

# Cragg Vale News



## Remembering Cragg Hall

Cragg Vale Local History Group is pleased to announce waiting is almost over for the series of events commemorating the fateful day on 11th August 1921 when a devastating fire destroyed Cragg Vale's 'stately home'. The events are supported by HRTC. The Mayor, Cllr Rob Freeth, will perform the official opening on Saturday 14th August at 2pm. 100 years ago, the world was in the throes of a Flu pandemic; 100 years later we have the

COVID-19 pandemic. Due to this, attendance is controlled and all events require a ticket. However, tickets are free. They may be obtained via the CVCA website <http://www.craggvalecommunity.co.uk/> Any issues with the on-line ticketing system, or general enquiries, please contact [history@craggvalecommunity.co.uk](mailto:history@craggvalecommunity.co.uk) or telephone Jane 07733 326866 or Margaret 07900 00 4766.

## Cragg Vale Calendar 2022



The Cragg Vale Calendar for 2022 is due to be available from the end of August! Watch for details on our website [www.craggvalecommunity.co.uk](http://www.craggvalecommunity.co.uk) and on our noticeboard! Thanks to all who submitted photographs, they are all very much appreciated and we will try to include as many as possible, either as main photos or as one of the smaller "thumbnail" pictures. As production deadline is approaching, if anyone has any inspirational photos, please send them to [martynk666@outlook.com](mailto:martynk666@outlook.com) and if there's a story to go with the pic, then include that as well. As a reminder, we're looking for pictures that capture the **Spirit of Cragg Vale** and what that means to different people.

## SUMMER CALENDER

### July

**Saturday 31st July Bring and Buy Sale** St. John's Church 2pm – 4pm. Refreshments available. Want your own table? Just £5 – contact Julie [gjwsa2@gmail.com](mailto:gjwsa2@gmail.com)

### August

**Friday 6th August Broadhead Clough** Volunteers meet 10am at the reserve signboard, tools & gloves provided Contact Helen Pedley YWT: 886195

**Thursday 12th August "Remembering Cragg Hall- Its Life, Times and Fire"** 7:30pm St. John's Church: Presentation & slide show Tickets only

**Saturdays & Sundays 14th - 29th August 'The Cragg Hall Story'** Exhibition 2-5pm St. John's Church Upper Room (restricted access) Display Panels, photographs & artefacts

**Saturdays & Sundays 14th - 29th August** (with Cragg Hall exhibition) Exhibition of kneelers made by the Cragg Vale Community in the 1980's. Parish Marriage, Baptism and Burial registers available for family research or historical interest. Refreshments available.

**Saturday 7th August Wilderness Worship St. John's Church 12 – 1pm.** Fun for all the family! Firepit, outdoor activities and stories. Dress for the weather!

### September

**Friday 3rd September Broadhead Clough** Volunteers meet 10am at the reserve signboard, tools & gloves provided Contact Helen Pedley YWT: 886195

**Saturday 4th September Wilderness Worship St. John's Church 12 – 1pm.** Firepit, outdoor activities and stories. Dress for the weather!

**Sunday 5th September Cragg Vale Treasure Hunt** Starts 2pm St. John's Church. For all ages, follow the trail, find the treasure, return by 4pm. Prizes and refreshments FREE Further details from CVCA Secretary [marianne.hood@outlook.com](mailto:marianne.hood@outlook.com)

**Sunday 19th September 'Bike Fun 'n Games'** Mytholmroyd Community Centre – part of 'Not The Cragg Challenge' events. For children 4-11yrs, must register, FREE Further details from CVCA Secretary [marianne.hood@outlook.com](mailto:marianne.hood@outlook.com)

**Sunday 19th September 'Not The Cragg Challenge'** see details inside newsletter

### October

**Friday 1st October Broadhead Clough** Volunteers meet 10am at the reserve signboard, tools & gloves provided Contact Helen Pedley YWT: 886195

**Saturday 9th October Harvest Brunch** St. John's Church 10.30am – 1pm. Adults £5, under 10's £3. Let Julie know how many people, what time and any dietary requirements (Gf, vegan, vegetarian etc) [gjwsa2@gmail.com](mailto:gjwsa2@gmail.com) text 07443420907

**Sunday 10th October Harvest Festival** St. John's Church 9.30am with 'Jacob's Join' (bring and share) meal afterwards. Everyone welcome!



