

A View from the Bath

A Newsletter from

Matlock Bath Parish Council

December 2019



Singing Round the Christmas Tree



Why not take a break from the hectic run up to Christmas and come and join us for a traditional pre-Christmas celebration with fellow residents?

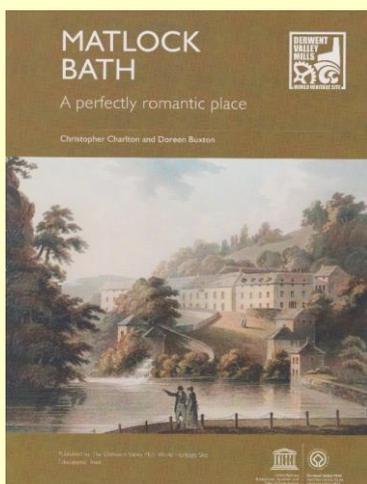
This year our Christmas celebrations will take place on **Monday 23rd December 2019 at 7.00 pm.**

Musical accompaniment, courtesy of John Phillips with MDS providing the PA.

Afterwards, refreshments will be provided by the Parish Council in Forget Me Not/Heathers.

Our thanks go to Don Sturt of Cromford for supplying and erecting the tree, to Mick Hirstwood for putting the lights and decorations on and to Forget Me Not for hosting the refreshments after this event.

Matlock Bath – A Perfectly Romantic Place



With place names such as 'Lovers' Walk, Romantic Rocks and Artists' Corner' and the affection both residents and visitors show for the village, this book is aptly named.

Back in October, as Chair of the Parish Council, I was privileged to be invited to the official launch of this book and share the top table with the Leaders of Derbyshire County Council and Derbyshire Dales District Council. I had received a copy of the book a few days before and had given it a cursory scan before the day. After listening to comments at the launch and since then, I have been able to spend more time delving into this 'treasury of Matlock Bath' to find it has kept pulling me back so it could reveal even more about this wonderful village and see pictures I had never seen before.

The village exists because of tourism. It is its 'raison d'être'. For over 300 years, it has been welcoming visitors and it is to serve the needs of those visitors the village has developed. Because of 'tourism' we have a visual record of that development.

They came, they wrote, they painted, they photographed and through this archive, the book traces the development of the village over the last 320 years.

In his preface to the book, Cllr Barry Lewis, Leader of Derbyshire County Council writes: *"The world is changing all the time and we, and the places we inhabit, inevitably changes too. That is why it is critical to be well informed and to understand the history that shapes a place, to construct a narrative that gives sense of value to the place. That is what this book does"*.

For anyone with an interest in the village – both resident and visitor – this book is a treasure trove of illuminating facts and pictures. It is available from various outlets in the area and all profits will go to the Derwent Valley Mills World Heritage Site Educational Trust who have sponsored the production of this book. Perhaps it could be a Christmas present for some fortunate person! I commend this book to all who love and enjoy our wonderful village.



***Merry Christmas and
a Happy New Year!***



Digital Derbyshire Broadband Delivery in Matlock Bath

The Digital Derbyshire programme has recently upgraded the Broadband service to parts of Matlock Bath which means that many more residents and businesses can now order fibre broadband from an internet service provider (ISP) of their choice.

Properties in the Derby Road area with the following postcodes should now be eligible to benefit from faster broadband speeds. These are DE4 3PU, DE4 3PY and DE4 3PX

For more information about Digital Derbyshire log on to www.digitalderbyshire.org.uk

The Great River Derwent Clean Up & Paddle Peak – Pete Astles



PaddlePeak, a Community Group of Derbyshire paddlesport businesses, clubs and professionals have been out in canoes and kayaks during October cleaning the River Derwent and its banks. The Group were joined by the entire staff from Peak UK Kayaking Co and members of Matlock Bath's local community on one of the days. The local clean up was also part of the Surfers Against Sewage Autumn Beach Clean week.

