

News And Views



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Earl Sterndale Village Green and Carnivals

In the days of William the Conqueror, the land was given to Henry de Ferrers, Earl of Derby who established the present village of Earl Sterndale. Since 1614, The Duke of Devonshire has been Lord of the Manor and owned the green. This was then purchased By Peak District National Park, to hold in trust for the village. They did attempt to sell it a few years ago. The parish council offered to purchase and bid for it, but the sale was withdrawn without explanation, so it remains with the Peak Park.

When speaking with members of the village community the most vibrant memories are those related to the “Carnival”. These were initiated by the village WI in 1961; some remarkable women created an event which involved every age group. The green would be decorated with bunting and large crowds would gather. The exact dates of many of the memories and photographs are not clear, but the video link here has provided some amazing pictures and a real sense of what the celebrations involved. <https://youtu.be/2n2e5tF5M7A>



Central to the event – held at the end of June (being moved from September as that date clashed with so many other local events), was the Carnival Queen.



The first Queen was Julia Broady. She would be taken from one end of the village to the other on a float (decorated trailer drawn by a tractor), with her retinue. In the video you can see her being crowned by Mrs Frith from Chelmorton. The crown was papier-mâché sprayed gold and the cape an old curtain, the carnival queen, we think Wendy Jenkins, the next year had a smart tiara and a posh frock. The event raised a magnificent total £100

A marquee was erected on the “rec”, the field opposite the school. It was here that many stalls, tombola, flower arranging and cake and produce competition were held. In 1965 Mary Wheeldon remembers winning best cake- with her Victoria Sponge. There was also a dog show, a glamorous grandmother competition proudly won by Rebecca Melland in 1976- seen here with the carnival queen Sharon Goodwin.

There would be children’s races, including a challenging obstacle race - again see the video. Not to be out done men and women would also compete with enthusiasm. Fancy Dress competitions were not restricted to the children, a reference to the historic astronauts and moon landing of the late 60’s were represented sitting on the village green wall. There was a “Best dressed House”, Best Dressed

Pram, Best Dressed Bicycle, and much more. Judges would be identified from the local area and included the Mayoress of Buxton and wife of the local Vet -Shirley Hollands.

Refreshments – prepared by the ladies of the WI were available from the Church and on the green, a BBQ was held on the “rec”. Hollingsclough Band would provide the music during the day and Florie Wain with her band would perform a concert in the school – the most renowned being “Blue and White Dollies”. A dance in the evening with local groups such as “Twice Around” and the “Big Liyx” would perform on an articulated lorry with the curtain pulled back.

As the event grew in size a carnival committee took over the organisation from the WI. The funds raised by the event were used to

support Christmas parties for the village children with Father Christmas and presents. On one occasion there was a sponsored walk from Dowell Hall Farm.

In the 1990’s the crowning of the queen was done by the Rev’d Derek Gibling. This photograph shows this happening in 1992.



The green is no longer the focus of village events, the tree at the top end with a seat around the trunk is where some of the many visiting walkers sit to eat their “butties”. There is also a stone memorial placed there in

1977 for the Queens Jubilee. When the Parish Council met in September, the main item on the agenda was the trees on the green affected by ash die- back which will have to be felled. It is hoped replacements will be found to commemorate the Queen's platinum jubilee.

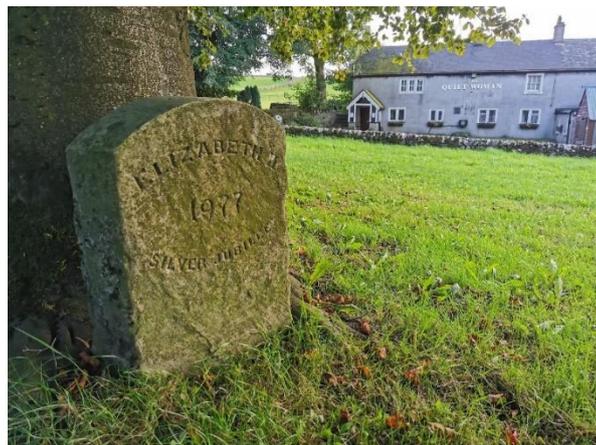
So many people have contributed to this article, a special mention of Mrs Mary Wheldon, Julia and Mark Broady, Jessie Etch and Linda Mycock. When talking with Pauline (Mary’s daughter) we recalled many memories of the Village Youth Clubs, Biggin, Earl Sterndale, Hartington, Sheen which were the focus of young people lives in the 50’s and 60’s- we feel sure a front-page item would prove of interest- perhaps we can “resurrect” a table tennis challenge match?

