



Spring Daffodils

The Elton Echo

A voice for everyone in Elton and Gratton

Spring 2015

www.eltonderbyshire.com

Issue No. 41

It's our 10th Anniversary

The first issue of the Elton Echo was published in March of 2005 as a result of an item on the 'wish list', included in the 2004 Elton Parish Plan, to have a newsletter to focus on life in Elton and Gratton. The first edition comprised only four pages as a starter to ask for news, articles and adverts. The response was exceptional resulting in the second issue immediately growing to its current format and size of 16 pages. We have had many contributors during this 10 year period to whom we are extremely grateful, because without them it would not be the publication it is today.

We have tried to offer a wide variety of articles to appeal to everyone's interests, to keep readers informed of upcoming events in the village and elsewhere and to offer advertisement space to local businesses and groups. May your response continue. If you have any comments or suggestions for future issues or would like to join the Editorial Team please contact one of us on the numbers below.

We hope to hear from you.

Editorial Policy

We welcome your news, views and articles of interest, provided they are not anonymous, libellous or offensive. Views expressed are not necessarily those of the editorial team. Items may be condensed where necessary.

News items, for sale/wanted adverts and announcements are free to Parish residents. For business advertising rates please contact John Wellington 650857.

If you would like to join the editorial team please contact one of us.

Echo Editorial Team

John Moseley 650760
John Wellington 650857
Faith Johnson 650760

Please send us your news, views, stories and diary events (for June, July, August & September) no later than:-

Next Copy Date

Monday - 4th May 2015

to: John Wellington
Stride Cottage,
Main Street, Elton.

Preferably by email in MSWord to:
eltonecho@tiscali.co.uk

Diary Dates

March

- 5 Parish Council meeting 7.30pm VH
- 12 WI 7.30pm VH - Walking for Health - Howard Griffith
- 13 Quiz Night 7.30pm VH - NOW CANCELLED
- 17 ELHG 7.30pm VH
- 26 Gardening Club 7.30pm VH John Jones - Wild Orchids of Derbyshire

April

- 2 Parish Council meeting 7.30pm VH
- 9 WI 7.30pm VH - Meeting at Rowsley
- 10 Quiz Night 7.30pm VH
- 21 ELHG 7.30pm VH
- 24 Gardening Club 7.30pm VH David Tideswell - Gardening for Birds

May

- 7 Parish Council meeting 7.30pm VH
- 8 Quiz Night 7.30pm VH
- 14 WI 7.30pm VH - An evening of poetry, anecdotes & nostalgia - Pat Hall
- 19 ELHG 7.30pm VH
- 28 Gardening Club 7.30pm VH AGM & Gardeners' Question Time

June

- 4 Parish Council meeting 7.30pm VH
- 11 WI 7.30pm VH - DFWI - the Loan Collection
- 16 ELHG 7.30pm VH
- 28 Church BBQ 3 - 5pm on the Church croft

For all other church events see page 3

Weekly events

Tea/Coffee & Toast in Church - every Thursday 10.30am - 12.00pm

Gentle Keep Fit - please see important notice on page 5

Fortnightly events

Grey Bin & Food Caddy Collection

Every other Wednesday - from 4th March

Blue & Green Bin & Food Caddy Collection

Every other Wednesday - from 11th March

Monthly Mobile Library - see back page

Councillors Corner

Missed Waste Collections

Since Christmas I have been made aware of numerous issues surrounding waste collections in Elton. Understandably, collections were suspended during heavy snowfalls just after Christmas, but this left crews struggling to catch-up with wagons full to capacity. Although the majority of residents continued to receive a good service, over the month of January many households were left with waste uncollected for several weeks. Where waste was not collected, I did my best to sort things out. But with problems carrying over into mid-February, I challenged the Council Leader and Chief Executive to take action over the poor service. The Council have now responded and will be sending supervisors to Elton on collection days to make sure all bins are emptied and identify any outstanding issues.

The District Council have asked me to urge all residents to report missed collections directly to their waste line on **01629 761122** as soon as they realise their bin hasn't been emptied. This will enable the Council to take action to resolve the matter and help to identify areas where there are repeated complaints. I would be grateful if residents could also let me know about missed collections so that I can continue to monitor the situation.

Bakewell and Eyam Community Transport

Over the past several months there has been a lot of talk in the local press and on the television about the future of the Bakewell and Eyam Community Transport service. A good number of our residents and local groups depend on this service; whether it is a social day out, a group shopping trip or an individual lift for a hospital appointment.

With a good proportion of the Community Transport's funding coming from Derbyshire County Council, those who rely on the service have clearly been concerned about its future in light of cuts to local government budgets.

Having spoken with representatives from both the Community Transport and County Hall, I have been assured that, for the time being, no changes have been agreed to the way that service is funded. This is welcome news, but it does not guarantee that things won't change in the near future.

Over the past few months, Derbyshire County Council has been carrying out a consultation exercise on the future of the service and is currently looking at the responses. Once this has been done, a decision will be made at a later date on the funding Bakewell and Eyam Community Transport receive.

In the meantime, the Community Transport Team are continuing to look at other ways they can provide services to the community to attractive further funding and are working closely with local partners and the MP to help safeguard its future.

