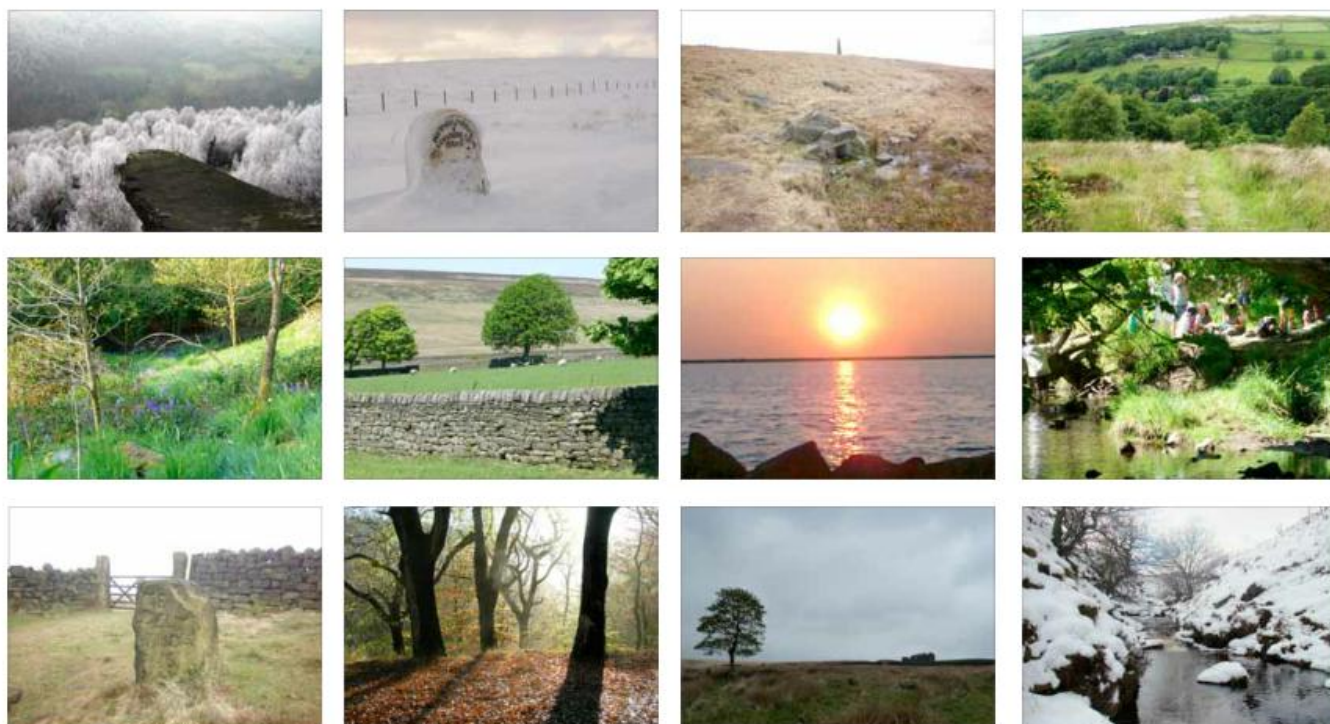


Cragg Vale Community Newsletter No 20

December 2012



Cragg Vale Calendar now on sale – grab yours quick.

Merry Christmas.

It's a perfect time of year to enjoy our beautiful vale with a walk through the leaves in the woods, under a crisp blue sky followed by a warm in front of the fire in both of our local pubs. Bliss.



Take at least a morning off from the manic Christmas break escaping the shopping, pressie wrapping and family entertaining to enjoy where we live. Why not join up with some neighbours in many of the events in the 'What's on' calendar in December and the New Year.

We hope you enjoy this newsletter - thanks to our sponsors for their continued support. It's much appreciated 😊. Our next newsletter is due out in March, contributions welcome (mid February deadline).

Have a wonderful Christmas and healthy new year.



