

Cragg News

ISSUE 10
WINTER 2015

Festival of Lights

Special Community Event with Lantern Procession & Singing

Sun 29th Nov 2015

3.30pm - 5pm

Cragg Vale Park & Community Garden

Following the success of our first event last year, we invite everyone, of any age, to come and join us in the Park for our very own Festival of Lights. As the light fades the children will lead a lantern procession and the singing will start. Led by children from the Steiner School and Carol

Wolstenholme the songs will be easy for everyone to join in and song sheets will be provided for everyone. Bring a lantern, there will be 'goodies' for each child with a lantern!

**Meet in the Park at 3.30pm
FREE REFRESHMENTS
Mulled wine, hot chocolate,
cakes and mince pies**

Cragg Vale Community Association wants to thank Calderdale Council for their support for this event

CVCA Annual General Meeting

Cragg Vale Community Association will be holding its Annual General Meeting at 7.15pm on Wednesday 27th January 2016 in the upstairs Community Room at the Robin Hood.

Special Resolution: The CVCA Committee are putting forward a Special Resolution to enable us to adapt our constitution so that we can apply for charitable status. We will not be changing our purpose or how we are run, it is a fairly simple technical change to move objectives that do not meet the definition of charitable objectives to be included in our 'powers'. Everyone is invited to come and vote on this proposal and to hear about what we have been doing, ask questions and give us ideas for priorities for the next 12 months.

Help Wanted: Would you like to help with any of our activities, or even to come and help out as a Committee Member? Can you spare an hour every

three months to help deliver our Community Newsletter? We need someone to deliver to the 26 homes on both sides of the road from Spa Laithe down to Dauber Bridge. We would love to welcome new members or volunteers! We keep formal meetings to an absolute minimum, usually meeting in the Robin Hood for a couple of hours every three months. Come to the AGM and let us know what you would be interested in doing.

Cragg Vale Quiz:

In the spirit of keeping formalities to an absolute minimum, we are once again holding a 'Cragg Vale Quiz', hosted by Jonathan Emberton, at 8pm on Wednesday 27th January 2016, after the formal part of our AGM. Come and join us for the Quiz and refreshments, you don't have to be there for the AGM business if you don't want to - but we would really love to hear your priorities for our work in 2016.

Cragg Vale Christmas Fair

Sat 28th Nov 11am - 2pm

Cragg Vale J & I School

Mulled wine and mince pies /
Creative crafts with Julia Ogden /
Face painting Live music / Games /
Café / Stalls and much, much more...



**Hog Roast and
Santa's Grotto**

Winter Events

NOVEMBER

Wednesday 25th November Open Day, Cragg Vale J&I School 9.30-11.30 & 1.00-3.00

Friday 27th November Hinchliffe Arms 'Farewell' event for Dave and Pauline

Saturday 28th November 'Christmas Fair', 11am - 2pm, Cragg Vale J&I School, Hog Roast, Mulled Wine, Creative Crafts, Stalls, Games, Santa and much more! Free entry

Sunday 29th November 'Festival of Lights' 3.30pm meet in Cragg Vale Park, Free community event, everyone invited, bring a lantern!

DECEMBER

Every Friday, Cragg Vale Playgroup, The Ark, 9.30 - 11.30am, tea, coffee, cake & snacks, all welcome, £1.50 per family

Friday 4th December Broadhead Clough Meet 10am, Contact Helen Pedley 886195

Friday 4th December Christingle and switching on the Christmas lights 6.30pm St John's Church, cakes, mulled wine, soft drinks

Friday 11th December 'A Cragg Christmas' 7pm Castle Hall Barn, an evening of carols, mulled wine and supper, tickets £5

Thursday 17th December, Cragg Vale History Society 'Christmas Crackers', informal get together, 7.30pm, in the Steiner School

Sunday 20th December Carol Service, 9.30am St John's Church

Christmas Eve : 4pm St John's Church - special telling of the nativity story **Robin Hood pub Special Curry Banquet, 11.30pm St John's Church**, Midnight Communion

Thursday 31st December, Robin Hood pub New Year's Eve Party Night

JANUARY

Every Friday, Cragg Vale Playgroup, The Ark, 9.30 - 11.30am, tea, coffee, cake & snacks, all welcome, £1.50 per family

Tuesday 5th January Mummers Play with the Long Company, 8pm The Hinchliffe Arms, FREE spectacular open-air play followed by songs and music inside

Saturday 16th January Long Distance Walkers Association, 'The Hebdon Challenge', mass start at 8am, see www.alangreenwood.biz for details

Thursday 21st January Cragg Vale History Society - details to be confirmed

Wednesday 27th January Cragg Vale Community Association Annual General Meeting 7.15pm Community Room, Robin Hood, followed at 8pm by refreshments and Cragg Vale Quiz with Jonathan Emberton. Everyone welcome

FEBRUARY

Every Friday, Cragg Vale Playgroup, The Ark, 9.30 - 11.30am, tea, coffee, cake & snacks, all welcome, £1.50 per family

Friday 3rd February Broadhead Clough Meet 10am, Contact Helen Pedley 886195

Thursday 18th February Cragg Vale History Society -

Cragg Vale
COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

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Town Council

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by Hebdon Road
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CHRISTMAS AT THE HINCHLIFFE

OUR DELICIOUS CHRISTMAS FAYRE MENU IS
BEING SERVED FROM 2ND DECEMBER.

