

THE PARISH MAGAZINE
Ashford in the Water
and Sheldon

<https://ashfordparishchurch.com>

February 2024

ASHFORD SERVICES

Sunday 04 February: 2nd before Lent: 9.45am Congregation led service led by John Winkworth-Smith

Sunday 11 February: Next before Lent: 9.45am Sung Eucharist with Holy Baptism of Abigail Aurora Butcher

Wednesday 14 February: Ash Wednesday: 7.00pm Eucharist with imposition of ashes

Sunday 18 February: Lent 1: 9.45am Sung Eucharist

Sunday 25 February: Lent 2: 9.45am Sung Eucharist

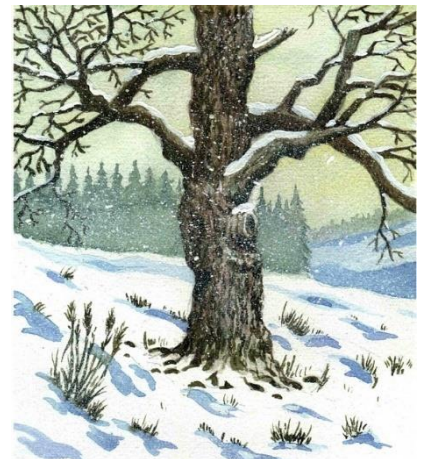
Funerals

**Saturday 13 January: Maurice Rowland
Lindsay**

Monday 15 January: Patricia Christine Shaw

SHELDON

Sunday 25th February: 9am Holy Communion



A prayer for Lent

**Lord God, heavenly Father,
you know that we are set in the midst of so many and great dangers,
that by reason of the frailty of our nature we cannot always stand upright.**

**Grant us such strength and protection, to support us in all danger, and carry
us through all temptations;**

Through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

Christmas Events



There were many events in the village and the church over the Christmas period. The church was beautifully decorated, and the soft glow of the candles created a wonderful atmosphere. The Women's Institute started it off with a Carol service in Ashford church for the combined WI's of the local Lathkil group. Then followed the 'Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols' with anthems by the choir and readings by village members. It was touch and go for the village carol singing round the tree near the Sheepwash Bridge, but the rain cleared and the villagers came out in force, singing lustily, led by the church choir, and enjoyed refreshments organised by the Institute, the mulled wine supplied by Richard and Katrina Mayson, and the most delicious roast potatoes provided by 'Rafters at Riverside House.' The choir then went on to sing carols in the Bull's Head and were treated to more mulled wine, making it all go with a swing!!



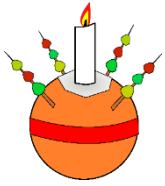
The Crib service in church on Christmas Eve, taken by Canon Ann Ashcroft who used to live in the village and regularly took services in



church, was a lovely, atmospheric occasion, with 80+ adults and children each holding candles and the children putting the figures into the stable as the Christmas story was retold. The Christmas Morning service, led by Rev'd Brenda reminded us that even without the presents, decorations, food and all the hype, it would still be Christmas, because we are celebrating the birth of Jesus Christ. She was 'helped' with the artwork by four enthusiastic youngsters, with the 3 year old determined to do her bit!!

A little later, on 7th January, the Epiphany service, which celebrates the arrival of the Magi at the stable,





was combined with a Christingle Service. Everyone was provided with all the elements to make their own Christingle – the orange, representing the world, with a red band around it symbolising the blood shed by Jesus at his crucifixion; 4 cocktail sticks with dried fruits and sweets representing the wonders of creation in all corners of the earth and a candle symbolising the light of Christ spreading His gospel of love throughout the world. When all the Christingles had been made, the lights were dimmed and the candles were lit, creating a beautiful glow. The money raised at Christingle services, in our case £91, is sent to the Children's Society to help support their work with vulnerable and disadvantaged children.