The intrepid team cleaned the entire river over a 20 mile stretch from Rowsley to Milford. The mammoth effort took five full days and the Paddle Peak volunteers shifted 5 truckloads of rubbish from the river totalling several tons. The waste collected included a TV, a wheelie bin, wheelbarrow minus the wheel, shopping trolley, road barrier, garden furniture set including parasol, polybags, plastic bottles, chip trays, polystyrene cups, a broken kayak from the 1980s, a bin and more. Road cones and wet wipes being the most common.

Thanks to all of the volunteers from the community of Matlock Bath, Peak UK, Peaks and Paddles, Rapid Horizons, Escape UK, Peak Paddlers, Acclimatize, Abworx and more for making this huge undertaking possible.

Further thanks must go to The Square and Compass, Darley Dale, Masson Mills, Willersley Castle Hotel, Cromford Mills, The Family Tree, Whatstandwell, White Peak Distillery, Litchfield Group and The Hurt Arms, Ambergate for helping Paddle Peak access the river.

And last but not least our Friends at Darley Dale, Belper and Matlock Town Council for believing in our project and Derbyshire Dales District Council and Amber Valley Borough Council for their amazing support and collecting all of the rubbish.

Paddle Peak's future goals include inspiring local businesses, especially fast food outlets to go plastic free, attempt to eliminate plastic bags of flour being thrown into our beautiful River Derwent during the Boxing Day Raft Event, and to provide more rubbish bins and recycling in key areas along the riverside.

If you want to find out more about Paddle Peak's work and vision for the Derwent Valley log on to www.paddlepeak.org



Seniors' Christmas Lunch 2019



On Monday 2nd December a group of seniors from the village gathered at The New Bath Hotel for the Parish Council's Seniors' Lunch. 29 attended including 4 residents from Masson House. From a varied menu, the gathering enjoyed festive prawn cocktail, smoked salmon, roast turkey with all the trimmings, melt in the mouth blade of beef all finished off with Christmas pudding or a chocolate dessert. Then rounded off with pots of tea and coffee which was delivered by the helpful staff.

As we all started to leave, we received comments such as 'why do we only do this once a year' and 'where were the rest of the seniors from the village'? If you missed out this year, we intend to repeat the event next Christmas (sorry to those who would like another sooner). Look out for advance warning in the June edition of the Newsletter.

Adoption of Matlock Bath Station

The adopters of Matlock Bath Station have been busy again over the Summer looking after the lovely florals at the station. Last week the winter bedding plants were planted so that the station will look bright and welcoming for train users throughout the winter and spring.

Being an adopter for the station is very rewarding and we are currently looking for new adopters to join our team. If you are interested in becoming an adopter please contact the Clerk – clerk@matlockbathparishcouncil.gov.uk

Grants Awarded

The Parish Council is pleased to announce that so far this year they have awarded grants to the Children's Christmas Party in the village, Matlock Bath Development Association and also to DASAC for the Raft Event. The Parish Council is proud to support worthy causes with our grants budget.

Pro Loco Art and Photography Competitions 2019

What an exciting and creative time the village has had this Autumn! This year, alongside the illuminations, the Art Competition and the Photography competition held in October, produced some outstanding work to highlight our beautiful village. Once again, we were amazed at how much talent they attract in all age categories. It seems with each year both competitions grow in popularity and standard.



1st Prize – Anne Holmes

The **Art Competition**, now in its 40th year, attracted 13 adult entries and 6 in the children's categories. We were delighted to see various media used to create some stunning work, all depicting scenes of Matlock Bath. The entries were all displayed in the Pump Room of the Grand Pavilion in October when, as usual, we asked for the public to vote for their favourite work in each age category. This year we displayed both the Art and Photography at the same time which proved very successful.

This year's adult winner, together with all previous winners can be seen in the Conference Centre at Masson Mills. Anyone wishing to see the exhibition can contact Masson Mills Museum direct.



