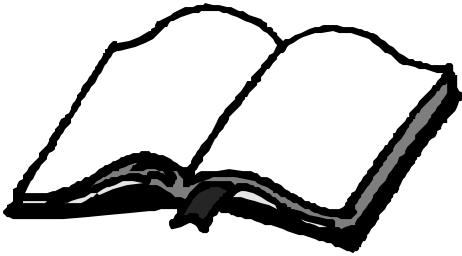


Ashford in the Water & Sheldon

www.ashfordinthewater.com www.saintmichael.org.uk



“Open the Book” is a local church project bringing bible stories into primary and junior schools. Started in Bedford and currently running in Duffield under the guidance of Helen Proudfoot, the Diocesan children’s worker, it is now in its first few weeks at Longstone school.

Prop makers are urgently required – arty/crafty people to help painting pictures, flowers, trees etc.

Or, if you can do simple machining for prop bags, tunic-style clothing etc. -

We need you!

We also need:-

- A black straight wig, or a small, black pull-on woolly hat and some black wool.
- A1 size card – it doesn’t matter if it’s patterned.
- Medium to heavy weight lining paper.
- Curtains and linings (separated and washed please).
- Cotton sheets.
- Machine wash dyes.

Props need to be robust as it is hoped that the idea will spread to other schools in the area.

If you can help or would like to know more please speak to

Gwen Pykett 815802 Su Woollen 640381

Sheldon News

Ethel Plumtree writes

Late in February we had a heavy fall of snow, coupled with cold icy winds. During this spell of bad weather the first lambs were born at Johnson Lane Farm and Manor Farm. By the 1st March, the snow was melting fast and the weather was mild and still. The clouds rolled back, the sky was very blue and the sun glistened on the patches of snow still lying on top of the hills and in the fields.

During a walk I had around this time, I saw the nearly all-white hare that lives in the fields on the Sheldon side of Shacklow wood. It has been seen in this area for a few years now. On another walk, I noticed the house being built on Dirlow Lane, as its roof and chimney are now in place.

Brian Greasley tells me he has now retired, so, happy retirement, Brian.

Jenny Spafford, who wrote the Sheldon notes until late last year, informs me that she has sold her house, but at the time of writing, she has not decided where she will be moving to.

Lastly, a bit of sad news. Tony Gyte died in Calow hospital on 12th March.

I have no details of the skip dates and there seems to be some doubt about future skips now we have the wheelie bins. □

In this issue

- Regular Reports & AGMs
- Ashford Parish Council meetings of February & March
- Ringing Success

Sundays & Festivals

3 Apr.	Sun	Easter 2
4 Apr.	Mon	Annunciation to the BVM
10 Apr.	Sun	Easter 3
17 Apr.	Sun	Easter 4
23 Apr.	Sat	St. George, Martyr
24 Apr.	Sun	Easter 5
25 Apr.	Mon	St. Mark, Evangelist

April Services at Ashford

3	Sun	9.45am	Sung Eucharist
7	Thurs	10am	Holy Communion
10	Sun	9.45am	Sung Eucharist
14	Thurs	10am	Holy Communion
17	Sun	9.45am	Sung Eucharist
21	Thurs	10am	Holy Communion
24	Sun	9.45am	Sung Eucharist
28	Thurs	10am	Holy Communion

April Services at Sheldon

10	Sun	9.00am	Holy Communion
24	Sun	9.00am	Holy Communion

April Services at St. Giles

3	Sun	8am	Holy Communion
		11.15am	Family Service
		6.30pm	United Churches Songs of Praise
6	Wed	10am	Midweek Communion
10	Sun	11.15am	Sung Eucharist
		6.30pm	Evensong
17	Sun	8am	Holy Communion
		11.15am	Sung Family Eucharist
		6.30pm	Evensong
20	Wed	11am	Holy Communion at Thornhill House
24	Sun	11.15am	Sung Eucharist
		6.30pm	Evensong

April Services at Wardlow

3	Sun	9am	Holy Communion
17	Sun	9am	Holy Communion

The Roman Catholic Church

6.15pm Saturday Mass at Bakewell
9am 1st Mass at Bakewell (Hassop 1st Sun.)
10.30am Mass at Hassop (Bakewell 1st Sun.)
4.30pm Eucharist Bakewell (2nd Sun.)

