone consultation 07717748247
nicola@clearstepssocialwork.co.uk
www.clearstepssocialwork.co.uk

“With over 30 years' experience in adult social work, I offer a compassionate, personalised service tailored to each individual's circumstances.”

Dawn Jepson

Independent Occupational Therapist & Care Provider

HPC Registered | RCOT Member | Fully Insured

Covering Derbyshire Dales & Surrounding Areas

Are you or a loved one looking for support to maintain independence at home

I provide compassionate care and therapeutic support, tailored to your needs for as long as required.

SERVICES

- Personal Care
- Meal Preparation
- Medication Prompts
- Companionship

SUPPORT

- Shopping & Trips Out
- Light Household Tasks
- Pressure Care

SPECIALIST

- Rehab & Therapy to improve independence
- Moving & Handling Training
- Aids and Adaptation Advice



07949 191382



Dawn Jepson - Occupational Therapist & Care Provider



dawn.jepson68@yahoo.com

Young Chums and Summer Hols



Join our Tread Softly group any Wednesday, at 10am from St Giles' Lychgate, for a gentle stroll, coffee and chat. Food for the soul – everyone welcome!

Alison Waltho

Did you know...



...that batology has nothing to do with bats, in the belfry or otherwise (except humorously)? It is the study of blackberries! The word derives from the ancient Greek word for bramble – βάτος.

And the study of bats? That's chiropterology (derived from χείρ - hand and πτερυξ - wing).



Plumbing and Heating Services Ltd

Tel: 01298 872278

Mobile: 07831 242826

apwheatingltd@gmail.com



Michael P. Harrison
Plumbing & Heating



GAS Safe Register:
302463



Telephone: 01629 812940

Mobile: 07850 371386

18 Woodside Close,
Bakewell DE45 1AY



The Packhorse Inn Little Longstone

Excellent hand-pulled ales and seasonal, monthly à la carte menu

Mon-Tues Closed

Wed-Fri 5-11 (food 5-8.30)

Sat 12-11 (food 12-8.45)

Sun 12-10 (food 12-7.45)

Outside casual dining with table service throughout the pub and covered pergola at rear

Check website or Facebook for latest details and to book a table

packhorselongstone.co.uk

☎ 01629 640471



Five members enjoyed an outing to Cromford Mill, looking at how the water that powered Arkwright's Mill is now applied by modern technology to generate electricity for the building. Unfortunately, none of it is working at the moment because of low water levels. After that, we went to the visitor centre to learn about Arkwright, which was interesting and well worth a visit, followed by cake and a cup of tea.

Our next meeting is on Wednesday 2nd September in the Village Hall at 7.30, when Janice Mather will speak on British Sign Language. Teas will be provided by Valerie Mordin and Zoe McGregor, and the Mystery Parcel by Siobhan Gallagher. **Zoe McGregor**



Bakewell Photo Club Exhibition

Bakewell Photo Club's exhibition at Bakewell's Medway Centre from 9th-15th August was a resounding success. With 130 mounted prints on display and hundreds more on a digital slideshow, we managed to capture the attention of many visitors and locals alike. We asked visitors to choose their three favourite prints and received more than 1,000 votes, exceeding our expectations by some distance, with many visitors telling us how difficult they found it to decide.

One of the objectives of the exhibition was, of course, to try and attract new members to the club, and we're still very keen for any locals with an interest in photography to come along, try us out and see what we get up to. Our next season starts on Monday 7th September, full program on our website. We meet every couple of weeks in Bakewell, more detail on the attached flyer.

Richard Gosney



Entries with local interest: *Longstone Charolais – Path to Longstone Mounted Games, Chatsworth Country Fair*



Bakewell Photo Club

Whether you use a phone, a DSLR or anything in between, the Club provides a friendly and supportive community for sharing images and learning from others, whether they be experienced speakers or fellow club members. We do this through our programme of talks, practical workshops, competitions and field trips, details of which can be found on our website. We are very keen to attract new members: our meetings are open to guests to attend for a small fee which is deductible from the annual subscription should they decide to join.

Bakewell Photographic Club is affiliated to the Photographic Alliance of Great Britain through the North & East Midlands Photographic Federation

Meetings

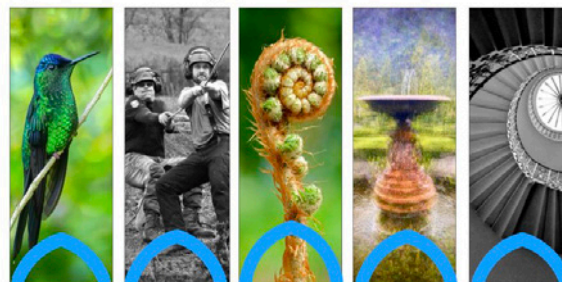
Our season runs from September to April. We generally meet in the Friends Meeting House, Chapel Lane, Bakewell, DE45 1EL fortnightly on Monday evenings. We also organise a number of field trips in the local area.

Contact Us

Speak to one of our members at the Exhibition or message us via our website.

Website: Click on the QR code or go to <https://www.bakewellphotographic.co.uk/>

Facebook: Search for Bakewell Photo Club or go to <https://www.facebook.com/groups/250502696794069>



bakewellphotoclub


HASSOP FAMILY FARM
Simply Milk Organic
 PEAK DISTRICT
CHOOSE BETTER... CHOOSE ORGANIC





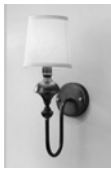
• Organic • Sustainable • Traceable
 Pasteurised Organic Milk / Milkshakes/ Raw Organic Milk /
 Organic Eggs/ Coffee Machine/ Potatoes/Gelato Ice Cream/
 Organic Cheese & Butter & much more.

Open Everyday 8.30am-7pm
 Hassop, Bakewell, DE451NU
 HASSOP_FAMILY_FARM
 WWW.HASSOPSIMPLYMILK.COM




WYEGARTH ELECTRICAL SERVICES
For All Your Electrical Needs

Full Rewires
Extra Lights/Sockets
Garden Lighting
Electrical Problems?



Call for your
FREE estimate
today

Serving the local community for over 30 years
 For a reliable, friendly service
 Office: 01629 814085
 Mobile: 07971 786258
 Email: wyegarthelectrical@gmail.com
 Join us on Facebook

 DOMESTIC INSTALLERS


The Merchant's Yard

 Restaurant & Rooms


Open Wednesday - Sunday
 from 12pm

3-course seasonal special
 À la carte dining
 Light lunches
 Afternoon tea
 Sunday menu

The Merchant's Yard,
 St John's Road, Tideswell,
 SK17 8NY

 **01298 872442**
www.themerchantyard.com

LASRA Day Number 3



What a fantastic afternoon – a wonderful turnout with loads of involvement across all ages. Thank you to the team of people who put together the LASRA Day and supported it throughout. As in previous years, there was plenty going on, including a great 7-a-side football tournament for under-15s. Four teams took part: Baslow Battlers, Buxton Young Bucks, Bradwell FC, and Sheffield Utd Junior Blades, with Rick Gooch's Baslow Battlers (*photo below*) triumphing and taking home the LASRA Trophy.

Pickleball and badminton were a hit; perhaps we organise a tournament for these sports next year? We might need to find more time for both bowls and croquet too – they were well attended, and it would be great to see more of them during the summer. We moved the All Stars and Dynamos cricket weekly session to fit in with the timetable, and it was another great display of how our young cricketers are progressing.

This year, we changed the cricket set-up. Instead of having the bowling machine out, we pitted mixed groups of young and slightly older players against each other in Dave's 'organic' cricket tournament. No one knows who won - because it didn't matter. It was great to watch and looked fun to play. Well done to everyone who took part.

We had a brilliant finale with the slow bike race, which drew a crowd to watch two competitive lads up against each other. If they hadn't tried to knock each other off their stride, we might have been there for hours, as they showed excellent bike-handling skills. It was a great laugh and rounded off an afternoon of many sports, including our first tennis session. This was led by Pete, a tennis coach, who did a great job encouraging children to improve their racquet skills.

I feel really proud of what the Longstone area has achieved in just three short years. This is a great example of how our community is growing and how many people are getting involved. If anyone wants to see another sport start up or wants to get another group together – for example, to play croquet – please send any ideas to info@lasra.uk. Thank you again to everyone who helped and everyone who came along for some fun.

Mike Meurer, LASRA Chair



Karlos Kollektive Summer Gig



The Karlos Kollektive Summer Gig took place to round off the fantastic Village Week celebrations. With full band songs ranging from Status Quo, the Beatles and Dolly Parton to indie rock classics from the Arctic Monkeys, and even a whole-crowd chant of the Indian/rock songs of Kula Shaker, alongside Karl's original songs, there was plenty to get the crowd bouncing and they did not disappoint. However, the highlight as always was the special guests who appeared with Karl.

Firstly, the incredible Mollie and Lulu (Lulu performing for the first time, having only started guitar lessons last year) gave us an Arctic Monkeys blast, then Mollie stepped up to perform solo lead guitar on another Arctic Monkeys song. This was followed by our long-time collaborator, Sam Youdan, who, as always, brought the energy and fun as well as brilliant harmony singing with Karl.

Last but not least, there was the amazing Charlotte, who had travelled all the way from North Yorkshire to perform vocals in front of an audience for the first time. Even more amazing was her rendition of a song she had written herself. There wasn't a dry eye in the house, and the rapturous ovation was fully deserved.

A mention must go to Little P (my mum, Pauline Harrison), whose endless support, door management, promotion and of course decorating I appreciate so so much. And finally, a special mention must go to the amazing Rachel Youdan and her daughter Kitty behind the bar. It's not only that the gig couldn't function without them, but for me, having two people whose personalities, hearts and souls shine so bright, serving everybody, is the essence of what I always want these gatherings to be about.

I am forever grateful to you all and to everybody who came, and also Jane Littlefield for letting us use the facility and LEAP's card machine. So, much love to you all, and see you at Christmas (and maybe in the autumn as well!).

Karl Harrison

WhatsApp Group

Scan this QR code on a phone or tablet to join the Longstone Community WhatsApp group (see UTE June 2026)



Our friendly team at THORNHILL HOUSE

requires a

Weekend Cook

20-30 hours per week vacancy

We are a small nursing home with high standards of care, ensuring the best quality of life for our residents

For an informal chat or further information, call Fai on 01629 640034 or email administrator@thornhillhouse.org.uk

Cundy Electrical Ltd

NAPIT Approved Electrical Contractor

ALL ELECTRICAL WORK UNDERTAKEN - REPAIRS, REWIRING & INSTALLATIONS

FREE QUOTES

EV Chargers

Solar PV

Testing, Inspections & Certificates

Friendly, Affordable &

Trustworthy Service

☎ Duncan - 07980 978530

duncuncundy74@yahoo.co.uk



**The White Lion
Great Longstone**



**Good Food, Good Drinks
and a Warm Welcome
from Stella**

Now Open All Week

Food 12-8.30pm Mon-Sat, 12-5pm Sun

Rear Beer Garden & Car Park

Child Friendly, Accessible Toilets

Dog Friendly in Main Bar

**☎ 01629 640252
[@whiteliongreatlongstone](https://www.whiteliongreatlongstone.co.uk)**

**INDEPENDENT
ANTIQUE & FINE ART
AUCTIONEER & VALUER**

- Make more when selling your antiques
- Save on your professional insurance and probate valuations
- Single items to complete contents undertaken

M Vivienne Millburn
IRCS
INDEPENDENT ANTIQUES VALUER & AUCTIONEER

Main St, Great Longstone, Bakewell, Derbyshire, DE45 1TA
Tel: 01629 640210 Mob: 07870 238788
www.vivienmilburn.co.uk

spear financial ltd
nurture grow & protect

*Life's about making the
right choices*

• Investments • Pensions • Protection

Broome's Barns, Pilsley Lane, Pilsley, Derbyshire, DE45 1PF
Tel. 01246 582242. Email: info@spearfinancial.co.uk
www.spearfinancial.co.uk

Spear Financial Limited is authorised and regulated by the
Financial Conduct Authority

New Road is Dead - Long Live The Mires!



