

**THE PARISH MAGAZINE**  
**Ashford in the Water**  
**and Sheldon**  
**February 2025**

**ASHFORD SERVICES**

**Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> February** - Presentation of Christ in the Temple - Candlemas

9.45am: Morning Worship

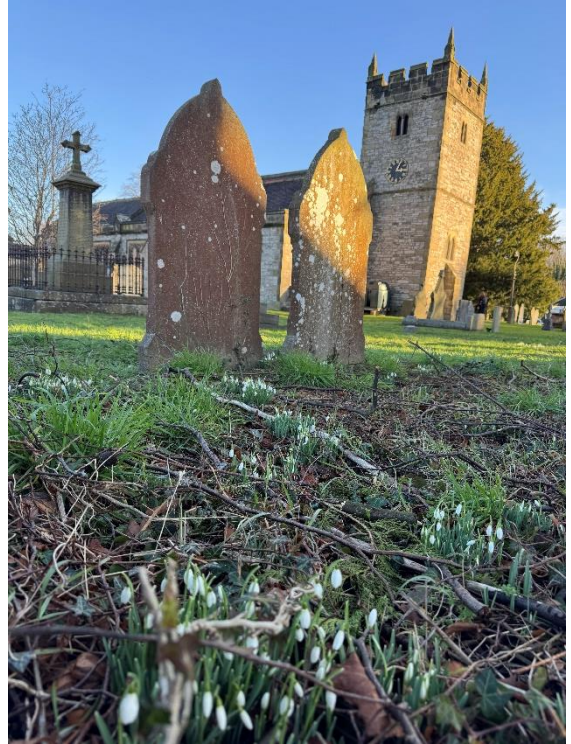
**Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> February** - 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday before Lent 9.45am: Sung Eucharist

**Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> February** - 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday before Lent 9.45am: Sung Eucharist

**Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> February** - 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday before Lent 9.45am: Sung Eucharist

**Funeral**

28<sup>th</sup> January – Sidney Templeman



**SHELDON**

Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> February - 9.00am: Holy Communion

*A prayer for Faith:*

**Lord give us the eyes of faith, to see your presence in the world.**

**Where fear closes our eyes, help us.**

**Where tears blind us, heal us.**

**Where busyness keeps us from noticing, slow us.**

**Where pride gets in the way, release us.**

**Set us free to see your love at work in the world.**

**Amen**



## Crib Service

Ashford Church was full with approximately 120 adults and children for this well-loved, annual candlelit service on Christmas Eve for the retelling of the Christmas Story and singing of favourite carols. The children, ranging in age from 2 -13 years, answered questions, showing their knowledge of the story of Christ's birth, and then placed the figures and animals into the stable – a lovely start to Christmas.

## Plough Sunday at Holy Trinity Church

On Sunday January 12th 2025, we were delighted to welcome local farmers and representatives of the Derbyshire Rural Chaplaincy to celebrate 'Plough Sunday' at Ashford Church. The service was led by Alison Fletcher, an Agricultural Chaplain and a member of our own congregation; and Revd Alan Griggs, Derbyshire's Lead Agricultural Chaplain.

Also joining us was John Davis, who farms beef cattle with his family in New Mexico, USA. John is currently on a placement with the Chaplaincy to learn about rural ministry in the UK.

As Alan and Alison explained, observance of Plough Sunday on the First Sunday of Epiphany is associated with the Victorians, but behind it there is a much older observance associated with the first working day after the twelve days of Christmas.

Plough Sunday is therefore an important marker of the start of the agricultural year, and our local farmers presented farm implements and materials on the altar as blessings for the plough; the soil; the seed; and the churn.

After the service, we enjoyed sampling a variety of excellent cheeses!