Patrick McLoughlin
Member of Parliament

You can write at any time to:
House of Commons, London SW1A 0AA

Email: mcloughlinp@parliament.uk

Regular advice bureaux
Please call for details: **01332 558125**

Working for West Derbyshire

Friends of Longstone School

Lottery Winners March 2005
1st Mrs. E. Blackwell
2nd David LeCarpentier
3rd Sarah Trezise-Harding

Longstone School is once again collecting Tesco Computers for School vouchers. The scheme runs until the 15th May so tell everyone you know to do their shopping at Tesco and collect vouchers for us. There is a collecting box just inside the front door of the main entrance door. Many thanks.

Sally Kehr

ADVANCE NOTICE

Keep 7th May free for Great Longstone pre school bumper **nearly new sale** in the Longstone Village Hall 10.30am – 12 noon.

Stacks of good quality children's clothes, toys, videos, books and equipment at knock-down prices.

Be early!

The Methodist Chapel Great Longstone

Minister - The Rev. Margaret Roe 812195
Sunday Services at 10.30am

Old Cars and New Churches

Revd Clive Thrower writes

The car firm Skoda had an unenviably poor reputation after decades of Communist control, then in 1991 Volkswagen took it over and turned it round to be an excellent value for money car. For instance the Octavia is proving popular amongst taxi drivers and police forces - always a good sign, as they value dependability and durability highly. VW realised that it is easier to turn round a failing enterprise than start from scratch, and they kept the Skoda logo in the redesigned maker's badge. Skoda was a dying organisation but VW injected a vision into the firm for a new reputation, a resurrection from the ashes. Recognizably a Skoda but otherwise quite different.

A popular idea amongst some church members is that we should close small congregation churches and put all our time and effort into those that are large and/or growing. How impoverished would the life of many small villages be if this were to happen! I see many of our small and sometimes larger but failing churches as potential for re-invigoration, and not just drag anchors to the 'successful' churches, but they need to change and see the new vision. Henry Ford once said of his Model T car 'You can have it any colour you like, so long as it is black!' He wouldn't be able to say that and sell cars today and churches that say 'our present services are what we do and what we like, take it or leave it', will find people leave it.

Experimentation with new times, new forms, new music, and new leadership will be needed to find what will suit each local situation. It will be a real challenge for those comfortable with the present, and their loyalty to their Church will be crucial to what happens. Success will not depend on numbers alone but numbers relative to community are a major measure of success.

We need to accept that there will be failures along the way but that resurrection is possible and that the new body may be more glorious than what went before. □

Ashford Notes

Yvonne Skipper writes

There was a lot of support for the meeting on Renewing Ministry held in the War Memorial Institute on 1st March. Rev. Michael Mitton spoke to us about the possible ways forward once the new Mission and Ministry areas have been decided. Split into small groups, we then had the opportunity to discuss the problems and possibilities we could envisage for our own communities.

A useful meeting and good to see so many people caring and concerned enough to come along on what turned out to be a very nasty evening weatherwise.

The first part of our Mothering Sunday service on 6th March was delightfully "taken over" by our young people. They carried it off so well, doing the notices, the readings, singing a lovely anthem and distributing the flowers to all the ladies in church. Very well done to all of them and many thanks to Ian and Gwen Pykett for all the time and effort they gave to make the service so enjoyable.

The choir had a busy time on Sunday, 13th, with the service of the Cross of Christ at Holy Trinity in the morning and the Three-Choirs Evensong in Bakewell Parish Church in the evening. The Cross of Christ was much appreciated by the congregation, with lots of approving comments and we thank Richard Barnes and Chris Potten for all their hard work – and the members of the choir of course!

As we look towards the joyful resurrection of our Lord, we wish you all a very happy Easter. □

Well Dressings

Phyllis Sheldon writes

At a well-attended meeting on Wednesday, March 16th. at Ashford Old School all aspects of the forthcoming well dressings were discussed.

When this parish magazine is issued there will be only about 8 weeks to go before the well dressings go up!

As the festival will be much earlier this year we will have to adjust to different types of flowers and foliage being available, but there should be an abundance of forget-me-nots and yellow allysum for a change.

The sub-committee, Village People, have planned wonderful things for well dressings week, culminating in the Grand Gala on Sunday, May, 29th.

Paul Sadler, of the Ashford Arms Hotel, has become very involved in the life of this community and is now taking responsibility for the Church Street Well, to be known as the Ashford Arms Well. Look out for the new name plaque commissioned by Paul which will soon be in place near the well. The Beavers and Cub Scouts, led by Mrs. Fiona McDonald, will again be dressing the board for that well.