As your District Councillor I will continue to keep a close eye on this issue and do what I can to help keep a valued service.

Continued on page 4

Parish Councillors

John Moseley	Chair	650760	All correspondence to the Clerk: Janice Jackson Tel: 650727 8 Bradley Close Birchover DE4 2BG
Colin Swindell	Vice Chair	650672	
Cath Dawe		650649	
Jonathan Snodgrass		650489	
Nigel Mason		650440	

District Councillor

Colin Swindell 01629 650672

County Councillor

Simon Spencer 01335 324324

Member of Parliament

Patrick McLoughlin,
Derbys West Constituency Office
01332 558125

All Saints Church

Team Rector: Canon David Truby 824707
 Church Warden: John Spreadborough 650829
 Anne Wellington 650857

Monthly Services

1st Sunday 9.30am Book of Common Prayer
 2nd Sunday 6.00pm Sanctuary
 3rd Sunday 9.30am Parish Eucharist
 4th Sunday 6.00pm Evensong
 5th Sunday Where this occurs, we will join with the Methodists. Please refer to church notice board for details.

Easter is coming: The Long Road to Heaven

There are many ways of making a pilgrimage - the most usual is by walking to a physical place in the hope that along the way you will meet with God and be changed.

Last year I had the privilege of making such a physical pilgrimage by a trip to the Holy land, walking where Jesus had walked in Bethlehem, Nazareth, Jerusalem, along the Jordan and so on. Later in the year I made a less physical pilgrimage as I watched the film *The Way*. For those who haven't seen the film it is the fictional account of one

father's pilgrimage along the Camino de Santiago- the way of Saint James to Santiago de Compostela. In the past pilgrims would make the journey to earn repentance for their sins. Today many people make the pilgrimage to discover more about God, their faith and themselves. What I found amazing was that as I watched this film I found myself entering into the spirit of the pilgrimage along with the main character Tom. Through the film I found myself drawn closer to God, and spiritually uplifted in a similar way to the way I was in the Holy land.

During Lent the course we will be following will be *The Long Road to Heaven* based on the film *The Way*.

Lent is a time when we seek to bring our lives before God, to seek forgiveness, to walk with Christ in His own pilgrimage toward the cross and to look forward. What we seek to find, what we hope will be the end result of this journey will be personal to each of us- but God is at the centre with each one. From earliest times Lent has been a penitential time, a time for self-examination, penitence, the receiving of God's grace, prayer for ourselves and others, self-denial and recommitment, study, charity and preparation for Easter for every Christian.

Why not think about how you can move closer to God this Lent? Our Lent course starts on Monday 23rd February at 1.15pm in the Village Hall with the film *The Way*

It may be by coming along to the Lent course, even if by the time you read this it has started you can still spend some of lent following the course .

Or why not look at the Love Life live Lent materials.

Or come along to some of our Sunday services

Or spend a few minutes of each day on your own giving thanks to God and asking God to help you draw closer to Him.

Here is the collect for Ash Wednesday- a good prayer to pray throughout lent:

Almighty and everlasting God,
 you hate nothing that you have made
 and forgive the sins of all those who are penitent:
 create and make in us new and contrite hearts
 that we, worthily lamenting our sins
 and acknowledging our wretchedness,
 may receive from you, the God of all mercy,
 perfect remission and forgiveness;
 through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
 who is alive and reigns with you,
 in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
 one God, now and for ever.

Amen

Village News and Views

Donations to help us provide flowers for the Church at Easter would be very much appreciated.

Please pass these to Anne Wellington at Stride Cottage Main Street or Jean Spreadborough at 8 Alice's Cottages before Monday 23rd March.

Thank you very much and for your generous support in previous years

Urgent help needed

The churchwardens are looking for someone to help Bill Glossop with the mowing of the churchyard. If you are able to help in any way during the growing season, please speak to either John on 650829 or Anne on 650857.

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Are you Register to Vote?

With elections for Parish Council, District Council and Parliament due to be held in May 2015, Derbyshire Dales District Council is encouraging residents to make sure they are registered to vote. If you are not registered to vote, you can't have your say on who represents you locally or in Westminster. If you need to register to vote or want to check you are on the electoral roll, you can call the District Council on 01629 761100 or get in touch with me.

Councillors' Pay

In February Councillors are due to be awarded a 2.2% increase in their allowances. I do not agree with a pay increase at the present time and I refused to accept it.

Snow clearing thanks

Elton Parish Council would like to thank all of those residents who came out to clear snow from pavements when the heavy snowfall came just after Christmas. Thanks again go to Glyn and Ben Yates for clearing the roads with the use of their JCB.

Thank you

This will be the last piece that I will write for the Elton Echo before the elections in May. It has been a pleasure and a privilege to serve as your District Councillor since being first elected in 2009 and re-elected in 2011. I would like to take this opportunity to thank everybody for their co-operation, patience and support during my term.

Can I help you?

I am always here to help in any way I can. If you are in need of help, have an issue of concern or know of a problem that needs fixing, please contact me. My contact details are below. If I can't help you, I will always try to point you in the right direction.

