

The Voice

Volume 6, Issue 3

August 2009

HOW IS THE VILLAGE HALL PROJECT PROGRESSING?

A question that is probably in the minds of Over Haddon residents!!

Well, the Village Hall Management Committee has been involved in the delicate process of identifying suitable construction firms to act as main contractor. This process, managed by our Quantity Surveyor and with the assistance of our Architect, has included:

1. Issue of Pre-qualification questionnaires.
2. Identification and appraisal of contractors to be invited to tender.
3. Development of tender specifications with our Architect, Quantity Surveyors, Mechanical and Electrical Consultant, Health and Safety Coordinator, Structural Engineer and Derbyshire Dales District Council (as Building Control Officer).
4. Issue of tenders to "preferred" contractors.
5. Appraisal of tenders returned.

Currently, the Village Hall Management Committee, in conjunction with the Quantity Surveyor and Architect, are considering the results of the tendering process and are in sensitive discussions surrounding the tenders received.

It is the intention of the Village Hall Committee to hold an "Open Meeting" to which all residents will be invited, once the outcome of current discussions has been identified.

At this stage, however, the Village Hall Management Committee can confirm

that they have secured around 90% of the estimated cost of the project (this figure includes a commitment by the Village Hall Committee of £10,000/£15,000 of its' own funds raised from activities over a number of years).

Taking into account the current stage of negotiations, in connection with the tenders received, it appears that a further £50,000 will be needed to bring a new village hall to Over Haddon.

The Village Hall Management Committee has a number of grant applications pending and is working hard to identify other funding sources to "bridge the gap".

Being so close to its' final target the Village Hall Management Committee would like to issue an appeal to anyone who might be interested in supporting the project to please contact any committee member or one of the following:

Martin Chresta, Chair on 814177

Keith Renshaw, Treasurer on 813759

Dick Foxon, Secretary on 812133



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Over Haddon Well Dressing 2009: A view of events from the young ladies of Over Haddon

The Over Haddon Well Dressing was great! It took place over three weeks and we all enjoyed meeting lots of people in the village.

We started by putting wooden boards into the River Lathkil. Taking the boards into and then out of the river was enjoyable because lots of families took part in this. Some of our friends even dared to swim in the river, after the boards had been put in.

Two weeks after the boards were placed in the river we had a fun ride in the back of AJ's Landrover to collect the soaked boards. Soaking the wood is important because it helps the clay to stay moist so the petals don't dry out too quickly.

Once we had put the soaked boards into AJ's Landrover we took them to Helen and David Head's garage, which is where we do all the well dressing work such as clay work, applying the designs, woolling, petalling and the finishing touches.

Firstly, we started by filling the boards with clay and making sure they were smooth with no gaps. Otherwise the clay would dry out and it would be hard for us to trace the designs on. Once we had put the clay in, we applied the designs by using soluble ink on tracing paper which soaked into the clay, leaving us an outline which we then followed around with wool. There were two designs - a green man for the adults and for juniors a recycling themed picture.

When that was finished we made the picture by using different coloured petals and leaves. We pressed the petals and leaves into the damp clay with the aid of a cocktail stick to fix them in place. This took us all week to finish and looked amazing.

Once both well dressings were finished, we assembled them and we all gathered at the well where the adults dressing was placed. Then we took pictures of everyone who had contributed standing around the finished dressing. Then we went to the village hall and the junior well dressing was put in place.

After the dressings were put up the Over Haddon Village Hall committee kindly supplied us with delicious fish and chips to thank everyone for their contributions, which made the well dressings fantastic.

Many people visited the well dressings the following week and we raised lots of generously donated money for our chosen charities, which are Village Aid (to continue our connection with the well in the Gambia) and also to Weston Park Hospital (in memory of AJ Hall) and to the British Lung Foundation (in memory of Ken Bond).

**By Lucy Beckett, Annabel Miller and
Megan Caldwell**

'ello, 'ello, 'ello.

Notes on a Neighbourhood Watch Open Evening at the Village Hall on 9th July 2009

About a dozen neighbours joined a discourse between our designated contact, PC 2782 Sandra Wetton, and standing and locally well known Officer Malcolm Hutchinson.

The meeting was interspersed with questions and queries from most of those attending.

We were reminded that Over Haddon is one of the safest villages in one of the safest areas of Derbyshire with a virtually nil crime level – Hurrah! There was only one criminal break-in recorded in the last year!

Our 'Safer Neighbourhood Team' covers 21 different villages although it is designated as "Stanton & Youlgrave" area. At the officers' request for a better description, it was suggested that "White Peak Safer Neighbourhood Area" would be a more suitable title. Our Village is in the Matlock Sub-division.

We were encouraged to register with the e-mail and telephone services provided by the Derbyshire Constabulary "Ringmaster Network" to keep up to date with the current criminal activities in the Buxton/Bakewell area. Application forms can be obtained from Dick Foxon—call 812133.

A suggestion was made by the Officers that security in the vil-

lage could be further enhanced by the introduction of a vehicle recognition CCTV cameras situated on the roads into and out of the village. It was explained that there would be a cost to the village for this installation.

Advice was given to everyone to always lock doors, keep keys, particularly car keys, hidden well out of sight, away from ones front doors; and to use invisible Marker pens to identify ones name or post code on all valuables.