Supported by Hebden  
Royd Town Council



[www.craggvalecommunity.co.uk](http://www.craggvalecommunity.co.uk)

# News from The Ark

## Getting ready for the next adventure!



**Starting school is always exciting, but when it is the transition into "big school", it can feel a little daunting. Current advice to help a child feel 'school ready' recommends talking to them about what is going to happen, encouraging them to share any concerns or anxieties and listening carefully to them, and helping them to become familiar with the new setting and what will be expected of them.**

At The Ark Nursery, we have created an Upper Pre-school room for children

who will be going to school in the next academic year, enabling us to focus on preparing your child for their transition to school in September. The children benefit from looking at more focused activities with Early Years teacher input, which will concentrate on their "school readiness". The children take part in focused activities that develop literacy, mathematics and scientific understanding.

To strengthen and support the children's readiness for school, our practitioners liaise with local schools and organise visits from reception

teachers to introduce them to the children within the familiar surroundings of their current setting. We regularly talk to the children about starting school and provide school role-play activities, such as uniform or book bags, alongside reading books together about starting school. We continue to encourage independence at mealtimes, and further promote independence when putting on their coats / shoes and with personal self-care in readiness for starting school. We would like to wish all the children starting school in September good luck – we know you will be amazing!

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[www.thearkexperience.co.uk](http://www.thearkexperience.co.uk) T 01422 882010 Open 51 weeks 7am-6.30pm



## Cragg Vale Treasure Hunt

Sunday September 5th sees the return of the Cragg Vale Treasure Hunt! Providing no new Covid-19 restrictions prevent us, the Hunt will start from St. John's Church at 2pm. Collect a quiz sheet, follow the route marked by the little bikes, answer the questions and find 'treasure' along the way! The trail, around 1 ½ hours in our beautiful valley, is not too energetic although we can't guarantee what the weather will be like. Sturdy footwear is recommended as the ground can be rough and muddy! This event is for everyone, especially children, and it's free! Return to St. John's before 4.00pm to enter completed quiz sheets into the prize draw. When you get back you will be able to get hot and cold drinks and cakes at the Church. For further information, contact CVCA Secretary Marianne Hood at [marianne.hood@outlook.com](mailto:marianne.hood@outlook.com)

## Cragg Vale Music Group

Although the Group hasn't met for over 12 months due to Covid restrictions, we're hoping to resume as soon as it is safe to do so. Group organiser Martyn Kenyon will send out an email to advise members of planned date and venue. If you'd like to be included in the mailing, please drop him a line at [martynk666@outlook.com](mailto:martynk666@outlook.com)

## Planting Trees In Cragg Vale

Have you noticed how many Cragg residents are using their land to plant saplings? These are usually trees native to our area, like oak, hazel, silver birch, alder, ash, rowan and holly.

Sometimes they include wild cherry, scots pine or shrubs such as gorse and broom. A growing tree locks up carbon, helping us to combat climate change and it creates new habitats and haven for wildlife such as birds, insects and small mammals. Tree roots also help prevent soil erosion and slow run-off and flooding down in the valley.

Several landowners around Cragg have chosen to plant small woodlands and its great to see

many adjoining established woods creating wildlife corridors. Lots have footpaths going through them, so we can all enjoy them.

Treesponsibility have been helping us to plant trees in the Upper Calder Valley since 1998, at a rate of 12 acres of new trees per year.

If you are interested in planting trees on your land or just volunteering contact

them via their website. The trees

[Woodland Trust],

fencing, gates, and manpower, come free if you

offer up some land.

FUNFACT: An English Oak can live to 1000 years and support over 2300 living species, of which 1 in 7 only live on Oaks!

**Jackie Scarf**



800 Trees planted Feb 2021  
Cock Hill Farm by  
Treesponsibility

## 'NOT The Cragg Challenge' 19 September 2021

With the pandemic forcing another postponement of The Cragg Challenge, organisers decided that enough was enough. So, having sounded out the community about this year, whilst the traditional events cannot run up (and down) the longest continuous climb in England, there will be a number of activities available on Sunday 19 September. With a working title of NOT The Cragg Challenge the organisers aim to provide a series of equivalent events which will provide opportunities for the community to shake off those lockdown blues.