Thank you

Colin Swindell

District Councillor

Winster and South Darley Ward

Address: Laburnum Cottage, Well Street, Elton, Matlock DE4 2BY

Telephone : 07816 986 956 Email : colin.swindell@derbyshiredales.gov.uk

Elton WI...

This year is the centenary of opening of the first WI in Britain at Llanfair PG on Anglesey although the movement was founded at Stoneycreek in Canada to provide help and support to isolated countrywomen. In this country it remained an organisation for small communities and only villages with 4000 inhabitants or less could form Wis. In Elton the WI started in 1951 encouraged by Mary Turner who was the first President.

In 1965 the 4000 rule was rescinded and now WIs are to be found in towns, workplaces, universities and prisons. The WI is the largest voluntary women's organisation in the UK. It exists to educate women to enable them to provide an effective role in the community, to expand their horizons and pass on skills.

The WI has an unrivalled reputation as a voice on issues that matter to women and has passed resolutions at its AGM attended by delegates representing every WI in the country which have eventually influenced national policy. It was a resolution passed back in 1954 which led to the "Keep Britain Tidy" campaign. Since then it has been ahead of its time in campaigning on issues such as equal pay (1943), renewable energy (1977) and breast cancer screening (1975). Today climate

change, library closures and maternity services are on the campaigning agenda.

At our January meeting Cat Dawe, who will be our delegate at this year's Centenary AGM, gave an excellent power point presentation of the suggested resolutions chosen from many sent in by members from all over the country. After much discussion we each voted for our preferred resolution and the numbers sent in. Those with the highest national vote will be voted upon at the Albert Hall in London.

There is certain to be press and TV coverage of this event so do keep a lookout around the beginning of June.

Winifred Woodward, Secretary

Gentle Keep Fit

IMPORTANT NOTICE

For the time being our weekly keep fit classes on a Wednesday at 6.30pm in the village hall have been suspended as our instructor is no longer available.

Members met on Wed 4th February and decided they wished to keep the classes going. With this in mind we have asked our instructor if she can provide a CD with music and instructions which we can use at future meetings. She is looking into this and we hope to hear from her shortly.

Look out for posters around the village with details of when we hope to start up again.

Anne Wellington



Outreach Service, Elton

The service is located at:

**The School House, Elton Primary School,
Main Street, Elton**

Opening times

Every Thursday between 1:45pm and 3:45pm

Services include:

Postal services, stamps, pensions, benefits, council tax & bill payments,
Plus car tax & cash withdrawals

(Some services may be subject to change)

BAKEWELL CHORAL SOCIETY

SATURDAY 14th MARCH at 7.30pm

LADY MANNERS SCHOOL, BAKEWELL

BACH: *St JOHN PASSION*

Joseph Cornwell ~ Evangelist

Christopher Foster ~ Christ

Timothy Nelson ~ Bass

Hannah Davey ~ Soprano

Ben Sawyer ~ Alto

Skipton Camerata

ALAN EOST ~ Conductor

Tickets £15

(Students & Accompanied Children) FREE

*from Bakewell Bookshop, Choir Members and on the door
or by post from Elizabeth Butcher, The Gabled House,
South Church Street, Bakewell, DE45 1FD, 01629 810205
(with SAE & cheque payable to Bakewell Choral Society).*

FREE TRANSPORT to our concert (*Subject to numbers*)

Contact for details: **01629 810205** by **2nd March**

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This extract was provided by the firm William Haycock of Ashbourne, makers of our church clock. William died in 1904 but he must have been 'hands on' in 1883. This clock making business continues to operate in Ashbourne today, and they welcome visitors.

THE NEW CHURCH CLOCK – ELTON 1883

THE NEW CHURCH CLOCK – OPENING FESTIVITIES – On Saturday last the opening ceremonies in connection with the newly erected clock in the church tower took place and the proceedings were heartily entered into by almost all the villagers and also many visitors, mostly from Winster, Gratton and the neighbourhood. The present All Saints' Church is a neat stone building with a conspicuous tower and was restored in its present form in 1808 – seventy five years ago. At the time, two spaces were provided, one on the west and the other on the southern side of the tower for a clock to be placed there at some future period, and although several attempts have been made to carry out that evident suggestion, and public need, not until recently has the work been accomplished. The successful effort originated at a meeting a short time ago, when the rector promiscuously adverted to the subject and volunteered to subscribe handsomely if the matter was set on foot once more. Remembering previous collapses in this direction the promoters entered the work "with fear and trembling", and the following committee was appointed. The Rev. T. Johnson (Rector of Elton), Messrs. George Dale and Stephen Dale (Churchwardens), T.H.Coates, Esq., Messrs. Frank Dale, William Sheldon, Josiah Rolley, Geo. Stone, George Smith, George Gibson, Jno. Robert Charles Witham, Wm. Boam, Benjamin Stone and Samuel Carson. The work of collecting was entrusted to Mr. Frank Dale and Mr. Sheldon, and these gentlemen collected promises of assistance in order to ascertain the feeling of the parishioners. They met with a warm response and almost every freeholder in the parish kindly offered assistance in proportion to their position. The committee being rewarded by the most cordial co-operation possible, soon felt they might safely proceed with the work, and accordingly entrusted it to Messrs. T. Haycock, and Son, of Ashborne, whose tender, amounting to £70, was the most reasonable sent in. The contractors have completed the clock to the satisfaction of all who have seen it, and its presence not only beautifies the church but will prove a real boon to the inhabitants for miles round, for the chimes, it is stated can be distinctly heard over a radius of three miles. The diameter of either clock face is four feet six – and the faces are of cast iron painted blue, with gilt letters and figures. The works are on what are technically known as the dead-beat-escapement principle. The proceedings on Saturday commenced by a short dedication service in the

