

Cragg Vale Community Newsletter No 14

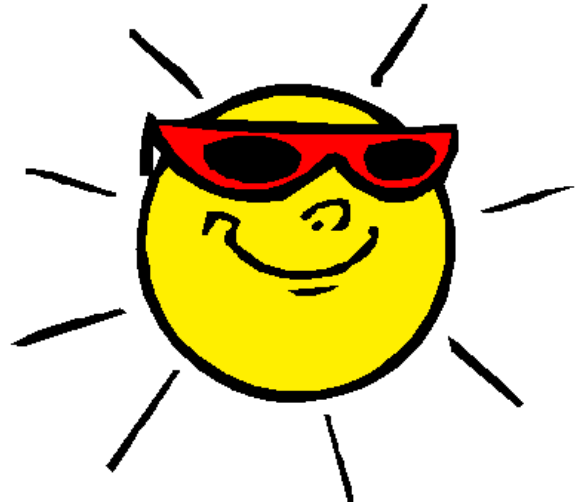
June 2011

Cragg Vale Community
Carbon Conscious Cragg Vale



Hello.

Hope you are all making the most of your summer months and managing to get out and about to enjoy our lovely wildlife and countryside. Spaw Sunday was a great day and really marked the beginning of Summer, see pictures later on in this newsletter.



Fancy keeping fit - well join us on one of our local walks to Broadhed Clough or around the coiners haunts over the next few weeks - check out our "what's on" guide for more information.

We are also getting on with the Park Project which is currently undergoing an exciting refurbishment; check out the notice board in the Robin for more information. For now please book in a date for the Park Launch date on the 10th September.



We hope you enjoy this newsletter - thanks to our sponsors for their continued support. Without them this would not be possible ☺. Please let us know if you would like to see any other information. Our next newsletter is due out in September so if you want to include anything, please let us know by mid August.

Wishing you all a relaxing Summer.

Take Care.
CVCA team.

WORK BEGINS ON UPGRADING CRAGG VALE PARK

Cragg Vale Community Association has been awarded £50,000 from Community Spaces to update the park on Cragg Road, along with £10,000 from Calderdale MBC and £3,000 from Hebden Royd Town Council.

Work started a few weeks back when Calderdale MBC removed the old swings and slide to make way for local contractor J & S Horsfield to upgrade the drainage system.



New play equipment is to be installed during week commencing Monday 6 June by Grace Landscapes Ltd, Mirfield, and a new walkway will also be built to make access for wheelchairs and pushchairs easier.

Pupils at all three local schools (Cragg Vale Junior & Infant School, the Steiner School and the Montessori School) as well as people using the park have been consulted on the changes and have had input into choosing the new equipment. The schools and the wider community will also be involved in the continuing use of the park facilities for special events.



It is hoped all the work will be completed by the end of July, and the date for the launch event has been set for **Saturday 10 September**.

Any queries, please contact Roy Collinge at roy.collinge@btinternet.com who is a committee member of the

Cragg Vale Community Association. More information including plans and latest updates are available on a notice board in the Robin Hood.

The Hinchliffe

at Cragg Vale

Food served Tuesday to Saturday
lunch 12-2.00pm & evening 5-8.00pm
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Spaw Sunday

For this year's 'Spaw Sunday' celebrations organised by Cragg Vale Community Association, Ryburn Longswords, with music from Ryburn 3 Step, helped lead the procession from St John's Church to the Spa.

The weather was perfect and local residents of all ages joined the Reverend James Allison and Victoria MacDonald for the simple 'Blessing of the Water' followed by a superb picnic provided by the Robin Hood pub with funding from CVCA. Several brave souls actually drank the water but confirmed that the taste wasn't much improved by the addition of liquorice although several said they were sure it would do them good! One resident reported the curative properties of the water for athlete's foot!

After the picnic, many of the residents went with the Morris Dancers to the Robin Hood where dancing continued. The dancers and their music proved very popular and the Community Association has agreed to ask them to join us again for other events including Spaw Sunday next year.



