

Cragg Vale News

JUNE 2018

SUMMER

JUNE

Every Tuesday afternoon, St John's Church, 2pm - 3.30pm: 'Open Church'

Friday 1st June Broadhead Clough Volunteers needed: meet 10am at the reserve signboard. Contact Helen Pedley YWT: 886195

Saturday 2nd June St John's Church Coffee morning

Wednesday 13th June St. John's Church Meeting re Scottish Country Dancing Group, 6.30pm, contact Sylvia on 884134

Thursday 21st June History Group Trip The Murty's, Stubb

Wednesday 27th June Cragg Vale Fell Race Registration (£5) St. John's Church 7.30pm, 14 years & over, refreshments. Contact Jackie Scarf 882555

JULY

Every Tuesday afternoon St John's Church 'Open Church', 2pm - 3.30pm

Friday 6th July Broadhead Clough Volunteers needed: meet 10am at the reserve signboard. Contact Helen Pedley YWT: 886195

Saturday 7th & Sunday 8th July Afternoon Tea at Cuddywood 3pm - 5pm, £4 per person or £10 per family with up to 3 children. Tickets from Sylvia on 01422 884134 or 07508 197497 or Julie 07443420907 or stjohncraggvale@gmail.com

AUGUST

Every Tuesday afternoon St John's Church 'Open Church', 2pm - 3.30pm

Friday 3rd August Broadhead Clough Volunteers needed: meet 10am at the reserve signboard. Contact Helen Pedley YWT: 886195

SEPTEMBER

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

Saturday 8th September Cragg Fest behind The Robin Hood, 1pm - 11pm, all ages welcome. Free entry

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

Fibre Broadband comes to Cragg Vale

As part of the Superfast West Yorkshire programme, BT has upgraded the network in Cragg Vale making faster internet available to most properties, and with some shopping around it shouldn't cost much more than standard broadband.

An example speed increase which has been achieved is from 3MB on standard broadband to 20MB with fibre.

To see if fibre is available to you go to the Openreach website and type in your post code and phone number.

If it is available there are a number of providers apart from BT that can provide the service, shown on the Openreach website and elsewhere.

Cragg Vale Community Garden

If anyone can spare a little time to help us keep our Community Garden in good order, we would be very grateful! Our 'Gardening Parties' only last a couple of hours at most and tools and refreshments are provided. If you can help, please contact any member of CVCA or Marianne Hood on 01422 885224



Cragg Vale Fell Race

The 17th Cragg Vale fell race is being held on Weds 27th June and is sponsored once again by Little Valley Brewery. It's a short 4 mile race, starting at 7.30pm, going up to Dick's Lane and back down through Sunderland Pasture [race details + map on Calder Valley Fell Runners website] and will make a 4m/800ft ascent! The current records are J.Brown in 26.27 and Holly Page in 31.07. Everyone is welcome, age limit is 14 years and over. Registration is in St John's church from 6.30pm and there will be the usual delicious refreshments available. All monies raised go to the church. Jackie Scarf, the organiser would love any help, either marshalling, registering or sorting results. If you are free get in touch on 07957619808 or 882555.

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The Outstanding Ark



Nursery retains its outstanding rating from Ofsted for third time

The Ark has once again been judged 'outstanding' by Ofsted following a visit by inspectors in February. The senior management team were thrilled to retain Ofsted's outstanding rating and put this down to their hard working, skilled and dedicated team of staff and the wonderful location. Facilities include a sensory garden, potting and story cottages and Forest School, providing excellent opportunities for outdoor learning.

Jo Brock, Operations Director said: "I am delighted & proud that Ofsted have recognised the efforts of our fabulous staff team by awarding the highest accolade for the 3rd time. This reinforces our belief that we are offering the best possible start in life to the children and families in our care."

Donna Hubbard, Childcare Manager, was equally thrilled: "I am so proud of our hard working and committed team at The Ark. The Outstanding judgement is testament to the efforts and dedication of the whole staff team on a day to day basis. The children that attend The Ark are an absolute pleasure to care for and they played a big part in 'wowing' the inspectors with their knowledge, imagination and confidence!"

Cragg Vale Cleaned-Up

The 'Big Spring Clean-up' saw even more volunteers this year and the end result was welcomed by both residents and visitors. Thank you to everyone, we hope our beautiful valley will stay litter-free. We put out a special plea to all dog walkers to collect any poo and put it into the bins – not on the fence or beside the bin!!



Treasure Hunt



CVCA wants to say a big THANK YOU to all who made the Treasure Hunt such a success (in spite of the weather!), in particular to Little Valley Brewery, Craggies and the Mytholmroyd Co-op Store for the lovely prizes they generously donated. The sun did come out again and no-one seemed to mind the rain! We have been asked to run this event again – so watch for details!