We are looking forward to as many villagers as possible (plus 'outsiders' who are greatly valued) becoming involved in our special week. If you do not feel able to help with the actual well dressing there are lots of other things to be done.

Is there a strong young fellow willing to volunteer to take the ' vicmobile' - the mobile preaching platform, round with the procession on May 22nd? We hope to replace the old' wonky' wheels. How about baking and getting a few extra cakes or buns in the freezer to help the caterers?

And, you will not mind if we raid your garden when the time comes, will you?

If you wish to help and you are not sure who to approach please ring 813005. □

Guide Dogs

We held our AGM on 19th March - a lovely Spring day, not a bit like last year's gale-ridden meeting. 20 people attended, and 5 Guide-dogs, and after the meeting we enjoyed an entertaining talk by Sally Moseley, with her try-it-all dog Alfie. Alfie apparently has had a go at almost every doggy type of work - a sort of canine work experience. We were lucky to come up with three possible extra helpers - and our first event will be 30th April- Bakewell flag-day. A big thank-you to Evelyn and Sheila for seeing to the refreshments and the washing-up - and we hope we got rid of all those black dog-hairs before the Line-dance that evening! (They were gathered up by our hardworking Treasurer and sent to line birds' nests.) □

Ashfold War Memorial Institute

Dorothy Daybell writes

Our AGM was the best-attended for a few years – with four members other than committee and one of our Trustees present – as well as a full committee. Thanks for your support, and to Caryl for being our Treasurer for five years (and David Lee for auditing). Our new Treasurer is Pat Shaw (but Caryl will still take subs. at the Post Office). The committee now boasts three new members, and the new organisation, Village People, is represented.

Our finances are in good shape at the moment, thanks to the Higher Education classes – if they stop, we are back to struggling – remember, we had just £23 in hand three or four years ago! So we are carrying on doing the odd jobs that were needed and saving up for the big ones.

In the meantime, I repeat last month's reminder, that we shall need help with our usual Well-dressing catering! □

FESTIVAL OF SONGS OF PRAISE

23rd April 2005 (St.George's Day)

Churches Together at All Saints' Church, Curbar Hope Valley, Derbyshire

The Purpose

To celebrate the wide variety of outstanding words and music with which to praise our creator.

To increase awareness of that great variety. That regular worshippers may experience other styles. That occasional worshippers and would-be worshippers may identify a style appropriate to their taste. So rich are the choices there is always something to meet every palate and every occasion. We aim to demonstrate that singing God's praise can be inspiring and uplifting for everyone .

The format

The performance will take place between 1.00pm and 6.00pm with a time slot allocated to each presenter with minimal or no gap between each. It is envisaged that time slots will be approximately 30 minutes. People will be able to arrive or leave at any time allowing them to listen to styles of their choice and hopefully overlap to others. Whenever possible we want to involve everyone in the singing.

There will be no entrance fee and any donations will go to charity.

Timetable

Time Slot	Praise Style	Presenter
1.00pm-1.30pm	Children 5-11 years	Beth Eley & Lin Chilcott
1.30pm-2.00pm	Rock	Jon Ashby
2.00pm-2.30pm	Gospel	New Testament Church of God Choir
2.30pm-3.00pm	International	Cliff International Students
3.00pm-3.30pm	Folk	Chris & Andrea Wright
3.30pm-4.00pm	Modern	Cliff Students
4.00pm-4.30pm	Iona & Taize	Chris Senior
4.30pm-5.00pm	Choral	Bakewell Methodists Choir
5.00pm-5.30pm	Traditional requests	Chris Senior on organ
5.30pm-6.00pm	Brass Band	Tideswell Brass Band

View the web-site 'www.festivalofsongsofpraise.org.uk'

Contacts: (01433) Barry Thompson 630373; Lin 631147; Curbar Vicarage 630387

From the Ashford Registers

Baptisms.

17th Oct. 04 Thomas Alexander West
17th Oct. 04 Darcy Coco West

Burials

17th Jan. 05 Samuel Leonard Shaw (91)

From the Sheldon Registers

Baptisms.

7th Nov. 04 Isaac James Slater

Burials

12th March 05 Anthony Gyte (75)

Summary of Ashford-in-the-Water February and March 2005 Parish Council Meetings

1. The Old Bridge, Mill Lane: Reconstruction work has now been completed, but it was generally agreed that the workmanship is unsatisfactory and the bridge has not been restored to its original standard of appearance. The parish council are investigating this.