The road leading out of Great Longstone to the A6020 has always been known as New Road, ever since its construction in 1860 (*UTE November 2025*), although no signs were ever put up to indicate this, presumably since there were no houses along it, unlike New Road in Ashford-in-the-Water, which does have houses.

A few weeks ago, signs appeared at either end of the road, near its junctions with Longreave Lane and Mires Lane, proclaiming it to be The Mires! The Ordnance Survey map of 1840 shows The Mires continuing a short way past Mires Lane to a couple of houses, so New Road just being an extension of The Mires does make sense.

But why did these signs suddenly appear? The Parish Council had not requested them, and as the Clerk, Simon Headington, points out, a better name would have been Townend Road (which appears in some old records), which would mirror Townhead, as the area at the junction of Moor Road and Main Street was once called, or even Longstone Hole Bridge Road. The Willows woodland (once the sewage works) would then have had a different address to The Willows house at the bottom of the village.

It turns out that in 2022, a resident of one of those houses, just past the Mires Lane junction, asked Derbyshire Dales District Council to put up signage, after many frustrating issues with delivery drivers being unable to find their address. Due process was followed, and the signs (along with several others) have been sitting in a yard since 2024, following a change of personnel at the council, waiting for checks on the siting of underground cabling and other utilities before installation.

Bring Your Idea to Life!

Got an idea to bring people together? We'd love to help you make it happen. If you've ever thought, 'I'd love to do something, but I don't know where to start' – this is your chance. Let's make it happen together!

Derbyshire Dales CVS *Social Connectedness Community Kickstart* offers up to £200 to support volunteer-led activities that reduce loneliness and isolation in the Derbyshire Dales. Whether it's a coffee morning, a craft group, a community event, or something completely new – this is your chance to give it a go!

Who Can Apply?

- New ideas from individuals, friends, neighbours, or small teams – no bank account needed!
- Existing small community groups – we also welcome applications from more formal groups, with constitutions, bank accounts, already doing great things - you can apply too.

Your idea doesn't have to be big – just something that helps people connect and feel less lonely. To find out more, visit our website ddcvs.org.uk or contact us by email enquiries@ddcvs.org.uk or telephone 01629 812154.

Amanda Dolan

Open Day – Thornhill House at The Grange

As many of you will know, the much-loved Thornhill House in Great Longstone is planning a move to The Grange in 2028. As we get underway with the project, we are hosting a drop-in Open Day for the local community on Saturday 3rd October from 2-4pm.

This will be an opportunity to visit The Grange, Station Road, Great Longstone DE45 1TS and view the plans for Thornhill House at The Grange. You'll be able to ask questions about the move, hear about the impact on the local community and learn how to get involved. All are welcome. Parking is available though is limited, so please do share cars or arrive on foot as necessary.

For any queries, please contact Amy Stevens on fundraising@thornhillhouse.org.uk.

Lucy Wright

An evening of Lowry's Lamps

Wednesday 7th October at 7pm in Ashford Church

Join us for an evening with local author Richard Mayson to enjoy a presentation on the life and works of L.S. Lowry. Tickets are £10, available through the Thornhill House website thornhillhouse.org.uk from Friday 21st August.

The evening also presents an opportunity to hear more about the future for Thornhill House in Great Longstone, as they plan to relocate to The Grange in the near future. All proceeds from the event will go to the Thornhill House project.

Sarah Winkworth-Smith



Art Group in the Village Hall

Autumn is nearly here and with it comes new opportunities to indulge your creative inner self. You never know, it could be a long winter, which you could fill with colour.

Art. Fancy having a go? Drawing, painting, pictures, patterns. It doesn't matter if you've never done it since you were at school, or perhaps did years ago but haven't had the time to continue. We're a friendly bunch of mixed-ability

drawers and painters, and meet on Tuesdays from 1.30-3.30pm in the Village Hall. To start, you don't even need to bring paints with you, as we've all sorts of mediums you can try. Our autumn term starts on 1st September, but you can come along any Tuesday. If you want to know more, then contact me on **07970 561869** or email me at **woollensu@gmail.com**. **Su Woollen**

Great Longstone Plant Portraits in *Art in the Gardens* Exhibition, Sheffield



It all started in Great Longstone Village Hall in January 2025, when I joined Sue's lovely art class on a Tuesday afternoon. We would sit at our tables in a circle, quietly put the world to rights, and create whatever art we felt like creating. Sue guided us gently, on request. I started with a Snowdrop...

I had a mission I wasn't sure I could do: to illustrate a set of *Unsung Botanical Heroes* plant cards, for a book I've been writing for a very, very long time! I have three growing tomes of notes but still no book. I felt drawing the plants might help the book along its way, and give it an extra dimension. I had had no art tuition since GCSE, an incredibly long time ago! Let the challenge begin...



I worked largely with donated materials (hard times), which helped me explore fresh perspectives. I found artists keen to give away oil pastels, so that's what I used. I'm still not sure why most artists hate oil pastels. I love them – big, bright, messy, a chance to really study and break down the colours that make up what I see in bold detail. Sue donated a roll of black sugar paper – a perfect background for my Irlen's Syndrome (I hate white paper – so painful!). And a way to go!

As a practising Medical Herbalist, who leads guided walks around the Peak District, I teach people about our amazing

local plants – their gifts, medicine, history and folklore. I fully confess to being a tad obsessed with my plant colleagues. I decided to draw a plant a week, and hoped that by sheer volume of portraiting, my artwork would improve!

In November 2025, three of us from Sue's art class embarked on a mini-adventure – a three-day 'botanical illustration' course at Sheffield Botanical Gardens with Jennie Hinton. It was inspirational for me to learn some basic and easily applied techniques, which took a lot of the doubt and guesswork out of the practical side of drawing plants. Jennie was happy for me to apply her techniques straight to my project, in my own way, encouraging my 'unique style'.

It is very important to me to try to get the personality and essence of each plant to shine out from every portrait. I chose my models increasingly carefully, asking each plant for permission to come and model for me, and pledging, on my part, to do my utmost to create something beautiful, enduring, and educational from the chosen plant's generous donation to my cause. The only plant I feel I failed to fulfill this pledge to so far is Hop. Its powerful sleep medicine sent Sue's whole art group into a strange unproductive lethargy, and I fell asleep each time I tried to finish it at home! Sadly, the Hop model withered and faded before its portrait was complete.



So, I now have 32 plant portraits towards my card deck – not quite one a week, and not quite the finished deck, but good progress. I have also been invited to exhibit six of my *Unsung Botanical Hero* portraits, at this year's *Art in the Garden* exhibition in Sheffield Botanical Gardens, on 5th-6th September. Jennie and I will both be there, and Pepper too, of course. Tickets are available online from share.google/FIscLHi26uFQkmvh1. We hope to see you there!

And if anyone is interested in trying their hand at botanical illustration, or honing their skills, Jennie's next botanical art course starts in September. For details, please contact Jennie Hinton on info@jenniehinton.co.uk and at sbg.org.uk/courses.

To book a guided **Wild Herb Discovery Walk**, please contact me on **07702 209869** or email me at hopevalleyherbs@icloud.com. **Anna Dutch**

Coffee Concerts at All Saints Bakewell

An autumn/winter series of Saturday morning coffee concerts has been arranged to take place at All Saints parish church, Bakewell. As usual, coffee and biscuits will be served from 10.30am with the concert starting at 11.15am.

The first will be on Saturday 19th September, when Gillian Bithel and Beate Toyke will entertain with piano duets. Their repertoire will include pieces from Dvorak, Mozart, Piazzola, Moszkowski and others.

On 24th October, the Wensley Ensemble will make a

welcome return, and on 21st November, All Saints will be delighted to welcome Wyns Tor singers for their first visit. Finally, on 19th December, the ever-popular Bel Canto choir will perform a seasonal repertoire amongst the trees during the annual Christmas Tree Festival.

Entry to the coffee concerts is free, with any donations given by way of retiring collection going towards the ongoing upkeep of the church.

Dot Bushen

New Peak Music Season



After the long hot summer break, Peak Music Society are about to embark on another season of varied world-class music at the Cavendish Hall, Edensor. Once again, there will be six concerts throughout the coming autumn and into spring 2027, showcasing talent from the UK and beyond. Entrance to all the concerts is included in the annual membership, which has been kept at £90 for yet another year. Tickets for individual concerts are also available from £25.

The season begins on Wednesday 30th September with a performance by the celebrated flautist Klio Blonz and harpist Gabriella Dall'Olio. Both musicians have a wealth

of international experience as soloists and with major orchestras and chamber groups. Klio, who began her musical studies in Greece, is also a dedicated teacher and is particularly active in bringing music into communities, with particular emphasis on the involvement of children. Gabriella, a native of Bologna, Italy, has performed for French, German, Italian and Swiss radio and television. She is also no stranger to the world of popular music, having played at Tina Turner's 60th birthday concert and with the likes of Phil Collins and Elton John. The duo's programme will include favourites by Mozart, Donizetti and Vivaldi as well as some traditional and folk music.

Thursday 15th October sees the return to Cavendish Hall of double bass virtuoso Leon Bosch with his chamber group I Musicanti. The ensemble consists of some of Britain's most distinguished soloists and chamber musicians, whose aim is to explore a repertoire that is often overlooked – great works by neglected composers, overlooked masterpieces by celebrated figures and forgotten gems that deserve a modern voice.

Information on the whole season's programme, purchase of tickets and society membership is available on the PMS website at peakmusic.society.org.uk.

Maurice Unwin

Peak Music

Local Plan CONSULTATION

3rd August to 14th September 2026

Have your say >>

www.derbyshiredales.gov.uk/local-plan-consultation

mad4ink

Granby Rd, Bakewell | 01629 815455

ERASABLE PENS
Fur-ever friends

HERE comes the FUN

BACK TO SCHOOL

Your Village Hall

The Village Hall in Great Longstone is a fantastic asset and used by many. With the Neighbourhood Plan and Village Plan work that is being done at the moment, it is a good time to review how the Village Hall is used, what people think about it and what you'd like to see going forward. So we have another survey to get your views. In conjunction with the Village Hall Committee, we have prepared a short questionnaire that is available to fill in online using the QR code to the right. Please do let us know what you think, as this will shape how the Village Hall is used in the future. The survey will be open until the end of September. If you need a paper copy, please contact saradjbarrett@hotmail.com with your details. Many thanks for your help.