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church, where there was a good congregation. The Reverend H. Milnes, M.A., of Winster, gave an able and appropriate address, taking as his text the words "Redeeming the time." Ephesians 5c 16v. He expressed a hope that when they looked upon the clock it would not only tell them the time, but would remind them of the words of the text. The choir, under the conductorship of Mr. Frank Dale, rendered an anthem, "Arise, shine, for thy light has come", (Isiah, ch.60, 1st verse) and Mrs. Johnson presided at the harmonium very efficiently. After service a substantial tea was provided in the school-room close by, and the Birchover Brass Band – which has very much improved of late – commenced to play in the village. It was estimated that about 240 partook of tea, and among those present were: The Rector, and Mrs. Johnson. The Rev. C. Macmichael, Stanton-in-Peak; The Misses Deakin, Pike Hall; Mr. and Mrs. Dale, Dudwood; Mrs. Stephen Dale, Birchover; Mr. William Sheldon, Gratton Lane; Mr. and Mrs. William Walwin, Bakewell Moor; Mr. Matthew and Misses Dale, Conksbury; Mrs. Dale, Gratton; Mr. and Mrs. Wright, Gratton; Misses Wragg, Matlock; the churchwardens, committee etc. The following ladies either gave or presided at trays: Mrs. Johnson, Mrs. Coates, Mrs. Flewitt, Mrs. Dale, Mrs. Francis Dale, Miss Dale, Mrs. Rolley, Mrs. Gent, Mrs. Staley and Mrs. Witham. The Rector previous to saying grace observed he would probably be expected to say a few words. He would certainly say but few words and not detain them very long. He felt he must unburden his mind and thank the committee, the givers and the collectors. (Applause.) He hoped that the clock would prove a temporal assistance and also a spiritual blessing by reminding them of the brevity of life and the need for preparation for a holier life. He had heard an expression of disapproval, or comment on the ground that the clock face was painted blue. (laughter and applause.) He saw no objection to the colour- (laughter)- and he hoped the objectors would lose sight of the political significance of the colour when looking at the clock. He hoped they would, especially the young people, try to remember one similitude. The clock was blue – that would remind them of the blue sky - and the figures were gilt and they would serve to remind them of the golden crowns in store for them above the sky, if they lived godly lives and did their duty. (Applause.) After tea the field adjoining Elton House, was, by the permission of T.H. Coates, Esq., thrown open for recreation, and dancing was kept up there until nine o'clock when the National Anthem was played and the company dispersed, having spent a most agreeable afternoon and evening.

(Transcribed by Jane Snodgrass 17th November 2014)

PEAK PRE-SCHOOL

(formally Winster Pre-school)

Welcomes children from age 2yrs to school age to a warm and friendly environment.
Monday to Thursday term time only.

We are OFSTED approved and a member of the Early Years Partnership.
Government Funded places available for 3 and 4 year olds

We are registered for **10** places.
However, for **2015** spaces are already limited due to high demand.

In order to secure a place for your child for 2015 please contact
Cathy Banks on **07799084244** to register.

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ELTON, WINSTER AND THE MILL CLOSE STRIKE

This is the story of a community deeply divided by a bitter industrial dispute. On one side - a group of striking miners whipped up by a vigorous Trade Union. Up against them in the same village - working miners spurred on by an equally determined employer. The dispute pitted neighbour against neighbour and sometimes even divided families. There was name-calling, picketing, intimidation and the threat of violence simmering just beneath the surface as police struggled to keep the peace.

It might surprise you to know that the community described here is Winster. This is how serious matters became there during the Mill Close miners strike towards the end of 1919. And did you know too that the story had a sting in the tail here in Elton when the hopes of a group of miners from this village rendered jobless by the strike were briefly raised - and then cruelly dashed?

It is only fair to warn readers that, in the interests of being as factual as possible, some of what follows is a little more gritty than the usual material in the *Echo*. In this context, it is perhaps equally important to emphasise that none of the more serious threats made at the time and recorded here was actually carried out.

The Mill Close lead mine was situated at Warren Carr (near Darley Bridge) on what is now the H J Enthoven's site. By the outbreak of war in 1914 Mill Close was the best equipped and most productive supplier of lead in the country, employing hundreds of miners from Matlock and the surrounding villages including Winster and Elton. Many of the men walked to work daily on the very well trodden footpaths fanning out from the mine.

During the First World War (1914-1918) the wages of lead miners had fallen well behind those of their counterparts in the coal industry. The Derbyshire Miners Association (DMA), based in Chesterfield, had fought very successfully to improve the lot of coal miners and in 1917 they were approached by Mill Close employees in Winster with a view to setting up a DMA branch there.