Vicars Letter- It is my turn to write the 'Vicars letter,' and that is something that I always enjoy doing, and it certainly always gets me thinking. Harvest Festivals are mostly done and some generous gifts given and shared with those in need. All Saints and All Soulside services are in the planning, and Remembrance Sunday services will be observed throughout our benefice. As I write my thoughts have turned to what comes after all of the above, I am thinking of course of Advent. This was probably brought neatly to mind by one of my sons returning large plastic boxes to me, along with the comment, ' I know you will be needing these again soon, when do you plan to be making the Christmas cakes and puddings?' Subtle! 'Stir up Sunday, same as usual,' I replied. (Nov 28th, if you are wondering!) ' Plenty of time for you to prepare and get things ready then,' said this son, with a grin. Happy that he had 'helped' by producing said boxes, before his siblings, so first in the cake and pudding queue this year.

A profit of £100, to be shared between the children’s party at Christmas, the old folk’s outing in the spring, and their own funds, was realised at Earl Sterndale Women’s Institute Autumn Fayre on Saturday, opened by Buxton’s Mayoress, Mrs. P. Morris.

The Mayoress was introduced by Institute President Mrs. K. Nadin. The “fayre” took place in a marquee on the recreation ground. Opening the “fayre,” Mrs. Morris said that in so doing she would like to express thanks to members of the committee responsible for its organisation and planning. “Such fairs as this are not staged without a great deal of hard work and very often by a few people,” she said. Pointing out that the event had been her first official booking prior to her becoming Mayoress.

Mrs. Morris added: “I would like to compliment and thank all the people who have worked so hard to produce such a wonderful show of goods today. I am sure you all wish to get busy and make plenty of money towards your children’s party and for the over 65’s outing.”



To me Advent is not just about baking (try telling my children that!) but it is preparing myself for that journey alongside Mother Mary and the un-born Christ child, towards the smelly, straw trampled stable in Bethlehem and the birth of the Holy babe. A time of joyful expectation, and hope, and after the dark times so many have been, and continue to be going through, hope by the bucketful for better times ahead, for all people. It is a busy time externally, but inside, I try to be quiet and reflective. I have a 'quietening ' exercise that I do in Advent preparation when I go out walking, which I do every day with Quizzie, my dog. I start by looking at the beautiful landscape and when I have gazed my fill we set off, I then mentally picture a stout staff which I pick up, noticing in my head how beautifully made it is, how smooth the wood feels, a little further on I picture a gentle, warm light, this is coming from a lantern left at the roadside, I know it has been left for me, I pick it up and sometime later, I picture a bundle, carefully folded, also by the roadside, it is a cloak, beautifully warm and light, I place it around my shoulders, it feels soft and I wrap it closely around my body, I am ready, Advent (not oven) ready. If life gets too busy, you could try it too, with or without a dog! Pour down, O heavens, from above, and let the skies rain down righteousness. Let the earth be fruitful and bring forth a Saviour. (Advent Prose)

May the light of the world, reach into every home, bringing hope and joy by the bucketful this Advent and the Christmas that is yet to come. Sarah.

Important Notice from Hartington Surgery- The last 18 months have been the most testing time in history for our NHS. In order to manage risk and ensure patient, and staff, safety it was necessary to explore different ways of working. The Surgery has been operating a system where patients were initially offered a telephone, or video, consultation. If it was necessary for them to be examined by a Clinician, they were then booked in for a 'face to face' appointment at the Surgery. Nursing appointments have continued 'face to face' at all times. The Surgery was able to greet pre-booked patients at the door and complete a brief covid screen before they entered. The Dispensary has, successfully, devised a new, safe, more streamline and efficient, prescription collection system from the external sliding window and covered hatch. All these important, precautionary, measures have ensured that the Surgery has remained fully operational throughout the pandemic. The time has come to look to the future and consider a more flexible appointment booking system and open front door. With effect from **Monday 4th October**, the front door will be open for pre-booked Surgery patients and enquiries. If you require an appointment, from this date, you will be asked if it can be managed over the phone within a telephone consultation. If this is the case, you can still have a telephone consultation and will not have to travel to the Surgery. If you do not think that your appointment can easily be managed over the telephone, then the Receptionist will be able to arrange a 'face to face' appointment at the Surgery. You will be asked some details regarding your visit in order that you can be booked with the most appropriate person and within the most suitable timescale. You will be asked to confirm that you do not have a new persistent cough, a loss of taste or smell or a fever/high temperature. If you do have any of these symptoms, or any other respiratory symptoms, which could potentially be Covid-19, you will, initially, be offered a telephone appointment and appropriate follow up will be re-arranged. If you do develop any of these symptoms before your 'face to face' appointment you must inform the Surgery and arrange a PCR Covid test online or by calling 119. When visiting the Surgery, please wear a face covering. Please do not arrive early for your appointment. If you do, please wait in your car, or outside, until your appointment time. Please do not bring anyone with you, unless you require a Carer, or Chaperone. Please sanitise your hands immediately upon arrival.

There will be limited seating inside the waiting room. If the waiting room is full, please wait outside until a seat becomes vacant. There will be a sanitising station with hand sanitiser and wipes to wipe down your chair if you wish. Please remember that you can also use the secure, electronic communication service 24/7, E-Consult, which can be accessed directly from the website www.hartingtonsurgery.co.uk.

