

Cragg News

ISSUE 24
SUMMER
2019

Yorkshire Countrywomen's Association



Did you know that Cragg Vale has its own branch of the The Yorkshire Countrywomen's Association, a friendly and welcoming group who meet on the 2nd Monday of every month in St. John's Church at 2.30pm?

With a variety of interesting talks and events, the annual subscription is £17.50 and all are welcome. Further details can be obtained from the Secretary, Beryl Horsfall on 01422 884460

St John's Church, Cragg Vale

**Spring Bank Duck Race
and May Fair**

Monday 27th May 
10.30am – 2.30pm

Stalls (jumble, cakes etc.) and
Refreshments

**Duck Race at 2pm
on Cragg Brook**

£1 per duck - Prizes Galore!

**Cragg Vale
COUNTRY
SHOW**

AT THE HINCHLIFFE ARMS
SUNDAY 2ND JUNE
1-5PM

FUN FOR ALL THE FAMILY

ACTIVITIES, COMPETITIONS,
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THE HINCHLIFFE ARMS, CHURCH ROAD, CRAGG VALE, HESKETH, WILSON, YORK YO19 7SL
WWW.YORKSHIRECOUNTRYSHOWS.CO.UK

SUMMER

June

Every Tuesday afternoon 'Open Church', St. John's Church 3pm – 4.30pm

Sunday, 2nd June Cragg Vale Country Show 1-5pm, The Hinchliffe Arms, free entry. Fun for all the family. Proceeds benefit Overgate Hospice

Friday 7th June Broadhead Clough Volunteers needed: meet 10am at the reserve signboard. Contact Helen Pedley YWT: 886195

Monday 10th June Yorkshire Countrywomen's Association St. John's Church, 2.30pm 'Decorative Pots' with Debs Pitcher – all welcome

Wednesday 12th June Cragg Vale Music Group More singers and musicians wanted – all invited. For details contact Martyn Kenyon on martynk@talktalk.net or 07572 578444

Wednesday 26th June Cragg Vale Fell Race St. John's Church. Registration (£5) 6.30pm. Refreshments and prizes! Info from Jackie Scarf thescarfs@hotmail.com

Saturday 29th July Cream Teas St. John's Church 3pm – 5pm Yorkshire Countrywomen's Association (cakes, plant stalls etc). Tickets £5, contact Beryl Horsfall 884460

July

Every Tuesday afternoon 3pm – 4.30pm 'Open Church' in St. John's Church

Monday 8th July Yorkshire Countrywomen's Association St. John's Church 2.30pm Annual Walk and Meal, contact Beryl Horsfall 884460

Wednesday 10th July Cragg Vale Music Group More singers and musicians wanted – all invited. For details contact Martyn Kenyon martynk@talktalk.net or 07572 578444

Friday 5th July Broadhead Clough Volunteers needed: meet 10am at the reserve signboard. Contact Helen Pedley YWT: 886195

August

Every Tuesday afternoon 3pm – 4.30pm 'Open Church' in St. John's Church

Monday 12th August Yorkshire Countrywomen's Association St John's Church 2.30pm 'All at Sea' with Jay Hopkins. All Welcome. Contact Beryl Horsfall 884460

Wednesday 14th August Cragg Vale Music Group More singers and musicians wanted – all invited. For details contact Martyn Kenyon on martynk@talktalk.net or 07572 578444

Friday 2nd August Broadhead Clough Volunteers needed: meet 10am at the reserve signboard. Contact Helen Pedley YWT: 886195

For more news and information see our website www.craggvalecommunity.co.uk

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SPACE

at the ark

Out of school & Holiday Club

Xbox - PS3 - music area - Wii - crafts
sports hall - and much more

Lots of fun for 4 - 14 year olds

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Available for
events and
parties

'Space' at the Ark



'Space', the Out of School and Holiday Club, caters for children aged 4 to 11 years old, and provides a relaxed, fun environment before and after school and during school holidays, with a varied range of activities on offer.

The sports hall offers football, badminton, netball, tennis, basketball, etc. and the chance to generally just let off steam. With an indoor traversing wall too, there's never a dull moment even when it rains! There is also a large outdoor play area with traversing wall and during the summer months the children enjoy a wide range of activities.

The Out of School Club provides breakfast and children can play with their friends until it is time for them to go to school. Later, after tea they have an opportunity to relax and spend time with their friends and perhaps get creative with paint or listen to their favourite music. From baking to art, or

dodgeball in the sports hall to relaxing with a good book, there's always plenty to do.

At the Holiday Club children can be dropped off for the morning, or they can stay for the day - or come every day – the choice is yours! From board games to the latest consoles in the computer area, a fantastic choice of games and gadgets is on offer.

