



**Once more**, the front page is dominated by just some of the events, all with a seasonal twist of course, that are taking place in Monyash this month. Please do support all that you can – and I can vouch from personal experience (apart from the wreath making, to be perfectly truthful, though I have been known to cobble together my own ‘rustic’ version for our front door, on an old wire coat-hanger!) that all can be guaranteed to be highly enjoyable. Singing the carols at church on the 21<sup>st</sup> will certainly be the perfect start to my Christmas, if past years are anything to go by. With many thanks to all who think up and organise such great occasions, (you know who you are) and all those who lend a hand.... Have a great festive season, **everyone!**

### ***Tideswell Brass Band***

plays

### **Christmas Hits in Saint Leonard's Church**

**Saturday 6<sup>th</sup>**

Christmas Greatest Hits, mince pies, mulled wine & raffle.  
All funds raised will go towards St. Leonard's Church.  
*Come along, support and enjoy another fabulous evening.*

### **Christmas Wreath Making**

**Tue 9th Dec. 10:00 – 12:30**

Coffee, Cake and Christmas Wreath Making, with Kathryn from Angel Blooms  
Places are limited so contact Sharon at the pub to book.  
*Price (includes coffee and cake plus, on completion, a glass of Prosecco): £40*

### **Christmas Quiz Night**

Join an evening of non-serious quizzing and a few minutes of silliness -  
please bring your own glasses, drinks and nibbles to the Village Hall on  
**Saturday 13th December at 7.30pm**

**St. Leonard's Church**

### **Christmas Carols by Candlelight**

*Please come and join us in our beautiful and ancient church*

**Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> December at 6.00 pm**

**NB:** There is no Christmas Tree Festival this year,  
but if you want to bring a tree and decorate it in church for this weekend, please do!

