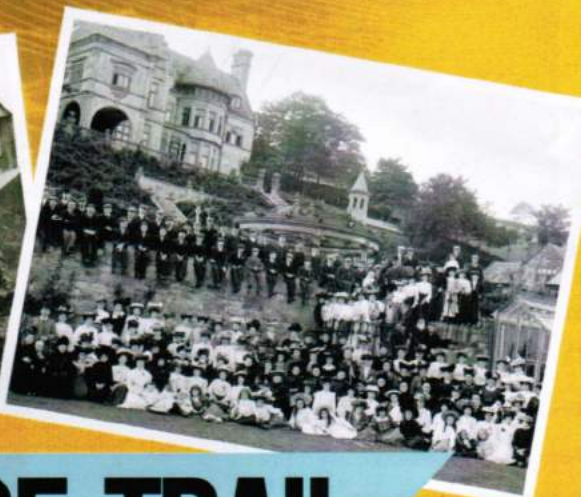


Cragg News

ISSUE 8
SUMMER 2015



Kindly supported by
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HERITAGE TRAIL

Grand Unveiling event to unveil story boards for the Cragg Vale Heritage Trail: 3.30pm, Thursday 2nd July 2015, at the Hinchliffe Arms.

Everyone is invited to a special event to launch the Cragg Vale Heritage Trail and unveil the Story Boards

The Trail, developed in partnership with Pennine Heritage, is one of a series of 'e-trails', available in a leaflet and as an 'App' that can be downloaded, with a map, walking directions, and other information.

Each of the six story boards includes pictures by local school children with details of the history, heritage, flora, and fauna of Cragg Vale. The Trail starts at Sykes Gate, with the first board by the footpath sign near Broad Fold Farm. It then follows the well-marked path downhill to the river and continues along the river towards Mytholmroyd.

Refreshments will be provided by J.W. Lees and pictures of all the boards

along the trail will be on display in the pub. Teachers and pupils from Cragg Vale J&I School and the Calder Valley Steiner School will be present and will be joined by local residents, representatives from Cragg Vale Community Association, Calderdale Council, Hebden Royd Town Council, and local businesses.

Everyone is welcome – especially all the families and friends of the children who helped produce pictures for the boards. It was no easy task selecting the final 10 to be used but all will be revealed on 2nd July!

CVCA wants to thank Hebden Royd Town Council, Calderdale Council, and Craggs Energy for their financial support and Pennine Horizons, Yorkshire Wildlife Trust, and RSPB for use of their photographs.

"The Trail Starts At Sykes Gate"

SUMMER EVENTS

JUNE

Parent and Child Group Calder Valley Steiner School every Monday & Friday, 10-12, St John's Centre

18th June 'Anyone For Tennis', History Group, 7.30pm, in the Steiner School

27th June Mytholmroyd Gala Procession, fairground, stalls etc

JULY

Parent and Child Group Calder Valley Steiner School, every Monday & Friday, 10-12, St John's Centre

1st July Cragg Vale Fell Race starts 7.30pm, St John's Church. Entry Fee £5. Anyone over 14yrs welcome. Funds raised go to the Church Restoration Fund

2nd July, Grand Unveiling, Heritage Trail Story Boards 3.30pm, Hinchliffe Arms, Cragg Vale Community Association. All story boards on display. Everyone invited, free refreshments

3rd July Broadhead Clough, volunteers needed to help improve the habitat. Meet at 10am, contact Helen Pedley YWT, 886195 for information

***4th July 'Four on The Fourth'** walk, run or cycle taking in The Shoulder of Mutton, The Robin Hood, Hinchliffe Arms and The Whitehouse. (www.cragg15.uk for details)

***12th July Walk, 'A Sunday Stroll in Cragg'** for more mature residents - Bring a picnic. (see www.cragg15.uk for details)

25th & 26th July, Church Open Gardens

AUGUST

7th August Broadhead Clough volunteers needed to help improve the habitat. Meet at 10am, contact Helen Pedley YWT, 886195 for information

***22nd August Woodland Walk** A led walk through woodlands of Cragg Vale - easy - moderate - 3 hours. (see www.cragg15.uk for details)

***23rd August Walk** A led walk through the woodlands and moors of Cragg Vale - moderate. 3-4 Hours. (see www.cragg15.uk for details)

31st August The Cragg Vale Country Show & August Artisan Market, (see www.cragg15.uk for details)

SEPTEMBER

4th September Broadhead Clough volunteers needed to help improve the habitat. Meet at 10am, contact Helen Pedley YWT, 886195 for information

6th September Cragg Vale Tennis Club Summer Tournament

*Please note, these events are organized by Cragg15 not CVCA

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Pauline & David James, the managers at The Hinchliffe Arms, along with the team would like to thank all the customers for their on-going support since they took over in May 2015, and they look forward to welcoming all new customers to this fantastic pub which is located at the heart of the community.