2013 Calendar - Available Now!

“Special Places in Cragg Vale”

Price £6 each or £10 for two

Contact Margaret on 885068 or
Email info@craggvalecommunity.co.uk

Our local calendar is now printed and ready for you to purchase. It is lovelier than ever, with a fine selection of local views, taken by local photographers. Each view has a write-up to describe why it is special. With some, there is an historical reason, others are more personal, but all are special in their own way.

Thanks to our generous sponsors we have been able to keep the price unchanged yet again – price unchanged over the last 5 years:

£6 each or £10 for two.

You can buy your copies from the local pubs. It is also available from Mytholmroyd Post Office.

However for a personal service why not contact: **Margaret on 885068**, or send an email to info@craggvalecommunity.co.uk.

Remember ALL proceeds go back into the CVCA funds for the benefit of our community.

The calendar has proved to be such a success and so popular with all who buy it and all potential photographic contributors that we are already planning for the following year.

So this is an early call to all photographers, of every standard:

2014 title is to be: “A Walk on the Cragg side”

It is to be based, loosely, on a Cragg Vale walk being created by Pennine Heritage in conjunction with CV Local History Group.

Previous Calendars:

- 2009 “Cragg Vale Remembered”
- 2010 “Cragg Vale Through the Year”
- 2011 “Fauna and Flora in Cragg Vale”
- 2012 “Heritage and History”



"I'm making sure I get my five daily portions."



Cragg Vale Teddie Bears Picnic in the Park

Our Cragg Vale Party in the Park this year was a great success. We had a lovely weekend of weather, which meant we could enjoy the park at its peak. Old and young descended on the park with picnic rugs, deck chairs and sun tan lotion.

The kids enjoyed the great sandwiches and buns (thanks to the Robin for helping to make these for us). And many of the men were grateful to the refreshments on offer especially the Little Valley beer (again thanks to Wim and Sue for the barrel donation).

All the teddies enjoyed the games and the competition for the cutest, best dressed, happiest etc was well fought out.

Thanks to everyone who came and made the day so much fun as well as all the helpers who worked so hard on the day.

Here's a lovely pic of some bouncing kids and teddies.



The Hinchliffe Arms Christmas Opening Hours:

We will be open on **Christmas Eve & Boxing Day:**

Bar 12 noon-9pm.

Food served 12-7

Christmas Day:

Bar 11.30am-2.30pm. Pre
booked lunch starts at 1pm

New Year's Eve:

Bar 12noon-9pm. Food served
12noon-3pm

New Year's Day

Bar 12noon-9pm. Food served 12noon-7pm

**We will be closed Thursday 27th & Friday 28th Dec
And Wed 2nd & Thurs 3rd Jan 2013**



What's happening at the Tennis Club?

Some of you may have noticed some activity at the Tennis Courts in Cragg Vale (just off the little footpath as you go past the Hinchliffe, by the river).



Well, the Tennis Club is having a bit of a transformation with plans to erect a new clubhouse, resurface the courts and replace the fencing. This is mainly thanks to several grants from Sport England, Hebden Royd and Calderdale. Works started last week and the poor old clubhouse has been demolished.



RIP - The old 1960s club.....no longer with us

The club was founded in 1925 and in its present location since 1964. The club is a long standing facility for the community of Cragg Vale but is a bit tired despite the hard work of the members to keep it looking its best.

The works will put some new life back into the club and secure its history going forward. They are to due be completed by the start of the season and in April we'll be hosting a rather grand open day and opening of the new facilities....more to follow soon.

Thanks to all the neighbours and members for their understanding as we undergo these works and we look forward to letting you all see our new facilities as we go further through the transformation plan.

If you want to know more about the club or the changes then please contact Emma Parkin at emma.parkin@brigmail.co.uk or check out our new website:

www.cvtc.co.uk



Cragg Vale History Group

Christmas Extravaganza!

Come along and join in Celebrating
Christmas, Cragg Vale style

Mince pies and mulled wine
Cragg Carols and Pantomime
Star making event and quiz!

