

Cragg Vale News

An event for all the family!

Lights & Carols

Sun 22nd Dec, 5.30pm
Cragg Vale Park

Just in case anybody is feeling like Scrooge, or the Grinch, as Christmas approaches, then we've just the thing to get you out of your grumpy chair and into the Christmas spirit! Starting at Cragg Vale Park at 5.30pm on Sunday 22nd December, come and meet friends old and new, as we light up the new shelter and the park, enjoy mulled wine, cake, and other goodies and make some festive noise with carols and seasonal songs. Then we'll make

our way up the road to the Robin Hood, stopping along the way to do "requests" and we'll end up at the Hinchliffe for a rousing finale - song sheets will be provided. Wrap up warmly, Christmas pullovers, Santa and elves hats recommended along with torches, warm socks, and boots - and bring a percussion instrument if you have one! Prizes and goody bags for best costumes. Donations will go to CVCA and the Hope village charity in India.

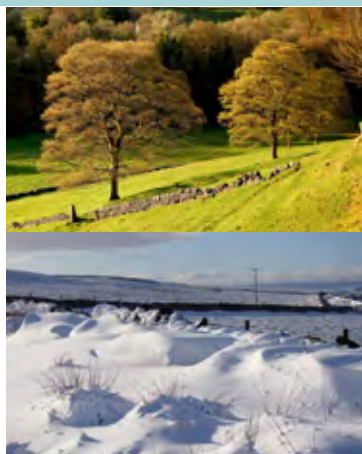
CVCA Annual General Meeting

Everyone who lives or works in Cragg Vale is invited to the Community Association's AGM on **Wednesday 29th January** at 7.30pm in The Robin Hood. There'll be a 'Cragg Vale Quiz' (with prizes!) and a free buffet. Find out what we've been doing and help us put together a plan for the coming year. New Members are most welcome! Anyone interested in getting involved or joining the Committee is especially encouraged to come and join us!

Cragg Vale Calendar 2020

The Cragg Vale Calendar for 2020, produced by the Community Association, is now on sale for £6 at our local pubs, The Robin Hood and The Hinchliffe Arms, Craggies, Mytholmroyd Post Office, the Hebden Bridge Visitor Centre and from any member of the CVCA Committee

See the website for details.
www.craggvalecommunity.co.uk



WINTER CALENDER

December

Friday 6th December Broadhead Clough: Volunteers needed: meet 10am reserve signboard, tools & gloves provided Contact Helen Pedley: 886195

Saturday 7th December Cragg Vale Panto 'Greased Aladdin', 2pm & 6pm St. John's Church, Tickets £5, £3 & £12

Sunday 8th December Cragg Vale Panto, 4pm St. John's Church Tickets £5, £3 & £12 email: pipmaudsley@live.com

Monday 9th December Yorkshire Countrywomen's Association, Christmas Meal

Friday 13th December 'Christmas Cracker' 6.30pm St. John's Church

Thursday 19th December Cragg Vale History Society 7.30pm

Wednesday 11th December Cragg Vale Music Group - all invited, details from Martyn Kenyon martynk@talktalk.net

Saturday 21st December 'Open Wilderness Worship' a Christingle with a difference, 3pm St. John's Church

Sunday 22nd St John's Church Carol Service 2.30pm

Sunday 22nd December Lights and Carols, 5.30pm in Cragg Vale Park. All ages welcome, song sheets provided.