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Quarterly Recipe – Heavenly Chocolate Cake

Ingredients

For the cake

- 500 g self-raising flour
- 440 g caster sugar
- cocoa solids) roughly chopped
- 1 1/2 tsp vanilla extract
- 90 g cocoa powder
- 2 tsp bicarbonate of soda, sifted
- 200 g butter, softened
- 250 ml milk, or unsweetened yoghurt
- 3 large eggs
- 250 ml hot coffee

For the decoration

- 500ml cream
- 500g best quality dark chocolate (70%)
- fresh raspberries



Preparation method:

1. **For the cake:** heat the oven to 170C/150C fan/Gas 3. Grease the sides and line the base of a 30cm round cake tin or 2 x 20cm round cake tins with baking paper.

2. Place all the cake ingredients in a large bowl or food processor and mix or blitz until the ingredients are combined and the butter is fully incorporated.

3. Pour the mixture into the prepared tin or tins and smooth the top. Bake for 1 hour or until a skewer inserted in the centre comes out clean. Leave to cool in the tin.

4. **For the decoration:** pour the cream into a medium saucepan and heat until it is very hot, and almost but not boiling. You'll know it's ready when bubbles start to form around the edge of the pan. Remove from the heat and add the chopped chocolate. Stand for 2 minutes, then stir until the chocolate is fully melted into the cream.

5. Whisk this chocolate ganache until it is smooth and glossy, then chill.

6. Slather the chilled chocolate ganache over the top of the cake. Top with fresh raspberries and serve.

Enjoy. Please send us your favourite recipes for our next issue

info@craggvalecommunity.co.uk

Sponsored Walk to Stoodley Pike

Children, parents and friends of Cragg Vale Junior & Infant School made their annual trek across the moors from Knowl Hill to Stoodley Pike on Sunday 10 April. The walk had been postponed from October due to bad weather, and this time conditions were perfect and there was a good turnout.

After reaching the monument, walkers came back through the woods, where they found some shade to have their well earned picnics. Children enjoyed collecting pine cones and brought back various woodland souvenirs.

The event, which usually raises approximately £300, was organised by the school's PTA FOCUS (Friends of Cragg Vale School).

Author: Emma Parkin, Tel: 07718 525355.

Email: emma.parkin@brigmil.co.uk



Broadhead Clough YWT reserve -

May update

The dry spring has been good for getting out and about but not so good for wildlife. Everywhere is much drier than normal. The bluebells have already turned to seed and the hawthorn and rowan trees are blossoming two weeks early. The diversion of more water into the drains in the winter was just in time and this small flow has



kept the mires looking lush and green.... unlike the wider landscape. Who would have thought that the BBC Leeds radio car would visit Blackstone Edge road and deliver a 5 minute story on our valley for "Look North". Unfortunately it was for the moorland fires here and at Ogden Moor showing how vulnerable our landscape is to accidental damage.

A report, "Moorland Wild Fires in the Peak District National Park" in

2006 said that " more fires occurred on bare blanket peat and eroding



moorland than any other habitat. These habitats are most severely affected by fire because they are least likely to recover, and fires are likely to reoccur there.

Bilberry, heather and crowberry are flammable and have a relatively high fire risk, (which is reduced by managed burns in the case of heather moor), but are generally more able to recover".

The work being done by Pennine Prospects to restore these moors to better health will reduce fire risk in the long term. Similarly the

"Living landscapes" project aims to create wildlife corridors linking habitats together so that there is somewhere for animals to escape to and plants can more quickly re-colonise. However there's no doubt that prevention is best of all.

In the short term we might want to consider extending our Neighbourhood Watch activities to being extra vigilant about litter and fire risks in the most risky months of April and May. This is when last year's grasses are dried out, the winds can be brisk and if there is a build up of loose dry fuel it only needs one spark to set off a major burn. The same report found that most fires started within 300 yards of a public footpath or road and is linked to day visitors. It's not just a dropped match or cigarette end but discarded glass or metal that can focus sunlight to spark a fire into life. So, any efforts to ensure we keep Cragg Vale rubbish free can reduce the risk to, as well as improve the look of, the landscape.