The DMA lost no time in pressing for wage increases for lead miners and a series of acrimonious meetings and negotiations with the Mill Close owners soon commenced. Matters came to a head in July 1919 when the owners sacked 4 union members and 70 miners came out on strike in protest. The following month matters escalated when a further 32 surface workers were discharged by the management on the grounds of reduced output. By now it was becoming clear that the Mill Close owners were intent on setting up the operation as a non-union mine.

Fiercely determined not to be outdone, the DMA despatched 6 of its leading lights to Winster to address a series of meetings in various villages (including Elton) in early November 1919. The DMA delegates' instructions from Chesterfield were to 'create an atmosphere which the men still continuing to work will find too strong for them to oppose'. Sure enough on 4 November a large crowd of striking miners, their wives and children assembled in the centre of Winster. When those miners who had chosen to carry on working passed by as they set out for Mill Close, the crowd - almost certainly egged on by the DMA presence - followed them, beating tin cans and boxes with sticks as they did so. Ernest Marshall of Matlock and Herbert Gell of Wensley arrived from outside Winster holding a banner 'Blacklegs and Scabs' and carried it aloft in front of three of the working miners. Constable German, acting alone at this point and presumably unable to summon immediate assistance, was unable to calm things down. According to police records, one Mary Elizabeth Heathcote was to the forefront.

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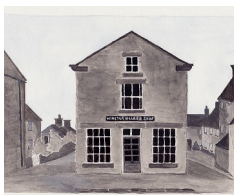
Interested in joining the 100 Club?

There are now a few free numbers available.

If you would like to be part of this monthly cash prize draw

Contact Cath Dawe on 650649

You are invited to
 The Village Shop's 10th Birthday Party!
 Sunday April 12th - 2pm to 4pm
 Street party - Iced Cake Competition
 All Elton & Winster welcome!



Continued from page 9

'You Blacklegs, taking my bread away. Boo! Boo!' she hissed behaving like a 'lunatic' and 'inciting children to do the same'.

The intimidation continued for 4 days. Each day the working men were met by the same crowd on their way to work and again on their way home. One of the DMA delegates (Henry Hicken – who was a future General Secretary of the Union) walked alongside a group which included working miner Cecil Lowndes of Elton. 'Scabs and blacklegs – we haven't got to the worst yet. Dark nights are coming and there'll be blood for supper' he threatened. On another occasion Hicken told strike-breaker George Hardy 'We are not for violence but we cannot be responsible for violence in the night.....You are a good one if you can stand this day by day'. Hardy looked him in the eye and simply replied 'I can'.

The dispute rumbled on into early 1920 by which time all the men that Mill Close were prepared to accept back had returned. By most people's assessment the strike had failed and Mill Close had indeed become a non-union mine.

With a view to finding work for sacked miners in Elton, the DMA now turned to a traditional socialist concept – a co-operative mining venture. This involved re-opening the previously abandoned Raithe Mine here in Elton. The remnants of the workings can still be seen on the ground between Joules Croft and the rear school playground.

Using part of the balance of £2000 left over from the Union's 'War-time Ambulance Fund' to pay for it, the DMA commissioned a report on Raithe by John Saxton, a Sheffield mining engineer. This appeared to present considerable grounds for optimism and in May of 1920 the Raithe Lead Mining Company Limited was formally set up. The plan was to drive westward towards Gratton, following the 'Coast Rake' vein which runs under Elton.

However, with very little ore produced the operation soon ran short of funds. There was some discussion at Chesterfield as to whether the balance of the 'Ambulance Fund' should be invested in the Elton mine but the Union decided that the money would be better put towards the construction of their new miner's convalescent home in Skegness instead. The Raithe Mine closed for good in December 1920.

One particular view now is that the DMA never seriously saw Raithe as a workable proposition which could pay living wages and stand on its own two feet in the longer term. After all - it was known that the mine had been abandoned in the past. Was it just a way for the Union to save face after the failed strike and enable it to claim that it had at least found some work for jobless miners? Who knows for sure?

Certainly it would be very interesting to learn what those most seriously affected by the events thought of the goings on at the time - namely those Elton miners put out of work. Sadly it is too late to ask them.

JOHN STONE

Early days in Gratton.

The earliest mention of the hamlet of Gratton is in the Domesday book of 1086, which records six families living here, cultivating about 120 acres of arable. The boundary of the manor of Gratton would be more or less the same as the modern civil parish boundary. The location of the hamlet itself, with its manor house, was possibly in the field opposite the entrance to Gratton Grange Farm, on the east side of the road. It's not known whether Gratton had a chapel of its own as early as 1086 but it certainly had one by the middle of the next century, affiliated to the mother church in Youlgreave.

In the 14th century the manor of Gratton belonged to the Foljambe family, some of whom took the surname Gratton. Sir William Gratton was a man of some standing; as well as being lord of Gratton, he owned half of the manor of Stanton, half of another manor in Nottinghamshire and the mill at Alport. He also held the office of king's attorney and was responsible for maintaining law and order in the forest of the High Peak. The family lived in the manor house in the hamlet of Gratton until the death of Sir William in 1339, when his heirs moved to Nottinghamshire.