January

Friday 3rd January Broadhead Clough: Volunteers needed: meet 10am reserve signboard, tools & gloves provided Contact Helen Pedley

Wednesday 8th January Cragg Vale Music Group - all invited, details from Martyn Kenyon martynk@talktalk.net or 07572 578444

Sunday 12th January 'Open Sky Walk', 12.30pm meet at St. John's Church for a New Year Walk

Monday 13th January Yorkshire Countrywomen's Association 2.30pm St. John's Church 'Conservation in Kenya', Ann Kilby. All Welcome

Thursday 16th January Cragg Vale History Society 7.30pm

Friday 17th January 'Open Table' 6pm St John's Church

Sunday 19th January 'Open Oven' St. John's Church 2-4pm, community breadmaking

Wednesday 29th January CVCA Annual General Meeting 7.30pm The Robin Hood, followed by 'Cragg Vale Quiz', free buffet and prizes

February

Friday 7th February Broadhead Clough: Volunteers needed: meet 10am reserve signboard, tools & gloves provided Contact Helen Pedley: 886195

Thursday 20th February Cragg Vale History Society 7.30pm

Monday 10th February Yorkshire Countrywomen's Association 2.30pm St. John's Church, 'Harmonies' Emma Baylin. All Welcome

Wednesday 12th February Cragg Vale Music Group - all invited, details from Martyn Kenyon martynk@talktalk.net or 07572 578444

Friday 21st February 'Open Table', Curry and Chaat! St. John's Church, 6pm.



Funded by
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Council & Calderdale Council

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- Woodland Explorers on Mondays & Fridays for children age 2+
- Early Years teacher in Pre-school
- Free 3 - 4 year old 15 & 30 hour funded places available

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 - 11 year olds

THE PLACE TO BE

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Sunday 12-6

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Available for
events and
parties

Phonics at the Ark



In Pre-School at The Ark we have lots of fun building the foundation skills necessary for reading. We foster a love of books through story sessions using role play, props and puppets. The children also love visiting our extensive library. We use the 'Letters and Sounds' programme along with a wide selection of other resources and provide many different activities and games for the children to explore the different aspects within Phase 1. We also begin to look at individual letter sounds to extend learning, once children are ready. We make a priority of fine tuning the children's 'listening ears' to identify and distinguish between a variety of sounds around them. Our children enjoy using instruments and

their voices to accompany rhyming activities. We encourage children to create their own rhythms and songs to accompany stories or characters and love seeing the delight this brings.

We are so lucky to have such a wonderful space in which to investigate sounds. The children enjoy taking 'Listening Walks' through the beautiful countryside to talk about the similarities and differences of the sounds they hear. Children compare and contrast the sounds of sheep and cows in the fields nearby to the many different types of birdsongs they hear down on their weekly Forest School sessions.

CVCA Music Group

The Music Group celebrated its first anniversary in October. The Group meets each month for a get-together of songsters and musicians, to make new friends and try out a wide range of songs in a very informal setting. Organiser Martyn Kenyon says "we've tried a couple of venues, to keep the group as accessible as possible, and really enjoy coming together to make some music."

Everyone is welcome, songsheets are provided on the night, and enthusiasm and a sense of humour being more important than talent! For more information, contact martynk@talktalk.net or visit the CVCA website <http://craggvalecommunity.co.uk/>

Did you know:

singing has a number of genuine physical and mental health benefits*, so here's 5 good reasons to come along.

- ✓ Makes you feel good
- ✓ Enhances your immune system
- ✓ Reduces stress
- ✓ Increases social fulfilment
- ✓ Boosts your self esteem

www.voicecouncil.com/benefits-of-joining-choir-health-wellbeing-russell-scott/

*Plus you get to drink beer and live longer!

News from St John's Church

We've had another busy few months at St John's. Our 'Sanctuary in the Wilderness' project is off the ground and is growing! Come and join us for: Open Oven – community bread making with time to talk and listen; Open Table – meals to be enjoyed together by anyone from our community (and beyond!) with time to chat; Open Sky Walks – a chance to meet and discover our beautiful valley and Open Wilderness Worship – an exciting alternative form of worship outside, where we can experience nature in all its glory. The December Open Wilderness Worship will take the form of an outdoor Christingle with themed outdoor activities, prayers and carols suitable for everyone, especially families. Decent footwear and warm clothes will be required for this!

In January and February Open Table will take the form of a 'Curry and Chaat' evening, come along for a tasty meal and meet and chat with friends and neighbours new and old.