When on holiday we should inform a trusted neighbour, asking that person to look at the house periodically, to remove obvious signs of ones absence; and we should set up timed internal lights.

If we are aware of any possible criminal or suspicious activity we should promptly telephone the Police, BEFORE triggering the Neighbourhood Watch Tree.

The Police Telephone Number to their Call centre which would act on any report of any suspicious activity is 0345 1233333.

Please don't ring Buxton or Bakewell Police Stations.

'The River Lathkill'

Over Haddon Village Hall

5th March 2009

On a rather chilly evening in March we were entertained and educated in the form of an absorbing presentation by Phil Bowler entitled 'The River Lathkill'. (yes – it was spelt with 2 'l's on the flyer!). Phil is Senior Reserve Manager Derbyshire Dales National Nature Reserve.

There was an excellent attendance for this event and I am sure that most, if not all, of the people who came to this talk would agree that we were well entertained and refreshingly educated.

Phil warned us that we may have difficulty in 'getting our heads' round some of the subject matter that he would be talking to us about. The fascinated silence from the audience while he explained and spoke about the history, wildlife, problems and future of the Lathkill River did, I believe, imply interest.

The story begins near the equator in sub tropical Africa some 335 million years ago – now that made us sit up and I hope (dear reader) that this has engaged your interest too if you were not fortunate enough to be at this presentation. The whole White Peak area was then part of a tropical lagoon and included coral reefs and volcanoes – this is why there are so many fossils and rock forms in Lathkill Dale. The build up of the shells and the remains of sea creatures on the bed of this lagoon created the limestone that is so familiar to this area, and the whitish limestone colour is why the area is called 'The White Peak'.

Phil took us through the 335 million years history, explaining the formation of the limestone and granite, the caves and water tables, and the rock form waterfall. He talked about the Ice Age that resulted in the steep sided valley now called Lathkill Dale. He talked of the fossils visible in Ricklow Quarry. He also included the Scottish influence – eroded remains of the ancient mountains of Scotland which made Millstone Grit and which form the boundary of the White Peak to the north and east. He mentioned the granite to be found at the Monyash pond – unique within the White Peak. He mentioned Lathkill Head Cave and the underground drainage, and told us that all of these 'forms' make up an area full of important geological sites.

In more modern times (and this meant that I could more easily get my head round this era!) Phil talked of the mining

in Lathkill Dale and in particular mentioned Bateman's House and mineshaft, and the soughs. He talked of the weirs and their effect on the river, and commented on various renovations and suchlike. He explained the intrinsic value of all of these forms, ancient and modern, and whether they had been created by nature or by man.

SSSI's and SAC's were explained ('Sites of Special Scientific Interest' and 'Special Areas of Conservation'), and that SSSI's are this country's very best wildlife and geological sites.

Phil talked of pollution and climate change, pressure from development and unsustainable land management.

He talked of the birds to be found in the Dale, including the dipper; of the flora and water plants; of the varying trout and the crayfish; of water vole, mink and fox; of the influence of people. Phil mentioned his huge excitement regarding blind shrimps, which raised a query from William Parsons about the quality of his love life!!

We are lucky to live by one of the loveliest of the limestone valleys of the White Peak, and Phil helped me, and I hope all present at his talk, to appreciate even more the spectacular and beautiful scenery and habitats. He encouraged us to assist in the preservation of this natural heritage for future generations.

Phil summed up the importance of The River Lathkill as being at times "a very little stream" but of "huge national and international importance", not just in this area – not just in the Peak District – not even just in the UK or Europe – but in world wide terms.

He incorporated pictures and maps within his presentation and after an active question and answer session, Patrick echoed our thoughts and included his personal knowledge of the Dale and the river (having known it for 72 years!) with a thank you to Phil for a fascinating and informative talk.

On a personal note, I apologise to my readers for the lateness of this review – but a matter of a few months is but 'Lilliputian' compared with the 335 million years covered by Phil Bowler in this most stimulating presentation.

Her Suziness – August 2009

FRIENDS OF ST. ANNE'S CHURCH, OVER HADDON

At their first "open" Annual general Meeting on Thursday 20th August 2009 residents learnt that the recent misunderstandings between the Parochial Church Council (for Bakewell Churches including St. Anne's, Over Haddon) and the trustees of Friends of St. Anne's, had been fully and amicably resolved.

Both Dick Foxon (Chair of Friends of St. Anne's Charitable Trust) and Rev. John-Paul Hoskins (attending on behalf of the Church) were able to jointly confirm that a way forward had now been agreed and that the maintenance of the churchyard was again back in the hands of Barry Thurlby, who is assisted by Bob Foreman (both village residents).

The meeting also learnt that the collection at Jimmy Greig's Funeral Service had been in aid of Friends of St. Anne's.

In closing his report Dick Foxon appealed for any residents who would like to support Friends of St. Anne's to consider setting up a regular standing order. **Anyone interested should contact 812133.**

CATCH THAT RAT !!

About two of months ago a couple of lads came round to our house asking whether we had lost a white rat. I guess we do have quite a lot of animals, but a rat was not one of them. We learned that Bob and Helen Foreman had found a fairly tame-ish young rat in their garden, and thought it must have escaped from somewhere. But where?