## EVENTS *this month of December:-* [Note: Free parking on DDDC car parks throughout Dec.]

- Monday 1<sup>st</sup>** – **Beginners' Pilates, Class with Caroline.** 9.30 to 10.30am, the Village Hall. £8, cash on the door/ by bank transfer. Caroline is a fully qualified yoga and Pilates instructor. If you would like to reserve a place or find out more about Pilates or Yoga, contact Caroline: 07831 720810 /email: carolinewebster2@gmail.com  
– **IYENGAR YOGA.** 5pm – 6.30pm, in the Village Hall. £9; email Dave: djs.abbotside@gmail.com.  
– **Parish Council Meeting** - 7.30 pm. Village Hall. Anyone is welcome to attend this public meeting. There is 10 minutes for 'Public Speaking' at the start. See village website and noticeboard for agenda.
- Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup>** – **Monyash Quilters Group**, Village Hall, 2 to 4 pm. A friendly group of ladies with a wide range of creative talent who love making beautiful quilts and anything crafty. Drop into one of our weekly meetings to see what we do and if we can tempt you to join.  
– **Pilates.** Class with Caroline Webster. 6pm – 7pm, Village Hall. £8. Other details above, 'Pilates'.
- Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup>** – **Hatha Yoga** - 6.00 – 7.15pm, Village Hall, with meditation, £10. Other details see above, 'Pilates'.
- Saturday 6<sup>th</sup>** – **Tideswell Brass Band** play Christmas Hits at Saint Leonards – *see main notice above.*
- Monday 8<sup>th</sup>** – **Beginners' Pilates**, Class with Caroline. 9.30 to 10.30am. £8. Other details, see 'NO Pilates'(!) above, top.  
– **IYENGAR YOGA.** 5pm – 6.30pm, in the Village Hall. £9 per session. Other details as above.
- Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup>** – **Monyash Quilters Group, Village Hall**, 2 to 4 pm, other details as above.  
– **Pilates.** Class with Caroline Webster. 6pm – 7pm, Village Hall. Other details: 'NO Pilates'(!) above, top.
- Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup>** – **Mobile Library** – 11.15 to 11.45, The Square.  
– **Hatha Yoga** 6.00 – 7.15pm, Village Hall, with Yoga Nidra meditation. £10. Other details see above, 'Pilates'.
- Thursday 11<sup>th</sup>** – **Quiz Night** – The Bull's Head. 9.30pm. (And on 4<sup>th</sup> – ran out of space above!)
- Friday 12<sup>th</sup>** – **Crafternoon.** 2pm – 3.30pm, in the Village Hall. Bring along a craft project – or not! Tea and natter is fine!  
– **Messy Church:** 3.15 – 4.45pm. At the Methodist Chapel & Hall; straight after school; £2 per child.
- Saturday 13<sup>th</sup>** – **Christmas Quiz** - at the Village Hall, (See main notice above).
- Monday 15<sup>th</sup>** – **Beginners' Pilates**, Class with Caroline. 9.30 to 10.30am. Other details see above, 'Pilates'.  
– **IYENGAR YOGA.** 5pm – 6.30pm, in the Village Hall. £9 per session. Other details as above.
- Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup>** – **Monyash Quilters Group**; Village Hall, 2 to 4 pm, other details as above.  
– **Pilates.** Class with Caroline Webster. 6pm – 7pm, Village Hall. Other details as above.
- Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup>** – **Hatha Yoga**; 6.00 – 7.15pm, Village Hall, with Yoga Nidra meditation. £10. Other details, see 'Pilates'.
- Thursday 18<sup>th</sup>** – **Quiz Night** – The Bull's Head. 9.30pm.
- Friday 19<sup>th</sup>** – **NO Crafternoon.** in the Village Hall. See you in the New Year!
- Sunday 21<sup>st</sup>** – **Carols by Candlelight.** 6.00pm (see notice above) **OR: Reflection service** at the chapel, 6.30pm.
- Monday 22<sup>nd</sup>** – **NO Beginners' Pilates, Class with Caroline.** Starts again in the New Year.  
– **NO IYENGAR YOGA.** Starts again in the New Year.  
– **The Old Smithy Café** closed for Christmas break, opening again on **Monday the 29<sup>th</sup>**
- Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup>** – **NO Monyash Quilters Group** - Starts again in the New Year.  
– **NO Pilates.** Class with Caroline Webster. 6pm – 7pm, Village Hall. Starts again in the New Year.
- Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup>** – **NO Hatha Yoga**; 6.00 – 7.15pm, Village Hall, with Yoga Nidra meditation. Starts again in the New Year (But, I am told, that your bins that normally go out on this Wednesday, **will** be emptied...binmen in *Santa* hats.)
- Thursday 25<sup>th</sup>** – **Christmas Day** – The Bull's Head is closed. **Open again on Boxing Day**, as normal.

**On Friday 21<sup>st</sup> November**, at Saint Leonard's church, Monyash said a sad and incredibly heartfelt, final farewell to **Di Edwards**, at a very moving service, with standing room only – Of course! There can be nobody who has lived in the village for any length of time who will not have been touched by Di's warmth, generosity and that great sense of humour. Both the tribute and eulogy, from son and daughter Richard and Jo, were especially touching, I thought and perfectly expressed the impossibility of summing up such a huge personality in any number of words. Richard said something along the lines of 'one of those personalities where the goodness shines out' – only better than that and I remember wishing I had brought a pen and paper to jot down his exact phrase...but we all know the truth of it. 'A loss to the village' feels wholly inadequate also, so I shan't try to add any more, other than to send love and sympathies to John and all the Edwards family.

### Nature Notes

Next Spring, I am thinking of adding a second Birdsong Walk, from Hartington. Taking in the river Dove in Beresford Dale, it is hoped to feature Dippers singing – they have a surprisingly lovely song, high pitched and loud to top the noise of tumbling water. I have heard it, early Spring, in Lathkill and in Chee Dale. Interestingly, both the male and female sing, (in many species of songbird it is just the male). Last Spring, I heard a female Crossbill sing in Macclesfield forest – a finch-song I had not heard before and gorgeous it was too, from the top of Spruce. It was only recently I read, in *all* my bird books: 'it is only the male who sings'... Don't believe everything you read; there is nothing like field work! (The male is rosy-red; female green).

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Masthead drawing by Judy Corble. Printed on recycled paper (but not this month), at The Byways, Church Street, Monyash.