All the village events were very well attended, enjoyed by all, and raised a substantial amount of money. The village carol singing profits were split between the W.M. Institute and the church, with the later sending their portion to a charity which will be decided upon at the next PCC meeting. Thank you to everyone who helped in any way and to all of you who came along to give your support; so lovely to have the village joining together again to make it all so memorable. Linda

An Introduction to your local milk delivery service Bakewell Dairy

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Pint Bottled Skimmed Milk (Peak District Dairy) 60p

Cream ½ pint Single cream (Longley Farm) £1.10

Pint Fresh Orange Juice 75p

1ltr carton Cranberry £1.10

Please contact Colin on Phone / Text 07711 900030

Email csjcolin@btinternet.com

Dear Friends



It has taken a drama following on from a Panorama investigation and supportive journalists and politicians pressing for truth and justice to finally begin the process of exoneration and compensation for hundreds of former postmasters and postmistresses who were falsely accused, charged and in some cases, imprisoned, as a result of The Post Office Scandal. Many lives have been ruined as a result and it has become clear that there are truths to emerge from the Public Enquiry as to who knew what and how things were covered up that could have prevented prosecutions, bankruptcies, loss of careers and livelihoods, and reputations.

On Valentine's Day the Christian Church begins the six week observance of the Season of Lent, a time of spiritual penance, reflection and building of relationship with God. At the heart is the ability and need to say sorry to God for our shortcomings, willfulness, selfishness and feelings at times that we are above reproach. Lent isn't to make us feel guilty, failures, hopeless, wretched or beyond redemption, but shows us how God's love is so deep, strong and

unconditional for us, that he wants us to recognise and put right the things that hold us back and lock us into guilt, regret, anger and inability to acknowledge where we fall short.

The beginning of the journey to peace, restoration, reconciliation, forgiveness and understanding begins when we recognise the need to admit wrongdoing and say sorry. That is very hard though when pride kicks in, or we feel or believe that we can do no wrong, or that it was somebody else's fault, or as with the Horizon computer, nothing possibly could go wrong.

How much time, money, effort and determination went into perpetuating something that has become a scandal will be determined through investigation and people will be called to face justice if they are found to have lied or covered up the truth. We can wonder how things might have turned out, and whether people's lives might not have been ruined, if some had had the courage to recognise that the IT was not perfect; or if institutions, businesses, or individuals had not thought about their reputation, position or status first, rather than the importance of truth and justice.

Lent and the opportunity to run a spiritual MOT on our lives,

relationships, soul and actions allows us to be honest with God and ourselves that we are not perfect and to say sorry to God with open and contrite hearts, approaching God not with fear but belief that his love is merciful. He desires that we do not allow our sins, regrets, pain or brokenness to ruin our lives but that we find forgiveness, healing and the opportunity to move forward with confidence. He wishes us to have lives that can flourish in relationships and dealings with others that are honest, truthful, just, compassionate and loving.

“I am sorry and I confess....” Try saying it during Lent.

Every blessing

Tony

Ashford War Memorial Institute Quiz Night

On Saturday 7 January the War Memorial Institute hosted its annual quiz night, which is proving to be increasingly popular every year! Many thanks to Pat, Hilary and Barbara who worked tirelessly to make the evening happen, and to David Baldry for once again taking on the mantle of quiz master. The questions were hard, but not so hard as to make it impossible. Pat tells me there were almost 60

participants, and the trophy was won by a team hosted by an Ashford in the Water resident! So the trophy has come back home for 12 months... It was lovely to see some new faces, including families who have recently returned to the village. Welcome!

The committee would like to thank everyone who contributed to the evening, especially all those who made a soup and offered it as part of the supper for the night. We had 8 different & delicious varieties of soup, topped by delicious croutons and served together with an abundant selection of cheese and bread. Thank you all so much for these provisions, it makes such a difference to the event to have this support. Thank you also to those who stayed on to wash-up (never much fun) but so much easier with many hands. The raffle was popular (and again, thanks to those who provided prizes); it is nice to have a chance of winning something even if not the quiz trophy.