News from St John's Church

It's a year since St John's was rededicated after phase one of its reordering. It's been a busy year with more work being done to bring us nearer to our project goals. Our next priority is to get a decent kitchen installed so that catering facilities for events organised by both the church and community groups are good. We also intend to put a kitchenette in the upstairs meeting room. At the moment we are managing with a 'skeleton' kitchen! The other projects are to conserve the windows and install a lift from ground to first floor to make the first floor accessible to all. This all costs money and as the first phase of our reordering cost more than we were expecting (as these things tend to) we will soon be launching an appeal so we can complete the whole project as soon as possible.

On Saturday 2nd June we're having a 'Coffee Morning', come along and have coffee (or tea) and cake and have a look at the church registers, some of which go back to when the church first opened! These registers will soon need to go to the County archive in Wakefield so they can be properly conserved but we will keep a copy of all the information in them.

Please keep an eye on the Benefice Facebook page (Friends of Erringden), the Cragg Vale Facebook page and the church noticeboard for news of our events during the summer.

If you are interested in hiring church for an event or would like to run a group of some sort, please get in touch. Contact us on 07443420907 or stjohnscraggvale@gmail.com

Julie Harris - Churchwarden

Time to Dance

Here's your chance to learn Scottish Country Dancing! If you are interested, contact Sylvia 01422 884134. The plan is to meet in the Church Community Room to form a Scottish Country Dancing Group, the first meeting will be held on Wednesday 13th June at 6.30pm.

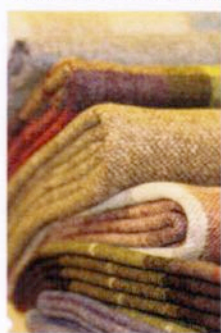
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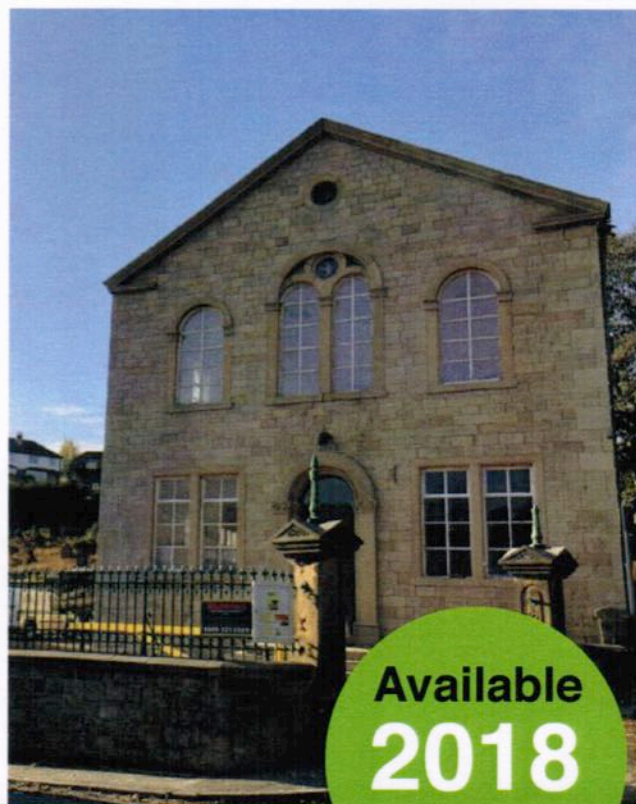
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Spaw Sunday Celebrations



This year we had a gloriously sunny day for our Spaw Sunday celebrations. We also had a most magnificent picnic thanks to everyone at St John's Church for providing all the cakes (you really can't have too many cakes!) and to

Joanne at the Robin Hood for the sandwiches and savouries. However, our special thanks go to Hugh Morgan who provided the 'blessing' in his role as a 19th century preacher. Thank you everyone who helped with this event.

News from Calder Primary School



Calder Primary competed in the Calderdale School Games Key Steps Gymnastics competition at Diamonds Gymnastics Club on Tuesday 1st May against schools from all over Halifax. The team of Year 3 and 4 pupils performed two routines and a vault in front of judges and an audience. They came 2nd overall, receiving silver medals from the Calderdale School Games Organisers and were delighted!

Our allotment at Redacre is now fully up and running, thanks to all the families and friends who came to our working day to help weed, dig and build our raised beds as well as help with site jobs. Pupils from all of our classes are thoroughly enjoying their outdoor afternoons with our outdoors teacher Jo, taking part in a range of activities including shelter building, using nature for writing inspiration, bug hunts and planting!