Prescription collections, and Dispensary enquiries, will continue to operate from their new external window collection point and the internal Dispensary hatch will be closed. If you are booked in for a flu, or Covid vaccination, please continue to wait outside until you are called for your appointment to avoid, unnecessary, congestion in the waiting room. The Surgery would like to thank patients for their continued understanding and support during these difficult times and gives assurance that patient care is at the forefront of all planning and services.

Hartington Surgery Patients Group meeting/AGM on Monday 22nd November at 7.30pm. It is 2 years since the last meeting, it will be good to catch up with everyone again. The meeting is open to all registered patients and new members are welcome. Further information is available from the Practice Manager.

PLEASE CAN YOU HELP -TRUSTEES NEEDED - GREENAWAY WORKSHOP is a small charity based in Matlock, Derbyshire helping adults with long term health conditions. We offer a high quality furniture restoration service in cane, rush and sea grass as well as a graphic design and

printing facility, all at highly competitive rates. The workshop is the fulfilment of an idea of the Vocational Service Committee of the Rotary Club of Matlock whose chairman John Jillings was also Director of Derbyshire County Council Social Services. Although other areas had sheltered workshops, there was nothing similar in the Matlock/Darley Dale area, despite an obvious need. The aim of the workshop was to provide therapeutic occupation for up to 20 people with a disability, living in the West Derbyshire area for people with physical or mental disability who are unable to return to full employment.

This charity print News and Views They are very reliable and professional at competitive rates – if you have any printing needs please support them where you can

For our trustees team we would be particularly interested in hearing from people with administration, IT, financial, operations or adult social care experience. The trustees are currently meeting every few weeks by Zoom. Please email us in the first instance: greenawayworkshop.org.uk. Rachael, our Workshop Manager will respond to you.



Hartington and Biggin Scout Group News Update

In September we ran 4 taster sessions led by surrounding scout leaders to find out the interest in re-starting the scout group. The great news is that there is enough interest to start it up. We have four leaders (but always more would be better) and about 25 children interested spread out across Beavers, Cubs and Scouts. The meetings will be on Thursday evenings in school term, at Hartington Village Hall with Beavers starting at 6pm, Cubs 6.30pm and Scouts 7pm. Any children interested in attending, please come along or email for more details.

It would be great to still have some help on the executive committee - members contribute to the running of the Group (not the weekly meetings) and meet a few times a year. If you are interested please contact Sue Blakeman dc@derwentanddovescouts.org.uk

Tales of the Fields

Autumn is my favourite season I love the changing colours of the trees, I love the crisp chilly mornings and I have an extensive collection of oversized but deliciously warm jumpers that I'll be found hiding inside for the foreseeable future.

My chickens on the other hand take a completely different attitude to winter. Every year as soon as the weather turns chilly, they decide to throw out their warmest feathers and sport a bald patch. In my hen "Pluto's" case, this seasons molt involves a completely naked neck devoid of any feathers at all making her comb & 3 head feathers look like a fancy wedding fascinator hat! As we all know, Derbyshire winters can be long and very cold, making this yearly chicken moult a worrying time for free range chicken keepers like me who feel chickens should have access to outside every day regardless of weather and feather situation. So to cut a very long story short, Pluto has acquired a knitted jumper to keep her from freezing to death. She views this jumper as the worst kind of fashion faux pas and refuses to leave the coop for fear of being ridiculed by the more attractive hens like Mrs Haversham, who incidentally has chosen to part with just a handful of feathers this year. But who knows what my hens are thinking? Maybe Pluto likes sitting on a perch gazing out of the window and is actually enjoying having time to herself in her snuggly blue jumper with a silver trim.

So whether you're a Mrs Haversham and are enjoying the chilly weather outside or a Pluto – staying inside snuggled in a favourite jumper. Take time to enjoy the beautiful changing seasons and feel thankful for the beauty of the world around us. After all, for many the view from their window isn't quite as good Pluto's or yours.

Childrens corner- This month we have two lovely book reviews sent in to share.

Unicorn academy I personally love this book series because it is full of adventure and in every book there is someone new starting the academy with their horse.

In one of the books, which is called Sophia and Rainbow, Sophia had a unicorn but she had to leave her unicorn at home and get another one. Rainbow is the new unicorn. Sophia felt like her heart was breaking at first, but then, when she got to know Rainbow she was happy. Sophia and Rainbow have lots of fun together. You will have to read the book to find out more. by Isla.

The Girl who Speaks Bear- Yanca is an exceptionally strong girl who belongs to a village at the edge of a wood, but Yanca's story really lies deep in the forest. One day, something triggers Yanca's history that leads her to;

Bears, Wolves, a house with chicken legs, a fire dragon but most important of all, an unbreakable friendship. I would truly recommend this amazing story. To find out more read the book! By Sophia

Look out for a children's quiz and some great winter activities in the next issue! Co-Editor. Millie Jane Baldwin

Dementia poems- You may remember the four wonderful poems written by the children and performed to the community last July. This was part of the Archbishop of York Youth Trust – Young leaders Award. A total of £360 was raised for the Alzheimer's Society. Thank you to everyone involved.