The Institute continues to look for a booking secretary to take over from Caroline in the spring of 2024. This is a paid position and would suit someone who wants to work

(largely) from home with flexible hours. Please do join us in supporting the work of the Institute which is so important for the village. If you are interested, please do speak to one of us, or get in touch using the email below.

I hope that we will see more of you at the Quiz Night next year in January and wish you all a happy and healthy 2024!

Katrina Mayson, Chair

katrinab@maysonuk.com

SHELDON JOTTINGS

During one of those 'put another log on the fire' days of January, we were reflecting on stories of winters past, when the snow was so deep that the drifts almost reached the top of the telegraph posts and Sheldon was cut off for a fortnight. At Manor Farm, so the story goes, they had to cut a tunnel through the drifts from the kitchen door to the barns in order to feed the animals.

But with the arrival of the New Year there is a feeling that change has begun, the days are lengthening and despite the cold snap at the beginning of January the weather can only improve. Or is it all an illusion? But no! The red berries on

the cotoneaster outside the kitchen door have gone. Certainly the snowdrops



which always define the month are flowering in gardens up and down the village, seemingly immune to whatever the weather throws at them. By the middle of the month those gardens in the area which traditionally open to visitors for snowdrop days are putting out their advertising boards to entice us to wonder at their displays.

The first Parish Meeting of the year was held towards the beginning of January. All is well and we look forward to installing new play equipment on the Playing field and some attention to the Village Hall roof during the year. We await the new positioning of the thirty mile an hour signs, the trimming of those trees in the Dale which are leaning or about to lean on the wires, and of course those cursed potholes!

Little seems to be happening of note in the village in February; it is as if it is the halfway month between winter and spring and the village is drawing breath, saving its energy, and waiting for the explosion of life that is to come. But, you never know, we have just been reminded that this year, 2024 is a Leap Year!

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Hathersage

Wine of the Month: Casa Ferreirinha Vinha Grande, 2020, Douro



If you managed to try the Port wine that I recommended over Christmas, this is the logical follow up: a red wine from the same shipper produced from Port grapes. Ferreira, known affectionately as 'Ferreirinha', was the first Port producer dedicated to making unfortified wines now with their own Douro DOC. Ferreira's most famous Douro red wine, Barca Velha, now sells well in excess of £500 a bottle, so this wine from the same stable is something of a bargain. At £16.50 it isn't cheap but it bats well above its price level. Touriga Franca, Touriga Nacional, Tinta Roriz, and

Tinta Barroca are the drought-resistant Port grapes that combine to give this wine its deep colour, cherry and berry fruit aromas and structured, spicy character in the mouth. It spends 12 months in seasoned French oak before bottling which helps to soften the naturally ripe



tannins. 'Vinha Grande' is my 'go to' winter red to drink on steak au poivre. If you have a cellar, put a bottle or two aside for a few years to see it soften and develop.

£16.50 Hattersley Wines,
Bakewell

Richard Mayson

Ashford in the Water WI

We welcomed Jane Daniell as our first speaker in 2024. Jane gave a fascinating and inspiring talk on setting up the Dreamland Mission Hospital in Kenya. It was wonderful to hear and see (the talk was illustrated with photos of the development of the hospital) how the work progressed. There were many difficulties along the way but the determination and belief that Jane and others had in the project has resulted in a wonderful health centre.

On February 1st at 2:15 pm Samantha Hancock from the Derbyshire Police is talking on Cyber Awareness, Fraud and Scams. The competition is for a woolly hat.

**Extracts from 'A Gentler Invitation', Jon Timms,
Director: Rural Ministries**

We've all come through a busy season of family visits and celebration, and we emerge from a haze of confusion and cheese into the new year. We are supposed to be found raring to go, to embrace all that the new year holds, to start making plans, or at least bold statements about this being 'my year!'. Gym memberships increase, alcohol dips as we encourage 'Dry January', and all the best intentions run riot as we start to feel the pressure once again. We've only just left the pressure behind after Christmas, so we could briefly hibernate and simply 'be' for a short while. Let's not be too quick to succumb to it once more.....

For there is a softer, gentler invitation if we will only slow down just long enough to notice.