Parish Council Award – Malcolm Walters

The 1st and 2nd Prizes were sponsored by Sir Richard Arkwright's Masson Mills and were awarded as follows: 1st Prize – Anne Holmes, 2nd Prize – Stephen Allen, 3rd Prize, sponsored by the Heights of Abraham, went to Kathleen Kellett.

Other prizes awarded included – Most Creative and Innovative was awarded to Linda Hardy with the Parish Council Award going to Malcolm Walters and Ana Anstead.



2nd Prize – Juniors – Maisie Swain



1st Prize - Juniors – Ellie Keay

Junior prizewinners were: 1st Prize – Ellie Keay, 2nd Prize – Maisie Swain, 3rd Prize – Rupert Thomas Wiltshire. Secondary prizewinner was Ted Edwards.

All entries received including the winning pictures can be found on our website – www.matlockbathparishcouncil.gov.uk

Pro Loco Art and Photography Competitions 2019 (cont)

The **Photography Competition**, in its 10th year, was held alongside the Art Competition, again in the Pump Room of the Grand Pavilion. We had another bumper entry of outstanding shots this year with over 250 entries, shortlisted with extreme difficulty to 83. We are extremely grateful to local photographer, Robert Morris, for his help in shortlisting the entries again. The winners this year were: 1st Prize – Sam Devonport, 2nd Prize – Steve Watson, 3rd Prize – Mike Swain, Best Villager – Cathy Cresswell

The Parish Council Award went to Sheri Harvey for her picture of the River Derwent in both black and white and colour



1st Prize – Sam Devonport



***Best Picture of the Pavilion – Peter Cresswell &
Best Villager – Cathy Cresswell***



Parish Council Award – Sheri Harvey

In the "Best Picture of" categories, winners were: Holy Trinity Church – Peter Keeble, Heights of Abraham – Grace Wells, Illuminations – David Harrison, Masson Mills – Pete Astles, Heritage – Jo Meakin, The Grand Pavilion – Peter Cresswell

In the Young Photographer category, Brandon Lees won 1st Prize with Georgina Lambert and Callum Conquest coming 2nd and 3rd respectively. The Junior Photographer category was won by Maisie Swain and 2nd Fraser Piggott.

Presentation Ceremony - All prizewinners for the Art and Photography competitions were invited to a presentation when the winner of each of the many categories was announced and presented with their prizes. Once again, this year it was held in the Ballroom of The New Bath Hotel. The presentations were made by Andrew Pugh from The Heights of Abraham, one of the main sponsors of the competitions. Over 50 people attended the evening.

As well as seeing all the winning Art and Photography, it also gave the Parish Council the opportunity to say a formal 'thank you' to all those residents in the village who have helped us in our work during the year. This includes planting and maintaining the florals around the village, delivering newsletters, litter picking and other voluntary tasks which help make our village a place for all to enjoy. If you would like to join the growing band helping around the village, do get in touch. We can never have too many of you and I can assure you your contribution will be both appreciate and acknowledged.

We would like to thank all the sponsors of the competitions, a full list of whom can be found on the competitions section of the website. Thanks also to The New Bath Hotel for supporting the Parish Council for this event and at other times throughout the year. Although the above mentioned are the winners, we would like to extend our thanks to everyone who entered either of the competitions. The standard this year was high.

The Parish Council is extremely grateful to all our sponsors – Holy Trinity Church, Derbyshire Dales District Council (Illuminations), The Grand Pavilion and in particular The Heights of Abraham and Sir Richard Arkwright's Masson Mills. We will be soon making arrangements for the 2020 Pro Loco Art and Photography Competitions so why not start to think about entering? Our village looks stunning all year round, so how about capturing its beauty or character on canvas, in a textile piece or perhaps through a camera lens?

There are prizes on offer for all age groups – check out our website for details in the New Year. To see all of the entries in both competitions, including the winning entries, log on to our website – www.matlockbathparishcouncil.gov.uk and follow the links from the home page.