Yorkshire
Wildlife Trust

Broadhead Clough June 2018 update

As I write our county is gearing up for the fourth Tour de Yorkshire cycle race. We're so used to seeing cyclists tackling the longest continuous incline almost every day we forget the impact on those villages whose local hill is now a "climb" or "sprint" stage. The surprise of seeing the place through the fresh eyes of a tourist brings a new perspective and what we walk past every day without noticing is suddenly a "feature" to be celebrated and photographed.

I was reminded of this leading a guided tour for new volunteers, pointing out the challenges the YWT faces in managing the reserve. Here we cut back scrub and created a log pile for an "insect hotel". Where a rotting tree needed felling, there is now a clearing in which bluebells grow. Opening up drainage channels keeps the path dry but lower down we need to slow the flow to prevent soil erosion. One commented that even though she regularly runs through similar woodland, she never thinks who manages it for her to enjoy the experience. She just knows it's a great place to be! That's exactly how we want visitors to feel about Broadhead Clough. The volunteers come for many reasons and enjoy each task-day as an activity in itself, but most come to give something back: enhancing the environment for others to enjoy.

This summer there have been noticeably more visitors to the reserve tempted by the publication of a new book about the Coiners – "The Gallows Pole" and an accompanying walkers' map with a route showing the sites mentioned in the text. The Yorkshire Post has also featured Cragg Vale as a "Weekend Walk." Don't be left out. Come and visit the reserve with the eyes of a tourist to fully appreciate your local natural history and heritage. Take the track at Dauber Bridge (signboard 6 of the local history trail) and keep left until you reach the reserve.

Task-days are planned on the first Friday of the month at 10a.m. on June 1st, July 6th, Aug 3rd and Sep 7th. All tools are provided, and gloves if required. – bring a drink and packed lunch if you are staying all day.

Helen Pedley, 886195

www.ywt.org.uk

Love Yorkshire, Love Wildlife



BRIERLEY HELLOWELL AND THE CRAGG VALE PATTERN COMPANY

Passers-by may have seen 'Cragg Vale Pattern Company' on a door by the old co-op building but how many know its history? The engineering industry like the textile industry that once thrived around our valley, is disappearing fast. One local person, Brierley Hellowell, knows its story well.

A 'pattern' was a wooden form made first to be cast in sand and then in liquid metal. Brierley liked making wooden models, so when he was 16 his father suggested he should become an apprentice pattern-maker. After a five years apprenticeship for Asquith's in Halifax, one of the biggest foundries, he was 'called up' for 2 years national service in the RAF, where his pay of 28 shillings a week was better than that of an apprentice!

Afterwards, 23 years old and fully qualified, he decided to move from Asquith's. He wanted something more creative and skilled which he found first in Mitchell and Jenkinson in Halifax, then in a pattern shop in Brighouse, then Dyson's in Sowerby Bridge and then with Warman's.

However, his life wasn't all work and pattern making. A keen cyclist, he met his wife Hazel through a shared love of cycling and travel. He took a month off work with her to travel round Europe and then 5 ½ months off from Warman's to travel to India with her in an old jeep bought for £35! Brierley said they travelled via Afghanistan and the Khyber Pass but when they got to the India/Pakistan border it was being bombed and they had to come back through Iraq and Egypt but had no problems anywhere.

On his return, Brierley worked for several other engineering companies and then, in 1966 with his wife's brother Gerald

Whitehead, he bought the Cragg Vale Working Men's Club which had been standing empty and created the Cragg Vale Pattern Company. Work came in from many different places but much came from a steel foundry in Leeds. Most of the 'patterns' they made were for big machine tools. The pattern in the photo shows a lift-housing for a tractor – and Brierley still has the finished product on his tractor!



Pattern for Lift Housing

In the '70s, engineering in the area began to decline and most pattern-making moved to the motor industry in the Midlands but Brierley continued to work as a pattern maker until he retired in 1990. After he retired he sold the building and it became a house, the old pattern shop is used today as a garage and dwelling.

As an apprentice Brierley saw the whole process from making the initial pattern to finishing the final product. He said "you learn all your life" and is still making models and patterns. He is also still cycling, in 2014, when the Tour de France came through Cragg Vale, the record for the oldest and youngest participants in the cycle climb up the longest continuous hill in England was held by Brierley and his (then) 7year old grandson!

CRAGG VALE LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

We provide tea and coffee at all our meetings in the upstairs room, St John's Church. Annual membership runs from April to March and is ONLY £10 for 8 meetings! We try to encourage the social as well as the historical and visitors are welcome at £3 a visit.