The world invites you to set goals to better yourself in one form or another, moving up a gear to begin producing once again. Anxiety-inducing voices all vying for our attention, often bringing some false consolation. All the while, nature around us is still at rest. No sign of spring or new life has even begun to appear. Roots still grow down deep unaffected by the Gregorian

calendar and social media influencers!

What if we were to follow nature's example a little more closely? It's worth remembering that God has created this world to move in cycles - the tides, the moon, the seasons, circadian rhythms - and when we live close to nature, away from prefabrication and strip lights, we discover an ease and a pace that's actually sustainable rather than back-breaking and soul-shaking. God ushered in Sabbath when He formed the world and human experience of it, gifted to us as a regular time of rest, retreat and delight in Him. I wonder what would happen if we see the hiddenness of wintering as a gift to be received with gratitude rather than a desert time to be endured and raced through? What if we rested alongside nature? Nature doesn't try to rush each season, it simply accepts the cycle and allows the process to unfold.

When you alleviate the pressure to have your plans carefully curated and your vision for the next twelve months firmly established, you find your steps 'free and light' and a lightness of breath in your body. You discover an ease in which you can re-emerge from the aforementioned cheese hangover. You discover permission to tread lightly and slowly, finding a pace

with God that allows your soul to catch up.

Rhythms all too often get a bit neglected over the festive period. To reintroduce them takes time and intentionality. So be kind to yourself. Your soul needs tender nurturing as it transitions, not a fierce military-style motivating kick up the posterior.

My encouragement is to lay aside the tendency to run ahead of God in your fervour to get started with the new year. Instead, begin 2024 by listening for the invitations. Quieten yourself, they are often heard only in whispers.

Wait.

What do you hear?

God is found in the waiting. Rest a while. It's only when you recline that you hear the heartbeat of Jesus.



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“LICORICE PIZZA”

(2021 PG 15)

**SUNDAY FEBRUARY 11TH
2024**

**7.30 pm at the Medway
Centre, Bakewell**



San Fernando Valley, 1973. Disarmed by his fearless confidence and surprising maturity, bored 25-year-old photographer's assistant Alana Kane reluctantly accepts to go out for a drink with sunny 15-year-old child actor Gary Valentine, her unexpected admirer. As one thing leads to another, the platonic soulmates embark on ambitious business ventures, trying to find their feet and purpose in a crazy world. But can Gary and Alana remain friends against the backdrop of life's ups and downs?

BASH's aim is to meet in a friendly atmosphere showing a variety of new, classic and foreign films. We give an introduction to most films and refreshments are served during

an interval. Accessibility is important to BASH: The Medway Centre is wheelchair friendly and we provide film subtitles and a hearing loop. You can join BASH Film Society via our website, sign up on the night or you can telephone the membership secretary Joy Thrower 01629 814863. Membership for the year is £24.00. As a member of the film society you will also be entitled to borrow for two weeks any DVD or BluRay from our ever growing library of films (see www.bashfilms.org.uk). We look forward to welcoming you on **Sunday February 11th 2024** at 7.30pm.

Peak District Mosaic secures National Lottery funding to champion national parks

Peak District Mosaic has secured £557,955 from The National Lottery Heritage Fund to deliver its Championing National Parks for Everyone project - helping more people to explore, enjoy and understand the countryside and nature.

The initiative aims to raise awareness of, and improve accessibility to, three national parks – the Peak District, North York Moors and Yorkshire Dales – among ethnically and culturally diverse communities.

Peak District Mosaic is partnering with the three national park authorities to train community champions, support people to visit the parks independently and to consider jobs in the environmental sector.

The Peak District National Park Foundation has also contributed £11,341 as part of match-funding to the project.

The Peak District National Park Authority's Engagement Team will provide line management support as an in-kind contribution and Derbyshire Dales Council for Voluntary Service (CVS) is supporting Mosaic's charity development.