Neighbourhood Plan and Village Hall committee



GLCC Triumph Against Ashford Again!



On the hottest day of the year in Great Longstone, with the temperature hitting 32°C (which is 90°F!) around the time we pitched stumps, GLCC welcomed local arch-rivals Ashford-in-the-Water for the return fixture, having resoundingly defeated them a mere three weeks or so ago. By the time the game started, there was a sizeable phalanx of away team supporters present, in addition to the regular home team fans. It was a good night for bar sales!

Ashford were out for revenge, having strengthened their team from three weeks ago. They won the toss and decided to bat first to avoid the possibility of batting in deteriorating light conditions, which were likely to be present as the evening and game progressed. The opening batters went to work very impressively and without delay as, firstly, T Rowland rattled up a very quickfire 26 runs in a partnership of 29 with fellow opener L Clarke, who also eventually scored 26. Both batters retired not out and the Ashford middle order all chipped in with solid batting performances to lift the score to 126 for 3 wickets by the end of the 16th over, when K Clarke also retired not out after bludgeoning a rapid 27. The home team bowlers plugged away in the unremitting heat and managed to exert some degree of control in restricting the total to 143 runs, which was still a respectable score, although probably 30 or so runs short of the total that looked to be on when K Clarke retired after 16 overs.

The pick of an all-round solid bowling and fielding performance included debutant Alfie Sheriden, bowling 2 overs for only 5 runs, whilst Karl Harrison was only one run more expensive in his 2 overs and also took an impressive steeping high catch, landing flat on his back in the process. Left-arm swinger Tom Neale took 2 wickets, whilst youngsters Charlie Hibbs, Asher Richards and George Askew all chipped in with a wicket apiece.

It was time for GLCC to take up the willow, and openers A Balram and George Askew began even more effectively than

their Ashford counterparts. After 5 overs, Balram retired with 28 beautifully crafted runs to his name and a total of 56 on the board. Askew joined him in the pavilion a few overs later; also retired not out with 26 runs to add to his mountain of runs scored this summer for GLCC. Although George has two centuries to his name, I believe that this innings arguably illustrated a more mature approach to his batting whilst chasing a good first-innings total. He took fewer chances with big hits and built his innings in two excellent partnerships, each in excess of 40 runs, with Balram and also with captain for the night Luke Jones, who once again showed his class with 21 runs and a tight bowling performance.

When Luke and Jenson Jowett, who was run out, both fell with only 10 runs being added, it looked like Ashford might get back into the game if GLCC suffered any sort of batting collapse. However, cometh the hour, cometh the man, and young Asher Richards certainly rose to the challenge of steering the home side home. Supported ably by Hugh Morris, Asher started slowly before taking the initiative and advancing down the wicket to strike several well-struck straight boundaries through both long-off and long-on. Such was the fluency of this pair's batting that the required runs for victory were achieved with 4 overs to spare, with Asher being not out 26 as he struck the winning runs. Ashford fought hard, and their stand-out bowler was veteran Simon Davies, who conceded only 9 runs from his 2 overs of well-flighted off-cutters.

GLCC ended their innings on 145 for 2 wickets and scored their second emphatic victory in the space of three weeks over Ashford. The last 12 weeks have seen GLCC win 9 out of 12 matches played, having won only 1 out of 4 matches in May. Maybe the hot, dry weather that has been the predominant factor since June suits GLCC rather than the cold, damp offering we experienced throughout May?

Martin Pinder

Rockets Fly on the School Playing Field



On 10th June, Great Longstone School had a STEM day – a science, technology, engineering and mathematics experience. Kit Corbridge, who teaches science, came into school to teach the classes.

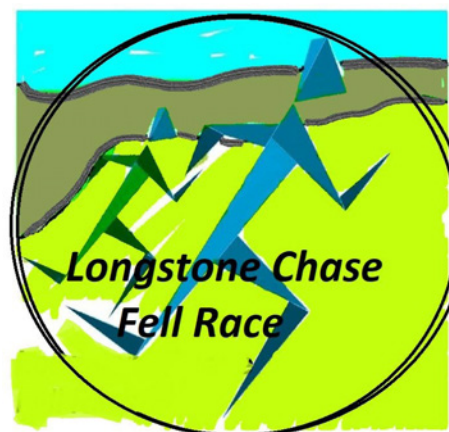
The Owls had fun with a slime workshop and made slime pots, while the Kestrels were involved in a making things workshop. In pairs, they were encouraged to design, test, construct and modify a boat, a catapult or a parachute.

The Falcons had a rainbow lab workshop. Again in pairs, they made a colour-changing indicator using conical flasks and test tubes, wearing lab coats and goggles.

The Eagles took part in an exploding rockets workshop. They each dropped Mentos into a bottle of Coca Cola to create a Coke explosion. Next, they decorated their Coke bottle so it looked like a rocket. Finally, they filled it a third full with water and then, using a pump to pressurise the air inside the bottle to create the thrust, they sent their rockets skyward. So many rockets flew!

This took place on the field behind the school, and everyone had enormous fun in the process. A great day was had by all the students!

Ali Plowright



Friday 4th September

6.30pm on the Rec

**No entries on the night –
limited to 200 runners**

A Sight for Sore Norfolk Eyes



We might feel we have been living in the Kalahari Desert, but on a recent visit home from Norwich, Tom Thornhill commented he hadn't seen so much green for months. Everything's relative!

Visit NatureGlow at Chatsworth Country Fair



NatureGlow Skincare will be exhibiting at the Chatsworth Country Fair, 4th-6th September.

Founder Martha Barbieri (*above*) will be on hand with her range of botanical skincare, suitable for all skin types and especially loved by those with sensitive or problem-prone skin.

Do stop by and say Hello! Visitors can also try complimentary samples of the much-loved Essential Repair Cream and Barrier Repair Rescue Balm.

Martha Barbieri



A Return to Skin That Feels at Ease

Formulated to calm, protect, and restore



Crafted in small batches with carefully chosen oils and skin-supporting actives.

Designed to nourish and support skin back to strength — without harsh ingredients.

Simple rituals. Skin that feels calm, balanced, and at ease.

DISCOVER THE RANGE

natureglowskincare.com

hello@natureglowskincare.com



07478 166858



What customers say

(Reviews independently verified by UTE)

"After years of using expensive face creams I have recently changed to NatureGlow Skincare and it's lovely. The face cream is gentle on your skin, not greasy, and leaves a lovely glow if used under your foundation. Smells good too."

Patricia, Hassop

"I have been using the NatureGlow Skincare Revive & Restore Cream morning and night. The cream smells fabulous and is very silky. My face feels very soft and smooth, and I'm sure that some of my fine lines are disappearing. My skin is more radiant and glowing. I would certainly recommend it to anyone."

Wendy, Great Longstone

"I have dry, sensitive, and sun-damaged skin and the NatureGlow Sensitive Skin trio (Lumen Cream Cleanser, Essential Repair Cream and Barrier Repair Rescue Balm) has given my skin nourishment and protection."

Frank, Great Longstone

Road Closed, Space Opened



Last month's road closure in Little Longstone (due to an electricity cable having to be laid across the road) was a major inconvenience to bus passengers, a minor inconvenience to car drivers, and a blessing to people living in Little Longstone. For a few days, it was possible to step out into the road without looking and listening to try and work out if a car was going to come flying round the corner. Dogs and pushchairs could use the full width of the road, instead of edging down the narrow pavement. Cyclists enjoyed cycling up the hill without the pressure of an impatient car behind them. And it was quiet. Our modern lives are lived against the background of traffic noise. Although the Longstones don't have a continual stream of traffic, the intermittency makes vehicles more noticeable, and summer, when windows and doors are open, is accompanied by a sub-conscious noticing of the chug and whirr of vehicles. The peace of the road closure (apart from when they were doing the digging) was a surprise.

The Highway Code talks about a hierarchy of road users, putting those most vulnerable in the case of collision at the top. In order, that's pedestrians (which includes wheelchair and mobility scooter users), cyclists, and horse riders, with children, older adults and disabled people being most at risk. The Code states that those in charge of vehicles that can cause the greatest harm in the event of a collision bear the greatest responsibility to take care and reduce the danger they pose to others. Those of us who walk or use mobility scooters around our villages often find ourselves on the road, due to obstructed pavements (whether obstructed by other people, bins or badly parked cars) or simply the lack of pavements. Most drivers are considerate, but I suspect most pedestrians, and in fact some cyclists and horse riders, feel an obligation to get out of the way of motorists. In Little Longstone, cars generally wait for each other at the top and bottom of the hill. Pedestrians on the road will dodge between parked cars to give way to a moving car.

We are lucky that our villages are not on a designated B-road, but are on a bus route and protected by a low bridge, which means we get gritters in icy weather but few lorries.

And this does give us options. Closing the road completely, or restricting through traffic (apart from buses), would push even more traffic through Ashford, which already has to put up with a constant stream of vehicles travelling between the A623 and the A6. But are there things we could do to make the road safer and more welcoming to non-motorised users?

Imagine if the road linking our villages was seen as a social space and drivers felt they were travelling through our community, rather than driving along a road with some houses on either side. This doesn't mean adding lots of warning signs about pedestrians and placing speed humps all over the road. The concept of shared space is about making a space in which road users are encouraged to pay attention to each other, instead of focusing on road signals. An example some readers may have seen is Exhibition Road in London, near the Royal Albert Hall, and a more local example is the village of Poynton in Cheshire, which replaced an awful junction with a shared space scheme (do watch the super video 'Poynton Regenerated' on YouTube at bit.ly/463WTyp).

We had a local example of a temporary shared space scheme when Sheffield City Morris were dancing outside Hobbs Café a few months ago. There were Morris dancers and spectators on the road, but there was just enough space for a car to get past. Drivers were so terrified, or possibly enraptured by the sight, that cars crept by very slowly. A shared space slows traffic down by design, and has been described as generating a sense of civility amongst all road users.

Having groups of Morris Dancers stationed at points along the road through both villages would certainly change driver behaviour, but it's not sustainable in the long term. The Transport Working Group of the Neighbourhood Plan is looking at possible options for making our roads safer and easier to use for all users. We will be sending out a survey to gather opinions, and hope to hold a drop-in session in the Village Hall. And if you fancy getting more involved, we'd love to have you on the Transport Working Group. Just contact villageplan@greatlongstone-pc.gov.uk.

Georgina Blair

Longstone Local History Group Outing to Dronfield Hall Barn



The Group's July outing was a visit to Dronfield Hall Barn, where our party of ten members enjoyed an introductory talk hosted by John Harvey and June Hodkin (members of the Archive & Research Group, Dronfield Heritage Trust).

John began with the history and development of Dronfield, whilst June gave her talk about the barn itself, from its origins in around 1430. It is believed that, originally, it may have been a dwelling house, manor house or hall, most likely for the steward who maintained the Dronfield Estate. Much of the structure visible today dates from the late 17th–early 18th centuries, when it became an agricultural building. In this century, inspired by the gift of the Grade II* listed building in 2004 from the Sainsbury's chain, the freehold of the barn and surrounding land was transferred in 2007 to the Dronfield Heritage Trust, which preserves and develops historic buildings in the area for the benefit of the community.