Hartington News

St Giles Services

Sun Nov 7th 10.00am Family Service and Baptism
Sunday November 14th 10.15am Remembrance Service (Please be seated by 10.00am)
Sun Nov 21st 10am Christ the King-Holy Commun'n
Sunday November 28th 10.00am 1st of Advent - Family Service and Baptism
Sun Dec 5th 10.00am 2nd of Advent-Morning Praise
Sun Dec 12th 10am 3rd of Advent-Holy Communion
Sunday December 19th 6.30pm 4th of Advent-Lessons and Carols by Candlelight
Friday December 24th 4.00pm - Crib Service.
Fri Dec 24th 11.30pm Christmas Eve Midnight Mass
Saturday December 25th 09.30am - Christmas Celebration -Family Service.

Harvest Festival. Glowing with colour and beautifully dressed, not me, but our church of St Giles! It looked very lovely, and I am most grateful to all the people who came and helped make it so, thank you to everyone. I am delighted so many people came to join us for worship and be part of our Harvest celebration too. We had hymns, thank you Philip for playing the organ, and singing (Hurrah!) flowers, berries, plenty of fabulous foliage, pictures, some fruit and veg, eggs, wheat and two rats, (made out of a pair of grey socks!) and lots of generous gifts of tins of food and other items to donate to the Ashbourne Food Bank where they will be distributed to those most in need, thank you so much. It was a very enjoyable service, led by the Rural Chaplain, Rev'd Alan Griggs and helped along by some of our village children joining in, thank you to them too; just how a village Harvest Festival should be, but sadly we could not all enjoy the traditional 'Pie 'n Pea' supper afterwards, maybe next year, when hopefully, socialising will be more normal, God willing. Sarah.

Wells Dressing-Donations amount £210, plus he wishing bucket raised a further £33.60.

Hartington Sings We're looking forward to seeing lots of old and new faces at Hartington Sings in November and December. If you miss the first one, don't worry, just turn up when you can, no experience required! We will meet in the **village hall** at the same time, 5pm to 6pm, each **Wednesday from 3rd November to 15th December**, for a fun community sing. Absolutely everyone is welcome, you don't have to live in Hartington and we accept all ages from 3 to

100 (school age need to bring a parent/carer). We ask for a small contribution to cover costs. We hope to sing around the village on Friday 17th December and in the church on Sunday 19th December. Please contact me with any queries. Liz Hitch 687148 liz.hitch@btinternet.com.

Hartington Village Hall Update: On 12th October we held our AGM, the key points being:

Finances – we paid £44.8K for the new roof in September 2020. Grant income of £25.4K relating to this had fallen in the 2019/20 year, so our finances for 2020/21 look serious on first look. Hire income in 2020/21 was only £2340 (2019/20 £4489 and 2018/9 £8,315) vividly showing the financial impact of the pandemic. Expenditure was £51,660, with routine costs being £6880, down from £7994 in 2019/20. Fund raising in 2019/20 was £25,393, and amounted to £37,231 in 2020/21. At our year end on 31/08/2021 we held £30,870 in our accounts; the majority being designated for our replacement of the heating system in November. The external audit report for 2019/20 found no issues and we are grateful to our Treasurer, Kate Craven, for her work in this area. Overall, we estimate that the pandemic has cost us c£11,000 in lost income, the impact being more than addressed by successful receipt of business interruption grants.

The new heating system should be installed by mid-November. A big thank you to Kath Williamson, Carl Webster and Richard Sherratt for their help in moving our new oil storage tank The next major priority will be refurbishment of the kitchen area, though we intend to also address a number of routine maintenance issues in 2022. We plan to consult our regular user groups as to what they would wish to see in a refurbished kitchen.

The papers relating to the AGM can be viewed at www.hartingtonvillagehall.co.uk/elementor-545/.

We hope to establish new Art and Craft activities and an evening Keep Fit class in the future. Our calendar can be seen at www.hartingtonvillagehall.co.uk/calendar

Hartington Village Hall Lottery:

We have 108 subscriptions to our new 2021/2022 lottery with prize monies of £1800 available. The income from the lottery will act as seed monies to fund the kitchen refurbishment. Our September and October prizes were drawn on 13th October by Kieran

Bayliffe-Beirne, new landlord at 'The Devonshire Arms'. The winners were Alice Manifold (49), now residing in Matlock but brought up at 'The Devonshire Arms', and Lucy Abbott of Minton House, Hartington. Our next draws are on 10th November and the bumper prize of £500 will be drawn on 8th December.