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YEAR OF THE GREAT OUTDOORS!

It has been a busy few months at The Ark Nursery since we decided that 2015 would be our 'Year of the Great Outdoors'. All the children spend a great deal of time outdoors, so with summer (hopefully) on its way, we decided to add some new exciting play areas to our outdoor provisions.

The children now have a new water area and a huge covered sandpit to play in, providing them with plenty of opportunity to explore texture, volume, sounds and most importantly, have enormous amounts of fun. The pre-school children continue to go to Forest School on Mondays and Fridays and have

“ we decided to add some new exciting play areas to our outdoor provisions ”

been busy planting wild flower seeds - there has been plenty of rain recently to help them grow! Cooking is always an exciting and popular activity at Forest School. Recently the children foraged for some wild garlic, crushed it to mix with butter and on their return to pre-school, they made their very own delicious garlic bread - including making their own bread!

Cragg Fest

ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL COMMUNITY EVENT

In spite of the rain, or maybe even because of the rain (!) Cragg Fest at the Robin Hood on 2nd May was a huge success. Funds were raised for Calder Valley Search and Rescue Team. Families and people of all ages came along to listen to live bands and enjoy the food

and drink. It was a real community event, with lots of people turning up to help "people appeared out of nowhere and helped out" said pub owner Elva Wood, "they even helped to tidy up afterwards!"

A BIG 'THANK YOU'

Roger, Elva and Joanne from the Robin Hood want to say a big thank you to everyone who came and made it such a good event, especially all the musicians, Alan and the team who organised the whole event, Shaun and the others who helped, and Miles and Andrew who staffed the bar.

The pub will be running another event to celebrate the arrival of 'Beaujolais Nouveau' - probably in October, look out for details in the next Cragg Vale, Newsletter



MAY FAIR

The annual Cragg Vale May Fair, run by Cragg Vale J&I School, and the Artisan Market on 4th May, was a great success once again. The Maypole dancing involved not only the children, but, in response to demands from children, parents and everyone present, the School Head, Mrs Carole Lobley joined in with the last round. Sadly this will be Mrs Lobley's last May Fair as she retires in July at the end of this Summer Term. Cragg Vale Community Association wants to wish her all the very best and to thank her for all her work at the school

Calder Valley Steiner School parent & child group

Monday and Friday 10am-12pm
St. John's Centre, Cragg Vale

Tuesday 10am-12pm
Machpelah Works, Hebden Bridge

A warm, inviting, supportive group for parents of children from birth to 3 years.

Please contact Sally on 07904 052 816.

SPACE NEEDED FOR THE CALDER VALLEY STEINER SCHOOL

The Calder Valley Steiner School is looking for space or land to rent. It is needed for 16 children, ages from 3 to 6 years. Running water and two toilets are essential, and some outside space is wanted. This is needed for 6 to 12 months. If anyone can help, please contact Pippa on 07858224229

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CELEBRATING SPAW SUNDAY

On Sunday, 3rd May the Cragg Vale Community Association had a most successful celebration of Spaw Sunday. The fact that the 'Tour de Yorkshire' came through the valley on the same day certainly helped encourage everyone to take part but with more than 80 participants for the 'Spa Blessing', music, dancing, and community picnic, it was one of our best events so far. The Ryburn Longswords troupe (women with swords!) kept everyone entertained whilst we waited for the race and then still had enough energy left to lead the procession to the spa for more music and dancing!

The Community Association wants to say a big 'Thank You' to Rev. Cathy Reardon for the lovely and inclusive Blessing ceremony, to the Robin Hood for helping provide the picnic, and to Ryburn Longswords for the

excellent music and dancing – especially the impromptu 'Pasodoble' enjoyed by some of the dancers with the police motor bike riders!

The Spa has been polluted for the last couple of years, since we had the terrible floods and storms, so it is not possible to 'take the waters' but this problem is now being tackled and we hope anyone brave enough to taste the (somewhat sulphurous!) water next year will be able to do so!

Thank you once again to everyone who made this such an enjoyable event for all members of our community and friends and visitors – we hope to see you again next year.

11TH CRAGG VALE FELL RACE

The 11th Cragg Vale Fell race starts at 7.30pm on Wednesday 1st July. Registration and entry fee is £5

For anyone who fancies a run [and is over 14] it's only 4 miles and the fastest runners finish in under 30 minutes! All the £5 entry fees will go towards Cragg Church, which is undergoing restructuring work. Refreshments and registration will be in the church grounds and Little Valley Brewery are providing sponsorship once again

Help is always welcome and appreciated. If you could marshal a gate or help at registration, please get in touch with Jackie Scarf on **01422 882555** or email thescarfs@hotmail.com

CHILDREN'S ART EXHIBITION

Over the May Bank holiday weekend all the children's pictures produced for the Cragg Vale Heritage Trail were on display in the upstairs Community Room of the Robin Hood. The pictures, from children whose ages range from 5 years to 11 years, tell the story of Cragg Vale from rivers and trees, flowers, animals and birds, to the mills, children working in the mills and Old Cragg Hall and the Bell House Coiners.