After these talks, we had a look at the barn's internal features, including the original king post roofing structure and joiners' marks, one of which was a hexafoil daisy wheel design, scratched into one of the old oak beams. This was seen as both a protection against evil, such as witches and other spirits, and also a good luck symbol. The mark was typically placed at points where evil could enter the building!

Outside, in a small garden, is a café and seating area, which were very welcome on this warm and sunny day of our visit.

Dronfield Hall Barn and coffee shop are open to the public. There are no admission charges, and the internal features can be seen from the first floor (via stairs or a lift).

The Longstone Local History Group's next meeting will be another outing, this time to Quarry Bank Mill on Tuesday 8th September, followed a week later on the 15th with the first of our autumn meetings in Longstone Village Hall.

Ian Pykett, André Smith and Peter Donaldson



Bakewell and Eyam

**COMMUNITY
TRANSPORT**

Did you know that Bakewell and Eyam Community Transport offers a regular programme of door-to-door trips on easy-access minibuses?

Destinations include town centres and shopping centres, lunchtime outings, garden centres and some interesting days out. Not only is it a great way of getting out and about but it is also an opportunity to enjoy the journey, have a chat and meet other local people.

If you haven't travelled with BECT before, then registration is simple and free of charge and it's all done by telephone – **01629 641920**. Why not take a look at the programme below for the forthcoming months, and give it a try?

Helen Chapman

PEAKS AREA

Pick up from - Bamford, Baslow, Bradwell, Brough, Calver, Castleton, Curbar, Edale, Eyam, Foolow, Great Hucklow, Grindleford, Hathersage, Hope, Little Hucklow, Litton, Peak Forest, Shatton, Stoney Middleton, Tideswell, Wardlow, Wormhill - Plus other places around these villages

- * Sponsored by Breedon
- **Sponsored by Travel Chapter

Date	Destination	Price
03/09/2026	Crystal Peaks*	£10
09/09/2026	Meet and Eat	£10
17/09/2026	St James Park Shopping Centre	£10
18/09/2026	Wentworth Garden Centre*	£10
22/09/2026	Chesterfield **	£10
01/10/2026	Crystal Peaks**	£10
05/10/2026	Bridgmere Garden Centre*	£10
13/10/2026	Carsington Water**	£10
14/10/2026	Meet and Eat	£10
16/10/2026	Buxton	£10
27/10/2026	Chesterfield	£10
02/11/2026	Dunstan Hall Garden Centre**	£10
05/11/2026	Crystal Peaks	£10
11/11/2026	Meet and Eat	£10
19/11/2026	St James Park Shopping Centre	£10
20/11/2026	Kelham Island**	£10
24/11/2026	Chesterfield*	£10
03/12/2026	Crystal Peaks	£10
07/12/2026	Boundary Mill	£10
09/12/2026	Meet and Eat*	£10
18/12/2026	Buxton	£10
22/12/2026	Chesterfield	£10

DALES AREA

Pick up from - Ashford, Bakewell, Beeley, Birchover, Chelmorton, Darley Dale, Edensor, Elton, Flagg, Great Longstone, Little Longstone, Monyash, Matlock, Over Haddon, Pilsley, Rowsley, Stanton, Taddington, Winster, Youlgrove. - Plus other places around these villages

- *Sponsored by South Darley Parish Council
- ** Sponsored by Travel Chapter

Date	Destination	Price
26/08/2026	Anderton Boat Lift	£10
08/09/2026	Belper	£10
10/09/2026	Wentworth Garden Centre**	£10
17/09/2026	Meet and Eat	£10
21/09/2026	Chesterfield	£10
23/09/2026	Bridgmere Garden Centre**	£10
25/09/2026	Crystal Peaks	£10
06/10/2026	Alfreton	£10
08/10/2026	Carsington Peaks*	£10
15/10/2026	Meet and Eat	£10
19/10/2026	Chesterfield**	£10
23/10/2026	Crystal Peaks	£10
28/10/2026	Dunstan Hall Garden Centre	£10
10/11/2026	Belper	£10
12/11/2026	Kelham Island**	£10
16/11/2026	Chesterfield	£10
19/11/2026	Meet and Eat	£10
25/11/2026	Boundary Mill**	£10
27/11/2026	Crystal Peaks	£10
01/12/2026	Alfreton	£10
17/12/2026	Meet and Eat	£10
21/12/2026	Chesterfield	£10

To ensure all passengers have an equal chance to travel, we only take bookings for one date per destination at a time. Bookings for the next date can be taken the day after travel has taken place.

My Life as a Caver – the Secret Underground World of a Postie

Frances Porter has been one of Adam Edwards' reserve posties on the UTE round for several years. She recently handed in her notice in order to start up her own gardening business – watch this space!

It's hard to tell when I first started caving – it feels like it started before I was even born. My parents were both keen cavers and mine explorers, and when my brother and I were small, we would often visit the centre where my mother worked as an outdoor instructor. There, we could borrow wellies, small Warmbac oversuits and miners' cap lamps from the kit store, before visiting a local lead mine after school. There are also fond memories of the captive leech called Brian, kept in a jam jar above the kit store hatch. This was Tom's pet – he also worked at the centre as an instructor, and was our sometime babysitter. Tom's idea of babysitting was to take us caving! Being very small, when we got to a difficult climb down in the cave, he would stand at the bottom and let us use him as a ladder. When I revisit some of these climbs as an adult, I'm still amazed by our fearlessness!

I know a fair bit about lead mining in the Peak District, as my parents were heavily involved with the Peak District Lead Mining Museum in Matlock Bath during its early days. My mine exploration friends, known as 'miners' for short, still keep up the tradition of candle-setting on Christmas Eve. This ceremony, involving leaving a candle burning in the mine, is done to thank the spirits of the mine and our ancestors. Known locally as the *T'owd Man*, in return they may offer their help. The risk of cave-ins, bad air and falls in an abandoned mine are ever present, but in my many years, I have yet to experience any of them.

During my teenage years, I gradually began to lose interest in doing anything outdoors. I was very aware that my family were not like others. After a difficult time at university, I returned to Matlock in 2016, and saw a place available on a three-day caving experience course. This was being hosted by a family friend, who is also a qualified cave leader, trained in all aspects of safe underground exploration, and as such was best placed to reintroduce me to caving.

Our first day was spent in Stoney Middleton, traversing a thrilling combination of short caves and edges set into the cliffs. We were protected from falling by clipping two short lengths of rope known as 'cowstails' from our harness onto fixed ropes. There were a few tight bits to add interest! The second day was an eye-opener, as we went beyond the show cave in Peak Cavern to where the water can come up to your waist. We took note of the weather forecast before entering, in case of flooding. The last day was to go down an active pothole above Castleton called P8. Whilst the difference between a cave and a pothole is often a colloquial one, a cave usually refers to a horizontal passage whilst a pothole is usually a vertical one. P8 is a swallet hole, and as such it swallows a small stream that makes it wet, so here we followed the fixed ropes to traverse above the stream to keep dry. There was a ladder in a waterfall to climb down, and I got a lot wetter than expected when my bag filled up with water, because it didn't have any drain holes in the bottom!

Whilst caving is considered by many to be a claustrophobic experience, I find it's often worth it, as the best stream passages or the largest chambers in the country could be just behind one tight crawl.

At the beginning of my renaissance, I joined the Masson Caving Group, my dad's old caving club, so that I could join meets and receive training. I could borrow all the basic essentials of warm clothing (footwear, a helmet and lighting)

from my mother. As I gained experience, I moved onto Single Rope Technique (SRT), the modern way to traverse caves beyond electron ladders. SRT involves using a static rope to move vertically either up or down on the same rope. Over time, I started to accumulate more specialized personal equipment, such as a harness and devices for abseiling and climbing ropes. There are various knots used for SRT that are clipped into pre-installed hangers in the caves that I am still learning. Exploring a vertical cave with SRT is a fantastic experience, particularly once you get good enough to rope-walk. On a very large pitch, you can't help singing *We're Walking in the Air* by Howard Blake, the theme song for The Snowman.

Whilst the caving community is relatively small, it is very close-knit and very friendly, and is naturally accepting of interesting and unique characters, who would probably be labelled more than a little crazy in other communities! A recent trip into the Castleton area found me abseiling into Titan, which at 141 metres (464 feet deep) is the deepest natural shaft in the UK.

I went to my first national caving conference in 2018. Known as *Hidden Earth*, here I met Bill Nix who, despite my club mates initially having an aversion to because of his thick northern accent, has become my closest caving buddy. He is a cave photographer, and has given me much encouragement to continue my caving. I've included some of his photos in this article. This *Hidden Earth* was extra special, as it was soon after the Thai Cave Rescue divers first arrived back in the UK. In two packed-out lecture theatres, we heard first-hand some aspects of the rescue that hadn't been released to the media yet. All of the rescuers were awarded golden tankards, in true cavers fashion.

In 2025, I joined the esteemed Orpheus Caving Club, based near Monyash, which is over 75 years old. I had been on some previous cavers' holidays to France and Spain, but as a result of my association with the Orpheus, I was invited to join the 2026 expedition to Meghalaya in NE India!



My free tackle sack for the Meghalaya expedition

Dubbed the 'Caving in the Abode of the Clouds Expedition', it's a journey to the wettest place on earth. Each year, the monsoon rains in India carve out vast cave systems in the sub-tropical rainforests of Meghalaya. It was only when the first caving expedition visited there, in 1984, that it was even realised that there were any caves in the region.

Getting to Meghalaya was an adventure in itself. It's a very little visited area of India, and quite remote. An 8-hour flight to Delhi was followed by a further 2½-hour flight to Gauhati, then a 4-hour taxi ride to the regional capital Sholong, before a final few hours by jeep, along roads the monsoon rains had made very bumpy, brought us to the jungle camp.



The beautiful Valentine Series in Retdung Khur

We were there in the dry season, but the flood debris underground reminded us that these caves had the potential to flood right up to the roof! Surrounded by a vast bamboo forest, some of the new caves we were exploring were so far from camp that a bivouac outside the cave entrance on the first night was required...whilst trying not to think about jaguars!



The surreal space of an isolated fault chamber in Retdung Khur, only reached after digging a way through sloppy mud

The expedition was very much an international undertaking, with cavers from America, the Netherlands, Ireland, Austria and the UK working with local cavers from the Meghalaya Adventurers' Association. The Association also organised the camp, including full catering of traditional Indian food, and the hill tribes of the area acted as our guides as we travelled through the remote area. The expedition, which takes place annually, aims to highlight the importance of Meghalaya, both in terms of a fragile cave ecosystem and the importance of the caves. Unfortunately, the unusual geology of the area, which mixes the limestone beds, where the caves are found, with coal seams, has resulted in some being damaged through coal mining. Parts of the region are under constant threat from surface coal mining, which can be unregulated. Only four days before we arrived, 18 miners were killed in an explosion only a short distance from our camp. We also collected some live blind cave fish for a study by the State Government into the world's largest known species of blind cave fish, unique to Meghalaya.