It would be great to see people in church over the Christmas period either at our Advent and Christmas services, at our Sanctuary in the Wilderness events, at the pantomime or at our Cragg Christmas Cracker – an evening of Christmassy music from Hebden Bridge Junior Band, mulled wine, supper, donations bar, tombola (and of course, Christmas Crackers!).

Huge thanks to all those who donated so generously to church on our Gift Day, all donations received help us with the running and development of the church as a community resource. If you still have an envelope waiting for collection please email us, drop it off at church or give it to someone you know goes to church.

If you would like to hire a space to run a regular or one off class, hold a meeting, have a party etc. please contact us on **stjohnscraggvale@gmail.com**



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Park Shelter



Cragg Vale Park and Community Garden has a beautiful new shelter, thanks to the Community Association, supported by funding from Hebden Royd and Calderdale Councils and the sterling efforts of the team of volunteers from CHW Surfacing Ltd who prepared the shelter's base. An opening ceremony took place in November with local Councillor Scott Patient and help from several children!

Pub walks in Cragg Vale

It's often been said that "a good walk deserves a good beer" so what better way to finish a walk around our beautiful Cragg Vale countryside, than to relax in a friendly pub with some good food and drink? We're compiling ideas for walks around the area, many of which will include a visit to one of our local hostleries, so if you fancy a walk and are looking for inspiration, go to our website <http://craggvalecommunity.co.uk/> and look under "activities" where there are suggestions for routes to follow with distances and expected timings.

Do you have a favourite walk in the area? If so, we'll be happy to include it in our library, just send the directions to info@craggvalecommunity.co.uk and we'll test the route and add it to our collection. Happy rambling!

Come and join us for a

Cragg Christmas Cracker!

St John's Church, Cragg Vale
Friday December 13th – 6.30pm

Featuring

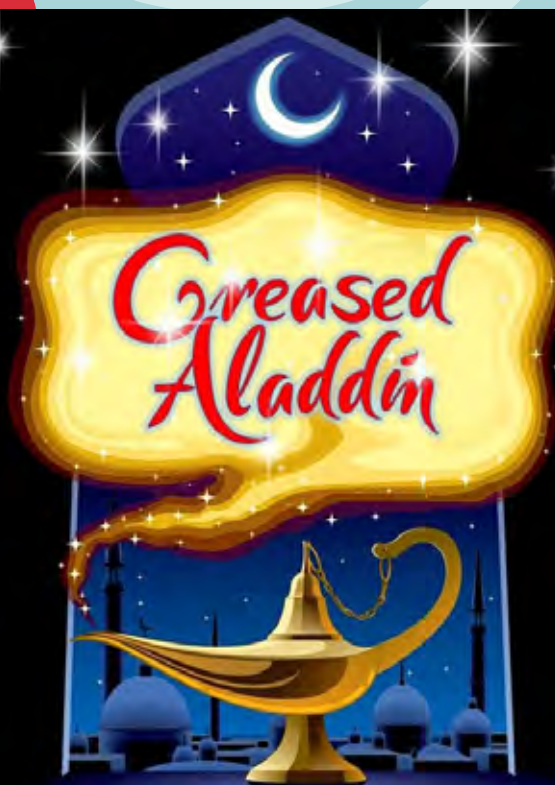
Hebden Bridge Junior Band

Adults £8 Children free

Supper, mulled wine/juice and Crackers included!

Tombola, donations bar, singing etc!