In the reserve itself there's lots to be done in June as the new shoots of bracken are growing fast. If left unchecked they will choke the path and encroach further into the mires, bilberry, and heather clearings. If you



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want to help us maintain the footpaths and keep it from dominating the view then we meet at the entrance to the reserve at 10am on :

16th and 30th June, 13th July and 16th August

It's a great time to listen to bird song and see if you can hear our summer residents even if you can't see them very easily. Keep an eye on the skies too. The swallows are back, and it is now 11 years since the process of reintroducing Red Kites into Yorkshire began. The Yorkshire Red Kite project has had another successful year with 84 confirmed pairs monitored and 70 of these successfully breeding and raising 147 young (an increase of 30 from last year). As these distinctive birds continue to spread across Yorkshire the project would love to hear about any sightings. If you do manage to see one report it to www.yorkshireredkites.net. If you see other unusual birds like the little pennine finch, the twite on the moors then you can report that to the RSPB or the Halifax Scientific Society.

Helen Pedley, 886195

Contact for Broadhead Clough Supporters Group



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Cragg Vale Fell Race

Wednesday 29 June 7.30pm

4m/800ft ascent

From Cragg Vale Church

[Park on main road]

Record J. Brown 26.27mins

Entry fee £4 Age limit 14+

Refreshments in back of Church

Sponsored by Little Valley Brewery

Childrens' races: U8, U10, U12, U14

from 6.30pm

£1.50 (1 mile with prizes)

Organiser: Jackie Scarf, 882555

PLACE YOUR ADVERT HERE! If you would like to advertise in the Cragg Vale Newsletter, for a small fee, please get in touch with Liz on 881182 or via email info@craggvalecommunity.co.uk. We print and deliver 500 newsletters - received by all residents and businesses in Cragg.

Cragg Clean-Up Weekend April 2011



The much advertised litter pick w/e is always held in the middle of April and gives our local church and Community Association a much needed financial boost [£60 for every team of 6]. It's the usual regulars that turn out: I've been picking plastic bottles, cans, tyres plastic and paper out of the verges along the top road, from the Sowerby turnoff, for years and believe me it can be pretty depressing. Looking like a fluorescent beacon [to avoid being run over], several carrier bags in hand, I look fairly dodgy to say the least. The sheer amount of litter [I walked 1 mile and collected 4 large carrier bags full] makes me really grumpy. I could murder 'Stella Artois man', send protest letters to the local chippy/MacDonalds, loose my sense of humour over the amount of discarded cigarette packets and sound off over the number of lottery tickets in the verge. Just knowing that most of our Cragg residents are happy to either drive past the rubbish and ignore it or let someone else pick it up makes me groan too.

And yet.....out of the corner of my eye I see the 5 lapwing screeching in the field next to me. I lean against the dry stone wall to watch and spot a pair of geese hovering up the grass underneath the disturbed lapwing and I'm suddenly so glad I'm outside. The spider's webs and frog's spawn you don't see in the ditches as I clamber down make me smile. Then just as my general rubbish bag is getting too heavy to carry, George Sunderland [farms from Sykes Gate at the turn off], stops his landrover and trailer in front of me. He bellows at me [he's a bit deaf] that I'm doing a good job ['but where are the community service kids?'] and he's notices the daffodils in the verge that I planted months ago. Next he offers to take the bag and put it on the bonfire near the corner and I'm really grateful.

I've recycled everything I can and burnt the rubbish on my range tonight. I'll be on the lookout for rubbish as I cycle up and down to work over the coming months and will be back again next year to clean up again. Will you help me???