The cave of Krem Wah Dyngiem was first explored in 2017, but the cavers stopped when the edge of a very unstable



Bathtub-sized Gour pools in Krem Wah Dyngiem shaft was reached. This year, the shaft was stabilised, so we descended to a boulder choke, which we dug through to reach 3,516m of excellent and varied river passage, the sort of which Meghalaya is famous for. The total length of this cave is 3,608m. In the Retdung Khur cave system, situated below the village of Muallian, we explored three new side passages situated in the lower, downstream section of the cave, to add 215m of new passage to the system. This took the cave from its 2024 length of 23,389m to 23,604m, firmly establishing its place as India's second-longest limestone cave.



The deep shaft of Pynnoh Um Sgnad, home to all kinds of mean and nasty creatures,



The kind of phreatic tube Krem Wah Dyngiem is infamous for. Thankfully, this one was cut short after 35 metres.



Nights could be chilly, but the campfire was so cosy you couldn't help but fall asleep in your camping chair
And so my caving journey continues – since returning from Meghalaya in February, I have been caving in County Clare in Ireland as a result of a friendship on the expedition.

If this article inspires you to try caving, then I suggest you take a look at the website of the British Caving Association british-caving.org.uk, where you can download their two leaflets: *Try Caving* and *So, You Want to Go Caving*.

Frances Porter

Little Longstone Parish Notes

The following are extracts from the official minutes of the Extraordinary Parish Meeting held on 15th May in Little Longstone Chapel.

Attendance

Local Government Electors Mr J Cotterill (Chair), Ms G Blair (Vice Chair), Mrs S O Reilly, Mrs J Gledhill, Mrs A Whittlestone, Mrs E Lee, Mrs C Cotterill, Mr J Stokes, Mrs R Edwards, Ms K Askew, Mr G Brooke, Mrs A Plowright, Mr A Edwards and Mrs S Stokes (Clerk), plus District Cllr H Froggatt and Mr S Headington. Apologies for absence were received from Mr P Davey, Mr and Mrs K Adamson, Mr and Mrs J Longsdon, C Leatherday (DDDC) and County Cllr A Sutton (DCC).

Public Participation

District Cllr Froggatt highlighted that applications for local projects can now be made on the District Council website. This can be for any project, such as a noticeboard. The amount has increased this year. She will also be keeping an eye on the car park lease. The Chair thanked the Cllr, and said her support would be appreciated and the PM will keep her updated.

Appointment of Deputy Clerk

Simon Headington was appointed Honorary Deputy Clerk to the Parish Meeting, with all in favour.

Standing Orders

The Standing Orders attached to the agenda were adopted with immediate effect. Simon Headington explained that most Parish Meetings had very small budgets and undertook little activity. Given the scale of Little Longstone's operations, it was recommended that the draft standing orders, circulated in advance of the meeting, be adopted. It was pointed out that this, and the documents in the next two agenda items, had been adapted from documents produced by NALC for Parish Councils. Two minor points were corrected – in item 3f, the reference should be to item 3e, and the note below item 16e should say 'seven' and not 'three clear days'. There is no formal guidance on the number of electors required to make a meeting quorate. The figure of five was proposed for use by Little Longstone. The standing orders can be changed by the assembly at any time and it is good practice to review them each year at the Annual Parish Meeting. However, items in bold text are legal requirements and

should not be changed without first taking appropriate advice.

Financial Regulations

The Financial Regulations attached to the agenda were adopted with immediate effect.

Complaints Procedure

The Complaints Procedure attached to the agenda was adopted with immediate effect.

ICO Registration

The Parish Meeting has been registered with the Information Commissioner.

Threatened Legal Case

The Parish Meeting, Clerk and Trustees have been threatened with legal action. It was agreed the Parish Trustees of Little Longstone, as the body corporate through which LLPM holds its assets, are authorised to instruct Solicitors to advise on and respond to the threatened proceedings, as an exercise of the Parish Trustees' inherent capacity as a body corporate to defend legal proceedings brought against them, and to cooperate fully with the Parish Meeting's insurers. The Chair, as one of the two persons constituting the Parish Trustees, is authorised to sign any instructions to Solicitors on behalf of the Parish Trustees, subject to the prior agreement of the insurers where the insurers are handling the matter. It was also agreed that the Parish Meeting confirms that the Parish Trustees are entitled to be indemnified from the Parish Meeting's reserves for any reasonable legal costs incurred in defending proceedings brought against them in the course of their duties on behalf of the community of Little Longstone. This indemnity extends to any person who has previously held the office of Chair and acted as a Parish Trustee in connection with the matters giving rise to the threatened proceedings, and to the Clerk of the Parish Meeting, past or present, who has acted in the course of their duties on behalf of the Parish Meeting in connection with those matters. Any costs not met by the Parish Meeting's insurance will be met from reserves. The Clerk is instructed to report on the costs position at each subsequent assembly until the matter is resolved. A member of the meeting thanked the Chair, Vice Chair, Clerk and Honorary Deputy Clerk for all their hard work since the last meeting. The statement was also supported by other members.

Car park lease

DDDC have notified LLPM that they had received a formal complaint to the

disposal of the Open Space at Monsal Head. Shortly after the last meeting, an extensive request for information, that fell under the Freedom of Information Act and the Environmental Information Regulations, was received. Responding involved a significant amount of work, primarily conducting an extensive document search. The cost to the parish of responding was £786 in staff time and disbursements. A lesson from dealing with this request is that the Parish Meeting might wish to consider developing a website so that documents such as minutes of meetings and other documents that might be of interest could be made more easily available. The Chair reported that the current state of the lease is that LLPM is currently waiting on Derbyshire Dales District Council, but hope to be able to bring the draft lease to the next assembly for formal approval.

History of the Car Parking Area

The Deputy Clerk explained that as a result of questions at the May meeting and those raised by the FOI request, a detailed review of the Parish Deeds Box was undertaken. The key timeline, as currently identified, was: 1921 – A letter commenting on the popularity of the Monsal Head View point and problems with uncontrolled trading followed by the Duke of Devonshire's offer to transfer the land in question to the Parish Meeting so that they could manage the area. 1922 – The County of Derby (Little Longstone Parish Meeting) Order 1922, which gave the Parish Meeting powers to manage the area. The land in question was transferred to the Parish Meeting the following month. 1924 – Introduction of the first byelaws. Correspondence from this period suggests that the parking of vehicles was not considered to be an issue and that this exercise was to control trading. The current leasing of an Ice Cream Van pitch on the Short-Term Car park appears to be a direct continuation of this activity that has now gone on for over 100 years. 1970s – The Peak Park arranged with the Parish Meeting to undertake landscaping works that laid out the seating/viewing area. 1980s – At this point the parking area was probably just hard standing. There were no walls along the side of the B6465 Castlegate Road or on the lane opposite the Monsal Head Hotel. This meant that vehicles could drive in and out from either road. There were concerns about the increase in traffic

and visitor numbers and the risk from vehicles reversing onto the Castlegate Road. At this point, the County Council widened the side road, between the car park and the hotel, and changed the layout of the junction. The District Council took on a 25-year lease, from LLPM, and they put in additional walls, created an entrance on the side road and tarmacked the surface of the car park. 1990s – A debate took place within Little Longstone about car parking at Monsal Head and, after much discussion, a formal poll took place on 24th August 1995, in which the community voted 57 - 9 in favour of allowing car parking at Monsal Head to continue. After this vote, the Monsal Head Open Space Byelaws were updated, and this document was given formal approval by central government before coming into force on 21st January 1999. The Chatsworth Settlement confirmed in 1995 that they had no issue with the way in which the Open Space was being used and that they would follow the wishes of the community on this matter. 2013 – DDDC Lease was renewed for another 10 years. 2026 – The short-stay car park is now an essential part of the tourism infrastructure of the area and DDDC has reported that over 11,000 vehicles used it during the past year. A key point that came out of the research is that whilst the lease of the car park to DDDC allows for a space, within the area, for the Parish Meeting to lease for the use of an Ice Cream Van, this right was not one that was given by DDDC, but instead, it came from the powers granted by the 1922 order and the Parish Meeting's own byelaws.

Ice cream van licence 2027-29

The Clerk will work with the LLPM's legal advisors, aiming for approval of draft tender documentation at the next meeting, advertising the next tender during the early part of the autumn. DDDC have confirmed electrical works are planned for October 2026, to coincide with the new payment machine installation. Once completed, ice cream vans can then optionally plug into to the electrical supply to power their refrigeration equipment.

Policy documents

The Clerk is to prepare the following before the next ordinary meeting: 2026-27 Budget, Privacy Policy (updating the 2018 version for the current UK GDPR framework), Data Protection Policy, Freedom of Information Publication Scheme,

Records Retention Policy (updating the 2018 version), Risk Management Policy and Risk Register, and Code of Conduct. The Biodiversity and Tourism policies are to be developed in co-ordination with the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group.

**Fresh Local Milk,
Delicious Milkshakes
and Free Range Eggs**

*Pasteurised & bottled on the farm
Unhomogenised - only 4% fat*



**Open
24/7**

**Church Lane Farm,
Great Longstone**

Date of next meeting: August.

Contact Details: Sarah Stokes, Clerk to Little Longstone Parish Meeting, Longstone Byre, Little Longstone, Bakewell DE45 1NN. Tel: **01629 640851**. Email: clerk@littlelongstoneparishmeeting.gov.uk



The JOINERY Workshop
(Derbyshire) Ltd.

- Quality, purpose made joinery
- Doors, windows, fitted furnishings
- Made to measure
- Traditional & contemporary
- Range of woods and finishes
- Estimate on request

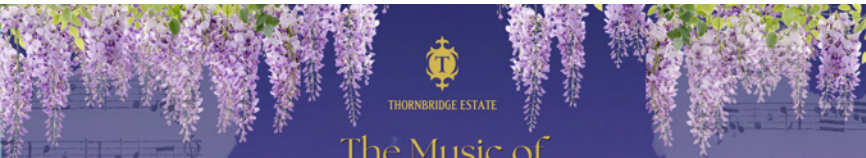
01629 813633 / 07835 238160
joineryworkshop@gmail.com
www.thejoineryworkshop.com
 Hassop, DE45 1NW

**25 Years of Compassionate Care -
Right on your Doorstep**

*From companionship and shopping to personal care and transport,
I provide trusted, one-to-one support tailored to your needs*

DBS Checked & Insured
 Fully Trained Professional Carer
 with dementia and palliative experience
 2 hour visits, Mon-Fri
 Based in Bakewell

Supporting independence, dignity, and quality of life every day
Call or message Anne on 07908 974090



THORNBRIDGE ESTATE

**The Music of
Bridgerton**

Candlelit
 CONCERTS
 WITH SIMPLY
 STRINGS TRIO

Saturday 19th September
 2026

www.thornbridgehall.co.uk





The Village Shop

Opening Times
 Tuesday to Saturday 9.30am-4pm
 Sunday 10am-1pm

*Fresh vegetables, fruit, biscuits, bread,
 milk, cheese, yoghurts, ice cream, pastries,
 puddings, raw & cooked meats, logs, household supplies,
 cleaning products, tinned & dried goods, and much more!*

Free delivery or Collect at Shop 📞 **07890 205544**
Main Street, Great Longstone 📞 **01629 640507**

The Monsal Head Open Space



Monsal Head around 1910, already established as a popular stopping place for visitors. Within little more than a decade, the scale of tourism and uncontrolled trading would lead Little Longstone Parish Meeting to take responsibility for managing the open space

Monsal Head has been attracting visitors for well over a century. Documents in the Little Longstone archives show that, by 1921, there was already a need to manage the growing number of visitors to this popular and much-loved spot.