In 1358 Godfrey Foljambe, a relative of Sir William Gratton, gave the income from about 40 acres of land in Gratton to support a priest to say mass every day in Elton church. The purpose of this was to shorten the period that the souls of dead Foljambes needed to linger in purgatory before going to heaven. It's possible that the 40 acres had previously supported a chaplain at Gratton chapel, which was no longer maintained after the Gratton family left in 1339. The chapel had certainly gone before 1470.

Little more is known of Gratton until 1670 when the hearth tax of that year records eleven dwellings here. Six were small cottages with one fireplace and five were larger farmhouses having two fireplaces. The larger houses belonged to Adam Woolley, Humphrey Marshall, Richard Longden, William Milner and John Twigg. The farmers of Gratton kept cattle and sheep and had some arable land. In 1684 Humphrey Marshall had 14 cows and calves, 77 sheep, two ploughs and two hives of bees while Adam Woolley in 1678 had 8 cows and heifers, 6 bullocks, 9 calves and over 100 sheep. Some of the fleeces were spun into woollen yarn by the farmers' unmarried daughters, spinsters of the parish.

The 1670 hearth tax tells us that the six cottages belonged to John Tomlinson, James Barke, Widow Chapman, Henry Gilman, Humphrey Briddon and Richard Briddon. Richard was a partner in a lead mining enterprise just across Gratton Dale at Raithe Rake in Elton parish. Henry Gilman's son, William, was also involved in lead mining. He was part of a team who laboured for over eight years digging a sough (a drainage channel) from Gratton Dale into Raithe Rake. The sough began to drain Raithe Rake in 1665 and water still pours from it into the dale.

In 1723 the manor of Gratton was bought by John Thornhill of Stanton, who paid £3,000 for almost a thousand acres. It's likely that Thornhill expected to make money from lead mining but the scarcity of surface features visible today suggests that deposits of ore were rather insignificant. Only a few lines of low hillocks are visible including an eastwards continuation of Raithe Rake from the Elton side of the dale. From an economic point of view, the Thornhills may have found Gratton something of a disappointment.

When Thornhill bought Gratton manor there were as many as twenty houses here. We can be certain of the location of only one of them, Dale End House, whose door lintel is ornamented with the date 1689 and initials RRB. The likely owners of those initials are Richard and Rebecca Briddon who were married in Youlgreave in 1662. He was probably the same Richard Briddon who mined for lead at Raithe Rake. It appears that he made enough profit to be able to build himself, his wife and their five children a fine house. The mystery remains as to where the other 19 houses were located in 1723.

A few words from the Elton Village Hall Committee...

Village Hall Refurbishment

With our AGM due to be held in the coming weeks, I thought it might be a good opportunity to update everybody on what we have been doing at the Village Hall for the benefit of village residents and the wider community.

Over the past year the committee has invested a lot of time and money into refurbishing the hall and the kitchen. The floor in the main hall has been sanded down and polished to create a cleaner and more natural finish. The walls have been patched-up and redecorated making the place feel brighter and more attractive. And very recently we have just had a brand new kitchen fitted. The new kitchen provides double the amount of cupboard space, brand new appliances and more practical workspace.

We hope that the work that has gone into bringing our Village Hall up to an excellent standard will be enjoyed and appreciated by all who use our Village Hall.

Polite Notice

We would like to make a kind request to all users of the Village Hall to make sure that they leave it clean and tidy after use. Although the vast majority of our users do leave it in a decent state, there are a growing number of occasions where the hall has been left in an unsatisfactory condition. This clearly not fair for the next booking who have to clean-up after somebody else.

Continued on next page

Calling all holiday accommodation providers in Elton and Gratton

If you would like copies of the Elton Village Guide leaflet and the Elton Village Trail booklet for your clients please contact eltonhistory@talk21.com or phone Lynn on 650015.

the Sanctuary @ Peak Serenity... **(Peace at the Cliff)**

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Continued from previous page

Notices will shortly be put up in the Village Hall to ask people to leave it clean and tidy and remind them what needs to be done before leaving. With a lot of money spent on refurbishments, we hope that everybody will take extra care when using the hall and respect the new kitchen.

Thank you's

The running of the Village Hall would not be possible without the goodwill of a number of volunteers and workers. There is always the risk that we forget somebody, but particular thanks must go to the following people who constantly help us out...

Sue Lightfoot for doing the bookings and having her evenings and weekends constantly interrupted.

David Musgrave for carrying out our annual lighting inspections.

Paul Banks for the excellent work he did in redecorating the hall.

Alan Carson for being our 'handyman'.

Liz Hague for carrying out the audit of our accounts each year.

Maralyn Marsden, Iris Wright and Ann Bell for decorating the hall at Christmas and taking them back down again.

I personally would like to thank all committee members for their help and support over the past year. I would like to give a special mention to Jean Carson for all the extra work she does cleaning the hall and checking it is in good working order every week.

Colin Swindell

On behalf of the Village Hall Committee

"God bless us, everyone!"