Hartington C of E Primary School- The school hit the ground running, at the start of the autumn term, with the traditional task of dressing the School Well. This year the theme was 'From Small Seeds Grow ...' Thanks to Mrs Annat for the initial design, Mrs Parsons and Mrs Oliver for their support in completing the Well and to those member of the community who donated flowers. A total of £41 was raised for the school. Thank you to everyone who donated. After more than two years since the children attended swimming lessons we were pleased to be attending The Arc at Matlock for our weekly sessions. The children will have 10 hourly sessions, over two terms.

We are pleased to welcome an IT specialist onto the team who will be delivering dedicated IT sessions once a week alongside the schools teaching staff. We were very lucky to secure Mrs McNulty's expertise within this subject which is delivered via a rolling programme with PE. The children call her Mrs Mac and look forward to her visits. Years 1/2, 3/4 & 5/6 pupils undertook a cross country event with pupils from the local cluster at Parwich. This involved them running along a pre-determined track of 800 metres, ¾ mile and 1 mile. The children all enjoyed the experience, although some of the older children found the distance challenging! We are pleased to announce that the school now has its own orienteering course with an additional course located in the Youth Hostel grounds. This will provide many opportunities for cross curricular links to take place whilst the children remain active and challenged. Training was delivered by Jim Jenkinson from the local authority as part of the Orienteering package.

As yet again we were unable to open our doors to the Community for the Macmillan Coffee morning on Friday 24th September, the school organised a takeaway cake bake. This involved parents, governors and community members placing orders for cakes, which were kindly baked by Mrs Stubbs our catering officer. The event raised a total of £300 for the charity. MAST is back visiting the school and delivered a service 'The Parable of the Sower' this supported our teaching of the Harvest and the children's own worship. The children held their own service in school on Monday 4th October. This has been videoed and will be displayed on the school web site for parents to view. The traditional Harvest display was created in the children's corner of St Giles Church in readiness for the Harvest Service. The

village community, along with the children and parents have donated items for the Ashbourne Foodbank. These were handed over by some of the children on October 11th at St Elin Church. On Friday 22nd October the whole school will be visiting Lea Green for a day of fun and challenging activities, before breaking up for half term. Autumn term 2 will see the countdown to Christmas and all the subsequent activities the school usually takes part in.

Parent and child Sessions. On the 10th September a new group was launched for local children and their parents. The new Friday Playtime group is space for some unstructured play or craft for the children and a chance for a cuppa and a catch-up for the parents or carers. The group runs from 3.30pm, after the school closes for the weekend, until 5pm every Friday. The first three weeks have proved very popular, with families already attending Hartington Primary and prospective families both enjoying each session. If you would like any further information please text on 07753400688.

Wildflowers in Hartington- As we move into the Autumn months, the volunteers involved in the Wildflower project met on the 4th of October at the Village Hall to review our progress this year, and to agree on our areas of focus going forward.

Objectives of this initiative which are to:

- Address the challenges of sustainability, care of the environment and natural world,
- Provide a means to promote physical and mental health and well-being,
- Encourage community collaboration.

With this being our first year we knew we would learn a great deal from the five selected areas (The School, Churchyard, Bankside, Parson's Field Public Car Park and Stonewell Lane) - each area had a specific preparation and planting approach that allowed us to evaluate what works best in our local environment. What has been really encouraging is to see the number of wildflowers that have been growing in these areas, and across the wider village as well.

Counts in each of the areas during the summer months identified many different wildflowers including Cranesbill, Foxglove, Oxeye Daisy, Herb Robert, Devils Paintbrush, Harebell, False Baby's Breath and Hawkbit - many with beautiful flowers as well as interesting names! Not forgetting less glamorous but equally important plants such as Cow parsley, Plantain, Buttercups and Dandelions.

What has also been very positive this year has been the involvement from across the community - including the school who have been active and visible supporters of the wildflower initiative, and members of the village community in helping to prepare and maintain these areas. We've also had a lot of engagement and interest from many of you who

already have areas in gardens for wildflowers or would like to do more – something we want to build upon next year.

With the lessons learnt from this year, we agreed our areas of focus for next year, which are:

- Maintain and develop our existing 5 areas, plus the addition of a new area adjacent to the Farm Shop – thank you to all involved in supporting these areas for your help. Other community areas will certainly be considered should volunteers be willing to lead in developing those areas.
- Support the development of opportunities for the community to create wildflower/wildlife habitats in their own gardens/land. This is an initiative we will be working closely with the school on.

Again, in partnership with the school, develop a village wildflower trail, allowing residents and visitors alike to explore and see the range of wildflowers at first hand,

Work with Parish Council and Hartington Community Group to replace existing planters and develop “bee friendly- pollinators” plants in new containers.

If any of these areas of focus are of interest to you or if you'd like to find out more, please send an email to wildflowers@hartingtonvillage.com we be delighted to hear from you!