Jason the postie had tried to catch it in his mailbag but to no avail and it was still on the loose. This was music to my daughter Jess's ears and she grabbed a fishing net and set off up the road. "You'll never catch it in that!" I laughed after her.

But true Jess style, she *did* catch it!

Jason offered to take it home to fill an empty cage he happened to have, but postie and Pinkie failed to bond. Luckily Pinkie the rat eventually found his way home and is now going to be the star of a brand new children's picture book, written by me!

I was so inspired by this funny incident, that I wrote a story about it and have just heard that Simon & Schuster are going to publish it! Of course, I have exaggerated - slightly - but that's what picture books are all about!

I thought the villagers of Over Haddon deserved to be the first to read it, so here it is. I hope you like it.

Caryl

(ps, in case you're wondering, Caryl Hart is my pen name. I'm still Caryl Isaac underneath!)

Catch That Rat

by Caryl Hart

I went out this morning and what did I see?

CATCH... THAT...RAT!

A rat with white whiskers was looking at me!

CATCH... THAT...RAT!

It had scratchy pink paws and a pointy pink nose

And was dressed in some raggedy baggy old clothes

Then suddenly SQUEAK! It jumped over my toes!

CATCH THAT RAT!

The rat darted in through my open front door

CATCH THAT RAT!

Then skittered and scuttered across the hall floor

CATCH THAT RAT!

It streaked round the sofa where grandmother sat

It shot up her stockings and leaped on her hat

"Help me!" shrieked Granny, "Be quick! Fetch the cat!"

CATCH THAT RAT!

"Keep still!" cried the postman, "I've got a great plan."

CATCH THAT RAT!

He emptied his sack then he dived towards Gran

CATCH THAT RAT!

He swept the sack down over Grandmother's head

But missed that white rat and caught Grandma instead

Straight up the chimney that little rat fled

CATCH THAT RAT!

Gran struggled free and she picked up her stick

CATCH THAT RAT!

"He's up on the roof!" she cried. "Follow me. Quick!"

CATCH THAT RAT!

She squeezed up the chimney and started to climb

The Postie and I followed closely behind
It was sooty and dirty but *we* didn't mind
CATCH THAT RAT!

"Follow us!" cried some builders, "We know what to do!"

CATCH THAT RAT!

"We'll squish it, we'll squash it and saw it in two!"

CATCH THAT RAT!

The rat found a drain pipe and slid to the ground

It leapt on a bus and was off towards town
We had to keep up, so we followed it down

CATCH THAT RAT!

We jumped in a cab crying, "Follow that Bus!"

CATCH THAT RAT!

The taxi zoomed off in a great cloud of dust

CATCH THAT RAT!

"We're chasing a rodent," the builders explained

"Well, he's off to the airport!" The driver exclaimed

"Look there! It's your rat, getting onto a plane."

CATCH THAT RAT!

We bought lots of tickets and ran to get in
CATCH THAT RAT!

But the doors were all locked, so we clung to the wing

CATCH THAT RAT!

But that plane was a *rocket*, so six minutes later

We touched down on planet Bongolazadater

The rat scurried out and hid in a crater

CATCH THAT...

STOP!!!

That's no way to catch a rat!

And there stood an alien, scaly and red
He had twenty six eyes on long stalks round his head

"Can't you see that she's frightened?"

She's shaking!" he said.

Poor scared rat

"You have to be gentle. Don't scare her. Don't shout."

Catch that rat

"If you give her a biscuit, she's sure to come out."

Catch that rat

So I took out some cake crumbs and crouched in the sand

Then out scampered Pinky and sat on my hand!

And everyone whispered "Now isn't that grand!"

You caught that rat

So Pinky's a *girl* rat! Her fur is so sleek
Cute white rat

She runs up my shoulder and tickles my cheek

Cute white rat.

"To the rocket!" smiled Grandma. "It's time for our tea."

So on climbed the builders, the cabbie and me

And the postman sat down on the alien's knee

With my new pet rat!

Now Pinky's my pet, she wears little pink bows

She has little pink paws, and a little pink nose

And Grandma has knitted some little pink clothes

For my cute pet rat

THE END

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Caryl Hart

Children's Author

Visit my website, www.carylhart.com and check out my new blog!

"IT'S NEARLY SHOWTIME"

Over Haddon Village Show will be on **Saturday 12th September!**

This year has seen the last Royal Show -- don't let ours go the same way! There are more than 100 different classes, so there will be something for everyone-whether you're **8 or eighty**. And many of them require very little preparation, such as pot plants, a jug of flowers, flapjacks, scones, a tea cosy you've already knitted, some jewellery you made 3 months ago, or all those photos just waiting to be printed off.

We were asked for a black and white class in photography, so we've added that, and there's a new limerick to have a go at.

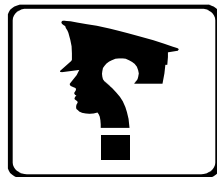
Last year the **children's entries** were excellent, and we're hoping for even better this year. We've made the choices as wide as possible- so why not spend a few days at the end of the summer holidays designing a poster, writing a poem, making a miniature garden -- or just digging out some of those brilliant pictures you did at school last term?

Schedules are available from Christine Chresta on 01629 814177 or check out the website at www.ohvh.co.uk

On show day there will be Teas and Tombola available from 2.30pm onwards. Children's sports at 3.30pm, Auction of Produce at 4.30pm.