2. No Parking Signs, Trinity Close: The District Council have been asked to re-instate these at the earliest opportunity.

3. Culverts: Greaves Lane: The County Council has confirmed that the drains and gullies have been jetted clear.

4. Sycamore Tree, Daybells Bank: A quotation of £440.00 had been received from Paul Johnson. It was decided to ask him to carry out the most urgently required work immediately, and to carry out the remainder in the new financial year.

5. Thornbridge Hall: Entertainment Licence: The District Council have confirmed that all objections had been forwarded to the applicant and a reply is still awaited. The case cannot be heard until the applicant replies.

6. Ashford Post Office: Ashford Parish Council has continued to make an annual donation towards maintaining the Post Office facility in Ashford, which is used on a regular basis by Great Longstone, Ashford and Sheldon residents. Sheldon Parish Meeting have also made a generous donation to the Post Office and this is much appreciated. Great Longstone Parish Council have been invited to contribute, but have been unable to do so due to other demands on their precept. It has also been suggested that the War Memorial Institute Committee might be prevailed upon to reduce or even eliminate their rental charges and this item is on the agenda of the Institute AGM.

7. Seat - Hall Orchard: The possibility of erecting a seat around a tree in the Hall

Orchard is still being investigated.

8. Vicarage Lane: The County Council has confirmed that the blocked gullies and culverts have been cleared.

9. Ashford Lane: The parish council had written to the District Council complaining about the fact that trucks churn up the bank on Ashford Lane between Ashford and Monsal Head. The District Council had replied to the effect that they do not have the necessary resources to deal with this problem because of the extent to which it occurs.

10. Composters - Cemetery: It was agreed that 4 Rotal Composters at a cost of £8.00 each should be ordered for the cemetery to replace the wheeled bin.

11. Pennyunk Lane: The Chairman had met with Rebecca Newman of the Peak Park, who had agreed to carry out remedial repair work. She had also agreed to contact the County Council to request that they also effect some repair work. The parish council will also write to the County Council, in particular asking them to fill in the potholes and remove the mud.

12. Grass Cutting Quotations 2005/06: Because of the inflated quotation received from the County Council for grass cutting in 2005/06, the parish council had sought quotations from alternative contractors. Three quotations had been received and, after due consideration, the quotation from Tree Tech for £2,800.00 was selected.

13. Old People's Bungalows, Trinity Close: The parish council are contacting Dales Housing to request details of their criteria for the allocation of these bungalows.

14. Refuse: A letter has been drafted for mailing to occupiers of properties leaving black bags of refuse on the pavement for several days, when these should be left out the evening prior to the refuse collection, i.e. Tuesday evening for refuse collection on Wednesday.

15. Band Concert: Funding has been offered by the District Council towards the cost of a band concert. The date agreed was 29th May at 1.00 p.m. in the Hall Orchard. The parish council will endeavour to arrange Cressbrook, Youlgreave or Bakewell Bands.

16. Planning Matters

a) Application - Thornbridge Hall: Extensions to form swimming pool enclosure and link building to form stores, kennels & office ancillary to estate: The parish council have some reservations about the proposed scale of the extension.

b) Application - Greenfields Farm: Proposed Landscaping, Reed Bed and Pond: The parish council has no objection to this proposal and largely supports it. Some reservations have been expressed concerning the possibility of seepage of effluent into the natural watercourse and some reassurance on that point would be welcome.

c) Application - River Walk, Watts Green: Extension to dwelling to form sun lounge: The parish council has no objection to this application.

d) Application - Anwen Cottage: Conversion of single dwelling back to original design of two dwellings: The parish council has no objection to this application now that the previous issues have been addressed.

e) Decision - Greenfields Farm: Proposed replacement of shed with implement shed and bat roost: Granted subject to conditions.

d) Decision - Greenfields Farm: Alterations and extensions to dwelling: Granted subject to conditions.

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING: The Annual Parish Meeting will be held on Tuesday 12th April 2005 at 7.00 p.m. in Ashford School. All parishioners are invited to attend.