The Robin Hood Inn
Thursday 20th December
7.30pm

Members £10.00 per year visitors £3.00 per visit



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Quarterly Recipe – Apple and Cranberry Chutney gift



Chutneys are fantastic presents because they really improve with age and go brilliantly with Christmas cheeses and cold meats

Ingredients:

- 1kg cooking apples , peeled and chopped into small chunks
- 500g eating apples , peeled and chopped into large chunks
- 450g onions , sliced
- 50g fresh root ginger , finely chopped
- 1 tsp peppercorns
- 500g granulated sugar
- 250ml cider vinegar
- 500g cranberries

Method:

1. Place all ingredients except cranberries in a large heavy-based saucepan, then gently heat, stirring, until the sugar dissolves. Bring to the boil, then reduce heat and simmer, uncovered, for about 50 mins, stirring regularly until the apples and onions are tender, the mixture has thickened and no watery juice remains.
2. Add the cranberries, then cook for a further 10 mins or so until just softened but not burst.
3. Spoon the hot chutney into sterilised jars* and seal. Store unopened in a cool, dark place. The chutney will keep for up to 6 months. Chill on opening.

This makes 4 500g jars. Remember a nice label and some ribbon really set the gift off.

- * To sterilise jars, wash thoroughly in hot soapy water, then dry in a low oven; or run through a dishwasher. Pot the hot chutney while the jars are still hot.

Enjoy!



Broadhead Clough - December update



Yorkshire Wildlife Trust

After the drama of the summer the weather has been a little more settled in the autumn, but the reserve is still very wet. This is good news for the mires, but too wet to let us work in them for bracken and scrub removal. Instead we have concentrated on the other habitats in the reserve: the heath and the grasslands.

The heath area is managed to create a large open clearing where bilberry and heather give cover for ground nesting birds. We have chopped out many of the self-sown trees which were beginning to dominate, leaving only a few as perches for the willow warblers.

Our management plan for the grassland is to maintain the diversity of rushes and sedges in the wet areas but not let them encroach on the acid grassland/ meadow. During the summer the drystone wall between the meadows and the commons was rebuilt. This will hopefully keep sheep out and allow traditional management of grazing from 1st September for autumn and winter only. We want to keep the finer grass: common bent and cow-wheat, fescues, mat grass and flowers such as harebell, pignut



Image by David Harries

and birdsfoot trefoil and this allows their flowers to set seed. Conversely if no grazing took place these would be lost as coarser grasses and rushes would dominate. To avoid this we have been strimming and removing rushes and grass from site to avoid build up of nutrients and thatch. Another species which we hope to encourage in the grassland are pink wax-caps sometimes called "ballerina fungus" and a formal survey was undertaken this autumn to establish a base count.

The trust's work will support that of the RSPB and Pennine Prospects to encourage the twite colony on Bell House Moor. This tiny bird is currently on the Red Data list due to steep decline in numbers. It nests in heath, bilberry and bracken and feeds entirely on seeds -particularly liking the succulent developing seeds of dandelion, before they harden and the "clocks" open, and also thistles. If twite are around you can enjoy these flowers without worrying about them taking over the rest of the garden the following year.

Very few workdays are planned for the winter, so if anyone is interested in helping please ring me if you would like more information. I am currently training as a "working party leader" and next year may be able to organise smaller tasks for a couple of hours at a weekend if this meets your diary better.

Helen Pedley, 886195

www.ywt.org.uk

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CHRISTMAS JOKES

1. What is a mum's favourite Christmas carol?
2. Why was Cinderella such a poor football player?
3. What is the best Christmas present in the world?
4. What do you get if you eat Christmas decorations?