Donations of bottles for the Tombola, and cakes for Teas would be gratefully received.

We're also having an extra, fun competition entitled **"WHO AM I NOW?"**



Let us have a childhood picture and a recent photo of you - these will be displayed from 2.30 to 4.30, and we'll see who can correctly match up the most pairs - with a prize for the winner!
Please leave photos with Martin Chresta, Top Croft, Main St, with your name. All photos will be returned.

REGULAR MEETINGS AT THE VILLAGE HALL

BOWLS:

MONDAY EVNGS DURING AUTUMN/WINTER

GRAHAM TAYLOR.....813953

MUMS & TODDLERS:

WEDS MORNINGS WEEKLY

NICOLA WALKER812718

KEEP FIT:

WEDS EVENINGS WEEKLY

DONNA.....732917

WI:

WEDS EVNGS MONTHLY

RITA FURR813060

PHOTOSHOP WORKSHOP:

THURS AFTERNOONS WEEKLY

JIM EDMUNDSON.....812025

BOOK CLUB:

THURS EVNGS MONTHLY

MARION813001

TRICIA812781

Schedule of Events

- **THURSDAY 27 AUGUST-**
Babbling Vagabonds Theatre. 'Wee Meg Barnileg'
- **SUNDAY 6 SEPT-**
The Big Picnic in the Dale. (Flyers already distributed)
- **SATURDAY 12 SEPT-**
Village Show
- **SATURDAY 19 SEPT-**
Bakewell Silver Band
- **THURSDAY 29 OCT -**
Chatsworth Players at Chatsworth House
- **SATURDAY 7 NOV-**
Bonfire and fireworks
- **FRIDAY 20 NOV-**
'Live and Local' presents Ashley Hutchinson. Details to follow

WANTED:

I am looking to buy an old Renault 4. These are increasingly considered a classic car and, if I can identify one in good enough condition I would like to be able to keep it under cover. Do you have a garage you don't use and would be willing to let me use on a medium to long term basis (ideally for free but otherwise for a modest charge) ?
If so, please contact Andrew Isaac on 814035.

THE VILLAGE HALL CAN BE HIRED FOR PRIVATE PARTIES OR MEETINGS.

VILLAGERS HAVE THE BENEFIT OF PAYING ONLY 50% OF HIRE FEES.

CALL 812133 FOR DETAILS.

Over Haddon People

I was going to continue with the history of Over Haddon's buildings, but I'm still collecting material, so I thought I'd talk about the people who have lived in the village. The wealthy are usually easy to trace, as they left wills and other documents. But the ordinary people are more difficult, usually only appearing in official documents if they have committed crimes, were responsible for upholding the law, were taxpayers, or were thrown on the mercy of the parish.

I will begin with the blameless ones, with the earliest references I have discovered.

The earliest document I have found dates from the 12th century, but only mentions grants of land in Over Haddon from people living elsewhere. However, in 1411 William de Bagshah [Bagshaw] granted to Emma, widow of John le Dale junior [presumably Lathkill Dale], and her son Nicholas, all the lands they had jointly owned in Over Haddon.

In medieval times men from each parish were elected *Frankpledge*, which meant they were elected by fellow parishioners to keep the peace and bring felons and wrong-doers to justice. The following were elected *Frankpledge* in these years:

1435 - John Hodgkinson, Thomas Leys, Richard Sharp, William Fairfield

1445 - Richard Sharp, Robert Felys

1471 - Richard Flecher, Richard Knolles

1472 - Richard Fletcher, Richard Kenwarden, Thomas Hodgkinson

1509 - Thurston Brodhurst, Roger Smelley [?Smetheley], Robert Halley

1524 - Edward Hodgkinson, William Smetheley

1525 - Richard Webster

1526 - Thurston Hodkynson

1531 - Richard Feyles

In each case I have reproduced the names as they were written. Some of the surnames crop up for hundreds of years after this; some are never seen again. The ones which occur for many years are: Hodgkinson, Broadhurst & Webster.

In 1661 the people of Britain were encouraged to give a donation to the newly restored king, Charles II, to pay for his expenses and other royal accoutrements that Oliver Cromwell had destroyed or melted down. This was called **The Free and Voluntary Present**. However, it was anything but free and voluntary; all substantial citizens were expected to give a

donation, depending on their circumstances.

In Over Haddon, the list was rather small, as were their donations.

George Webster, Yeoman	2s 6d
George Broadhurst, Yeoman	2s
Roger Milner, Husbandman	2s
John Mellor, Husbandman	1s
John Brunt, Husbandman	1s
Thomas Wheeldon, Husbandman	1s
Roger Taylor, Husbandman	1s
Hugh Jones, Miner	1s
Thomas Newton, Miner	1s

This list gives us three occupations of men living in Over Haddon. A **Yeoman** was a farmer - either owning his own land, or renting a substantial acreage from a landlord, and with an income of at least £40 a year. A **husbandman** was a step down from a yeoman i.e. having a few acres in what would now be called a smallholding. Most husbandmen were usually tenants, not owners. The **miners** would be lead miners, as lead mining was still an important industry at that time - in fact lead mining had been a major industry here since Roman times, and probably long before that. The two miners mentioned must have been more affluent than other miners in the village to have been able to afford a donation of 1 shilling, which was more than a day's wage for a labourer. The lowest scale of workers at that time were agricultural labourers and quarry labourers. None of them were earning enough to give a donation.