Join us this December for great food
and real ale. Choose from two courses
for £17.95 or three courses for £19.95
(Wednesday – Sunday).

Bookings are still being taken for
Christmas day.

Contact us for more information or to
request a copy of our Christmas day or
Christmas Fayre menu.



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Please contact Sally on 07904 052 816.



Calder Valley Steiner School

advent fayre

Saturday 5th December, 11 - 3pm

a day of family fun including:
puppetry, lots of children's crafts,
stalls and veggie cafe.

**Hebden Methodist Church
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children FREE

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Song For Christmas Competition

Cragg Vale Junior & Infant School pupils have been working with Steve Chrisanthou and Andy Mckerlie, parents at school with expertise in the field, to record our 'Cragg Vale Christmas Song', which the children wrote by sharing ideas about what they love about Christmas.

They are entering their song in the Halifax Courier 'Song for Christmas' competition and need as many people as possible to visit the Courier website and vote to help them win. The children really enjoyed rehearsing and recording the song with professional equipment.

CD's will be also be available to purchase at the school Christmas Fair on 28th November.



News From The Ark: It's Good To Talk!

Every year at The Ark, we choose a different theme to focus upon. This year was the year of the great outdoors, and we built a huge sandpit and a mud kitchen for the children, along with developing our Forest School activities. The children spent plenty of time in the garden and the potting shed, planting summer flowers which made the gardens look beautiful this year.

Whilst we have always placed emphasis on internal communication, in 2016 we will be looking at communication with the local community. We believe it is important for the children to know local people who help them and also be aware of events within their community. We are planning visits from dentists and firemen and trips out within the area, such as the library and local shops, contributing to the children's awareness of the world around them. We will be continuing with our extra-curricular activities, promoting children's physical development and communication skills – even in a foreign language!



2016 promises to be an exciting year here at the nursery and out of school club – we wish everyone a happy and healthy new year!

The Autumn Treasure Hunt

The Cragg Vale Heritage Trail Treasure Hunt must have been one of our warmest days in the year! Fortunately the 'treasure' did not melt and everyone managed to find some – even if some clues proved harder than we thought to follow and solve! The route, a little rough in places but enjoyed by the children, took in some beautiful views across the valley and introduced some people to new footpaths. The Heritage Trail story boards by the old vicarage and the Hinchliffe Arms helped solve the 'clues', although not everyone spotted the coat of arms on the Edgar Wood gatehouse arch!



Once again we want to give a big 'THANK YOU' to Pauline and David at the Hinchliffe Arms who allowed us to use the restaurant area for the prize giving. We also want to say thank you to Little Valley Brewery, Craggs Cakes, and The Hinchliffe Arms for donating the prizes.

Community Gardening with the Steiner School



On a surprisingly mild day, members of the CVCA Committee put on their wellies and gardening gloves to help get the Community Garden into shape for our Festival of Lights. We are very pleased to announce that from now on additional (and much younger!) help will be on hand in the Garden. Children from the Steiner School (with their teachers!) have agreed to 'adopt' our garden. They will help with weeding, planting and general maintenance! We want to thank them and Calderdale Council who gave us a generous grant to pay for the little garden tools and equipment.

We also want to say a big 'Thank You' to Calvag who gave us an extremely generous discount so that we could buy lots of little trowels, forks, spades, gardening gloves and even a wheelbarrow, rake, and brush to make sure everything is tidy when the work is finished!. If there is anyone who would like to come and join in with our 'Gardening Parties' (refreshments always provided!) please let CVCA Secretary Marianne Hood know: Tel **01422885224** or email marianne.hood@which.net

New Hosts at The Hinchliffe

From the start of December you will be greeted by your new hosts, Paul and Abbie, as they take over the reins of the Hinchliffe Arms from Pauline and David. Pauline and Dave would like to thank everyone for their friendship and support during their time at the Hinchliffe Arms. Pauline said "We've really loved being here and we've really enjoyed the community events – we managed to raise £146 for Macmillan Cancer Care with our Halloween competition. We wish Abbie and Paul all the best in their new venture here and hope you will give them your support. They're hoping to take a big part in the community and will be pleased to help in fund-raising events. They want to recruit local, experienced, bar staff and waiting staff for the Christmas period so if you know of anyone, please ask them to drop in a CV. Thanks again to everyone"

Cragg Vale Community Association wants to say a big THANK YOU to Pauline and Dave for all their support and help with our events and we wish you all the best for the future.