Tickets from church members; St John's on Tuesdays 2.30 – 4pm or Sundays 10.30 – 11am; email stjohnscraggvale@gmail.com



Sat 7 Dec & Sun 8 Dec
St. John's Church, Cragg Vale

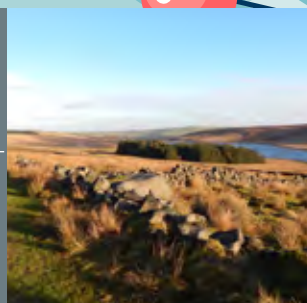
Tickets: £5 Adults, £3 Children (under 12 years) £12 Family (of 2 Adults & 2 children under 12 years) **On sale** at The Hinchliffe Arms and The Robin Hood, Cragg Vale
Also by email: pipmaudsley@live.com

2020 A Year in Cragg Vale Calendar available now

The Robin Hood and The Hinchliffe Arms, Craggies,
Mytholmroyd Post Office, the Hebden Bridge Visitor Centre
and from any member of the CVCA Committee

Visit www.craggvalecommunity.co.uk for details

£6



CRAGGIES

FARM SHOP AND CAFE



**CHRISTMAS
ORDERS**
NOW BEING TAKEN

FIND US AT

The Craggs Country Business Park, New Road (off Sykes Gate)
Cragg Vale, Hebden Bridge HX7 5TT
t: 01422 417417

OUR OPENING TIMES

Monday - Friday	08.30 to 17.30
Saturday	08.30 to 16.30
Sunday	10.00 to 16.00

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Monday to Saturday, 12 – 6pm Sunday

CHRISTMAS OPENING (BOOKINGS ADVISABLE)

CHRISTMAS LUNCH AND DINNER
1ST - 23RD DECEMBER

DETAILS OF MENUS ON THE WEBSITE:
THEHINCHLIFFE.CO.UK/CHRISTMAS

Tel: +44 1422 883256
thehinchliffepub@gmail.com
The Hinchliffe Arms, Cragg Vale, Hebden Bridge,
West Yorkshire HX7 5TA

www.thehinchliffe.co.uk



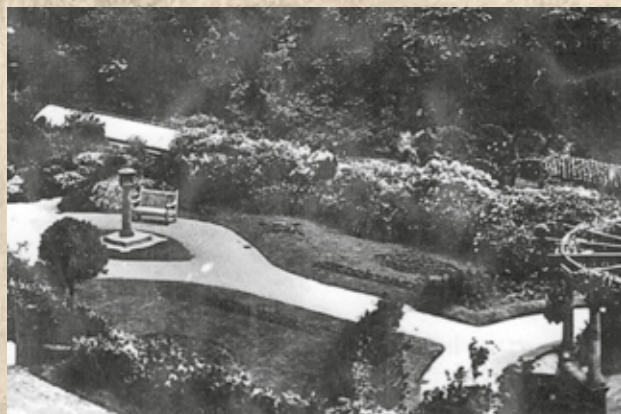


NEW CRAGG HALL

The 100 year anniversary of the fire that burnt down the mansion known as New Cragg Hall, is not far away. New Cragg hall, home of the Hinchliffe mill-owning family in Cragg Vale, was destroyed by fire on the 11th August 1921.

The local history group is hoping to mark the event next year by holding an exhibition, and providing an historical overview of how the Hinchliffe family built up the Cragg Hall estate and gardens over several decades. Much research will be needed to piece together the story of New Cragg Hall. The history group is anxious to hear from anyone who has any information, photographs or documents relating to life and times in Cragg Vale 100years ago. Perhaps your relatives worked in the Hinchliffe's mills, or even in the Hall itself. Did you play in the ruins as a child? We would be very interested to hear your stories.

Please contact Roy Collinge: collingeroy@gmail.com or 07803298363



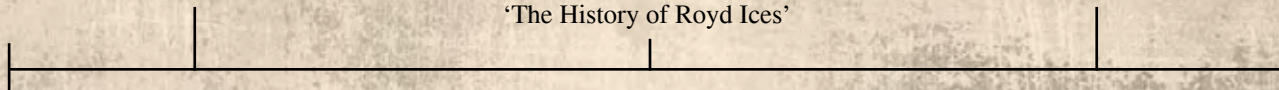
CRAGG VALE LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

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

DECEMBER 19th
Christmas Extravaganza

JANUARY 16th
Adam Whitworth
'The History of Royd Ices'

FEBRUARY 20th
David Glover 'Ann Lister & Co.'