Everything will be taking place at or around the Community Centre in Mytholmroyd, and at the time of writing, events confirmed are 5K, 10K and 10-mile runs; an Audax (100Km) for cyclists and a bike skills experience (organised by CVCA) for children just starting out. Additional activities will be added when the circumstances allow.

Running events will be largely off-road on footpaths and bridleways. The 5K and 10K routes feature climbs close to those of the usual events on Cragg Road. The 10-mile route is more challenging than the road event with a total climb listed at approximately 440m (the usual route is 290m) and again features a variety of pavement, footpaths and bridlepaths.

Further details can be found at [www.craggchallenge.co.uk](http://www.craggchallenge.co.uk) and entries will be opening soon. Information will also be posted on our Facebook page "The Cragg Challenge".

We look forward to seeing you in September and of course to a return to the traditional Cragg Challenge next year.

## Bike Fun 'n Games

With help from Calderdale's Bikeability team the Community Organisation is running another 'Bike Fun 'n Games' event on Sunday, 19th September in the car park at the Mytholmroyd Community Centre as part of the 'Not The Cragg Challenge' events.

This is a free event for children from 4 to 11 years, beginners or learners are very welcome, balance bikes will be provided! Good fun, as well as learning about safety, is guaranteed.

If you have children who want to take part, please let Marianne Hood know as soon as possible on 01422 885224 or [marianne.hood@outlook.com](mailto:marianne.hood@outlook.com)

# News from St John's Church



**At St John's we've continued with our regular Sunday services held under Covid secure conditions (hand sanitiser, face coverings and social distancing), We've recently been able to start having our traditional after service coffee again which has been very welcome. We are now awaiting guidance from government and the Church of England as to the changes to guidance for both services and other events in church from July 19th. Our continued aim will be to keep those using church safe.**

As Covid restrictions start to lift we have, at last, been able to restart some of our social and fundraising activities. The Duck Race and Community picnic on July 3rd went very well with lots of people turning out, despite the damp weather, to buy ducks, eat cake and play garden games! It was lovely to see so many families and individuals enjoying themselves. Over £600 was raised. Thank you to Calder Primary School for the loan of the ducks!

We also hosted the Cragg Vale Fell Race, organised by Jackie Scarf and family and sponsored by Little Valley Brewery. Over 100 runners took part in the race and then had refreshments (bacon sandwiches, tea, beer!) afterwards. Over £1000 was raised for St John's!

Hopefully we will soon be able to restart our Tuesday afternoon coffee, cake and chat sessions. Keep an eye on social media for details. We have a few things on the calendar including a bring and buy sale, hosting the History Group's Cragg Hall exhibition, a kneeler

exhibition, open registers (come and have a look at our marriage, baptism and burial registers if you want to do some family history research or are just interested in the history of the village!), Harvest brunch and Harvest Festival.

We also have 'Wilderness Worship' on the first Saturday of each month from 12 – 1pm. This happens outside and can involve fun outdoor activities, stories and a fire pit! (Think 'forest School' but for church!). It's a great thing to do either as a family or an individual – there is no age limit!

There will be a 'Holiday Club' running at St Michael's, Mytholmroyd (The parishes of St John's and St Michael's make up Erringden Benefice, Cathy is Vicar for both churches and Dan is Curate for both) every Tuesday from July 27th to August 31st, 10am – 12 noon. The sessions are open for children from Reception to year 6 who need to be accompanied by parent(s)/carer(s). Just come along!



As restrictions lift, the church is becoming available for hire for meetings, exhibitions, parties etc. We have a meeting room upstairs as well as the main church room.

Please contact Julie on [gjwsa2@gmail.com](mailto:gjwsa2@gmail.com) or text 07443420907 about hiring one of our spaces or for information about any of the upcoming events. If you would like to talk to Cathy or Dan about a wedding, baptism, funeral or any other aspect of church, please call Cathy on 01422 883944 or Dan on 01706 81004.

Julie Harris, Churchwarden





# CRAGG VALE LOCAL HISTORY GROUP

The Cragg Vale Local History Group committee are delighted to report regular monthly meetings are to resume from September 2021. Speakers are arranged for September, October and November, with December being the Christmas Extravaganza. We look forward to seeing everyone again and to welcoming new people. Please note: COVID-19 considerations will be observed.