In July 1921, Mr H. Nuttall wrote to the Duke of Devonshire describing the scene on a single Sunday afternoon. There was a tea stall selling sweets and ice cream, an ice cream cart, two fruit carts, a cheap photographer, a rock seller and a 'gypsy woman' selling nuts and telling fortunes. None had permission to be there. The letter records that 'many hundreds of people' were visiting during the season, and that the resulting trading was disorderly and left a considerable mess.

Parking was not the problem. Horse-drawn carriages, motor vehicles and charabancs had already been using the site for many years. Indeed, the letter specifically states that 'no objection is raised to the use of the ground by motors, as this has been the recognised standing place for these and other vehicles for very many years.' What concerned the local community was the uncontrolled commercial activity and the mess it left behind.

The Duke of Devonshire thought the best solution was to transfer his interest in the land to the Parish Meeting, so that it could introduce byelaws to regulate its use. The first step came in October 1922, when Derbyshire County Council made the County of Derby (Little Longstone Parish Meeting) Order 1922. This gave the Parish Meeting powers to regulate and maintain the Monsal Head Open Space. The land itself was transferred from Chatsworth to the Parish Meeting 22 days later. Byelaws were formally approved in 1924. They were updated in 1997 and remain in use today.

By the 1970s, increasing tourism and car ownership were creating new pressures. The Peak District National Park

offered to landscape the area, creating the viewpoint and seating that we see today. At that time, there were no walls along the main road or opposite the hotel, and Cressbrook Lane was considerably narrower than it is now.

By the 1980s, cars reversing between the parking area and the main road had become a safety concern, while the narrowness of Cressbrook Lane contributed to traffic jams at busy times. Around 1988, Derbyshire Dales District Council (DDDC) widened the road alongside the hotel, built a wall along the B6465 Castlegate Road side of the car park and created the present entrance from Cressbrook Lane. DDDC also tarmacked what is now the short-stay car park.

During the 1990s, a local resident led a campaign arguing that the byelaws did not permit parking. The issue was eventually put to a formal poll, in which residents voted by 57 to 9 to update the byelaws and make clear that parking was allowed.

Since the 1980s, DDDC has leased the short-stay car park from the Parish Meeting for a peppercorn rent. DDDC keeps the parking income and, in return, manages and maintains the site, including the seating areas and rubbish collection.

The Parish Meeting retains a reserved pitch for an ice cream van. The income from this licence funds all the Parish Meeting's activities, including the support it gives to many local community organisations.

The original aim was not to stop people parking or trading at Monsal Head. It was to give the local community the means to manage these activities. More than a century later, that arrangement is still doing much the same job. Monsal Head remains an important part of the area's tourism infrastructure: in the year to March 2026, DDDC recorded almost 12,000 paid parking transactions in this small, 19-space car park.

Simon Headington, Clerk GLPC

Fancy a walk amongst the butterflies?

As many of you know, there are two local butterfly counts or transects (a specific area from which we record butterfly numbers) – one on Longstone Edge and one in Rowland parish. The weekly information gathered by the two teams of recorders feeds into the national database held by Butterfly Conservation and is coordinated by the Derbyshire Recorder and lifelong butterfly enthusiast Ken Orpe.

This year, we have seen strong butterfly numbers across both transects, but the consecutive heatwaves have resulted in many species beginning to hibernate earlier than expected, such as the Peacock, and food sources being depleted as plants dry out and shrivel.



Peacock butterfly (Wikimedia Commons – Uoaei1)

It would be great to see more local transects. Four members of a team means each member counts just once per month. We all began with little or no knowledge of butterflies, their habits and habitats, but Ken Orpe offers an annual training day and identification charts and books are widely available. If you would like to find out more about starting a butterfly transect, contact Ken at ken.orpe@outlook.com.

Potential local transects are:

- Little Longstone with Chertpit Lane
- St Giles' Churchyard (with permission)
- Hassop and Monsal Trail
- Thornbridge Estate (with permission)

Each week, we receive a countywide update from Ken. This is part of his missive of 1st August, as a taster:

Well, July 2026 was the joint warmest July on record with every day of the month here in Derby being at least 21°C and virtually no rain, other than a short period of light rain on the 26th. The net result of this phenomenon is that the countryside is now parched dry and resembles the plains of Africa in a drought. With all the heat and sun, it would be expected that there might be quite a number of aberrations in the butterfly species, but no – a few dwarf specimens of the Holly Blue have been seen in the county, together with a Red Admiral showing orange rather than red on its wings.



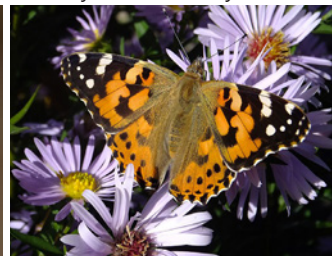
Meadow Brown visitor to Ali Plowright's garden this summer

However, a number of recorders have noticed an increase in the numbers of mint Meadow Browns on their transects, which, as mentioned on a previous update, occurs usually in early September and is as a result of a prolonged emergence. Visually, these individuals do not have any black dots on the underside of their wings, which the original versions do have, so this probably explains the reason – it's all in the genes!

Meanwhile, in lowland Derbyshire, it looks like the Peacocks have decided that they have had their fill of nectar, and a number have already gone into hibernation – Sid Morris saw 14 of them in hibernation mode in a railway underpass on the Markham Vale complex on 28th July.

Wall Brown – not such a good situation with this species, which relies on grasses to complete its lifecycle, usually on rocky outcrops in the Peak District. There have been just 17 individuals noted at nine sites recently, with a maximum count of 6 on the top of Thorpe Cloud on 29th June (as noted by Alan Bryan). Long gone are the days that I used to ascend this special site in Dovedale in order to admire the fantastic views across the Derbyshire countryside!

Painted Lady – 2026 will long be remembered for the number of Painted Lady butterflies seen across the county, with another 675 seen at 125 sites recently, including a maximum of 68 noted on Bonsall Moor by John and Anne Coupland et al, and 51 noted in both Deep Dale, Sheldon by Kieron Huston et al, and at Hartington Meadows by Helen Jeffery.



Clouded Yellow (El Golli Mohamed) and Painted Lady (Syrio)

Clouded Yellow – A good year for this rare migrant butterfly with another 38 individuals seen at 25 sites, mainly in ones and twos, but there were up to 5 noted at both Deep Dale, Sheldon by Kieron Huston et al and Crich Chase Meadows by Chris Booth and Alison Pritchard.



Humming Bird Hawk moth (Wikimedia Commons – Peter Chen)

The once scarce migrant Humming Bird Hawk moth, which can now overwinter in Derbyshire, has been seen at 20 locations, mainly singletons, but three were noted in the Thorpe garden of Barbara Wager on the 29th July and four were seen on the same day on the Rowland transect by Catherine Chapman.

Tracey Sharkey

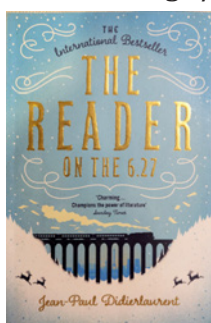
Photos from Wikimedia Commons reproduced unaltered, under the Creative Commons Attribution -Share Alike 4.0 licence

Bakewell Library Recommends...



The Book of Lost Hours by Hayley Gelfuso. Nuremberg, 1938. Lisavet Levy's watchmaker father saves her from the Nazis by pushing her through a mysterious doorway. There, she discovers the Time Space – a vast, magical library where the memories of everyone who has ever lived are stored in books. Her father promises to follow, but he never comes. Trapped in the library, she encounters timekeepers, who decide whose memories survive and whose are destroyed. Lisavet tries to save as many memories as she can, but when she falls in love with a timekeeper, the whole course of history could be at stake.

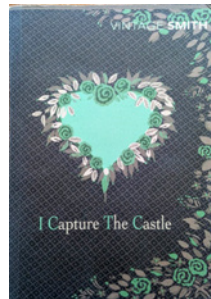
What a fantastic debut novel! It's science fiction and fantasy and a beautifully written love story too. What's not to like? **Rating 5/5**



The Reader on the 6.27 by Jean-Paul Didierlaurent. Guylain Vignolles lives on the edge of existence. Working at a book pulping factory in a job he hates, he has but one pleasure in life. Sitting on the 6.27 train each day, Guylain recites aloud from pages he has saved from the jaws of his monstrous pulping machine. And it's this release of words into the world that starts our hero on a journey that will

finally bring meaning into his life. For one morning, Guylain discovers the diary of a lonely young woman: Julie. A woman who feels as lost in the world as he does. As he reads from these pages to a rapt audience, Guylain finds himself falling hopelessly in love with their enchanting author.

This is a quirky little book, translated from the French, about the power of words, storytelling, and love. It isn't an 'exciting' read in the traditional sense; instead, it's surreal and tender. The characters stayed with me long after I'd finished. An unexpected delight. **Rating 5/5**



I Capture the Castle by Dodie Smith. Cassandra Mortmain lives with her bohemian and impoverished family in a crumbling castle in the middle of nowhere.

Her journal records her life with her beautiful, bored sister, Rose, her fading glamorous stepmother, Topaz, her little brother Thomas, and her eccentric novelist father who suffers from a financially crippling writer's block.

However, all their lives are turned upside down when the American heirs to the castle arrive and Cassandra finds herself falling in love for the first time.

A wonderful story about growing up, falling in love, and finding yourself. From the moment I read it, this book became – and has remained – my favourite. **Rating 5/5**

Great Longstone Film Club

Downfall Productions presents

STONE of STONE

Directed by Alec Boyd
In collaboration with the Village of Edale

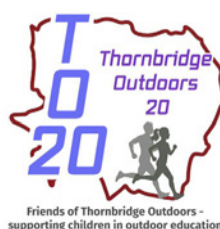
Thursday 24th September 7.30 pm

Licenced bar ~ hot & cold drinks

Entry £5 donation to film makers

It takes a village.

In the fictional village of Stone, where 'change' and the modern world are alien concepts, the daily village goings-on are derailed by an existential threat that will require the community to pull together and risk it all!



Thornbridge Outdoors 20

Sat 3 October 2026

• 20.3 miles • 850m ascent • Run or walk

A Peak District challenge with a purpose

Run or walk a spectacular 20.3 mile route through Little Longstone, Eyam, Floggatt Edge, Curbar Edge, Baslow Edge, and Chatsworth before returning to Thornbridge Outdoors. Every entry helps the Friends of Thornbridge Outdoors to support outdoor learning.

- ✓ Fantastic scenery
- ✓ Friendly marshals
- ✓ Free Thornbridge beer for finishers!
- ✓ Family activities at the start/finish area

£29

Supporting more young people to access outdoor learning

Friends of Thornbridge Outdoors
Peak District

AUTUMN 2026 WHAT'S ON

Longstone Events and Activities Project (LEAP) subsidises events for residents of
Great Longstone, Little Longstone, Hassop, Rowland, Monsal Head, Wardlow

TO BOOK: email4leap@gmail.com

BOOK ONLINE: leap.sumupstore.com



- Non-residents may join if space and pay the full cost.
- All events are in Great Longstone Village Hall unless otherwise stated.