## **POSTPONED ANNUAL QUIZ**

**ASHFORD WAR MEMORIAL INSTITUTE**



**SATURDAY 8<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY 7pm for 7.30pm**

**Teams of 4 people or join one on entry**

**Soup, bread and cheese supper**

**Bar Raffle**

**Admission £6**

**Enquiries to Pat 07542 540244/01629 812521**



## **Concert by Lady Manners Students February 26<sup>th</sup> at 7pm in Holy Trinity Church**

**This is always an enjoyable evening when the senior music students play and sing their exam pieces for us.**

**Entry is free but donations are warmly welcomed with the profits split between the school and the church.**

**Refreshments available.**

**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>**

## Dear Friends

It is often said that the Brits are obsessed with the weather as it is brought up in many people's conversations during the day. Given the recent very low temperatures and how snowfall brings things to a halt we all have something in common to share in this part of the Peak District. The loss of life and destruction of so many homes around Los Angeles as a result of the recent wildfires with their severity being linked to Climate Change puts our experience of skating and avoiding falling into some perspective.

The recent World Meteorological Organisation report that 2024 was the warmest year on record, with the period 2015-2024 being the ten warmest years on record, and last year seeing a global mean temperature rise of more than 1.5°C makes sobering reading. It gives us great concern about where we are going as human beings, especially where nations do not accept the need to reduce and find alternatives to the use of fossil fuels.

Without panicking we do need to take urgent action and fast if we are not going to pass on an unbearable legacy to those who follow us. The late President Carter was a



visionary, spurred by his faith in a God he believed called humanity to be wise, responsible and caring co stewards in caring for the environment. He introduced early schemes to begin efforts to limit the harmful effects of human activity, but many derided this nearly 50 years ago.

Until we can all see ourselves living as a single family in a common home and that we have personal responsibility to do what we can to limit our footprint on the world and protect those who suffer the consequences of other people's activity, then the accounts of extreme weather will continue to be a part of our experience.

Governments and nations need to make sacrificial decisions that will ultimately be costly in developing sustainable environmental programmes. Until they do, it is tempting to feel that our decision to use our car less, cut back on single plastic usage, buying local produce and recycling waste is a drop in the ocean.

We do have a responsibility for the protection of our beautiful earth and can all do something about it. There is hope that if our generation acts decisively and courageously to the challenges posed by the need for environmental sustainability and reducing the effects of climate



change, then in our collaboration together we can build a more peaceful, just and sustainable low carbon human society. We can build a society where we are less concerned about what we need or want, whatever the cost, and develop a new love and respect for peoples that inhabit this planet. May we open ourselves to new possibilities during this year and beyond.

With love and prayers

Tony



Arrock views in the January sunshine

## Suggestions for Local Projects

From time to time, the parish council is offered the opportunity of funding towards local projects which will be of benefit to the community. The parish council has used these opportunities in the past to purchase playground equipment, picnic benches and other items which enhance the village or provide a facility for parishioners. The parish council would therefore greatly welcome any suggestions from parishioners regarding projects, equipment or facilities which might be lacking in the village and for which the parish council could apply for funding, as and when these opportunities arise.

Please pass on your suggestions to any of the parish councillors, or email them to the Clerk:

[angelafox@btinternet.com](mailto:angelafox@btinternet.com)

We look forward to hearing from you.

Ashford in the Water Parish Council

## WELLDRESSING 2025

SAVE THE DATE!

TRINITY SUNDAY 15<sup>TH</sup>  
JUNE

PETALLING IN THE  
INSTITUTE

FROM SATURDAY 7<sup>TH</sup>  
MORE INFORMATION TO  
FOLLOW



## PUZZLE CORNER

### Winter Quiz



1. In which city can you visit the Winter Palace?
2. Which fruit has a variety called Winter Banana?  
a) banana b) pineapple c) apple

3. Which country has won the most medals in Winter Olympic history?

a) Norway b) USA c) Germany

4. In literature, which is the kingdom of talking animals and mythical creatures, which the White Witch has ruled for 100 years of deep winter?

5. Chionophobia is a fear of what?

a) frostbite b) snow c) skiing

6. How many sides does a snowflake have?

7. What is a chinook?

a) wind chill b) a type of snowflake c) a warm winter wind

8. On which side of buildings do icicles tend to form?

a) north b) south c) east d) west

9. What percentage of fresh snow is composed of air?

a) 30% b) 60% c) 90%

10. Which Winter Olympic sport involves skiing and rifle shooting?

*Answers on last page*





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Every Tuesday  
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## Farming News

Last weekend we had our friends up from Suffolk. They



farm a large arable farm in a quiet and remote place. They also brought two other couples with them who wanted to have a look at a traditional upland, livestock farm. It was good to chat with like-minded people who understand the problems of managing a family farm - be it stock or arable or both. Of course we had a good moan about all the bureaucracy, the new government family farm tax and all the other headaches we put up with on a day to day basis. The men went off for a pub lunch and I took the ladies off to Chatsworth. They couldn't believe how busy our roads are!! Goodness knows what they would think of the traffic on bank holidays and every weekend in the summer!!