A few years later Charles II was calling upon his subjects for more money, this time in 1670. This was **The Hearth Tax**, which was exactly as described. Everyone's houses were entered by the Tax Collectors and the number of hearths (i.e. fireplaces) was counted. The hearths were taxed at 2 shillings a year, which was a substantial amount at that time. Only the poorest were exempted. In Over Haddon the list (with the number of hearths owned by each person) was as follows:

Tho. Boame	3
George Webster	2
Tho. Newton	2
Will. Tofft	2
Mr John Bateman	2
George Broadhurst	2
Roger Milner	1
George Greaves	1
George Langley	1

by Carolyn Pearce

John Handley	1
Humphrey Swindle	1
Huge [sic] Jones	1
Roger Taylor	1
George Dugthy	1
Francis Newton	1
Rich. Redfearne	1
Will. Hodgkinson	1
Will. Taylor	1
John Mellor	1
Will. Flancksby	1
John Brunt	1
Humphrey Broadhurst	1
John Bateman	1
Christ. Staley	1
Richard Broadhurst	1
Mr Robert Bateman for	
Will. Walker	1
John Smith	1

Viewed by John Wheeldon & Hugh Wheeldon, Collectors
Tho. Bockinge, Constable

The final list of Over Haddon people, in this article, I have found in wills and inventories. I have listed them in chronological order, and you can see some of the same names cropping up again and again.

Thomas Collins	1624
Thomas Hodgkinson	1628
Anne Wardle	1636
Robert Orme	1637
William Hodgkinson	1637
Ralph Brunt	1639
William Banks	1639
Hugh Bateman	1641
William Hodgkinson	1645
Joan Hodgkinson	1645
Mary Webster	1645

In my next article I hope to include the names of Over Haddon people from the 18th and 19th centuries, and in future articles I will examine several Over Haddon people who found themselves on the wrong side of the law!

Carolyn Pearce

Down the Dale (3 and 4)

Unfortunately, I missed the last 'Voice', so I think I'd better do a summary of the 6 months since February, rather than a detailed account, or Jen will be running out of paper.

In February Steve (Miller) and I, on separate occasions, saw a sizeable sandy-coloured creature prowling up Wheeldon's field. We were certain it wasn't a fox and thought Lathkill dale might have its own 'Big Cat!' That was, until Tricia (Gillies) confirmed that there is indeed such a creature -- a very large ginger Tom with a huge head, that lurks in her garden from time to time! Does anyone know to whom he belongs?

On 5th March we had the fascinating talk on the river by Phil Bowler, the site manager for Natural England. He must have been delighted with the turnout, since the village hall was packed.

On 21st March we returned from France to swathes of marsh marigolds and celandines, and clumps of dog violets -- indisputable proof that Spring had arrived.

By 9th April more unusual flowers had appeared -- half a dozen fritillaries just before the gate in Grigor-Taylor's field. Mavis and I think this may be a first, since neither of us has seen any before. The downside of the month was that by the 14th the Easter invasion had driven away the dippers from their nesting site by the mill weir -- too many intrusive cameras, bodies, noise and dogs in the water.

For several weeks at this time, any cries of "Woodman, spare that tree!" would have fallen on deaf ears, as Alex cleared the far bank of the river in Meadow Place Wood, and the men working for Peak Park really went to town on the path up to Meadow Place farm. I must say that both areas look better for the increased light and openness.

7th May A lady fell and injured herself up the Dale, and the ambulance service had to call in Mountain Rescue to stretcher her off the hillside. There was no 'phone reception, so our landline came in useful for co-ordinating their efforts -- for a couple of hours we could imagine we were part of ER!

The big May/June event, however, was the swans. At one time daily bulletins were exchanged by the regular dog walkers, and the level of interest even overshadowed the fact that a pair of mandarin ducks had appeared.

It all really started on 24th April, when there was some serious nest building just below the old jetty.

Excitement rose on 30th April with the appearance of 1 egg, and then reached even greater heights on 5th May when a second was added. For the next 5 weeks or so, the pen dutifully curled up on top of them, although sadly one disappeared at some point. The cob often wandered way down river, but he was seen to make several noisy dashes to repel intruders, and frequently did some necessary DIY on the nest.

12th June was C-day -- one tiny ball of fluff was finally revealed to the world, and within days it was clambering in and out of the water and preening itself. Over the next 3 or 4 weeks the family left the nest, moved downriver, built a temporary abode near the kissing gate, and by the beginning of July were the other side of Conksbury bridge. The cygnet by now was as large as the mallards, but evidently wasn't strong enough to struggle back up the weir, so was sometimes left down there on its own when its parents came back up river looking for food.

Mavis kept a daily watch, and they all came to her call, but sadly I have to report that there has been no sighting of the cygnet for more than two weeks now, and she fears we have lost 'Little Blue'. The consolation is that, apparently, once swans have chosen a nesting site, they tend to go back there

for several years, so we must hope for better luck next time. (Mavis has threatened them with social services if they don't do a better job in 2010!)