Jackie Scarf

CRAGG VALE CALENDAR 2012

Calling all photographers! Following on the success of our three previous Cragg Vale calendars - now is the time to send in your contributions for the 2012 calendar - the theme voted for is "**Cragg Vale History and Heritage**". Cragg Vale has had a varied and colourful past and there are still so many interesting and quirky features as evidence of this - buildings (some still in use), industrial ruins, relics, all with a tale to tell! Just for starters, (and this is by no means a definitive list) are Dauber Bridge, Paper Mill, Old Cragg Hall, St John's Old Sunday School, the Mock Airfield, Glen House, Penny Steps - and many more, the choice is yours! Photos old or new welcome - together with the story behind the picture.

We have already made a start on this year's calendar, planning layout, approaching sponsors etc - would you believe, some of the distributors tell us that visitors to the area are looking for calendars as early as May each year!!!), So all we need now are more of your fantastic photos - please send them as soon as possible to info@craggvalecommunity.co.uk

Happy snapping!

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Reminder

CVCA Stall at Mytholmroyd Gala 25th June

Please get in touch at

info@craggvalecommunity.co.uk or 'phone 883707

to arrange collection of any items you wish to donate for the Tombola or Plant Sale, or if you can spare an hour or so to help on the day. We are now the proud owners of a pop-up Gazebo, so we're hoping setting up will be less of a "Krypton Factor"!



- 1.) What's black and white and read all over?
- 2.) What did the pig say at the beach on a hot summer's day?
- 3.) How do you know if your clock is crazy?

Check out the back page for the punch lines.

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CALDER HIGH CATCHMENT AREA

I am not sure if you are aware that upper Cragg - specifically I mean above Church lane up the road to top of Cragg / Sykes gate and area in along lanes at near brewery up to Waterstalls etc e.g. South and East of Church lane:- were not included in the catchment area for Calder High and **were in fact in no catchment area at all !!**. This has caused a great deal of anxiety to many parents over the years for getting their children into Calder High.

I have been campaigning as Parish Councillor (and I am sure others have also) for over 2 years to get this remedied. I argued that the catchment areas should follow the 'parish' boundary rather than split it in two and all the community divisions that gives.

Anyhow - good news, Calderdale listened to all the arguments and they have now advised that all of Cragg Vale is **to be included** in the Catchment area from 2012 intake, so this has now been fixed for future Cragg Vale generations !!

If anyone has any other issues/community projects etc they want raising at council level please do not hesitate to contact me via mail or phone scotttrickett@yahoo.co.uk or 884909

Scott Trickett



CARBON NEUTRAL UPDATE

Are your heating oil bills too high?

Come along to the **Robin Hood Inn 8.00pm Monday 27 June** to find out about some alternatives for heating your home and hot water and how you can access government funding for this.

Learn more about the "renewable heat incentive" which will help pay for the introduction of renewable heating systems into homes and

businesses. There are a range of technologies which qualify for the subsidy including heat pumps, solar thermal systems and some forms of wood-fired heating.

The Cragg Vale Carbon Neutral group has organised some local experts to provide a practical introduction to some of the technologies and advice on whether these might be suitable for different types of property in the area. If you would like further information please contact Maggie Smallwood 01422 882848

Recycling plastics

The CVCN has been in touch with the local councillors about Calderdale Council's plans for recycling mixed plastic. We have had one reply that the council is currently reviewing its contract with SITA including the potential to collect the mixed plastics.

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We've also made contact with a local company which might be interested in buying mixed plastic which we can collect from Cragg Vale so watch this space.

Anemometer available to borrow

Are you interested in installing a windmill somewhere? Steve Marchant has an anemometer which he is prepared to make available to residents who want to measure the suitability of their site for generating energy from wind resources. He also has over a year's data from a site in Cragg Vale which could be used for comparison or extrapolation. Please contact Steve (steve@oldcragghall.co.uk) if you are interested.



Benchmark Travel

Did you know Calderdale's fastest growing Travel Agency & Tour Operator was now situated on Topland Country Business Park, Cragg Vale?