Here are some more of our community's talented entrepreneurs and local businesses

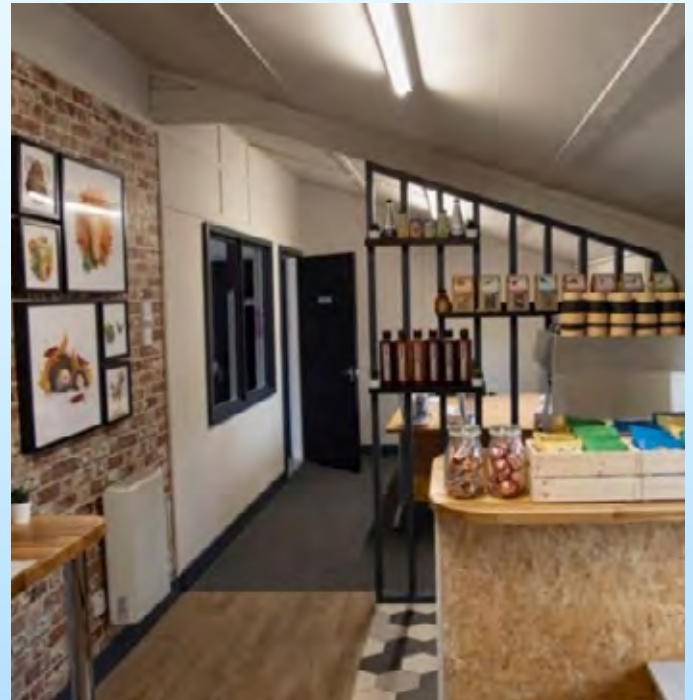
**SPOTLIGHT ON
BUSINESS IN
CRAGG VALE**

Bread&Butter
Sandwich Co

The Bread and Butter Sandwich Company is one of the newest tenants at Topland. Owned by Liam Garvey, a former Calder High student who has coffee shops (including 'Coffee Cali') in Hebden Bridge and Huddersfield.

The aim is to use good quality, local produce to make 'hand-crafted' sandwiches. Liam said "I found the lack of good quality options amongst the conveyor belt, pre-packed sandwiches very frustrating so I decided to set up my own business here at Topland". Liam's first job at Coffee Cali, set up in 1998 by his Mum who retired 5 years ago, was making sandwiches so he says he has "come full loop" with this new venture – and there is also another important local loop, the fruit and vegetables will be coming from 'Valley Veg' owned by Cragg Vale lad Liam Laprell.

The Bread and Butter Sandwich Company, starting with 4 employees, hopes to deliver to other independent coffee shops in the area as well local schools and colleges. Topland's tenants and employees will also be able to benefit from this new business as they will be able to buy coffee, tea, and sandwiches via the coffee shop at the front of the premises.



Liam says "the environment surrounding Topland is so beautiful it's important to me to make sure we protect it, so our food will be custom-made to order and delivered the next day to cut out waste and we'll be plastic-free with bamboo cups and wrappings that compost in 60days". His business premises are also very beautiful with fruit and veg painted on the wall by his mother-in-law, Melinda Joy Chantler, who is a local artist. Liam's final comment: "Coming to work here every day is a real pleasure!"


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Friendly SOAP

Friendly Soap Ltd in Topland Business Park, was founded by local duo Rob Costello and Geoff Kerouac.

They pride themselves on not only producing a fabulous range of hand-made soaps, shampoos and other cleansing products, but on an award winning, eco-friendly approach which uses natural, sustainable ingredients free from animal cruelty, plastic, parabens, SLS, Triclosan and other chemical nasties.

Placing as much emphasis as possible on providing products which are as kind to the planet as they are to people, the Friendly Soap range makes no compromises – whilst the products have a luxurious, high-end feel they are not at all expensive. By using only natural, biodegradable ingredients, and recycled/recyclable packaging, their carbon footprint is minimal.

Founder Rob Costello said “Our values have grown up in this area where people genuinely care about the world they live in. We’re delighted we can deliver first class, affordable cleansing products that also leave people with a clean conscience.”