*Check out
the back
page for
the punch
lines.*

Christmas Tree

B
 H Y H
 M R H K O
 S A I G D G A
 V G G R E E N H F
 I W O X R
 N C B R C E N
 S A A G N I T B R
 S U A L C A T N A S N
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 Y O J Q E M W D S
 P G U S T N E S E R P
 A L B G P W T N M K W Q F
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 P X M A E I Y Q H K U
 M R M G W G L H D V K N E
 X C X R J E N C M A M R R U X
 B C Z O W V P A E G W F L H S Q I
 U E V
 C J A
 V W D

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 Boughs
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 Excitement

Green
 Joy
 Lights
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Ornaments
 Presents
 Santa Claus
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Tree
 Twinkle
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Withens Clough - Now open. Just to let everyone know that the works have completed on Withens Reservoir - so if you fancy a walk up there now it's a beautiful spot and now fully accessible after all the reservoir works have completed.

+++++

Sorry to inform you that Revd Sandie Maude, Assistant Minister at St. Johns Cragg Vale, died yesterday in hospital surrounded by her family.

RIP

ROOM TO HIRE IN CRAGG

Did you know that the St John's centre has rooms that are available to hire, for group functions.

Contact Jan for details:
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News from St. Johns Church

The Church Tower has now been repaired and is watertight. Hopefully the latest repair will last for another 150 years. It means that the inside is now dry and safe for the clock to tick again. The tower is now well worth a visit with the spiral staircase, the clock room



with access to the vast roofspace and the next two sets of stairs past the bell to the roof. Hopefully next year there will be more opportunities for escorted visits.

We are without a Vicar, but services continue as normal and a lot of preparation is being done to get us into position for the interviewing and selection of a new incumbent. The Church of England is not renowned for the speed of its decision making and the earliest that we can expect the post to be filled is mid summer.

In October we held our annual Gift Day, which is the anniversary of the opening of the original Church in 1815. The response from around the village has been very generous and we are extremely grateful as well as being pleased with how well the Church is valued.

We wish you a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year, hopefully a year which will see the internal renovation of the Church.

Ed Talbot

What's on Guide Winter.



Saturday 1st December 11am - 1pm -
CV J&I School Christmas Fete

Saturday 1st December 11am - 3pm

Calder Valley Steiner School Advent Fayre, Hebden Bridge Methodist Church. A day of family fun including story telling, puppetry, music, childrens crafts, stalls & café.

Sunday 2nd December - Walk: Mytholmroyd circular 10:30 start. Meet David Savage (01422 843336) of the Calderdale Ramblers for this 8 mile, moderate walk. Venue: Hebden Bridge Visitor and Canal Centre

Tuesday 4th December, 2.30-4pm - Calder Valley Steiner School Open Day. Come and see our beautiful school near the Hinchliffe Arms, Cragg Vale HX7 5TF. All Welcome!

Friday 7th December - Christingle and Lights switch on - St John's 18:30. **Everybody welcome** - bring the whole family to celebrate the big Christmas light switch on outside of St. Johns the Baptist in the Wilderness. Christingle is a long tradition (initiated in 1967), not to be missed, in support of the Childrens Society, for which a collection will be made. Refreshments, provided by the Community Association will be available.

Saturday 8th December - Hebden Bridge Craft Fair, 10 - 4 pm Holme Street Art Centre, Hebden Bridge, HX7 8EE

Thursday 20th December 7:30pm - 'Christmas Crackers!', history group event.

Thursday 20th December - Xmas flowers and music/buffet, St Johns Church - contact Pam Talbot for more details

Monday 24th December - Christmas Crib Service at St. Johns 16:00. Christmas Midnight Mass 23:30

Here is the programme of meetings of

Cragg Vale Local History Group, until April 2013:

(please note some changes to advertised subject)

20th December Cragg Vale Christmas Crackers!