Charles Dickens' "A Christmas Carol" at
The Cheese Factory, Gratton

It was decided some years ago that All Saints' Church Elton would be enhanced by a 'new' (ie second hand refurbished) pipe organ. During 2014 work restarted using components already long stored for the job and new parts bought where necessary. This work has been led by a knowledgeable volunteer in the village, with some input from professionals, TW Fearn (Organ Builder) in Devon.

To raise money, a recitation of Charles Dickens' best known Christmas story took place on 23rd December in the upper room of the Victorian (appropriately) Cheese Factory. After mulled wine and light refreshments, 70 guests settled down in front of the 11ft Christmas tree and a log fire to hear our two skilled performers tell of Ebenezer Scrooge whose life – past, present and indeed yet to come - captured the imagination. Following the recitation we gathered round the piano to sing carols. All in all, very "Dingley Dell"!

Our thanks go to Lewis Hancock and Ron Middleton (aka 'The Kirk Ireton Light Programme') who read so movingly. The church is grateful to guests present, and to those who were unable to attend, who gave so generously to The Organ Project. After Gift Aid is included, the evening raised over £700.

Jane and Jonathan Snodgrass

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Free delivery in Elton and Gratton

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Email: simonfowler1@btinternet.com



HELP US STOCK UP FOR OUR POP UP!

A Derbyshire charity are calling on generous fashionistas to raid their wardrobes and donate unwanted clothes, shoes and accessories to their annual Pop Up Boutique which is being held on Monday 23rd March.

Helen's Trust, a charity based in Bakewell which supports terminally ill people, enabling them to remain at home at the end of their illness, are bringing back their popular Pop Up Boutique which each year raises over £1000 with thanks to donations of good quality high end high street and designer clothes.

The Pop Up Boutique will be held in Helen's Trust office, above Boots in Bakewell, and the charity is calling out for people to have a clear out and donate their pre-loved good quality items.

Helen's Trust Chief Executive, Heidi Hawkins, said: "As a small local charity we depend on the support of the Derbyshire community, and we are incredibly grateful for their generosity.

Last year we received so many lovely donations, from H&M to Calvin Klein. Not only do these items create a lot of excitement on the day, but the proceeds from the sales significantly contribute to the funds we need to raise each year.

It's a great opportunity to pick up a real gem at an affordable price. All funds raised directly help local people."

For more information and details of how to donate, please call Zoe on 01629 812759 or visit website www.helenstrust.org.uk

Rob Embling Memorial Darts Competition Thank you for your support

The annual Rob Embling Memorial Darts Competition took place on Saturday 3 January 2015 at the Duke of York. The competition is held every year in memory of the former Elton darts player and all funds raised on the night go to Rob's favourite charity – the RNLI.

This year's event boasted one of the best turnouts yet and an amazing £225.00 was raised for the charity. The winner was Matthew Fenton (better known as 'Chunk' to his fellow darts throwers) from Alsop-en-le-Dale.

A small number of people put a lot of effort into making the event a success year-on-year and we would like to say a big thank you to them all. Particular thanks must go to Alan and Paul Carson who set-up the spare dartboard and to our mums, Jean Carson and Diane Swindell, for the food they put on.

We love to organise the event in memory of a great bloke and we would like to thank everybody for supporting it over the years.

Lynn Carson and Colin Swindell

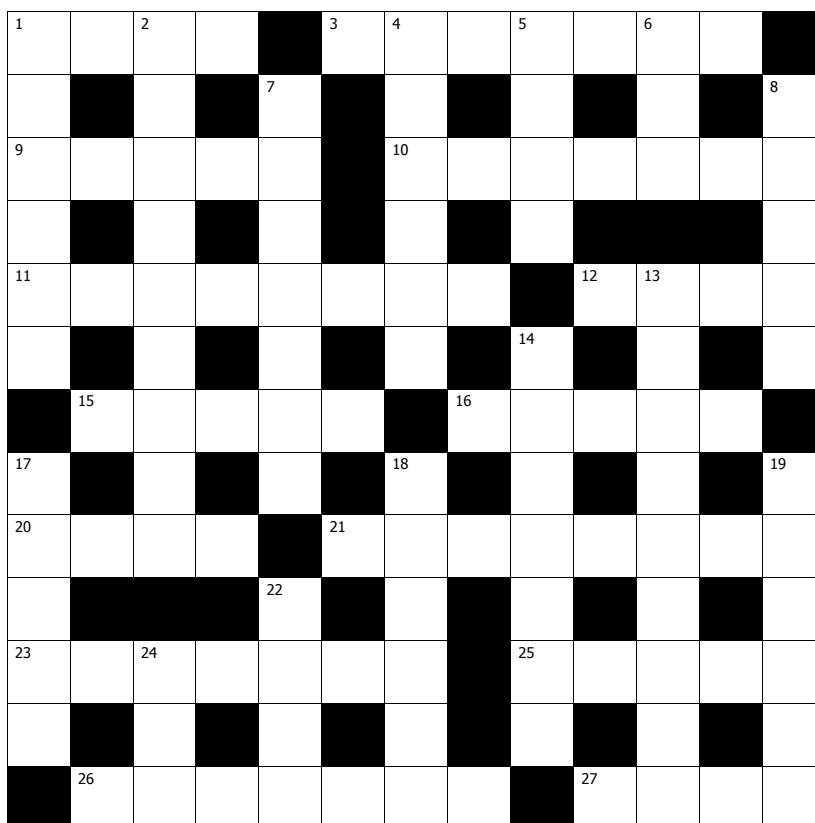
Across

1. Jason's vessel (4)
3. Wreath and Judy (7)
9. Grey Wader (5)
10. Clobber (7)
11. Spud may have one (4,4)
12. Look narrowly and equal (4)
15. Spurious (5)
- 16 & 17 down. Opera company (5,5)
20. Add this too (4)
21. Military lodgings (8)
23. Like a big cat (7)
25. Round it goes (5)
26. Winged silence (7)
27. Italian fizz (4)