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History of Robin Hood Inn

Following the article in our Summer newsletter, Roy Collinge has more information about the history of the Robin Hood Inn.

The Hinchliffe Legacy

On the 1775 map there are no buildings where the pub now stands. Prior to 1775 a Samuel Hinchliffe of Pudsey had married Mary Thomas, daughter of a well to do Sowerby farmer. Samuel set up as a maltster at Hawksclough, Mytholmroyd. Their son Richard, born in 1750, married Mary Sutcliffe of Midgley, and lived at Redacre, Mytholmroyd. In 1773 they moved to Castleton near Rochdale where Richard ran the Blue Pitts Inn. He inherited land and property from his maternal grandfather including land at Washfold, Turvin, in Cragg Vale to where he moved his family in 1785 and set up a primitive water wheel in the Turvin Brook which powered a spinning frame. He is believed to have produced the first mechanically spun thread in Cragg Vale.

Beginnings of the Pub

By 1802 Richard Hinchliffe was a successful mill owner and cotton manufacturer. An 1802 document shows he leased 600square yards of building land for 999 years from Mary Greenwood, widow of John Greenwood owner of Smithysteads Farm. The land, described as the northern corner of the Farm's lower field, is the site of the Robin Hood Inn and cottages. Having leased the land it is almost certain Richard had the buildings erected. However, inspection indicates they weren't all built at the same time. The first structure seems to be the one with the gable end at right angles to the road. The current pub's dining rooms, kitchen, community room, cellar and adjacent cottages are here. At a later date additional cottages were added higher up at the back, and a separate block of three cottages was built across the top. What is now the entrance to the pub, the bar with accommodation above, appears to have been built last. The toilet block with the flat roof came much later when Webster's brewery owned the pub.

Truck Shop

The original building was first used as a "Truck shop", run by Richard's son George until the time of his father's death in 1817. His sisters Fanny and Sarah moved into cottages at New Biggin (New Building) as the buildings at the Robin were called. In 1823 they kept a general provision, drapery and grocer's shop, presumably in the former truck shop.

The Robin Hood Inn

It is difficult to say exactly when the pub came into being, a sign says 'established

1834'. However a document indicates Richard's eldest son, Samuel Hinchliffe, was an innkeeper in 1825 and his will makes clear he was owner occupier of the Robin Hood Inn when he died in 1840. The pub part therefore may have been built 1820 to 1825. Initially it was probably one room where the bar is now, and much later expanded into the original building. Perhaps the pub operated for several years without a name and became established as The Robin Hood Inn in 1834.

From the national census, begun in 1841, we know that after Samuel Hinchliffe's death in 1840 his son Joseph became innkeeper, and was innkeeper in 1841, 1851, and 1861. But by the 1871 census, there is a new innkeeper, George Halstead, 39, married to Margaret, 33. Joseph Hinchliffe had presumably retired as the census shows him living at Peter Row, Cragg Vale with his wife Hannah.

Purchase by a Brewery

In 1891 George Halstead is still the innkeeper, but around the turn of the century the Robin Hood Inn was purchased by Joseph Stocks, Shibden Head Brewery, Halifax. It's not known who they bought it from, whether the Hinchliffe family had retained ownership or if they had sold it to George Halstead. Some easements were granted to the brewery around this time in which the owner of 1,3,5 Robin Hood Cottages, Thomas Newall, gives permission for the pub to connect a drain from a new urinal to his drain. It begs the question how did customers relieve themselves previously! Another easement allows the brewery to put a window in the gable wall to give light into the bar area.



Edgar and Grace Haigh

In 1901 Stocks brewery installed Edgar Haigh, 25, as landlord of the pub, with his wife Grace, 25 and daughter Ethel. Interestingly Maggie Halstead, 5, also lives with them, perhaps a relative of George.

Cragg Vale LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

All meetings start at 7.30pm and are held in the Steiner School, charge for visitors is £3 – or why not become a member?

For details contact Jane Frechette Tel 882619

18th December Christmas Crackers! An informal Christmas get together

21st January To be finalized

18th February To be finalized

17th March Salt's Mill Part 2, with Maria Glott.

In 1905 a plan of the pub shows it comprises of all its current rooms, along with the cottages 2 and 4, so it would seem that Stocks Brewery purchased the entire property.