On Friday, 1st May, pupils and teachers, including Head Teachers, from Cragg Vale J&I School and the Calder Valley Steiner School, parents, grandparents, friends and relatives joined local

Cragg Vale LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

From June onwards, Cragg Vale Local History Group will meet in the Steiner School until the Church re-ordering is complete.

UPCOMING EVENTS

18th June "Anyone for Tennis?" - Roy Collinge takes look at the story of tennis in Cragg Vale

July and August no meetings – the Group takes a break for the Summer but everyone is welcome again on:

17th September An Evening with Frank Woolrych and Ann Kilbey

15th October 'Guide posts, crosses and causeways'

19th November Percy Shaw – the 'cats' eyes man'

17th December 'Christmas crackers'



"Ten of the pictures have been chosen as final illustrations for the Story Boards"

residents and representatives of Cragg Vale Community Association for a 'Private View' of the exhibition. Ten of the pictures have been chosen as final illustrations for the Story Boards – but details remain secret until the unveiling event at the Hinchliffe on Thursday 2nd July!

CVCA wants to thank children and teachers at both schools for all their work and support for this project. We also want to thank the Robin Hood pub and the Hinchliffe Arms for hosting the exhibitions.



The Robin Hood

Not a lot is known about the Robin Hood's history, one of our two remaining pubs in Cragg Vale. The sign over the door says 'established 1834' – but was an inn of any sort here at an earlier date? The building is large, we know homes on one side were created recently by a previous owner. In 2000 (when the pub was threatened with closure) the 'MerryMen' community group found evidence of a Truck Shop and possible Ragged School in the building.



In the 1800's it was not unusual for workers to receive some or all of their wages in the form of tokens to be exchanged at a store owned by their employer. By 1887 the Truck Act made this practice more or less illegal. Does anyone know if a Truck Shop existed in part of the Robin Hood?

Ragged Schools developed in poor working areas of industrial towns in the 19th century and provided free education, clothes, food and often lodging. The 'curriculum' emphasised reading, writing, arithmetic and bible study. Does anyone know if a 'Ragged School' existed in the Robin Hood building?

Former Landlords

Visitors to the pub will see a framed photograph and letter from Wendy Chappell, asking if anyone knows the date or the names of the people in the picture.

Wendy's Grandfather, Hilton Sutcliffe, was born at Birks Hall in Cragg Vale in 1900. His father was George Sutcliffe and his mother Mary Hannah Hall. George was a fustian dyer but the family believe he also ran a pub – and think he may be in the

photograph. Does anyone know the date of the photo? Does anyone know the identities of any of the people in the picture? Was one of them the Robin Hood's landlord?

A press cutting from World War 1 says Mr and Mrs John Nicholl ran the pub. The article details the death of Mytholmroyd Soldier, Private Joe Nicholl, their only son. Before joining the West Riding regiment, Joe worked as a weaver in John Ackroyd's Square Shed. His name is on the St Michael's Church and School roll of honour. Mr and Mrs Nicholl ran the Robin Hood Inn up to a few weeks before his death – but that's all we know! They went on to run The Martin Nest in Elland – does anyone know any more about these former landlords of the Robin Hood?

If anyone can shed any light on the questions raised, Roger and Elva Wood who now own and run the pub with their daughter Joanne Hull, would be delighted to hear from you!



Yorkshire
Wildlife Trust

Broadhead Clough June 2015 update

The topsy turvy weather with April warmer than May has increased the usual feeling of anticipation this year. The wood kept its patchwork of different greens for weeks, as leaves began to show but then stopped before fully unfurled. The great thing this Spring is seeing the difference our recent management has made. Removing the holly means more sunlight reaches the forest floor. Dormant bluebell bulbs have grown and we have opened up views of larger drifts of flowers across the wood. By mid-May their scent could be fully appreciated. I've also been able to see a pair of tree creepers running up the trunks of oak trees close to the path. Rush cutting and grazing the meadows has left shorter grass so yellow Tormentil is everywhere and blue Milkwort has re-appeared.

Our next challenge began in May: to tackle years of bracken invasion close to the top stile. We've cleared the dead fronds away and will tackle regrowth with the aim of increasing the wet area of this marsh. Some cotton grass is already flowering and in the long term we hope to encourage more orchids and marsh violets.



During June the Wildlife Trusts are challenging everyone to "GO WILD!" Check out their daily activities via <http://www.ywt.org.uk/whats-happening/30-days-wild>

Later in the summer if you try out the new heritage walk, why not take a detour from board 6 and visit the reserve?

For anyone interested in helping improve the habitat we meet at 10a.m. on the first Friday of the month: June 5th, July 3rd, August 7th and September 4th.

Helen Pedley, 886195

www.ywt.org.uk

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