For more information, go to www.friendlysoap.co.uk



HANDMADE

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FRIENDLYSOAP.CO.UK



ON SALE AT VALLEY ORGANICS WORKERS' CO-OP, HEBDEN BRIDGE

CALVAG AGRICULTURAL SUPPLIES

If ever a single business reflected the deep-rooted personality of the area, it's CALVAG, a family-owned business providing a huge range of products for the maintenance of agricultural land and buildings and for the welfare of livestock and pets of all sizes.

Founded in 1987, CALVAG was initially based in Luddendenfoot, but moved to their current premises at Brier Hey, Mytholmroyd, in 1991, since when their range of products has continued to evolve to meet the needs of the local farming and pet-loving community.

Their premises have been lovingly described as “an Aladdin's Cave”, such is the range of products available. A team of knowledgeable and friendly staff provide advice and also physical help in loading some of the heavy products. Co-Owner Helen Connor said “through our regular interaction with our customers, we've learned what a wide range of products is needed by our lovely animal-owning community, and we do our best to be able to meet those needs on a “one stop shop” basis. If we don't have it in stock, we can generally source it, or find someone who can.”

For more information, go to www.calvagservices.co.uk

guard-tech INDUSTRIAL SUPPLIES LTD

Guard-Tech Industrial Services, based in Mytholmroyd, was set up in 1997 by Cragg Vale residents, Scott and Vicky Gravenor.

Guard Tech works with companies all over the world designing and installing safety systems to keep machinery, of all kinds, running safely and smoothly. They specialise in helping companies ensure workplace machinery is safe to use and complies with relevant safety laws.

Scott said “We are delighted we can use local talent to have an international influence on safe working”, he explains “machinery is an essential part of the country's manufacturing base and when used properly can help businesses become highly successful. However, things can go wrong, which tragically can lead to serious injuries or even fatalities, followed by prosecutions, fines and sometimes, business closures. In my experience, accidents in the workplace are avoidable, so we work with companies to design safety systems to help avoid those problems.

We have a terrific team here at Guard-Tech who relish the challenge of developing bespoke safety designs for any kind of equipment with moving parts, and our customers love the fact that we produce great solutions on-site to help their business prosper”

For more information, go to www.guard-tech.co.uk



Broadhead Clough

December 2019 update

It's been the wettest October we've recorded here for over 20 years with very few sunny days of autumn colour and the leaves shedding much later en-masse.

It's a common saying that "you can't see the wood for the trees," meaning that the details get in the way of the bigger picture. This autumn we've literally had to focus on two of the more significant trees, because the wet weather has loosened the soil holding their roots, and caused them to lean, creating a risk on the path. The first near the entrance was a willow and

removing it has revealed a clearing with several young hazels that in future could become an interesting and beautiful coppicing glade. The other, I will particularly miss: a silver birch, not ancient or particularly handsome, but a tree with attitude. It stood in the middle of the path at one of the steepest points forcing you to decide which side to take.

The upper was via a step using its exposed roots as a staircase; or the lower, on a bilberry slope. I'd often used its trunk to pull up on, or hold for balance descending in snowy weather. I watched sadly as it had to be felled in case it fell along the path.

Now there's a new view over its stump, ironically heart shaped, and a large habitat log pile on the slope below.

Nature is always in a state of change, whether momentous for large trees or the familiar gentle decay as fungi work in the leaf litter to return nutrients to the soil. Whilst working we've spotted "amethyst deceiver" and various oak bracket fungi in the wood and the Halifax Scientific Society did a survey on the meadows, including Waxcap and Fairy Clubs.

Winter task-days start at 10a.m. on Dec 6th, Jan 3rd, Feb 7th, and March 6th, but depending on the weather finish early so nobody gets too cold or wet. Best to ring beforehand to confirm it's on if you want to join us.

Helen Pedley, 886195

www.ywt.org.uk

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always in a
state of change



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MERRY *Christmas*

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