By the 1911 census, the landlord is George Sutcliffe, 28, his wife Mary Hannah, 30, sons Ernest 12, Hilton 10, daughters Eva 8, and Edith 6. The date of Wendy Chappell's photo (Summer newsletter) is around 1911 so the youngsters could be two of George's children, possibly the boy is Hilton, Wendy's grandfather. As for George, most of the men look older than 28, perhaps the chap on the far left looks most likely to be a landlord - a smart tie and shirt, and not wearing clogs.

The Newsletter article mentioned John and Betsy Nicholl's son Joseph who died in the first world war. A press cutting said at the time of his death they ran the Robin Hood Inn, I can't confirm this, but it's possible the Sutcliffes had left the pub and the Nicholl's had taken over. Finally, in 1932 Websters Brewery, Halifax, took over the business of Stocks Brewery and thus became the owners of The Robin Hood Inn.

Today the pub is back in private ownership once again, and saved for the local community, thanks to Elva, Roger, and Joanne Wood

Roy Collinge, Cragg Vale Local History Society

SPOTLIGHT ON
BUSINESS IN CRAGG VALE



Construction circa 1965

The Craggs Country Business Park

High above the hills at the top of Cragg Vale, The Craggs Country Business Park opened its first phase in September 2011

The site, originally built as part of the Thornber Chicks business in the 1960's, was known locally as Turkey Lodge. Following the sale of most of the site to an animal feeds supply business in Shropshire; the main part fell into disrepair, with only a small number of buildings being retained within the wider Thornber family.

Initially used for farming pigs and cattle, more recently it developed into a successful range of business units, including the well known Little Valley Brewery. The remainder of the site became somewhat of an eyesore, with the main farm building and the 10 or so other buildings slowly, but surely, deteriorating as each year passed.

Having driven past the site each day for more than 10 years, Heidi and Chris Bingham decided to buy the derelict part of the site, and along with Heidi's parents, Ralph and June Thornber, formed The Craggs Country Business Park in April 2011.

With a determination to develop the site and bring the highest quality services to the local area, a team of local craftsmen have been kept busy renovating the various buildings and creating brand new locations for businesses as varied as an alpaca duvet manufacturing plant, a children's swimming pool, a personal storage business and a brand new brewery, Vocation. There are now some 25 businesses based here. Around 100 new, permanent, jobs have been created over the past 4 years alone – all the more impressive when you consider how challenging starting new businesses can be in the current climate.

The site was also the base for the first series BBC production of Happy Valley, and was the location of the Guinness World Record for a continuous length of bunting, achieved by the great and the good (and slightly mad) of Cragg Vale as part of the Tour de France celebrations.

The latest business to be welcomed to the site is 'The Craggies', a brand new Farm Shop with its own café and butcher's. Opened in mid-October, it is already proving to be a very popular stop for walkers, cyclists, and a large number of customers looking for a place to buy the very best quality, local farm produce and to have a fantastic piece of home-made cake at the same time!

Heidi commented, "We only have one or two smaller units left to rent, so when the weather allows next spring, the team will start work on the final two buildings and I hope these will be fully occupied by next summer. I'm very proud of what the team has built here so far, but I can't wait to see it completely finished next year.



Re-construction 2015

If you would like any further information on any of the companies based at The Craggs Country Business Park, or if you want to know more about what we can offer you, do not hesitate to contact the business park team on 01422 888450 or email info@thecraggs.co.uk



Yorkshire
Wildlife Trust

Broadhead Clough – December 2015 update

After a warm, dry autumn the rain is now lashing down and all living creatures shelter from the wind and wet. Many have remained active when usually they've stocked up, migrated or hibernated already. Each year's breeding success starts with their autumn preparation and a winter plan to keep fit and healthy. Then they will win the best mate and secure prime territory in Spring. Here are ideas to help them and become a "hot spot" which they'll visit for the rest of the year.



1. Shelter – Strike a balance when tidying up the garden or shed. Piles of logs and a few dusty plant pots in a corner create cover for many beetles, lacewings and millipedes or for tips on Bug Mansions and "hog homes" visit <http://www.bbcwildlife.org.uk> for an Ulster Wildlife Trust example.

2. Food - leave seed heads and hedgerow berries and provide seed feeders, fat balls and mealworms to attract perch and ground feeding birds. Peanuts attract squirrels and badgers; meaty pet food for hedgehogs.

3. Helping hands – Wild animals have to go out in bad weather but we can help them avoid wasting energy. If you start feeding then continue so the trek to your feeder is always rewarded. Make "access" holes in fences for hedgehogs to easily move round their habitats. If icy, chip holes so pond life can breathe or provide water for birds to drink and preen.

We have special winter tasks too, but depending on the weather finish early so nobody gets too cold or wet. As usual we meet at 10a.m. on the first Friday of the month but miss out New Year's Day: Dec 4th, Feb 3rd, and March 4th. Best to ring beforehand to confirm if you want to join us.

Helen Pedley, 886195

www.ywt.org.uk

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