Championing National Parks for Everyone will build on a long-term partnership between the Peak District National Park Authority and Peak District Mosaic to support diverse communities to experience the countryside. There has been collaboration on a number of projects, including delivery of Peak Wise Community Champion training in 2017 and 2021.

The project will include outreach events, monthly activity programmes in each of the national parks, community champion training, champion-led events and further training in outdoor skills. It will also develop a legacy plan focused on Community Champion network support.

Yvonne Witter, chair of Peak District Mosaic, said: "It is a great privilege for us to be leading this project in partnership with the Peak District, North York Moors and Yorkshire Dales National Park Authorities.

"National Parks are outstandingly beautiful places. Being able to visit, enjoy and care for them is hugely beneficial for physical health and mental well-being.

"The support from The National Lottery Heritage Fund means that, working together, we can develop a programme and support diverse communities to learn about the landscapes and to access them for recreational activities and enjoyment.

"Together we will recruit and train people in communities around the three national parks to champion the parks for their friends, families and work colleagues. This will continue the legacy of what began several years ago as a national programme led by the Campaign for National Parks."

For more details, contact Peak District Mosaic –

peakdistrictmosaic@gmail.com Learn more about Peak District Mosaic - [Home - Peak District Mosaic](#)



PUZZLE CORNER

February Quiz



1. What star sign are you if you were born in early February?
2. What happened in Britain on 5th February 1971?
3. On 16th February 1659, what was used in Britain for the first time as Mr Nicholas Vanacker settled a debt?
4. In leap years February starts on the same day of the week as which other month?
5. Which violet variety of quartz, often used in jewellery, is the traditional birthstone for February?
6. In the sporting calendar, which event usually takes place on the first Sunday in February?
7. On 12th February 1554, who was beheaded at the Tower of London?
8. Which treaty, creating the European Union, was signed on 7th February 1992?

9. Which band made their first American TV appearance in February 1964?

10. Which British political party was formed on 27th February 1900?

Answers on last page.

Ashford Parish Magazine goes global!

A reader has reported that he shares the magazine with friends overseas:



‘Every month (since going digital) I’ve forwarded the magazine to friends in Canada and USA. They really appreciate the contents especially the Farming News, something which is quite alien to them and I’ve just received the following note: “Thanks, enjoyed the parish mag, from cover to cover.”’

We also know that the magazine is read and enjoyed in Antigua. Maybe you also forward the magazine elsewhere in the UK or to distant climes, or you receive it hundreds or thousands of miles from Ashford and Sheldon? If so, let us know at stone.mary@sky.com!



Forget-Me-Nots Memory Support is Expanding!

Do you, or someone you know, have dementia or memory loss? New Connections invites you to come along to our friendly and fun Forget-Me-Nots social group. The group provides a reassuring, confidential and safe place to talk to others in a similar situation and a chance to take part in a variety of activities.

From January 2024, Forget-Me-Nots activities are expanding to include a monthly short, easy walk including a café stop afterwards. The walk will take place on the fourth Wednesday of each month with the support of Peak District National Park volunteers and be 'out and back' so people can walk as far as they want before returning to the start point.

The two regular Forget-me-Nots sessions want to expand and welcome new people along. Bakewell Methodist Church is the venue for the first Wednesday of every month and Hathersage Memorial Hall from 2-4pm on the third Wednesday of every month.

New Connections is our local Social Prescribing service. Social Prescribers work with patients of GP surgeries across the Derbyshire Dales. Social Prescribing supports people to improve their health and wellbeing. The service connects people aged 18 and above to local activities, groups, and information. The New Connections team are based at Derbyshire Dales CVS, a local charity, and can be contacted on 01629 812154 or via your GP surgery.

UKSPF Community Resilience Grant Scheme to give online talk for Dales groups.

Join us via Zoom on Thursday 15th February at 10am to learn more about the Derbyshire Dales UKSPF Community Resilience Grant Scheme. Neil Moulden will take you through the fund criteria and answer any queries you may have.

The Community Resilience Grants scheme is available for charities, voluntary organisations, social enterprises and parish councils to bid into. Funding for revenue and capital projects is available, with a maximum of £25,000 being available for capital projects.