I was reflecting on the weekend afterwards and it led me to remember what a second cousin had said about farming: his partner wasn't from a farming background and she had remarked after a couple of months that "we don't lead a normal life". Farming is very much a unique lifestyle and obviously so different from the modern way of a five-day week, which is probably why farmers tend to socialise together too. Most

weeks I get asked what I am doing at the weekend - exactly what we do every other day!

I entered the twenty first century last week and bought a desk for the new farm office from e-Bay. It was a traditional desk with a leather top and looked great for the job, however when we picked it up it was tiny and very low, like a child's desk!! Anyway we have improvised as you do and it is now propped up on concrete blocks!! Possibly will be my first and last attempt at buying something sight unseen!

The High Peak Hunt met at the Bull's Head on Saturday and it was a glorious sunny day. What a marvellous sight and one which I imagine won't be with us much longer if the government have their way. They don't hunt foxes or hares but follow a trail which is laid down the previous day so doesn't involve any cruelty. They all looked so smart and I felt quite envious and it brought back many happy memories of my hunting days in the 70's and 80's. Unfortunately many hunts are struggling financially as numbers following have dwindled. There were only 20 out on Saturday, when I hunted there would be between 50 and 70 and a large proportion would be farmers.

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## **An Introduction to your local milk delivery service Bakewell Dairy**

**We can deliver all your milk, eggs and cream requirements.**

**We deliver Monday / Wednesday / Friday**

Pint Bottled Semi Skimmed Milk (Peak District Dairy) 60p	Pint Bottled Whole Milk (Cox Brothers Great Longstone) 60p
Eggs ½ Dozen free range eggs £1.10	Pint Bottled Skimmed Milk (Peak District Dairy) 60p
Cream ½ pint Double Cream (Longley Farm) £1.20	Cream ½ pint Single cream (Longley Farm) £1.10
Fruit Yoghurts (Longley Farm) 38p	Pint Fresh Orange Juice 75p
1ltr Carton Orange Juice £1.10	1ltr carton Cranberry £1.10

Please contact Colin on Phone / Text 07711 900030

Email [csjcolin@btinternet.com](mailto:csjcolin@btinternet.com)

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E | [sales@penroseinteriors.co.uk](mailto:sales@penroseinteriors.co.uk) W | [penroseinteriors.co.uk](http://penroseinteriors.co.uk)

Opening Times | Monday - Saturday 10am - 5pm

Tel | 01246 583444



## SHELDON JOTTINGS

After all the joy of Christmas and the celebrations at New Year



we came down to earth on the 5<sup>th</sup> of January as snow fell which promptly froze, and which stayed with us for about ten days with temperatures at or around freezing point. Despite the efforts of a snow plough, occasional gritter and our work with a snow shovel the only movement for several days in the village was a tractor taking feed to the animals in the fields. With icy pavements and roads the more elderly of us hardly went out and for us the village was virtually cut off for several days. Of course we had wondrous views across the Peak Park countryside under a blanket of glistening snow, and there will be stories of adventures and of past snowfalls to tell as another log goes on the fire. The rest of the month was a rollercoaster of wind, rain, cold and gloomy with only an occasional sunny day, but hey, it's winter!

Midwinter's day is on the 3<sup>rd</sup> February mid-way between the Winter Solstice and the Spring Equinox and then we have better weather to look forward to. But, February is not without its joys. Valentine's Day, of course falls on the 14<sup>th</sup> of the month, and we were

reading the memories of that day recorded by Fred Brocklehurst of his childhood during the decade before the First World War. 'St. Valentine's Day was always celebrated when we were young. The boys used to make them something like Christmas cards, with paper and small scraps pasted on, and verses written in, 'The ring is round, the bed is square, so you and I will make a pair', or 'Roses are red, Violets blue, pinks are sweet and so are you'. A girl's name was written inside and as darkness fell, we used to go round pushing them under the doors where the girls lived, knock and run away. Next day the girls would be saying how many Valentines they had received, and guessing who had sent them. Nice, lacey, flowery Valentines were sometimes sent by the older boys and girls but not so much as had been done in my father's young days'.