Matlock Bath Sports Area

As residents are aware, the Parish Council has decided to undertake a renovation project with the Matlock Bath Sports Area. We have received quotations for the work and we are in consultation with Derbyshire Dales District Council regarding its future use. We very much hope that work can start as soon as possible in the New Year. Funding for the project will be from rent received for hiring out plus ringfenced money from the Parish Council. Regular updates will be given in future newsletters and on our website – www.matlockbathparishcouncil.gov.uk

Winter Service Scheme

It's not too late to sign up as a volunteer for the Winter Service Scheme. You may recall that the Parish Council is part of a scheme operated by Derbyshire County Council called the Winter Service Scheme. This scheme requires volunteers to help keep clear footpaths in snowy weather. DCC provides the Parish Council with bags of salt for the volunteers to use.

Jonathan Keay, a resident of the village, has agreed to act as Snow Warden this year and will be the contact point for this scheme. It is hoped that in previous years we will be able to deliver salt to those volunteers who sign up and co-ordinate the clearing of snow and ice on pavements.

We do know of many residents in the village who already clear pavements in the inclement weather but by participating in this scheme will allow the grit in the yellow bins dotted around the village to be used on the highway and therefore reducing the cost to the Council. Can we also stress to residents that the grit provided in the yellow bins should only be used for the highway and not private driveways. If you wish to grit your own private drive, bags of grit/salt can be purchased locally at a reasonable cost. Volunteers who clear snow and ice will be required to complete a fit to participate form. You still have time to sign up so if you would like to volunteer to clear the pavements near you, please contact the Clerk – clerk@matlockbathparishcouncil.gov.uk or telephone 07914 420545.

Christmas and New Year Waste and Recycling - DDDC

Derbyshire Dales residents have been reminded that the Christmas and New Year bank holidays mean some bin collection days change over the festive fortnight. Monday and Tuesday collections are unchanged.

Residents are asked to note that no additional household waste will be collected, so are advised to make sure all their household waste is contained in their grey bin with the lid shut, or, for homes on a sack collection, in four standard sized black sacks. Residents should limit the amount of household waste they put out but we are always happy to take excess recycling. Any additional material should be left at the side of recycling containers, making sure it is easily identifiable and suitably contained. More information on presenting excess recycling can be found online at www.derbyshiredales.gov.uk/excessrecycling



Stamp appeal **RNIB**
See differently

Collect your used stamps and help us create a future where sight loss is no longer a barrier.

Order your pre-paid envelopes and boxes today!

 rnib.org.uk/stamps

 0345 345 0054

 rnibstamps@rnib.org.uk

© RNIB registered charity in England and Wales (226227), Scotland (SC039316), Isle of Man (1220). Also operating in Northern Ireland.

 Registered with FUNDRAISING REGULATOR

Illuminations 2019

At the recent Illuminations Liaison Meeting, Derbyshire Dales District Council reported another successful illuminations season despite the high river levels badly affecting 5 nights including the cancellation of the final weekend. This year a new electrical company were given the task of looking after the lighting which proved extremely successful. More visitors are getting involved in voting for their favourite boat – 1227 votes were cast. DDDC reported the improved support from local businesses this year. In addition, DDDC is taking steps to address the climate change emergency by replacing the old festoons with new LED lights. This equates to a reduction of 6,859KWh in electricity used and 1.9 tonnes of carbon dioxide saved.

Website and social media is proving to be an excellent way of communication with 31,028 followers on Facebook and the top post this season reaching 115,176 people and 63% of followers aged between 25-44.

The number of pedlars this year was down on previous years with 38 attendances by the pedlars, averaging 7 in attendance per week. There will be continued improvement required and join working with other authorities and local businesses to further lower pedlar attendances.

In 2019 41,155 people attended with 80% of those tickets sold on line. Ticket income this year was £170,876, £42462 down on 2018 but this was due to ticket sales being paused and the final weekend cancelled due to high river levels.

Looking forward to 2020 will see continued work on new lighting and further reductions in power consumption, the consideration of more entertainment between 6.00 pm-7.00 pm, activities in Memorial Gardens and an exploration of ways to improve September attendance.