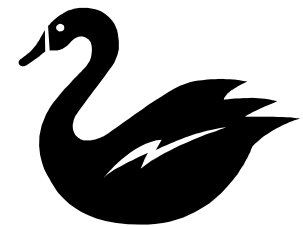
The river doesn't know whether it's coming or going.

It almost dried up (as normal) in the heat wave at the end of June -- the Environment Agency came and moved nearly 500 fish downriver -- but by the 10th July it was flowing again after a week of intermittent downpours.

By the time we returned from soggy Cornwall on the 20th it was almost up to early Winter levels -- and still is -- so the fish could all be back up at the spawning beds again!

Many thanks to all the people who help me to keep up to date. Sorry there isn't room for all your contributions, but please keep them coming!

Trish Renshaw



Have you seen Little Blue?

How Bakewell Recreation Ground Came Into Being - The Late Serq. Ben Kay.

To the Editor.

Sir,

The appreciative notice of our late soldier, townsman, Sergeant Ben Kay, which appeared in your last issue is in every respect well deserved. His record was a fine one, and it was a source of much regret to many of us that the short time which elapsed between his death and funeral rendered it practically impossible to arrange for a military funeral of the type which all of us who knew him would have been glad to see accorded to him.

My object in writing is, however, to refer to another matter. Bakewell people, especially Bakewell boys, have for so long enjoyed the great boon of the Recreation Ground that they have forgotten how this boon came to be provided. I wonder how many of them know how much they are indebted to the late Sergeant Ben Kay for having demonstrated when a boy the necessity of such a playing field. Ben was a high spirited youngster, a born soldier and leader of men. There was no recreation ground in Bakewell in those days and Ben's capacity for sport of all kinds found the limits of the streets where he had to take his recreation far too small. Those of us who remember him as a chubby-faced, vigorous youngster, bubbling over with fun and mischief, recollect well the enjoyment which he and the merry crowd of which he was the acknowledged leader used to get racing round the streets in an evening. There was one centre which attracted Ben's special attention. It was the then recently established Night School. He showed his ability for organising trouble for that seat of learning with lamentable results both to the school and himself for after one very stormy effort the Education Authority found it necessary to appeal to the Magistrates to deal faithfully with Ben and his youthful army. No one who was present at the old Town Hall can ever forget that line of sorrowful youngsters who were drawn up in front of the Bench when the case was called on. Some of their heads scarcely reached above the table, and Ben stood on the right by virtue of being the ringleader, looking as though butter would hardly melt in his mouth. Mr. Nesfield was in the chair and expressed great indignation at the lamentable disorderliness of the Bakewell boys, who turned the streets into a bear garden in an evening to the great disturbance of the inhabitants and the terror of horsemen. He appealed to me as to what I thought should be done to put an end to it. It was an opportunity not to be missed and one I had long wished for. I explained to him that Ben and his army were all sportsmen like himself, and for lack of horses and Flagg Moor on which to hunt hares they hunted one another and anyone else, but by preference schoolmasters, that the streets were the only hunting ground they had, and the party in front of the Bench was the not unnatural result. Mr. Nesfield, fine old sportsman that he was—saw the force of the simile, and when I suggested that I thought a playing field would probably remove all difficulties in the future, not only for Ben and his army, but all future Bakewell boys, he responded at once. The boys were gravely admonished. Ben and each one of them in succession promised not to disturb the school again, and were all sent about their business. He had, however, fired a train which had important results for the town. Immediately after Petty Sessions Mr. Nesfield asked me to help him to find a suitable field on the Dukes Estate for a playing field for the boys, and we looked at one or two on his way back to Castle Hill. I ventured to suggest the Meadows as a likely place and he said he would think about it. Later in the day Mr. Glossop was called in, and he went further and suggested that the hedge which separated the meadows should be grubbed up, the town drain covered in, and a fence thrown across below the Peat Well and that the whole of it should be laid out as a recreation ground. It was a bold recommendation, but Mr. Nesfield referred the matter to the Duke of Rutland and he agreed. The ground was laid out at His Grace's expense and enclosed, and in due course the Duke himself drove over from Longshaw and declared it open. Since then each succeeding Duke has seen the ground as a Recreation Ground for the use of all who like to make use of it. Few towns have anything better. It

has for 30 years been an untold boon to Bakewell and Bakewell boys who cannot realise what it was in the years gone by. There was nowhere around the town to pitch a wicket or kick a football. It was Ben Kay who demonstrated the necessity for it, and I am very anxious that it should not be forgotten. Ben passed into the Army when he was old enough, and proved himself a man and a first class soldier, as we all expected he would do. He travelled far in the service of his King and Country, as his numerous medals and bars bear witness. Your reference to his service in South Africa and Russia deserve more than a passing note. When Lord Roberts went out to take command of the British Armies at a most critical stage in the Boer War, a thoroughly reliable N.C.O. was required for his staff, and Serq. Ben Kay, who had proved himself a boy of boys, was selected for the post. It used to be a joke, I believe, with the Staff, that there were two K's in South Africa - K. of K. and B.K. How well he performed his duties was evidenced by the fact that when a strong reliable N.C.O. was required for the staff of the Military Embassy in Russia during the present war our old friend was selected for the post. No greater compliment could have been paid to anyone. The strain was great and his health gave way. He returned to England and entered civil life, but his strength was gone and he came home to die. Few of us realised that he was in our midst before he passed away. His name must ever find an honoured place in Bakewell records and must not be forgotten. No Bakewell man ever proved his worth more thoroughly, and the town may well be proud of him. - Yours, etc.,

H. BROOKE TAYLOR. Bakewell, 15th July, 1918.

From "The Derbyshire Times" 1918

Note. The reference to K. of K. possibly means Kitchener of Khartoum.