Children can spend their time indoors or outside, either occupied in activities or simply relaxing and playing at their own pace, always of course, with the supervision and involvement of the childcare team.



If you would like more details, please either contact the admin team for a copy of the latest planner or download a copy from the website www.thearkexperience.co.uk

Cragg Vale Fell Race

Put the evening of Wednesday 26th June on your calendar: all runners are welcome. Help with refreshments and registration is needed, and marshalls on the route are needed too. Come and do your bit to raise more money for update of Cragg Church. I am always short on helpers!

This is a delightful 4 mile evening race that takes in the edge of Erringden moor, drops back down past Sunny Bank

and through the woods and is only £5. There are lots of prizes, mainly donated by Little Valley Brewery, and delicious refreshments provide by the members of Cragg church. We expect to get around 100 runners, who start [and finish] by the Hinchliffe Arms at 7.30pm. Registration is in church from 6.30pm and all details including a map are on the Calder Valley fell Runners website.

Jackie Scarf thescarfs@hotmail.com

The Guns of Cragg Vale

If you've heard the sound of shotguns on alternate Sunday mornings in Cragg, don't worry, the outlaws haven't returned, it's only the Cragg Vale Gun club! This club has been meeting for over 30 years, shooting clay pigeons. With a 9.30am start, anyone is welcome to come have a go, there is even a practice stand, members retire to the Robin Hood afterwards! For more information, contact Trevor 07989537014 tsunderland53@gmail.com or Viv 07769037908 '



Yorkshire
Wildlife Trust

Broadhead Clough June 2019 update

Summer began early this year with the warm Easter kicking everything into growth early. As I write the bluebells both look their best and smell beautiful a couple of weeks earlier than usual. They're also springing up in new areas where clearing bracken or thinning trees has given them the light they need to flower.

The bilberry is also blooming in places where we've been bashing invasive bracken and there's hope for a good berry harvest in the summer. The reserve isn't really managed for flowers, but if enough light can reach through the canopy in small clearings or path margins they thrive: attracting woodland butterflies such as Ringlet and Speckled Wood.

Managing light and space is key to support a rich habitat with variety of species. Neglect can lead to domination and then monoculture (where only one type of plant is present). This is both monotonous to look at, but supports far fewer insects and mammals and is inherently "risky." If bad weather, pests or disease set in, the effects quickly spread to become decay, and then barren desolation.

Whether you like them or not dominant species are causing a problem for our native flowers and particularly Himalayan Balsam is spreading along the river system here in the Calder Valley. Yorkshire Wildlife Trust is now involved with Calderdale Council to improve the Copley Valley Green Corridor and Milner Royd nature reserve (between the Sowerby Bridge tip and Wakefield Road). They are starting work parties from 7th May continuing until 25th July usually on Thursdays and Fridays.

First will be a litter pick and then plenty of bashing Himalayan

Balsam aiming to create a rich grassland/wetland habitat by the canal and river. If you'd like to be in at the very start of "Re-wilding" these neglected local areas please phone me or contact peter.gurney@ywt.org.uk. Similar collaboration is being considered for future management of Brearley Fields. You can also sign up for #30DaysWild and challenge yourself with suggested activities every day in June to do something for wildlife.

Task-days here at Broadhead Clough are planned on the first Friday of the month at 10a.m. on June 7th, July 5th, Aug 2nd, and Sep 6th. All tools are provided, and gloves if required. Remember sun cream, insect repellent and bring a drink and packed lunch if you are staying all day.

Helen Pedley, 886195

www.ywt.org.uk

Love Yorkshire, Love Wildlife



Thank You

Cragg Vale Community Association want to say a big 'Thank You' to the Mytholmroyd Co-op, Craggies, and Little Valley Brewery for their generous donations that helped make the Treasure Hunt such a success.

We also want to thank the Hinchliffe Arms, The Robin Hood, the cake-makers from St. John's and Ryburn Longswords – and of course the Rev. Cathy Reardon, for their support once again for Spaw Sunday. Even more people joined us for the spa 'blessing' and the community picnic this year in spite of the unseasonably cold weather!

Neighbourhood Watch

In the light of recent events in Cragg Vale, the Community Association is investigating the possibilities of setting up a similar approach to the one at Blackshawhead, where residents have their own 'system' to enable people to communicate.

CVCA is checking what resources might be available to use our website and a common email address for reporting anything at all suspicious. However, meanwhile it is important that everyone takes

responsibility for their own environment and calls '101' if they see anything.

Although there may be a wait to get through, after a recent call the response from the Police, who turned up quickly to investigate, was very good.



There is already an embryo group here in Cragg Vale, if anyone would like further information, please contact either **Vivien Aspey** or **Jackie Scarf**.