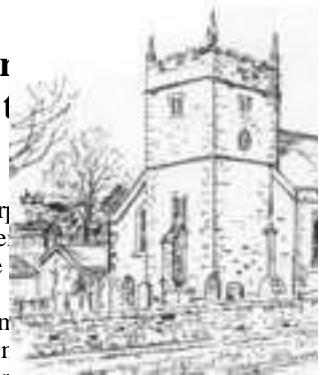
Ashford Bellringer Through to the Final

None was please and sur than me whe scores were nounced. were nine team tering the cor tion and the results

were read in reverse order. When the Ashford bellringing team was not mentioned in the first two or three results my heart began to race. Maybe we were in with a chance. Ridiculus. There was so much good competition. But, we came second and now ourselves and Darley Dale are through to represent the Peak District in the Diocesan final at Horsley.

The competition is an annual event where teams ring for about ten minutes and are judged for smoothness of ringing. There are two competitions held together. One for method ringing, called the Horsley Cup, and one for 'call changes'. We entered for the Arthur Ashby Cup which means we had to ring 240 changes (240 pulls of the bell for each member of the team) striking rounds and call changes. Our team was John Thorpe, Samantha Fearn, James Fearn, myself, (Linda Pelc) Ian Sterrit and Clive Thower. The competition was held in Edensor church, where the bells are considerably heavier than ours. We were particularly proud of Samantha and James who have only been learning for a couple of years but handled the strange bells calmly and didn't go wrong once.

It was an idyllic day. There was necessarily a lot of waiting while other teams rang, but outside the church where we were, the sun shone, the daffodils in bloom, the sheep grazing, a warm breeze, friends meeting and comparing notes, and in the background, the music of bells struck at their very best. □



Bash Films

Sunday 10 April 2005

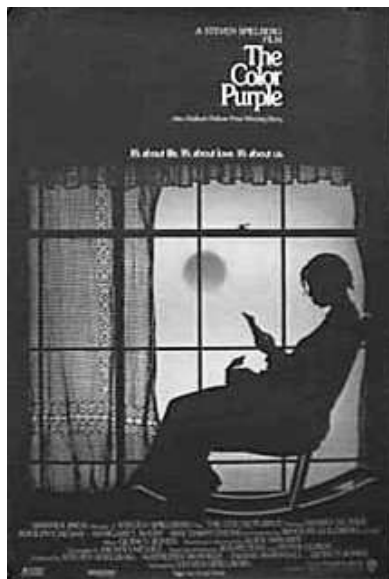
Bakewell Town Hall

7:30 pm

The Color Purple (1985)

Our next film society production will be *The Color Purple* and will be screened at Bakewell Town Hall. The film is Steven Spielberg's masterful adaptation of Alice Walker's Pulitzer Prize-winning novel. It stars Whoopi Goldberg, in her impressive screen debut, as Celie, a sharecropper's daughter living in rural Georgia. The film opens in 1909 when Celie is a young girl, a victim of incest, pregnant with her father's child. Ugly and unloved, separated from her children and her sister, Celie's only option is marriage to an abusive, philandering husband (Danny Glover) who treats her little better than a slave. Her life changes forever when her husband brings his mistress, a beautiful blues singer named Shug (Margaret Avery), into the house. *THE COLOR PURPLE* was also the film debut for Oprah Winfrey, who beautifully plays Celie's sister-in-law, Sofia.

The Color Purple was nominated for 11 Academy Awards (including one each for Goldberg, Avery, and Winfrey) but surprisingly won no Oscars, and although the film was nominated for a Best Picture award, Spielberg was snubbed by the academy and was not nominated for Best Director.



Parish Office

Revd Clive Thrower writes

After Easter, Yvonne Skipper has decided to stand down from being the Benefice Administrator and will be replaced till the end of the year by Linda Pelc. Yvonne has given marvelous service over several years to the parishes and supported me with both parish and other duties. She will retain her role as secretary to Ashford PCC and continues with writing the Ashford Notes. Linda will be in the Benefice Office in the grounds of Longstone Vicarage on Monday and Friday afternoons should people want to contact her or get photocopying done.

Len Shaw.

Mrs. Shaw and family would like to thank all concerned for their kind messages and cards following their recent bereavement. Donations in Len's memory amounted to £644 which has been passed to Baslow surgery.

Magazine Contributions

Copy deadline for the May issue is Wed. 20 Apr. Disk or clean typed by Mon. 25 Apr.

Editor: e-mail to clive@thrower.org.uk or post to The Vicarage, Church Lane, Gt. Longstone, Bakewell DE45 1TB.