For more information contact
Jane Frechette: 07733326866

UPCOMING EVENTS

(NB: July/August is the Summer Break)

21st June Visit to Stubb

September 20th Kevin Illingworth
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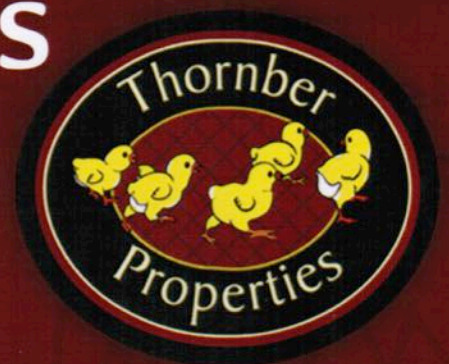
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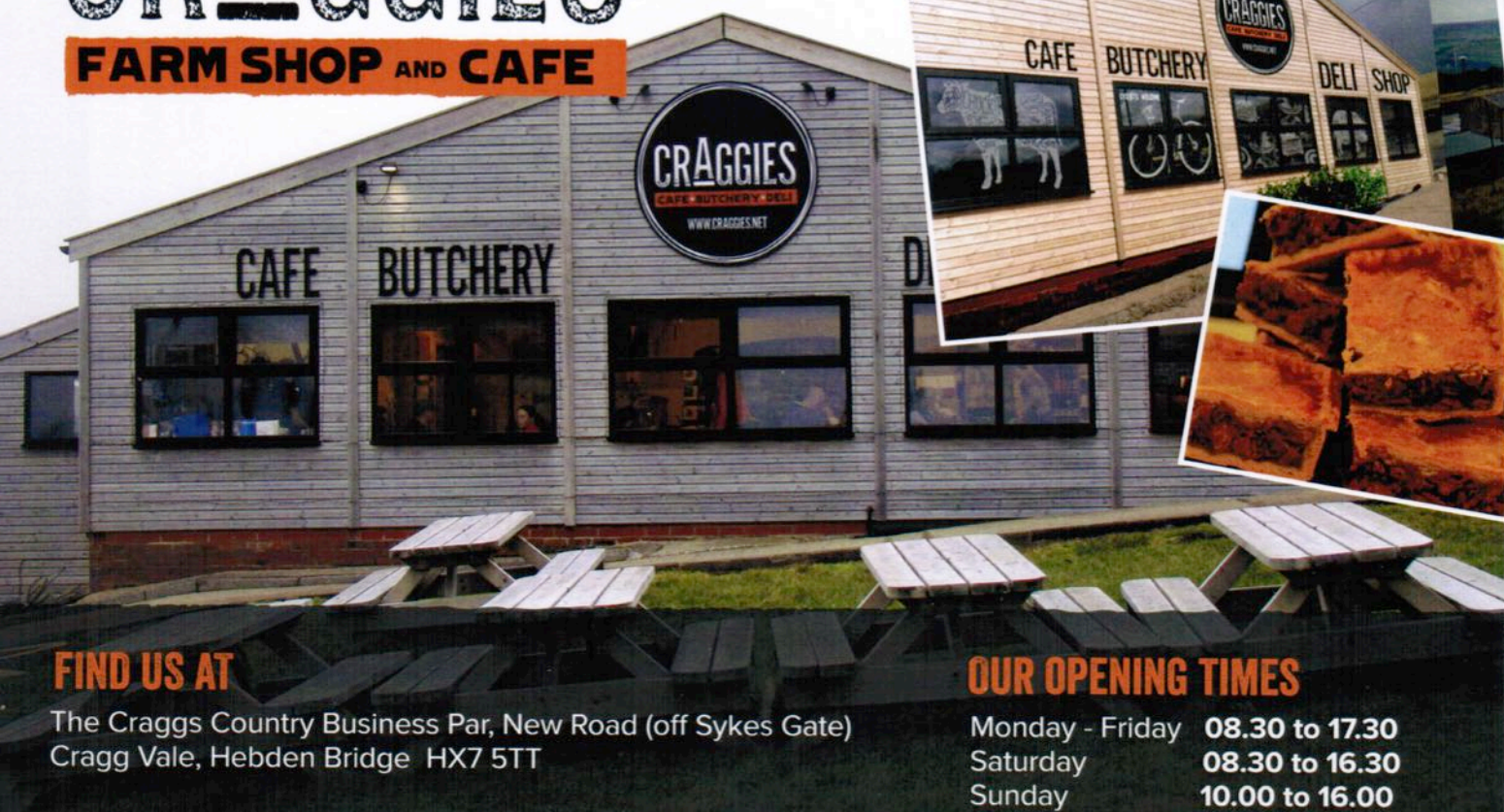
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