Christmas events This year the Hartington Advent Windows, which has run throughout December 2019 and 2020, will be replaced with Windows of Christmas Wishes; an initiative to get the whole village involved in decorating and lighting up a window on the theme of wishes for the world. Look out for more details during November but start planning your wish for the world and your window display. Hoping everyone will join in!

Biggin News

St Thomas's Church

Many thanks to everyone who made St Thomas's Harvest festival a success this year. This was the church's first festival service. By the time this information is published we will have also held our first community service on 31 October - the All Souls' Service. We hope that this will be an annual event. Our services for the rest of this year are as follows:

Remembrance Sunday – Sunday 14th

November - 2.00pm

Christingle Service – Monday 6th December - 9.15am

Biggin School Nativity Procession – 17th December – time tbc

During December we hope to be able to support the Ashbourne Foodbank with a dedicated "12 Days of Christmas Giving", starting on December 1st. More details of the items requested and how and when to donate will be provided during November.

Christmas Wishes for the World St Giles Churchyard 'Walk of Words'

Can you help? We are refreshing the 'Walk of Words' around St Giles churchyard in time for Advent starting on Sunday 28th November. There will be 10 boards of **Christmas Wishes for the World** each with beautiful artwork completed by people from the village, including the school. We need volunteers to complete the Christmas artwork so please get in touch with us urgently if you haven't yet done so. Thank you. Lucy Annat 84625 or Liz Hitch 687148

Informal Flora are holding a fun Christmas Wreath and Festive table decoration workshop Saturday December 4th - 10.00- 3.00pm, in Hartington Village Hall. Cost -£27.50p. per person, this includes light refreshments, a Christmas 20 question quiz, set by the two Christmas floral elves, with a prize for the winner! All floral/greenery materials for the class will be provided, please remember to bring your secateurs, aprons etc. Pre-booking required, contact Linda on mob 07757844977, Sarah on 01298 84319. Please let us know as soon as possible. Look forward to seeing you

Welcome to Kieran and Dallas at the Devonshire Arms- a lovely opening evening was held attended by many. As with the Charles Cotton, Waterloo and Biggin Hall- all regular sponsors of News and Views, we will be focusing on the "Dev" both past and present on the front page of the next edition.

Candlelit Carol Service – Sunday 19th

December 6.30pm

Christmas Day Communion Service – 10.30am

If you have an idea for a community service or messy church (children's church) event and/or would like to help please talk to Julia or a member of the PCC. We can be contacted at stthomasbiggin@gmail.com and by our Facebook page. We are also looking for people willing to help with refreshments at the end of festival services.

We have already started planning next year's festival services which will include a Candlemas service at the beginning of February. If you have any plant pots that you are willing to donate for us to plant snowdrops and crocus so that we can use them to decorate the church for the service we would be very grateful for them.

We continue to welcome knitted and crocheted flowers for the jubilee flower tower. There are some patterns and wool at the back of the church. There are also a small selection of craft books at the back of the church for anyone looking for a new project. Please put any donations in the box in the wall by the door.

The food bank box is back at the back. We are working with Biggin School at a time when use of food banks has increased by 600 thousand across the UK since last year as families have found themselves in unexpected difficulties. Food banks provide a minimum of 3 days' emergency food and support to people experiencing crisis. To receive a food parcel, residents need to be referred to a food bank from children's centres, GPs, schools and a range of other advice agencies.

Churchyard plan. We continue to make progress in the churchyard. Biggin School came to look at the lichens in the churchyard and a member of the Lichen Society undertook a survey to add to our understanding of the ecosystem in God's Acre. A small team of volunteers have started recording the headstones. More sessions are planned. The wild daffodil bulbs have arrived. We now have the funds to maintain the trees in the churchyard which is a matter of urgency. It has been a long time since they were professionally pruned. The work may take up to a week. Larger bird boxes, bat boxes and an owl box will be installed at the same time. Temporary coverings are going to be placed over the rusted grates in the church walls to prevent unwelcome visitors from making themselves at home. These will be replaced in due course with new grates.

Do you play the organ? We are building a list of people willing to play the organ for us - please let us know if you're interested.

Hartington Nether Quarter Parish Council. Plans are in hand to organise a 'litter pick' around Biggin. If you would like to help with this, please contact Pete Tapping or Parish Clerk, Sandra Hampson via the website [Hartington Nether Quarter Parish Council \(hartingtonnetherquarterpc.co.uk\)](http://hartingtonnetherquarterpc.co.uk)

The annual Remembrance service will take place at St Thomas's Church on 14th November at 2pm, followed by wreath laying at the Memorial and refreshments in Biggin Village Hall. A road closure will be in place from 2pm to 3pm on the junction of Main Street and Drury Lane. Prior to this service, it is hoped that the Memorial will have had the lettering re-gilded to ensure names of those who gave their life in the war can still be remembered.

Recurrent 'fly tipping' is becoming an issue in the area. If you see anyone 'fly tipping', please be vigilant

and make sure that you report this to the local authority.