NB. This was forwarded to Pat Thurlby by the late Michael Kay, from New Zealand, and concludes Pat's 'I Remember' from the last copy of The Voice.

**The Babbling Vagabonds present
"WEE MEG BARNILEG"
(THE NAUGHTIEST GIRL IN THE WORLD)**

THE FANTASTIC BABBLING VAGABONDS
STORYTELLING THEATRE ARE COMING TO OVER
HADDON VILLAGE HALL ON THURSDAY 27 AUGUST
TO PRESENT "WEE MEG BARNILEG".
DOORS OPEN 7PM FOR 7.30PM START.
TICKETS ARE JUST £5 ADULTS,
£2.50 SCHOOL AGE CHILDREN.
ALL PROCEEDS TOWARDS THE VILLAGE HALL.
PLEASE HELP TO SUPPORT THIS VENTURE.
TICKETS CAN BE ORDERED VIA DICK FOXON 812133

THANK YOU

I would like to thank all those who generously
sponsored me in the Race for Life in early June.
As well as running (and walking) a personal best
time - and no, I am not prepared to share it with
you, as I am only too aware that it was perhaps
rather pathetic - I raised over £700 for Cancer
Research UK.

I am very grateful to you all.

Alison Nicol.



LATHKIL HOTEL HALF GALLATHON FUN DAY

Most folks will know that this event was the brainchild of AJ Hall.
AJ tragically passed away, after a brave struggle with cancer, only 2 days after this
years "fixture". Despite his deteriorating health he managed to attend this years
"goings-on" and would have been pleased to see the number of people taking part
in what has now become an annual event. At the time of writing, the full total
raised by this event, together with a Quiz Night at the Village Hall and a day of
rugby (hosted by Mannerians RFC and both in memory of AJ) is not yet in. Look
out for what could be a staggering figure in the November edition of "the Voice".

WANTED:

**CHILDREN'S WALKING
BOOTS SIZE 2 OR 3**

CALL JEN 812133

"THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING ERNEST"

THE CHATSWORTH PLAYERS AT CHATSWORTH HOUSE. THURSDAY 29 OCTOBER 2009

Arrangements are being finalised for a trip to Chatsworth House to see The Chatsworth Players
perform "The Importance of being Ernest".

A coach provided by Lathkill Coaches will leave the car park at 6pm and take us to Chatsworth in time
for a pre-theatre buffet. The play will be performed in the theatre and will start at 7.30pm.

Return coach to Over Haddon.

The cost is likely to be in the region of £25/£30 per person for all transport, buffet and theatre ticket.

Word has been passed round about this trip and quite a few villagers and their friends have expressed
an interest.

In order to confirm our numbers to Marc for the bus, and to the organisers at Chatsworth, please
indicate your ticket requirements on the tear off slip and send to Dick or Jen by 12th September

(Please include a deposit of £10 per person).

CHATSWORTH PLAYERS. 29 OCTOBER 2009.

NAME/S.....
.....

TEL:

NUMBER OF TICKETS REQUIRED.....

PLEASE INCLUDE £10 PER PERSON FOR DEPOSIT

FUN and AFFORDABLE CHRISTMAS SHOPPING MADE EASY

The Friends of DRCS (The Derwent Rural Counselling Service) are delighted to announce that they will be holding a Grand 2009 Christmas Fair at The Maynard, Grindleford, on Thursday October 8th, with a Preview Evening on Wednesday October 7th which will be opened by The Dowager Duchess of Devonshire.

The Friends have invited carefully selected stallholders from around the country, who will be selling tempting gifts to suit all purses and tastes. Silk jackets, scarves, hand-made jewellery, accessories and interior design will be displayed beside exquisite children's clothing, beautifully made educational toys and a wide range of top quality goods that are not available on the High Street. Tricia Gillies will be selling her beautiful jewellery, and Caryl Issacs will be signing copies of her newly published children's book. There will also be a stall selling delicious home-made cakes and biscuits.

The event is being organised to raise funds for the DRCS, which is a small but extremely active charity

based at Newholme Hospital in Bakewell and which celebrates its 20th anniversary later this year. Its team of counsellors offers a professional and confidential service dealing with many issues, including stress, bereavement, relationship problems and depression. Every article bought at the fair will help the DRCS - the stallholders have all agreed to donate 10% of their takings to the charity, and there will also be a raffle on each day to help boost the charity's funds.

So, to solve the perennial problem of finding beautiful, unusual and useful gifts for your family and friends – or merely to indulge in a little retail therapy – you cannot afford to miss this hugely popular event.

The excitement starts with a Preview and Reception from 6.00 – 9.00pm on Wednesday 7th October. Entrance to this will be by ticket only; these must be purchased in advance at a cost of £10, and will include entry to the Fair the following day, and a glass of champagne and canapés.