2013

17th January The Story of Moderna Joan Laprell

20th February Another Entertaining Evening with
Ian Dewhirst

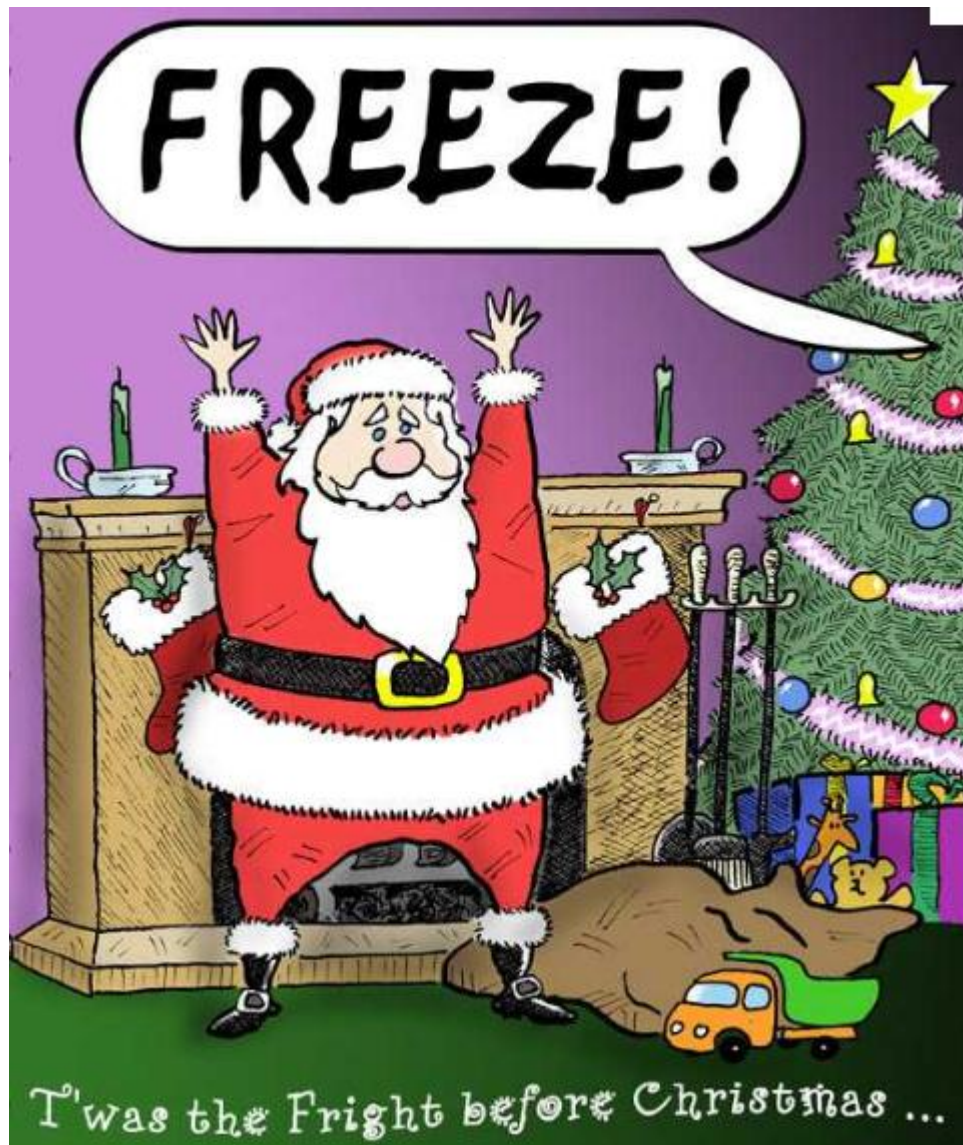
20th March Dawson City Ann Kilby

18th April – AGM 2013 – 1st meeting of 6th year of CVLHG!

Meetings held in the Top Room at The Robin Hood at 7.30pm

**(any further details will be advertised on the Cragg Vale
noticeboard, at the Robin or by email)**

All welcome, Annual Subscriptions £10, Visitors £3 (annual subscriptions
due April each year)



The Robin Hood Christmas Opening Hours:

Christmas Day open from 11:30

Boxing Day open from 12:00
Stew and dumplings available

New Year's Eve open from 12 onwards
New Year's Day open from 12 onwards

Christmas menu available throughout December



Joke answers:

- 1.) Silent Night.
- 2.) She had a pumpkin for a coach!
- 3.) A broken drum. You can't beat it 😊
- 4.) Tinseltitus!



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