However, boys beware, he also writes, 'On Valentine's Day, the first person seen of the opposite sex was supposed to be their sweetheart for the ensuing year, so great care was taken not to see anyone one did not like, or was too old'!

In Sheldon many of us have been eagerly watching the growth of the snowdrops, just showing white as the snow of January melted and which will give us white carpets of

exquisite joy during the present month. Their posh name is from the Greek Galanthus which translates as 'milk flower' Nivalis meaning 'snow'. Considered a symbol of purity the first recorded reference to the plant was in the sixteenth century and amazingly there are 2,500 recorded varieties of this delicate little flower. These little jewels will be flowering at their best this month in gardens large and small and the open gardens



are worth a visit towards the middle of the month. Snowdrops are considered a symbol of hope and we hope that you keep well and warm this month.

Finally, please be aware that foxes have taken a number of hens and ducks in the village!

## **Ashford WI**

Unfortunately, our WI meeting had to be cancelled in January due to the dreadful weather.

February's meeting, which will also incorporate the Group's AGM and Resolutions meeting, will take place at the Institute on February 5th at 2.15pm. For a bit of light relief, after

all the official business has been concluded, members are invited to bring along a sonnet to read. Scones and tea will be served.

If you would like to join the Ashford in the Water WI, please email us on: [AshfordWI28@gmail.com](mailto:AshfordWI28@gmail.com) New members are always very welcome!

### ***BAKEWELL TAE KWON-DO***

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Adults 7.30pm to 8.30pm

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(Supported by Sport UK)

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3<sup>rd</sup> Dan Black Belt  
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## **National Park Authority announces significant restructure under unprecedented financial pressures**

The Peak District National Park Authority has confirmed it is

beginning consultation with a number of staff over restructure proposals that are being driven by a need to cut costs.

The Authority is facing ongoing financial pressures due to a fixed government grant that does not take into account inflation and additional pressures such as the recent increase in Employers National Insurance Contributions, the rise in the minimum wage, the ending of the government's rate relief scheme, and some external costs rising by as much as 150%. Overall the Authority has faced a real-terms cut of around 50% over the last ten years. The continual squeeze on funding has happened at the same time as those using the National Park have increased and expectations about what the National Park should be delivering for nature, climate and wellbeing are rising.

It is only two years since the Authority last had to undertake a restructure programme. Those changes reduced management costs and combined several service areas whilst allowing for an investment in the Authority's statutory planning function. However, since the last round of changes the Authority has faced unprecedented financial pressures whilst the core government grant remains flat.

The current round of proposed changes includes making efficiencies

within important functions such as customer services and communications and having to reduce the size and scope of much cherished work in the areas of community engagement, education and wellbeing. With the ongoing support of a philanthropic donor, some transformational changes are also being proposed for the Authority's Visitor and Cycle Hire Centres to ensure their long-term viability.

Phil Mulligan, the Authority's Chief Executive said: "We are facing a very challenging financial landscape. The proposals we are having to consider are extremely difficult and upsetting for everyone. We are looking at potentially cutting or reducing some of our high profile and much valued programmes. None of us want to make these decisions but they cannot be avoided unless there is significantly better news from government on our funding."

The Authority has confirmed the possibility of a number of redundancies, which it is seeking to mitigate through the consideration of voluntary redundancies across the organisation. It is expected that the restructure will be concluded ahead of Authority Members needing to agree next year's budget at their meeting on 21<sup>st</sup> March.