DATE	EVENT INFORMATION	Charge
Wed 16 th Sept. 10am – 4pm	Sew an Autumn Garland with Marge The Tweed Queen Join Marge to create a unique sewn garland and learn new skills!	£10 Email or book online.
Wed 23 rd Sept. 7pm – 9pm	Ceramics Workshop We are delighted to welcome Mel MacDonald back for another evening workshop using a <i>Sgraffito</i> technique - an Italian art term meaning "to scratch into".	£15 Email or book online.
Sun 27 th Sept 12pm – 4pm	Apple Day at the Morris family farm on Station Road Bring your apples to press and make juice, bring sterilised bottles and jars.	Free
Wed 14 th Oct 10am – 12pm	Men's Cooking Group We will be exploring the flavours of Thailand. All welcome, no experience is necessary.	Free Email to book.
Thurs. 22 nd Oct. 7 pm – 8pm	Art Talks with Richard Foulkes from Manchester Art Gallery Richard's first talk will be about Constable – details to follow.	£5 donation to MAG
Wed 28 th Oct 10am – 12 pm	Steph's Pottery Painting Workshop Something creative to do at half term. Contact Steph direct on 07876338902	Contact Steph
Sun 1 st Nov. 1 pm – 4 pm	Make an Embossed Pewter Candle Cuff We are delighted to welcome Caroline Buchwald back for another pre-Christmas pewter embossing afternoon. No experience necessary.	£10 Email or book online
Thurs. 12 th Nov. 7 pm – 8pm	Art Talks with Richard Foulkes from Manchester Art Gallery Details to follow...	£5 donation to MAG
Sat 14 th Nov. 12pm – 3 pm	Make a Wall Plaque Workshop Using an environmentally friendly concrete, Jane Littlefield will show you how to create a unique plaque. Bring along things to embellish it like old keys, jewellery and crockery!	£5 Email or book online
Wed 18 th Nov. 10am – 4pm	Sew an Advent Calendar with Marge The Tweed Queen Come along and sew an Advent Calendar that can be used again and again!	£10 Email or book online
Fri 20 th Nov. 7.30pm	Live and Local - Graffiti Classics - The Comedy String Quartet 16 strings, 8 dancing feet, 4 voices with one aim - to make classical music wickedly funny and exhilarating. A hilarious all-singing, all-dancing musical comedy cabaret show. "A simply wonderful show" The Times	£13.50 Email or book online
Wed 2 nd Dec 10am – 12pm	Men's Cooking Group A Christmas themed cooking morning.	Free Email to book.
Sun 13 th Dec 2pm – 4pm	Christmas Craft Afternoon Join us for another packed afternoon of crafting and creativity!	Free Email to book.
21 st Sept. 19 th Oct.	16 th Nov. 14 th Dec. Monday Monthly Meditation Group Sophie Stephenson expertly and gently guides these monthly meditation sessions. New members are welcome. 6.45 p.m. arrival 7 p.m. – 8 p.m.	Free
30 th Sept, 28 th Oct,	25 th Nov, 16 th Dec Book Swap Café - last Wednesday of every month 2 pm– 4 pm Bring a couple of books to swap and stay for a chat and enjoy a tea or coffee, and a slice of delicious homemade cake.	
Film Club Thu 24 th Sept. 7.30 p.m.	Stone of Stone - made in Edale by the villagers In the fictional, sleepy village of Stone, where 'change' and the modern world are alien concepts to its residents, the daily village goings-on are derailed by an existential threat!	£5 Donation to Film makers
Film Club Thu 29 th Oct. 7.30 p.m.	Rams starring Sam Neill who sadly died in July. Rams is a lovely, even-tempered drama about men and rural life, gentle but firm of spirit, with a down-to-earth pith and a way of entertainingly and unpretentiously exploring potentially difficult subjects.	£5 On the door
Film Club Thu 26 th Nov. 7.30 p.m.	The Sheep Detectives- the 'ovine' theme continues! Hugh Jackman is shepherd George dedicated to raising sheep for their wool, not their meat – which is not exactly the attitude of the local agribusiness types who have designs on his land. A feelgood crime caper.	£5 On the door

To join our mailing list please email us - email4leap@gmail.com

September Farming Notes

The last few weeks have certainly felt like a memorable time, with the dry weather feeling like it will never end, but of course having faith that eventually it will change and the rain will return. At the time of writing, we have finally had some significant rain, after weeks and weeks with nothing much to speak of at all. A relief for many I am sure!

On the farm, with grass availability at an all time low, we have started feeding some of the cattle hay to keep them going, and it may be a few more weeks before we see a recovery in the grass growth. I'm not sure how it will pan out.



Our focus on the farm has been on the cattle over the last week in particular. Mid-August is when it is time to turn the bulls out, and this is the first time we've turned out our own homebred bulls, after using a hire bull for the last four years. We have 11 heifers and cows for breeding this time, and so we split them into two groups with one bull each. It's been a really lovely and rewarding process to breed our own bulls, seeing them grow from fluffy little calves into increasingly impressive beasts. Calving for 2027 will be from late May onwards.

We had a calf born last Sunday, which was a bit of a surprise, because when we scanned back in November, two cows were inconclusive as to whether they were in calf or not, so we didn't have accurate dates for them. It's a beautiful



grey-coloured calf. In the past, these have turned a very light colour as they get older. There is still one cow left to go, so I will keep my eyes peeled.



The next task was to move half the cattle down to the land at Station Road – which I find is a logistical challenge, to put it mildly! With a small army of volunteers, the move went smoothly, thanks to Jill and Andre Smith stopping the traffic on Butts Road and turning the cattle down Cross Lane (I'm not sure if this is the official name for it?!). Jill said some tourists from London were amazed by the sight of the cattle trotting through the village. Definitely not something you see every day! Also thank you to Peter Shimwell, my mum Diane and Andrew Lamb for covering Moor Road and Main Street, and to Andy Joyce and our campsite helpers Andy and Deb for their support up at Dale Farm, to make sure nobody wandered into the path of the cattle en route. There is plenty of grazing down there, so hopefully the cattle will be happy.

Joanna Shimwell



Computer Repair Man

Friendly & Reliable, Over 20+ years experience.
Based in Calver, covering the Hope Valley.
find us on Facebook @PeakCloudSolutions

- ☑ PC, Laptop, Apple Mac & all brands.
- ☑ Sales, Support, Repairs & Upgrades
- ☑ Wireless & Wired Networking



PEAK CLOUD SOLUTIONS

TEL : 01433 333003

web : www.peakclouds.uk

email : info@peakclouds.uk



Dog Walking

Sitting Services





MONSAL TAILS



TO DISCUSS OUR RANGE OF SERVICES
PLEASE GET IN TOUCH

☎ 0758 777 0003

✉ oliver@monsaltails.co.uk

🌐 www.monsaltails.co.uk

Dear All,

As I write, and if one is so minded, today, 6th August 2026, is the day to celebrate the 35th anniversary of the World Wide Web becoming available on the internet. For the sake of clarity, I should explain that the World Wide Web, or Web for short, are the pages you see when you are online, whereas the internet is the network of connected computers that the Web works on. This incredible technological breakthrough made it much easier for people across the whole world to get information and to share and communicate ideas. 35 years later, it's safe to say that with the exception of the most remote geographic communities and very small children, almost the entirety of humanity now relies heavily on our connection to the World Wide Web.

There are often discussions in our household, not always complimentary I might add, about society's ever-increasing reliance on online services. On the positive side, the Web has revolutionised the way we communicate, learn, work, and socialise, making it easier and faster to connect with people around the world and to access an astonishingly vast amount of information on almost any topic. But this also means that our brains are now having to cope with a tidal wave of information that can often leave us bewitched, bothered

and bewildered. Enticing as it is, the information, not to mention the misinformation we are processing, has become so complete that we might wonder if there is any such thing as an absolute truth that everyone can grasp and hold. The ever-increasing move to online services and communication has also led to a decline in face-to-face interactions, with many people, particularly the elderly, finding access to online services too complex, cutting them off from essential public and commercial services and potentially leading to feelings of isolation and loneliness.

All this offers an intriguing parallel perspective of the Christian faith. Christianity, above all, draws us into fellowship – connection. Through the Holy Spirit, we are able to connect with one another in deep, new ways. The more we practise forgiveness, collective worship and shared service, the more deeply connected we become. The World Wide Web demonstrates what a vast difference can be made to the world by being completely connected, and in that sense, is a glimpse of just how powerful our Christian fellowships can be as an agent of change in this world when we connect together deeply. Secondly, if the vastness of information available online astonishes us, it pales into insignificance beside the vastness of

God. If we ever think we have God in a box, understood and wrapped up, we need to think again. Thirdly, for all the vast complexity of God, we are not left entirely to our own devices (no pun intended!). Rather, we have Him mediated to us in Jesus, who makes God human for us, someone we can relate to and interact with. Jesus is our 'window' into that absolute truth that affects us all.

There may be much to say about the downside of our digital world, but for all its faults, we couldn't possibly make it through modern life without the World Wide Web. By the same token, for all the faults of the Church, many of us could not get through life without Jesus Christ. Perhaps in an age of a bewildering volume of instantaneous information, we need Jesus more than ever, making the complex vastness of reality human-sized and human-shaped for us.

David Beale, Reader at St Giles

St. Giles' Churchwarden Contact Details

Frank Hammond

07935 873930

cubanheel26@btinternet.com

*Please monitor the Lychgate
Notice Board on Church Lane
for all the latest church news*



**Leefy Tree and
Woodland Services**

07942 362 492

Lee is a highly experienced and knowledgeable Tree Surgeon capable of undertaking all aspects of tree and hedge management.

- Narrow access stump grinder
- Chipper for biomass wood chip
- Avant loader for heavy lifting

- Fully insured
- Over 18 years experience
- City & Guild NPTC Qualified
- Working to BS3998
- Responsible waste disposal

Covering Bakewell, Buxton, Chesterfield,
Sheffield and surrounding areas.

Call for a free, no obligation quote

**BAKEWELL
OSTEOPATHY
CLINIC**

WE CAN HELP YOU WITH:

- HEADACHES & MIGRAINES
- NECK PAIN & WHIPLASH
- FROZEN OR STIFF SHOULDERS
- TENNIS ELBOW
- SLIPPED DISCS
- REPETITIVE STRAIN INJURIES
- TRAPPED NERVES
- LOWER BACK PAIN
- HIP, THIGH OR KNEE PROBLEMS
- POSTURAL CHANGES DURING PREGNANCY
- CHRONIC FATIGUE SYNDROME (ME)

The clinic is also a multi-disciplinary clinic and we offer the following therapies:

- OSTEOPATHY
- SPORTS MASSAGE
- SHOCKWAVE THERAPY
- IDD THERAPY (for acute and degenerative disc issues)

CLINIC HOURS AND HOME VISTS:

Our Clinic Opening days are Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays from 9.00am to 6.30pm.

We can arrange Home Vists by special request.