Down

1. Stupefied with horror (6)
2. With verbal diarrhoea (9)
4. Adjutant stork of India (6)
5. High flying fun (5)
6. Negative Scot (3)
7. Measured victory (4,3)
8. Unyielding rump (4)
13. Styles and system raiders (9)
14. A little bitter (7)
17. See 16 across (5,5)
18. Where all is grounded (6)
19. By fits and starts (6)
22. Empty and worthless (4)
24. Come together (3)

ROBIN'S KNOTTY CROSSWORD



***Note:** This crossword is published here with the kind permission of its compiler, Robin Hemmingway.*

SOLUTION ON BACK PAGE

Elton Village Quiz Nights

13th March - Sorry, had to cancel
10th April
8th May

Bring your team along for an enjoyable
 and social evening
 or come on your own and we'll fit you
 into one of the teams.
 Don't forget your drinks and nibbles.

**And don't forget a Raffle prize
 it will be most appreciated.**

Entry is £2.00 per person plus £1.00 for
 a raffle ticket.

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Contact John Gladwin

**Tel: 01629 650025 or
 07767238331**

Website: www.djg-taxis.co.uk

Email: john@djg-taxis.co.uk

The Small Ads

For Sale/Wanted

For Sale - Dovetail Jig by Screwfix - Brand new in its box never used -£25 o.n.o. Contact John on 650857

Non-business adverts in this section are free to village residents

Contact the editor if you wish to place an advert here

Resources

Community Transport

A Dial-a-Bus service for elderly &/or disabled people operates on the 1st and 3rd Thursday each month to Buxton arriving 11.15am & departing 1.15pm. To reserve a seat, contact 641920

Jubilee Field

The pitches & pavilion are available for hire. For all bookings, contact Colin Swindell on 07816 986956

Mobile Library

On 3rd Wednesday each month
Elton - Duke of York -
9.50 - 10.40 am
Call 812267 or 58000 ext. 6589 for details.

Post Office

Outreach Service

Every Thursday in the
School House
From 1.45-3.45pm

Village Hall

Hire of hall: £5.00 per session or £15 all day for residents & village organisations. Non-residents at reasonable rates.

For bookings or more information contact Sue Lightfoot 650641

Village Directory

- **Badminton** Kate French 650273
- **Bell Ringers** Alastair Scrivener 650791
- **Bus services** Timetable 0870 6082608
- **Community transport** 641920
- **County Council** 08 456 058 058
- **Cricket Club** Glynn Yates 650494
- **Crime Stoppers** 0800 555 111
- **Darts Teams** Paul Carson 650359
- **District Council** 761100
- **Doctors** (Winster) 650207 Emergencies 733205 or NHS Direct 0845 4647
- **Electrical emergencies** 0800 0568090
- **Energy Efficiency Grants** 761304
- **Fire advice** 582849
- **Gardening Club** John Wellington 650857
- **Gas leaks** 0800 111999
- **History Group** Lynn Burnet 650015
- **Hospital** The Whitworth, Darley Dale (minor injury only) 580211
- **Housing advice** 761311
- **Jubilee Field** Colin Swindell 650672
- **Mobility Scooter** (Tissington Trail) for more details contact 01335 343156 - seasonal only
- **Pre-school** Contact Cathy Banks on 07799084244
- **Police** For emergencies dial 999 otherwise dial the NEW number 101 (It's confidential)
- **Rail services** Enquiries 0845 7484950
- **Refuse collection** DDDC 761122
- **School** 650282
- **School PTFA** Amy Dabell 650948
- **Swimming pool** Bakewell - 814205
Matlock - Arc Leisure - 581322
- **Taxi Service** - Kate or Neil 07816 201746
- **Tourist information** Bakewell - 813227
Matlock - 583388
- **Village Hall** Bookings Sue Lightfoot 650641
- **Water emergencies** 0800 7834444
- **Womens' Institute** Cath Dawe 650649

CROSSWORD SOLUTION

Clues Across: 1.Argo 3.Garland 9.Heron 10.Garment 11.Slug hole 12.Peer 15.Bogus 16 (& 17 down).Dolly Carte 20.Also 21.Barracks 23.Tigroid 25.Swirl 26.Gliding 27.Ast!

Clues Down: 1.Aghast 2.Garrulous 4.Argala 5.Lark 6.Nae 7.Inch out 8.Stern 13.Eclectics 14.Sourish 18.Garden 19.Asalt 22.Void 24.Gel