Rickshaw Challenge



(photograph courtesy of Derbyshire Dales District Council)

It was great to see the Rickshaw Challenge arrive in Matlock Bath this year. A team of six young people and the One Show's Matt Baker took on an eight day challenge to cycle 400 miles from Holyhead to London.

It was good that so many residents welcomed Matt and his team into our village and show their support for this important cause.

The rickshaw challenge managed to raise £5.5 million along the way and £8.5 million in total thanks to The Hunter Foundation, which donated £3 million.

A View from the Bath Chair – Cllr Peter Baranek



By the time you read this Newsletter, you will probably have the tree up, most of the presents brought and wrapped and be enjoying the run up to the Christmas break. The Parish Council has held the last meeting of 2019, held the Seniors' Christmas lunch, the children have had their party at The Fishpond so all is left is our 'Singing Round the Tree' on 23rd December at 7.00 pm in Memorial Gardens. Though we have got most of our winter lighting brightening up the village on these dark and dreary nights, as yet our tree is still in darkness. Unfortunately when our

Electrician came to switch on the lights, the power supply used in the Memorial Gardens – housed in the flower beds by the road – was not operational. We think that the floods have done their worst and are awaiting Derbyshire Dales electricians to rectify the problem. We will do our utmost to have them on before Christmas.

Speaking of problems, during storms in the middle of November, three large trees on Lovers' Walk were damaged by the wind and rain, two falling near to the play area and seriously damaging the adjacent shelter. They also brought down a section of our festoon lights. We had to turn off all the lights to make them safe, but we hope to have the remaining lights back on by the time you read this. The repair of the two missing lengths of festoon may take a little longer as we need a cherry picker that is small enough to access Lovers' Walk over the bridge in Derwent Gardens.

The bus shelter just before the station corner coming from Matlock has also been damaged. The Parish Council is looking to get it repaired. If anyone can throw light on how and when the damage occurred, can they please get in touch with the Clerk. If you see damage around the village, please report it as soon as possible. You are our eyes and ears.

Wasn't November a great month for exposure on TV for the village. Primetime programmes on two consecutive evenings on BBC. Of course, you had prior knowledge of the Staycation programme in which I hope you saw many familiar faces. We knew of the Rickshaw Challenge visit, but notification of the event in the Autumn newsletter was embargoed by the BBC. I do hope many of you did hear about it and managed to get out and support this wonderful cause. I understand that after the success of the Staycation programme, the producers are hoping to return next year and film some more if they can get a commission. Perhaps Matlock Bath can compete with Essex and Chelsea with a long running series. All this exposure can only be positive for the village as a tourist destination. If any of you have photos of these events or anything else happening in the village and are not saving them to enter in next year's Pro Loco Photography Competition, do send them to us to use in the Newsletter as we do like stories with a picture.

I hope you all have a restful yet enjoyable Christmas and a wonderful New Year in which we hope to bring you more positive news from around the village.

Tackling Cybercrime – Launch of Digital MOT Service - DCC



Cybercrime is becoming an increasing threat in our more digital society and criminals are finding new and inventive ways to try and get our personal data and information. To help people feel safe and secure when they're online, Derbyshire County Council are launching a brand new Digital MOT service. It is an online risk assessment tool that has been designed to help people review their online safety and identify any actions they can take to protect themselves.

All you have to do is answer a few simple questions about your online habits and you will be able to see the most important steps you can take to avoid falling victim to cyber-scammers. Anyone needing help or support to access the Digital MOT can book a one-to-one session through their local library. Complete the Digital MOT at

<https://www.saferderbyshire.gov.uk/what-we-do/cyber-crime/reporting-cybercrime/digital-mot/digital-mot.aspx>

Update from CLIMB - CLIMB

For this year's Illuminations, Derbyshire Dales District Council began to put its declaration of a Climate Emergency into practice, spending £15,000 on new lighting using LED bulbs, which use a fraction of the energy used by older bulbs. The majority have been replaced, and progress will continue next year.