**CALL PHIL HELER:
01298 214994
07980 930755**

www.bakewellosteopathy.co.uk
7B Buxton Road, Bakewell, DE45 1DA

T W Cox Contractors
Property Services

Est. 1987

**ALL ASPECTS OF BUILDING &
PROPERTY MAINTENANCE**

DRAINAGE
FENCING
PAINTING
GRAVESTONE STRAIGHTENING
GRAVE LEVELLING SERVICE AVAILABLE



01629 640340
07743 199853



Estimates and advice given free



**Bakewell Pet
Supplies**



Wide range of pet products
Free local delivery

8 Water Street, Bakewell
Tel: 01629 814264

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

Services in September

+L-Longstone. +R-Rowsley

6th September – Trinity 14

9am Eucharist (Wardlow)

10.30am Eucharist (St Giles)

13th September – Trinity 15

9.30am Sung Eucharist (Ashford) (+L)

6pm Benefice Evensong (St Giles)

20th September – Trinity 16

10.30am Eucharist (St Giles) (+R)

6pm Benefice Evensong (Bakewell)

27th September – Trinity 17

10.30am Morning Worship (St Giles)

4pm Harvest Service (Wardlow)

September in the Garden

Lawns: Re-seed worn patches and apply Autumn fertiliser. Aerate, apply sand and compost and scarify to remove debris. Control weeds, fungal infections and moss.

Roses: Remove faded blooms, continue to spray against Mildew, Blackspot and Aphids. Tie the shoots of climbers into a fan shape. Scatter sulphate of Potash on beds and hoe in.

Herbaceous Plants: Continue to dead head and cut back old foliage. Keep hoeing to control weeds.

Dahlias: Check ties as Autumn gales can cause damage. Feed once a month with liquid fertiliser for better blooms.

Gladioli: Leave new Corms undisturbed until fully matured.

Chrysanthemums: Select best outdoor varieties for propagating. Remove indoor varieties into greenhouse.

Sweet Peas: Purchase seeds for sowing next month.

Bulbs: Plant in groups between Herbaceous plants and shrubs or on rockeries and lawns for best show.

Fruit: Harvest Blackberries and Autumn Raspberries. Plant out new Strawberries. Cut out old Blackberry growth and tie in new shoots. Complete Summer pruning. Top fruit.

Vegetables: Plant Spring Cabbage, sow Lettuce for overwintering. Lift main crop carrots and store in layers in sand in deep boxes.

General tasks: Order roses, herbaceous plants, bulbs, shrubs and fruit bushes if required. Take cuttings of evergreen shrubs, Geraniums and Hydrangeas. Clear away remaining crops that have finished. Check gutters and drains are free of leaves and debris. Check electrical installations are in working order.

Transylvanian Cabbage Rolls – Sarmale

Simona produced these delicious cabbage rolls as her contribution to last year's Village Hall lunch, held after the Pet and Harvest Service in St. Giles. The wild mushrooms had been picked by Richard Cox and their son Stefan (*see photo*), and were of the *Boletus* genus (which includes cep and porcini). ***Don't pick wild mushrooms yourself unless you know what you are doing – some varieties can cause fatal poisoning.*** If unsure, stick to supermarket chestnut mushrooms.

Cut out the core of the cabbage, and submerge it in a large pot of salted boiling water (cored side down). Leave until its leaves start to soften. Peel away the

- 1 large green cabbage
- 500g lean mixed pork and beef mince
- 100g round grain rice
- 1 onion
- 2 tbsp oil
- 1 pinch sweet paprika
- Vegetable stock powder
- 150g wild or chestnut mushrooms
- 2 eggs
- 250g smoked bacon
- 2 large tomatoes or 150ml tomato puree
- ½ tsp dried thyme
- ½ tsp dried dill

leaves one by one with a wooden fork, and transfer to a plate to cool. Trim the thick middle vein from the back of the leaves, and if the leaves are big, you can cut them to the desired size. In Transylvania, they are typically made quite large.

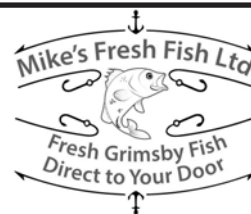
Wash and slice the mushrooms and saute in oil in a skillet. When they are soft, add the finely chopped onion and saute until it is translucent. Add the rice and cook for another couple of minutes, stirring all the time. Cool slightly and add the mince, eggs, salt, pepper, seasoning, sweet paprika and finely chopped thyme and dill. Mix well together.

Place a tablespoon of the mixture onto the edge of a cabbage leaf. Roll the leaf up tightly, then tuck the loose ends into the sides with your finger, ensuring the filling stays inside.

Now, finely shred the leftover cabbage leaves and scatter a layer across the bottom of a large clay or cast-iron pot. Arrange the cabbage rolls in tight, concentric circles, and tuck the smoked ribs or bacon in the middle. Cover the top with remaining shredded cabbage. Pour over the tomato puree, or add the fresh sliced tomatoes.

Add water to the pot to ensure the rolls are submerged. Cover and simmer gently for 2.5 hours, occasionally shaking it gently. Transfer to an oven for 30 minutes to get a beautiful colour. Serve warm with sour cream and enjoy!

Simona Labo



Cod, Salmon, Seabass, Tuna, Monkfish, Sole, Mackerel, Scampi, Prawns, Dressed Crabs, Jellied Eels, Fish Cakes & much more

Deliveries to your Home
every Thursday

Call 07720 256654 to arrange a visit
www.mikesfreshfishltd.com

Franklin & Co.
SOLICITORS · BAKWELL

Wills & Probate

Trusts & Estate Planning

Lasting Powers of Attorney

Residential Conveyancing

Commercial Property

www.franklin-solicitors.co.uk

Town Hall Chambers
Anchor Square
Bakewell
DE45 1DR

Tel: 01629 814461

What's On

Tuesdays - Art Group, GL Village Hall 1.30-3.30pm
Wednesdays - Walk on the Mild Side, St Giles' Lychgate 10am (page 5)
Thursdays - Knit, Stitch and Natter, GL Village Hall 1.30-3.30pm
Fridays - Whist Group, GL Village Hall 7pm, £2.50
2nd September - WI *British Sign Language* talk, GL Village Hall, 7.30pm (page 6)
4th September - Longstone Chase Fell Race, The Rec, 6.30pm (page 13)
5th-6th September - *Art in the Gardens*, Sheffield Botanical Gardens, (page 10)
8th September - Longstone Local History Group Outing, Quarry Bank Mill (page 15)
9th September - GL Parish Council Meeting, GL Village Hall, 7pm
15th September - LL History Group meeting, GL Village Hall 7.45pm (page 15)
16th September - LEAP Autumn Garland, GL Village Hall 10am-4pm (page 23) £10
18th-20th September - Monsal Beerfest, Stables Bar/Canteen, The Monsal (page 9)
19th September - Coffee Concert, All Saints Bakewell, 11.15am (page 11)
23rd September - LEAP Ceramics Workshop, GL Village Hall 7-9pm (page 23) £15
24th September - Film Club, *Stone of Stone*, GL Village Hall 7.30pm (page 23)
27th September - LEAP Apple Day, Morris Family Farm 12-4pm (page 23)
30th September - LEAP Book Swap Café, GL Village Hall, 2-4pm (page 23)
30th September - Peak Music concert, Cavendish Hall Edensor, 7.30pm (page 11) £25

Bakewell Medical Centre

ddicb.adminpeakanddales@nhs.net

Telephone: 01629 816636

Normal Surgery Opening Times:

Mon-Fri 8am - 6.30pm
 We do not close for lunch

Closed: Bank Holidays and second Wednesday afternoon of month except August and December.

Whitworth Hospital Opening Times:

A&E (Minor Injuries Unit): 8am - 8pm
 X-Ray: Mon-Fri 9am - 4.30pm

For medical advice when the surgery is closed, phone 111

NHS App: If you have access to the internet you can download the NHS App from your App Store to order repeat medications and access other functions on-line.

Credit/Debit Cards: We accept payments via cards as well as cash.

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 second Wednesday afternoon of each month except August and December.

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

WARDLOW VILLAGE HALL

NEWLY REFURBISHED & AVAILABLE FOR HIRE




Ideal location for
 Classes • Clubs
 Groups • Meetings
 Celebrations • Socials

Fully Equipped Kitchen
 Central Heating
 Open Fire
 Tables & Chairs Supplied

ENQUIRIES & BOOKINGS
CLAIRE ROWLAND
 07727 635783
 claire.rowland@hotmail.co.uk

Urgent Treatment Centres

Open 8am-8pm, 7 days a week

Clinicians will deal with

*Strains, Sprains, Eye problems,
 Cuts needing stitches, Broken limbs
 Abdominal pain, Minor head injuries*

Buxton Cottage Hospital

London Road, Buxton SK17 9NJ

01298 214000

Whitworth Hospital

Matlock Road, Darley Dale DE4 2JD

01629 580211

Defibrillators

Great Longstone

Main Street, in phone box by bus shelter opposite Longstone School.
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.

WSouthern Joinery Bespoke Woodworking

Specialist in sliding box sash windows
 Casement windows and doors
 All joinery work undertaken
 Mobile: 07707 772561



Web: www.wsouthernjoinery.co.uk
 Email: wsouthernjoinery@hotmail.co.uk

J. W. & J. METTAM LIMITED

Independent Family
 Funeral Directors since 1899

Ambrose House,
 Granby Croft,
 Bakewell DE45 1ET

Tel: (01629 812114)

J.M. Rowland

Decorating
 &
 Joinery

Tel: 01629 640021

Mob: 07976 967798

Mobile gentlemen & boys barber

Teresa

*Experienced and reliable
 At a time and place to suit your
 busy life.....*

Tel: 07974 960209

CareForFeet
PODIATRY & CHIROPODY
 Foot Clinic
 Tel: 01629 259672

5 Matlock Street, Bakewell, DE45 1EE

Website: www.careforfeetuk.co.uk

Google
 Reviews *****

The COLLEGE
 of PODIATRY

hpcp registered

Great Longstone Greet the Full Moon



Thanks to Gavin Kreit for this photo, taken from the school boundary looking across the Rec

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:

Wednesday 23rd September

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.

Subscriptions are available - contact **subscriptions@undertheedge.net**

Correspondence address for those without access to email:

**c/o Sunnyside, Little Longstone,
Bakewell, Derbyshire, DE45 1NN**

All back issues available on our website

www.undertheedge.net



THE CRISPIN
GREAT LONGSTONE

FREE DRINK CASH PRIZE

**FIRST FRIDAY OF THE MONTH
FROM 9PM**

Join us on the first Friday of every month for a fun Quiz Night with quiz host Mark Wright. Free drinks for the quiz winners plus a bonus cash prize up for grabs. Food served until 9pm, book a table for this fun-filled night!

EVERYONE WELCOME!

The Crispin Great Longstone 01629 640237



The Crispin Inn

Main Street, Great Longstone DE45 1TZ

**Traditional Family Owned
Country Inn**

Quality Home Cooked Food
(Local produce & suppliers)

Takeaway available

Award winning Cask Ales
Extensive Wine List

Two dining rooms available for
parties & business meetings

Beer garden & outdoor seating

Children, dogs & muddy boots welcome

5 star hygiene rating

Supporting the
community
since 2005

01629 640237

www.thecrispingreatlongstone.co.uk