The Fair will continue on Thursday 8th from 10.00am – 4.00pm, with entry at the door costing £5. The hotel will sell tea and coffee throughout the day, and a limited number of lunches will also be available; those wishing to enjoy the excellent two-course meal are advised to apply in advance.

Anyone needing more information or wishing to buy tickets for:

- The Preview evening on Wednesday 7th October (£10) or
- Lunch on Thursday 8th October (£12.50)

should please ring 01629 583897 or send a cheque, payable to DRCS, for the appropriate amount, with a stamped addressed envelope, to:

*DRCS Christmas Fair,
Corner Croft,
Asker Lane,
Matlock,
DE4 5LA.*

DO YOU WANT TO KNOW MORE ABOUT KEEPING HONEY BEES?

FACTS – There are no wild honey bees left in UK.

90% of the worlds crops are fertilised by bees

All honey bees are kept by beekeepers.

The only bees free from verova virus are in Australia

SUSTAINABLE YOULGRAVE have arranged a meeting for all interested persons on

THURSDAY 1ST OCTOBER

at the FARMYARD PUB, YOULGRAVE, at 7.30 pm.

Sustainable Youlgrave are forming a group to learn beekeeping over the winter with a view to running a village hive and supporting others who would like their own hives.

We are commencing with this initial talk by MIKE CROSS from Derbyshire Bee Keeping Association.

Film season 2009/2010...eight films for £16 !!!

A new film season will start in September and run through to April 2010

Films will be shown on the last Sunday of the month (earlier in December) and doors will open at 7pm for 7.30 start. A bar is available. Everyone is welcome to attend, and the best way of making sure of your seat is to sign up for the season... only £16 per person.

Due to the film licensing regulations, this is the only way we can advertise film titles.

Money cannot be taken for tickets at the door, so those of you who would rather pop in to see an occasional film may book and pay for seats as a guest member prior to the date of the film. Guests membership is £2.50 per person for each film.

Film night will continue to be in the Village Hall for the foreseeable future, and then hopefully at an alternative venue should building works overtake us.

In the event of having to 'cut short' the programme all outstanding monies will of course be refunded.

SUNDAY SEPT 27: QUANTUM OF SOLACE 2008 12A cert.

This Bafta nominated film sees the return of Daniel Craig as 007 seeking revenge for the death of his love. James Bond sets out to stop an environmentalist from taking control of a country's valuable resource.

SUNDAY 25 OCTOBER: SIDEWAYS 2004 15 cert.

Won one Oscar. 2 men reaching middle age, with not much to show for it but disappointment, embark on a week long road trip through Californian wine country, just as one of them is about to marry. Stars Paul Giamatti. Come and try some Californian wine on the night!!

SATURDAY 31 OCTOBER A BONUS LATE-NIGHT FILM FOR HALLOWEEN !!

Instead of flying off on your broomstick this evening, come to the village hall around 10pm and watch a scary movie. Fancy dress and scary masks optional !!

SUNDAY 29 NOVEMBER: MILK 2008 15 cert.

Won 2 Oscars. Sean Penn stars as Harvey Milk, the American gay activist who fought for gay rights and became California's first openly gay elected official.

SUNDAY 20 DECEMBER: MIRACLE ON 34th STREET 1947 U cert.

"Capture the spirit of Christmas with this timeless classic". Won 3 Oscars. Stars Maureen O'Hara, Natalie Wood, and Edmund Gwenn as Kris Kringle. Mince pies tonight.

SUNDAY 31 JANUARY: CHANGELING 2008 15 cert.

Angelina Jolie stars in the Clint Eastwood directed film, nominated for 3 Oscars. A grief stricken mother takes on the LAPD, to her own detriment, when it stubbornly tries to pass off an obvious imposter as her missing son. She refuses to give up hope of one day finding him.

SUNDAY 28 FEBRUARY: BREAKFAST AT TIFFANY'S 1961 PG cert.

Won 2 Oscars. Audrey Hepburn as Holly Golightly, takes great interest in the new man who has moved into her apartment (George Peppard). A romantic comedy written by Truman Capote.

SUNDAY 28 MARCH: VALKYRIE 2009 12A cert.

Starring Tom Cruise, Kenneth Branagh, Tom Wilkinson, Bill Nighy. A WW2 film based on actual events. A plot is hatched by Senior German Officers and Officials to assassinate Hitler.

SUNDAY 25 APRIL: BURN AFTER READING 2008 15 cert.

A Coen Brothers comedy, nominated for 2 Golden Globes. Starring George Clooney, Brad Pitt, Frances McDormand, John Malkovich. A disc containing the memoirs of a CIA agent ends up in the hands of unscrupulous people.

NAME/S:.....

TEL:..... E-MAIL:.....

SOCIAL MEMBERSHIP £16 PER PERSON. TOTAL AMOUNT £.....

CHQS PAYABLE TO Over Haddon Village Hall

RETURN TO 'SOUTH VIEW' MAIN STREET, OVER HADDON. 812133.

A newsletter for the residents of Over Haddon

Contact: The Editor
Dick Foxon,
South View,
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Over Haddon.
01629 812133
dick.foxon@tiscali.co.uk

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*The next copy of The Voice should
be printed during November.
If you have any interesting stories,
anything to buy or sell, or any other
business, please contact Dick by the
end of October.*