Biggin Village Hall. If you can help out, the hall's small cleaning team are looking for another member to help them with occasional cleaning. Phone Pete Tapping on 01298 678400 for more information.

The hall is now regularly being used by the school for PE twice a week and a home-schooling group once a fortnight. And Bingo on Thursday evenings! A number of other private events are in the calendar for the next two months. By the time News and Views is published, we should have a new electrical distribution board as the old one would not pass a recent 5-year check.

Invitations for the **Senior Citizens' Christmas party on 8th December** will be sent out in November. If you are, or know of, a resident of Hartington Nether Quarter Parish that has attained pensionable age and is not already invited to this event, please get in touch with anyone from the hall committee. We are also planning to have a **children's' Christmas party on Saturday 11th December**, with entertainment, more details and invitations later.

BINGO on Thursdays at 7:30 is now up and running as usual. Old friends and new all welcome for number matching fun. For hall bookings please contact Kathy on 07875 038903 and for news updates keep an eye on the Biggin Community and Biggin Village Hall Facebook pages.

Dates of village events in the hall

November 3rd Village Hall Committee meeting – come along and tell us what you want, 14th Teas after Remembrance service, 27th Friends of Biggin School gift night

December 8th Senior Citizens' Party, 11th Children's Party, 12th Silver Band Christmas Concert

Biggin C of E Primary School How lovely it has been this term to get back to some of the things we enjoy doing at school most of all! Despite all the challenges last year, everyone has bounced back into school this September raring to go!

It's been amazing to get back to competitive sport with other schools again. Both Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 took part in Cross Country running events at Parwich. This was the first joint event with other local primary school children since February 2020. Everyone thoroughly enjoyed it and our runners did very well despite some stiff competition! We are in training for future events doing the Daily Mile each day in school and we're working on our stamina for longer distances. Next half term we hope to join the football events, too.

At the end of September, we joined a representative from the British Lichen Society for a field study in the churchyard at St Thomas' Parish Church. It was great to learn so much about the different types of lichen; crusty, bushy and leafy, from the expert. We had no idea there were so many varieties present in the churchyard and even confirmed there were a few more types living there since the last survey was completed. We learned how to use the special hand lenses and used our science skills to observe and categorise the lichens we found. We are now planning to continue the lichen study with a number of activities throughout the year to help complete an ecological survey for the church.

Finally, our gorgeous Year 6 children went to White Hall, an outdoor adventure centre near the Goyt Valley in Buxton. This is such an important event of our oldest children each year, giving them an opportunity to improve team-working and communication skills and develop their self-confidence and resilience right at the start of the year. It's also a huge amount of fun and very tiring! The children enjoyed lots of activities including the ropes course and zip wire, canoeing and rock scrambling as well as den building and night time games. Everyone made lots of new friends from Kniveton, Hartington and Parwich schools and are now ready for their next challenge!

Last Friday we joined some of the congregation at St Thomas' Parish Church so our traditional school Harvest Festival. Again, it has been a very long time since we have all been able to worship together. The children decorated a window in church and created display boards of their artwork, including pointillist

pumpkins and still life bread rolls, which looked stunning. The atmosphere in the festival church was warm, friendly and welcoming and we were very proud that every one of the children was able to contribute in some way, to the service. Reception and Year 1 said a short prayer and Year 3 and 4 created their own Harvest prayer in the form of an acrostic poem. Year 5 and 6 shared the readings and further poems written in school. The singing was enjoyed by all. Here are some of the reflections of the children after the service:

"It reminds me of the last time we were in Church. It is an important year. Julia is our Church governor. She is a kind woman." Jacob

"I am happy because the food in the basket is going to the food bank so it will go to people who don't have enough food. I am so happy I got to read something and I read it so well." Elsie

"I think it's nice that everyone comes together to celebrate the Harvest, and everyone takes part, is doing a reading, just watching or brings a basket. I hope the food doesn't go to waste and that at one point in time everyone gets food and is not hungry". Amy

"I was feeling nervous reading my poem in Church. I like to give food to people who need it more than us. I am so happy to help people and the community. It is nice to be all together again." Alivia

Waterloo Inn. 20th November - Dawn Fury the New Year Party - Mel Christi

Earl Sterndale News

Our village has been beautiful, this summer. The village greens, churchyard, village pond, and recreation ground, have been given some very caring attention, (It means a lot to everybody). Our children are so lucky, to have a safe recreation ground, where they can play football and enjoy school sports and playtime activities.

Church Flower Festival A "Big Thank you" to everyone who supported our Flower Festival. It was lovely to see so many people enjoying the displays, the fun of games, and tea and cake. Our churchyard looked very smart for the occasion, so we say thank you to the churchyard team, the people who made flower displays, the cakemakers the tea makers and the games stewards. Together we made £2150. 00
Bingo We will soon be having our 5th Bingo this year on Monday 25th October. The bingo evenings have been very well attended and are proving to be enjoyable social evenings. Thank you to our two bingo callers.