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Yorkshire Countrywomen's Association
Cragg Vale Branch

CREAM TEA



SATURDAY, 25TH JUNE 2011

3pm – 5pm



**Come and enjoy a delicious Cream Tea,
cake, refreshments and bric'a brac stalls at
St. John the Baptist in the Wilderness,
Cragg Vale.**



REMEMBER Digital Switchover dates for our area

Dates for the digital switchover in our area, ie, the area covered by the Emley Moor transmitter, have been announced.

BBC Two analogue will be switched off on **7th September 2011** and the remaining channels will be switched off on **21st September 2011**.

Digital channels will not be fully available to those who haven't yet got them until the second date, 21st September 2011. Free view digital services will then be available to reach virtually all households in our area.

Any roof top aerial in good condition is capable of receiving analogue and digital TV services. You don't need to have a 'digital aerial' for switchover. If you have good analogue reception now it is unlikely you will need to replace your existing aerial.

Information about which digital options are available at any specific address is available from the Digital UK predictive postcode checker or from our advice line on 08456 50 50 50.

Cragg Residents PROFILES 2011!

We're lucky to have lots of special people in Cragg. Many have lived here all their lives, others have worked in Cragg or helped to organise events/clubs/societies. The aim here is to put some names to faces and for residents to find out a bit about the folk that make Cragg a special place to live!

JANE REDMAN

Jane and her husband have lived in Cragg for over 56 years. When not teaching at Midgley School and raising her 4 sons, Jane found time to be chairman and treasurer of the Cragg Vale Yorkshire Countrywomen Association [est 1985, but previously the WI]. They still meet monthly on a Monday at the back of Cragg church, where



Jane still plays a big part. A visit to Jane's large and beautiful garden at Underwood, is a must when the Open Gardens is on.

Jane can still remember mains water coming to Cragg; it was a bit peaty in the early days! She loves the scenery and the people, but doesn't always like the weather.

Carol Wolstenholme our lovable Pantomime Dame

Carol's lived in Cragg for 46 years, raising her family [2 daughters, 3 grandchildren and Daniel her Great Grandson -who attends Cragg School] and working as a teaching assistant/midday supervisor at Cragg School for 20 of those years until she retired in 2006. All the older local school

children and parents know her as 'Miss Carol' because the little ones struggled to get their tongues around 'Wolstenholme' !

Over the years, Carol has been a regular in the St John's Church choir and a stalwart of the YCA [formerly the WI]. She was also a past president of the Cragg Tennis club and loves



remembering the dinners where they performed hilarious renditions 'Black Cragger' and 'Hello Hello'.

But most locals know Carol for her larger-than-life performances in countless Cragg Pantomimes. Carol is always cast as the Dame, as much for her singing ability, as her presence on stage and she's always a hit with the audience. Watch the amateur Cragg panto videos, if you've never seen her- Carol's got lots of them!

The Cragg Players [as the local group of actors and singers are called] frequently perform at birthdays, old people's homes and meals, and other dos. Carol is usually there performing and singing along with Doris Hirst, Hugh Morgan, Gordon Nelson and other 'Cragg Characters'.

Carol loves our small friendly community where you can join in the Progressive Dinners and always find some one you know down the Robin Hood Pub to talk to, as well as being made very welcome if you want to attend our local church.

More Cragg Profiles to come in the next edition of the newsletter.

News from Calder Valley Steiner School

Calder Valley Steiner School has recently purchased the St Johns Sunday School building in Cragg Vale.

Last year we opened their second kindergarten to cope with growing demand. This September we are opening our first class for children from age six. By waiting a year before starting to learn to read and write the children will be more mature - so they will be able to learn the basics more easily, without pressure.

The Steiner Waldorf Curriculum is tried and tested and is part of state funded, mainstream provision in most European countries. It

It develops a love of learning and an enthusiasm for school, resulting in confident children with diverse capabilities.

For more information about our Kindergarten and School, or to arrange a visit contact Marilyn: on 01422 885249 or visit our website: www.hebdensteiner.com



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What's on Guide Spring.