Derbyshire Dales CVS is hosting this 'Meet the Funder' event to help you assess if the UKSPF Community

Resilience Grant Scheme could support your group/organisation, and how to apply to the fund.

Please book your place with Polly or Sarah at Derbyshire Dales CVS – Tel 01629 812154 press 1 or email enquiries@ddcvs.org.uk

Farming News



Thankfully the constant wet weather has given way to lovely bright sunny and frosty days. Long may it continue, although of course it has brought its problems. Several days this week we have spent many hours defrosting water pipes even though they are well lagged. I have got it down to a T now: take several kettles up to the buildings and give each frozen water bowl a good splash of boiling water and leave for an hour. After an hour it seems to have given a bit and is much easier to thaw. Even the watery sun helps a little. The yards are cleaner and the cattle are much happier with the dry weather and find every little ray of sun peeping through the Yorkshire boarding on the sides of the sheds. We had a chuckle a couple of

days ago after seeing Peak Park up the fields trying to plant trees up the fields for the 'new wood'. Can't imagine how they managed to plant any at all. Where has common sense gone? We even had to abandon trying to dig a hole with the JCB as the ground was too hard! We had a walk through the wheat and barley fields looking for any signs of green shoots, unfortunately nothing appearing yet. We live in hope.

Ashford in the Water Parish Council

For information about the village and surrounding area, and the activities of the Parish Council, please visit

<http://www.ashford-in-the-water-pc.gov.uk>



Teddy the labrador on the Arrock in the January moonlight!

Baslow Health Centre – Church Lane, Baslow

www.baslowhealthcentre.co.uk

Appointment Times: Clinicians are still available for consultations and medical advice. Please contact the surgery and a GP or Nurse will call you back to discuss your concerns and if necessary arrange to see you in person. Many problems can be dealt with over the telephone.

Patient Online: Have you registered to use the online service? This allows you to book or cancel appointments online (during normal service) and order your repeat medications. You can also request access to your Summary Care Record, and Detailed Coded Data contained within your medical records. You can also look at your test results.

Telephone Numbers:

Reception: 01246 582216 District Nursing Team: 01332 564900

Health Visitor: 01246515100

Normal Surgery Opening Times Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday & Friday 08:00am to 6.30pm, (Closed Bank Holidays) (*Phones 8.00am – 6.30pm Mon to Fri*)

Ordering Repeat Medication - You can order repeat medications in the following ways:

- In writing or with our on-line access service
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Please allow three working days before collection and collect between 8am and 5pm

Prescriptions can be collected from reception inside the surgery.

Samples – if you need to leave a sample with us please ensure it is labelled with your name and date of birth and returned in a bag if provided either through the letterbox or at reception.

Test Results – **Please ring for test results after 2.30pm** as we do not receive test results back from the hospital until lunchtime.

For Urgent Calls when we are closed, please call 111

BAKEWELL MEDICAL CENTRE

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The surgery will be closed for training at 1.30pm on the 2nd Wednesday of each month.

Whitworth Urgent Treatment Centre at Whitworth Hospital is open from 8am to 8pm 7 days a week.

Please remember if you need to seek medical advice and the surgery is closed contact **111**.



Need help or advice?

Sarah Dines
Member of Parliament for
Derbyshire Dales

You can write at any time to:

Sarah Dines MP, House of Commons
London, SW1A 0AA

Phone: 020 7219 6660

Email:
Sarah.dines.mp@parliament.uk

Website: www.sarahdines.org.uk

**Sarah Dines MP, working hard for
Derbyshire Dales**

February Quiz Answers

1. Aquarius 2. Decimalisation 3. A cheque 4. August 5. Amethyst 6. The Super Bowl 7. Lady Jane Grey 8. The Maastricht Treaty 9. The Beatles 10. The Labour Party

The deadline for the March magazine is 22nd February 2024.

Please send any poems, photos, articles, recipes, puzzles, thoughts or reminiscences to stone.mary@sky.com. Thank you!