Harvest Festival We started Harvest Festival Celebrations, on our Social Saturday, with a homemade afternoon teas (delicious). We sold out, so thank you everyone for supporting this event. Special thanks to the sandwich makers, tea makers and bakers. Our Harvest Festival Service took place on the Sunday evening, a lovely service, where children from our village were included. Thank you, Sarah Lacey. We are looking forward to joining our school children, for their harvest festival in the coming week and then ending the week with a harvest sale on the Friday.

Christmas Fair A Christmas Fair is to be held in church on, Saturday November 27th- 11am till 3pm, stalls are booking up, so if you would like one, please contact Angela on 01298 83447 or Jayne 07891429231

Sewing Group Our sewing group has restarted and takes place in Earl Sterndale Chapel ,every Thursday 10.30am till 12.30. A lovely friendly group and all are welcome.

Events

PCC Meeting Wed 10th November in church 7pm.
Remembrance Sunday, (Chapel and Church).
Meeting at the War Memorial in Churchyard at 10.45am followed by a small service in Chapel Church Social Saturday 20th Nov -10am till 12.00.

Bingo-Church - Monday 22nd of November 7.30pm
Church Christmas Fair, Saturday November 27th - 11am till 3pm
Church Carol Service Sun 12th December at 4.30pm
Bingo, Church, Monday 13th at 7.30pm
School, Carol Services, Fri 17th Dec, 2pm and 6pm.

Parish Council - They met in September when the main item on the agenda concerned the trees on the green affected by ash die- back, which will have to be felled. It is hoped replacements will be found to commemorate the Queen's platinum jubilee. Next meeting is on Monday 6th December in the Methodist chapel at 19.30.

Earl Sterndale CE Primary School We have our Autumn Fair coming up which will be held in school on Thursday 21st October from 6pm until 8pm. All are welcome to join us! There will be fantastic local market stalls with a range of items from knitwear to cosmetics to craft items for sale – a perfect way to start your Christmas shopping! There will also be games for the children, a raffle and refreshments.

We have our School Open Morning on Monday 8th November. If you or anyone you know has children of pre-school age who might be interested in having a look around our lovely school, please contact the school office on 01298 83263 for more details about attending our Open Morning or arranging an alternative time to visit.

In other news, school rattles along as usual. The children are very happy to be back after the summer break. We're in the midst of preparing for our Harvest Festival, which will be held in the church on Thursday 21st October at 2pm. In our usual school theme of making wonderful cardboard creations (anyone who has ever attended one of our school plays can attest to this!), there will be an actual 'Big Red Combine Harvester' travelling through the church as part of the Festival. If structurally sound, there may even be a small person driver!

Pomeroy Memorial Hall- We held our first face to face meeting for over a year on 27th September 2021. This was well attended by committee and trustees but

Parish Register

Wedding

Biggin, 5th September - Miss Kathryn Moorcroft and Mr Daniel Jackson
Biggin, 11th September - Miss Charlii Upton and Mr Andrew Cooper
Hartington, September 18th - Oliver Kirkham and Eleanor Tyler.

only one member of the public was present. The minutes can no longer be added to our Facebook page but if you would like a copy please contact: pomeroywmh@talktalk.net.

The feasibility study and architect plans were discussed with a unanimous decision to keep the hall as multifunctional as possible. This will allow the hall to be used as a community/meeting place with the option of bunk barn accommodation. In the meantime, we have started carrying out remedial repairs to the hall including pointing and cleaning and fixing guttering.

It is 100 years since the hall was first opened. Due to Covid disruptions we have decided to hold a series of events over the coming year starting with a car treasure hunt on 5th September. This was very successful, helped by the glorious weather with 17 cars taking part. There was only half a point between first and second place, the winners being Tony and Jo Shaw with 239.5 points closely followed by Alison Shipley and family. Both won prosecco and chocolates. The raffle of two "Sweet Treats" hampers was won by Mrs F Twenlow (first prize) and J Orton (second prize).

Our next event will be a Christmas raffle and possibly a quiz. We have already received donations of prizes - thank you to those who provided these - but more are always welcome. Please contact us on the above email address or via our Facebook page if you can donate a prize:
<https://www.facebook.com/pomeroy Memorial Hall>.

The 100 club has now been running for over a year. The winner of the Sept draw was number 9, Philip Wheeldon. If you have not yet renewed your number or would like to join, please contact Jenny (07791 337323) or Bek (bekdicken@gmail.com). This costs just £1 per number, per month and you could win £25!

A war memorial and history enthusiast has very kindly researched and written a book about the local war memorials in neighbouring parishes linked to Pomeroy War Memorial Hall. This will be available to buy very soon, and all profits will go to The Pomeroy Trust and be put towards the renovation of the hall. Hopefully the book will also raise awareness of the hall and the work we are doing to bring it back into community use.

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FRIDAY	11.30 – 1.30	6.00 – 8.00
SATURDAY	11.30 – 1.30	6.00 – 8.00
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