## Wine of the Month

**Château Beaumont,  
Haut Médoc, 2021,  
Hattersley Wines,  
£22.50**



If you are looking for a winter warmer over the coming month there is nowhere better to go than to Bordeaux. The region has been suffering of late due to a rapid fall in demand for red wines from Generation Z. Baby Boomers and Generation X know better than to turn their backs on Bordeaux for the region offers some of the best and most versatile red wines, popularly known in this country as Claret. We are fortunate that John Hattersley in Bakewell has a

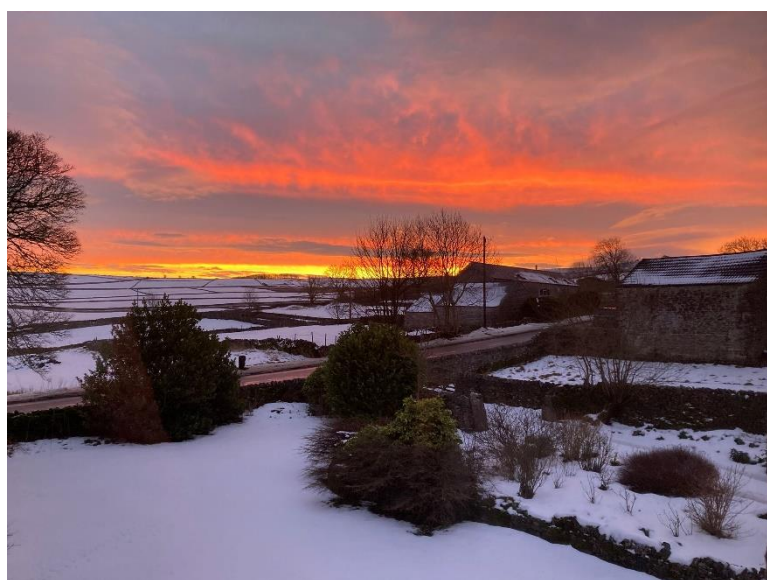


good selection and I have chosen this wine from Château Beaumont in the Haut Médoc which is a staple in our household. This highly regarded château is under the same ownership as the more famous Château Beychevelle. Located on the left bank of the Gironde, between the communes of Margaux and Saint-Julien, Château Beaumont draws its finesse and structure from the deep gravels of the best soils of the Haut Médoc. It is a classic Bordeaux-blend of 51% Cabernet Sauvignon, 41% Merlot and 8% Petit

Verdot, with 35% aged in new barrels, 50% 1 year old and 15% 2 year old which lends the wine a classic savoury-cedary quality. It would be lovely to drink this month with roast beef but has the structure to deepen for a decade or so if you want to cellar it. We are still drinking the 2015. At £22.50 a bottle it is not cheap and if you trawl the shelves at Aldi you will find some bargain Claret for between £5 and £8 a bottle but you won't get the satisfaction and finesse that you get from a bottle of Château Beaumont.

**Richard Mayson**

*More wine recommendations and tasting notes can be found on Richard's website [www.richardmayson.com](http://www.richardmayson.com)*



Thank you to Linda Foster for this stunning photo of sunrise at Wardlow

# DEFIBRILLATOR & RESUSCITATION TRAINING

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## **New year is here – are you ready for a new and interesting pastime and to meet different people?**

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We have regular and occasional shifts available - if you have a few hours to spare we'd love to hear from you, all our volunteering opportunities are very flexible.

For more information please contact the Bakewell and Eyam Community Transport office on 01629 641920 or e-mail [info@bect.org.uk](mailto:info@bect.org.uk)

## **BAKEWELL MEDICAL CENTRE**

[www.bakewellmedicalcentre.co.uk](http://www.bakewellmedicalcentre.co.uk) 01629 816636

### **Normal Surgery Opening Times:**

Monday to Friday 8am to 6.30pm (unless it's a bank holiday)

We do not close for lunch.

### **Closed**

**The surgery will be closed for training at 1.30pm on the 2<sup>nd</sup> 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**.



## Baslow Health Centre – Church Lane, Baslow

[www.baslowhealthcentre.co.uk](http://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

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

- In writing or with our on-line access service
- Return your repeat request form to surgery by Post

**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**

## Winter Quiz answers

1. St Petersburg      2. c) apple      3. a) Norway      4. Narnia  
5. b) snow      6. 6      7. c) a warm winter wind      8. b) south  
9. c) 90%      10. Biathlon

The deadline for the March magazine is 21<sup>st</sup> February 2025.

Please send any poems, photos, articles, recipes, puzzles, thoughts or reminiscences to [stone.mary@sky.com](mailto:stone.mary@sky.com). Thank you!