Sunday 12th June 11.00am - CRAGG
WALK "The Magic of Broadhead Clough".
5 miles easy/medium

Monday 13th June - Yorkshire
Countrywomen's Association (YCA)- The
Woman from t'Courier. (Speaker:- Fay Fielding). Meetings start at
7.30pm and visitors are always welcome.

Thursday June 16th - History Group visit to Peel House, Luddenden, Clive
Lloyd, please email roycollinge@btinternet.com for meeting arrangements.

Saturday 25th June - Mytholmroyd Gala

Saturday 25th June - YCA Cream teas (see poster in this issue)

Monday 27th June - CV Carbon Neutral meeting in the Robin Hood

Saturday 2nd July 11am - CRAGG WALK "The Haunts of the Cragg Vale
Coiners". 7 miles, medium/hard

Monday 11th July - Yorkshire Countrywomen's Association Annual Walk

Thursday 21st July - No History Group meeting this month

Monday 8th August - Yorkshire Countrywomen's Association Gardeners
Question Time (Speaker: Gordon Nelson). Meetings start at 7.30pm and
visitors are always welcome.

Monday 12th September - Yorkshire Countrywomen's Association
Harvest Super.

Future Dates for the Diary

Saturday 10th September - Cragg Vale Park Re Opening Party - see next
newsletter and local posters for more information.

Cragg Vale Local History Group

News

How time flies!! - the group started its 4th year in April with the annual meeting followed by "something completely different" - a quiz about Cragg Vale history! After much brain storming there was no doubt about the winners - team "Front Row Group" (Roger Hellowell, Leslie Greenwood and Raymond Stell) romped away with the answers and earned an Easter Egg each for their efforts! Meetings arranged for the year:



June 16 th	Visit to Peel House, Luddenden	Clive Lloyd
July	Summer Break	
August	Summer Break	
15 th Sept	The Things We Do for Luck	John Billingsley
20 th October	Fares Please	Geoff Budd
17 th November	Withens Reservoir	Shirley Daniel
15 th December	Christmas Crackers!	

See posters each month in the noticeboard and the Robin Hood Inn or email roycollinge@btinternet.com for meeting arrangements.

All welcome to the meetings: Visitors £2, subscriptions £10 for CVCA members, £12 non CVCA members, seniors and students £5
If there is a subject you'd like to see covered, or you'd like to be more involved in the group, please get in touch at info@craggvalecommunity.co.uk

Reminder to members - Subscriptions due 1st April



1. What does a giraffe, a mouse, an elephant, a sloth and a human all have in common?
2. What milk is pink?
3. Where did ice cream originate from?
4. What part of your body is 200 times more sensitive than your fingertips?
5. What famous woman has no eyebrows?

See next page for the answers.



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Trivia Answers:

1. *They all have
7 vertebrae in
their neck*
2. *A Hippos milk*
3. *China*
4. *Your lips*
5. *The Mona
Lisa has no
eyebrows. It
was the
fashion in
Renaissance
Florence to
shave them
off!*

Fancy a game?

Cragg Vale Tennis Club welcomes new members of all standards. So if you are interested in playing, either socially or in a team, we are interested in meeting you! Come and meet us at Monday night Practice from 18:30. If you need any more details or would like a membership form - contact Emma at EmmaParkin@brigmail.co.uk or on 07718 525355.



Joke answers:

- 1.) A sunburned zebra
- 2.) I'm bacon
- 3.) It goes "Cuckoo!"



Thanks to all those who support us and advertise in the newsletter:

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The Ark Experience
Far Moorside Farm
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Little Valley Cleaners

More support required, so if you too would like to advertise for a small fee - please get in touch with Liz - see details below.

info@craggvalecommunity.co.uk or 881182

Thanks to all our volunteers who help us to deliver the newsletter to you all. If you would like to help us with deliveries (only 4 times a year) please get in touch with Liz.