Cragg's Music Group

Now the evenings are getting lighter and warmer, it's a great opportunity to meet up with fellow music lovers for an evening of music and merriment. The Group meets monthly (second Wednesday each month at 730pm) to share members' favourite songs, learn some new ones and spend time together in some very pleasant company. Venue may vary so please contact Martyn on martynk@talktalk.net. We like all kinds of music, so here's the invitation from a badboy gangsta rapper.....

Now here's the thing, we like to sing, so we come together, whatever, to make some noises, with our musical toyses, and our singing voices, and we sing and we laugh, so get out of the bath, and walk down the path, we want you along, to share your best song and feel you belong, cos its better than sitting at home, playing with your phone, on your own.

BALLOON ASCENT & DESCENT

Taken from Todmorden & District News Friday 11th August 1899

On Monday evening considerable interest was aroused amongst the villagers owing to the appearance of a balloon passing over; the interest was intensified by reason of it lowering so rapidly that it was expected to alight close to the village.

However, it did not alight until it had reached a field at Firkin Farm, which is about two miles up the Cragg valley. The balloon was set up from Bowling Park gala, and was called the "Lord Masham". At seven o'clock Mr. Bramhall, his assistant, Mr. Dawson, and Mr J.H. Robson of Dalton, near Huddersfield, took their seats in the car. The last bag of ballast being taken aboard, the leading rope was thrown off, and the balloon ascended almost perpendicularly, without the slightest sign of uneven motion. It rose rapidly at first, and after some ballast had been thrown out it disappeared in the direction of Halifax.

PEOPLE WERE ASTOUNDED TO SEE WHAT SEEMED TO BE A MAN SHOOT THROUGH THE AIR

When at a considerable altitude the occupants of the car were seen to wave their hats, and immediately afterwards people were astounded to see what seemed to be a man shoot through the air. It turned out to be a parachute, with a dummy attached to it, which came in for a good deal of undeserved applause from the children as it descended with trembling limbs into an adjoining field.

Mr. Bramall expected to be back in Bradford, before ten o'clock, but as presently will be seen in these expectations he was entirely thrown out of his bearings. As already stated, the balloon alighted in a field at Firkin Farm. This was about a quarter to

eight, so that the journey from Bradford had been accomplished in forty-five minutes – a distance of about fifteen miles as the crow flies. The services of Mr. S. Bentley and his spring-cart were secured to take the balloon and the aeronauts to the railway station at Mytholmroyd.

THE AERONAUTS TO SAVE THEIR NECKS JUMPED OUT OF THE VEHICLE

After surmounting the difficulties of removing the balloon from the field in a zig-zag road to the main road, all went fairly well until Holderness had nearly been reached. At this point of the journey an accident occurred: one of the shafts of the vehicle broke causing the horse to bolt, and releasing itself from the vehicle it galloped down the road at a furious rate, and did not stop until it arrived at the door-way leading to the booking office at the station – where it had often been drawn up before but under different circumstances. It panted heavily and had most of the harness on but in a disorderly state. The horse was taken charge of by P. C. Glover, and it was put into a stable at the Shoulder of Mutton Inn until such time as Jehu arrived, which was not very long. To return to where the accident happened.

The aeronauts to save their necks jumped out of the vehicle; two of them did not sustain any injury, but Mr. Bramhall had his left arm injured, but not too seriously. Other means of transit had to be secured, and ultimately the trio of aeronauts and the balloon were brought to the station in a cart.

In a conversation which our representative had with the aeronauts, he learned that the voyage had been of a pleasant description. Mr. Bramhall stated that he had made about fifty ascents,

Cragg Vale LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

We meet on the third Thursday of the month at 7.30pm in the upstairs room, St John's Church. We provide tea and coffee at all our meetings and try to encourage the social as well as the historical. Visitors are welcome at £3 a visit -or why not become a member, at only £15 for 10 meetings

For more information contact Jane Frechette 07733326866

UPCOMING EVENTS

JUNE 19TH (A WEDNESDAY)
is a trip to Calderdale Museum

JULY/AUGUST
is our summer break

SEPT 19TH
it's Pat Osborne with 'Behind closed doors
(Bronte scandal!!)'

OCT 17TH
is Andrew Bibby with 'Hebden Bridge Co-operative'

whilst his assistant, Mr. Dawson, had been in cloud-land about double that number of times.

As for Mr. Robson, it was the first time out, and he had been greatly pleased, and said he would not mind if he was going to have another ascent on the following day; he should very much prefer it to having a ride in a spring-cart, such as he had that evening. Ultimately the balloonists and their balloon, &c., left the station for home by belated trains.

CRAGGIES

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