## **Remembering Cragg Hall: Events**

**Thursday 12th August 7:30pm** St. John's Church: Presentation & slide show "Remembering Cragg Hall- Its Life, Times and Fire"

**Saturday 14th August, from 2:30pm** - Guided Walk(s) around the village & Cragg Hall Grounds (with kind permission of the land owners) To start and finish at St. John's Church.

**Weekends 14th – 29th August, 2-5pm** St Johns Church: Exhibition: "The Cragg Hall Story – 1750s – 2021" illustrated by Display Panels, photographs, artefacts. Registers will also be on display. Upper Room of St Johns (restricted access).

## CRAGG VALE LOCAL HISTORY GROUP

We meet at 7.30pm on the third Thursday of the month in the upstairs room, St John's Church. With tea and coffee at all meetings, we encourage the social as well as the historical. Visitors welcome at £3 a visit -or become a member, £15 for 10 meetings. For more information contact Jane Frechette 07733326866

**Thursday 16th September** Steve Ward "The Circus, Past, Present and Future"

**Thursday 21st October** David Glover "Buried Alive? Past Funeral Customs in Calderdale"

**Thursday 18th November** John Benson "Childhood Memories of an Evacuee"

**Thursday 16th December**  
Christmas Extravaganza





# Broadhead Clough Summer 2021 update



**Yorkshire**  
Wildlife Trust



"Give seas a chance"

Now that restrictions are lifting the talk is all about "getting back to normal", but I don't want that. I want things to improve and particularly I am hoping that the forthcoming United Nations Climate Change Conference – COP26, held in Glasgow and hosted by the UK will be a pivotal moment in how we can change behaviour at global, national, local and personal levels. We've seen the recent devastating temperatures in Canada, showing that richer countries are now experiencing the impacts that previously have only affected the poorest. We've always been able to retreat to the shade or find a cool breeze, but some humid areas of the world are now experiencing "wet-bulb heat" exceeding 35C or 95F: a point at which humans can no longer regulate their own body heat. People are now migrating to new areas, just as wildlife conservationists have seen animals doing for many decades. In the words of the Climate Coalition a campaign group, "We know the climate doesn't respond to promises and targets: it responds to action." So I'm hoping that the politicians will be galvanized by public opinion to keep their promises, and start producing

incentives and laws to deliver results. BUT... it is only when we, over 7.9 billion of us, as communities and individuals change our actions that the climate will respond. This year I felt really anxious as the cuckoo didn't reappear until 3 weeks later than normal, and the number of successful blue tit broods plummeted. In the Great Yorkshire Creature Count I found only one caterpillar, and saw no butterflies in a combined time of four hours both afternoon and morning. In the 60s Dutch Elm disease altered the balance of our woodlands: now Ash, Oak & Box trees are at risk with new pests and climate stress increasing.

## a point at which humans can no longer regulate their own body heat

So that's why I've been a long term campaigner, lobbying my MP and other decision makers, and physically volunteering for organisations who are taking action now. At Stirley Farm, YWT are replacing metal fencing with hedges, restoring grasslands and at Spurn Point

they are restoring natural climate solutions like seagrass and oysters to naturally clean our seas and trap carbon beneath the waves. Calderdale council are doing their bit with flood recovery plans, tree planting, and reducing air pollution from carbon emissions. What are you doing, and what could you do to make a difference? We all spend time, energy and money so make it count towards "better".

The YWT are open to new volunteers now, please go to their website to register. Task-days here at Broadhead Clough will start at 10am on Aug 6th, Sep 3rd, and Oct 1st. 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. You might wish to add hand sanitizer, anti-bac wipes & a face-mask to your bag. Other local opportunities in Calderdale can be found on Facebook: search for "Calder Greening."

Helen Pedley, 886195

[www.ywt.org.uk](http://www.ywt.org.uk)

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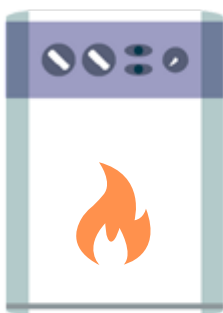




# TIME TO TOP UP?



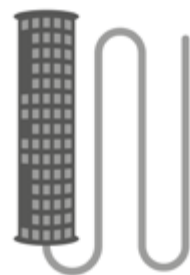
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Sunday	10.00 to 16.00

### CAFE OPENING TIMES

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