During the illuminations CLIMB members talked to visitors in the queue to the Illuminations about the Council's Climate Emergency actions and found the great majority of visitors care about councils responding to the Climate Emergency we all face. Peak Extinction Rebellion have now designed a questionnaire for local climate activists to use to collect the views of local people on what climate emergency measures they would choose for the local councils to act on first, and what actions they personally already take, are planning to take, don't know about, are unable to take or are not interested in taking. If you are asked for your views at the bus stop or in a queue, please help and let the councils know what you think.

Greenpeace has produced a document to outline the manifestos from each of the parties.

<https://www.greenpeace.org.uk/news/climate-debate-party-manifestos-climate-change-nature-2/>

Act of Remembrance 2019

On Sunday morning 10th November, local residents and some visitors gathered in the Memorial Gardens for the Act of Remembrance. Mike Greenan read the names of the fallen and then wreaths were placed – Cllr Jennifer Nettleship laid a wreath on behalf of the village and children from Holy Trinity School laid a wreath on behalf of the children of the village. Kevin Butterfield kindly read the Exhortation, Commitment and Dedication. Peter Dargavel kindly read a passage out of Charles Beresford's book – "The Bath at War" about a local serviceman. Rev Nick Grayshon led the hymns and prayer.

You may have noticed the lamppost poppies again this year in the village. The Parish Council supported this initiative by the Royal British Legion last year and purchased 20 poppies. The Hall Family very kindly sponsored the remaining poppies and arranged for them to be put up throughout the village and taken down. Our thanks go to everyone who was involved in Remembrance this year – not just the Service itself but Remembrance as a whole.

Christmas Services



Crib service at Holy Trinity Church – Sunday 22nd December at 4.00 pm

Interactive and suitable for all ages. Drinks and mince pies

God with us

Candlelit Carol Service – Sunday 22nd December at 6.00 pm

Christmas Eve Communion in St Mary's Church, Cromford – Tuesday 24th December at 11.00 pm

Family Holy Communion – Christmas Day – Wednesday 25th December at 10.00 am



Forget Me Not
COFFEE SHOP

(62 North Parade)(01269 55000)

Hello, to everyone in Matlock Bath. Not Sure if you are aware we are here. We are located next door to Derwent Amusments.

We do a wide variety of paninis, Toasties, Sandwiches, Jackets & a breakfast menu which is served all day

We also offer Yorkshire Tea, wide range of speciality teas, coffees, milkshakes and smoothies

Cream tea, savoury tea and afternoon teas

We offer a large selection of cakes & bakes most of which are made on the premises. Also available to order as a full cake for all celebrations & parties

Come and give us a try you won't be disappointed

10% of Cake & Drinks with this advert until end of January



District Councillor Report – Cllr Garry Purdy

The 7th November 2019 will go down in history as “The day of the floods that sadly took a life”. The floods affected the central spine of England with flooding areas from North Yorkshire down to Oxford and affected much of the central Derwent catchment. Our Authority did not receive a flood warning from Environment Agency until 4.10pm on the 7th, but this was for Darley Dale where our initial response took place, but as we now know much of our area was flooded from Hathersage down to Cromford. I met with the Prime Minister Boris Johnson on that evening at Matlock Police Station and we impressed upon him the urgent need for help from Central Government and the Environment Agency.

The Emergency Team at County Hall immediately sprung into action and coordinated efforts through the night and into the weekend with all the emergency services. Our staff did an excellent job with many volunteering to work through the night filling sandbags, contacting victims of flooding both business and residential throughout that weekend and with some Senior staff working 36 hours in total. A review on the flooding will be carried out by the Emergency Team and we will act upon that report. We promise to keep pressure on whichever Government is formed in order to improve flood defences in our area.

Whilst not wishing to be a killjoy, we have made approaches to the organisers of the Boxing Day Raft Race to do all they can to deter the action of throwing flour bags that contaminate our bridges and area and cost the Authority too much monies in a clean-up. Bear in mind this is taxpayers money.

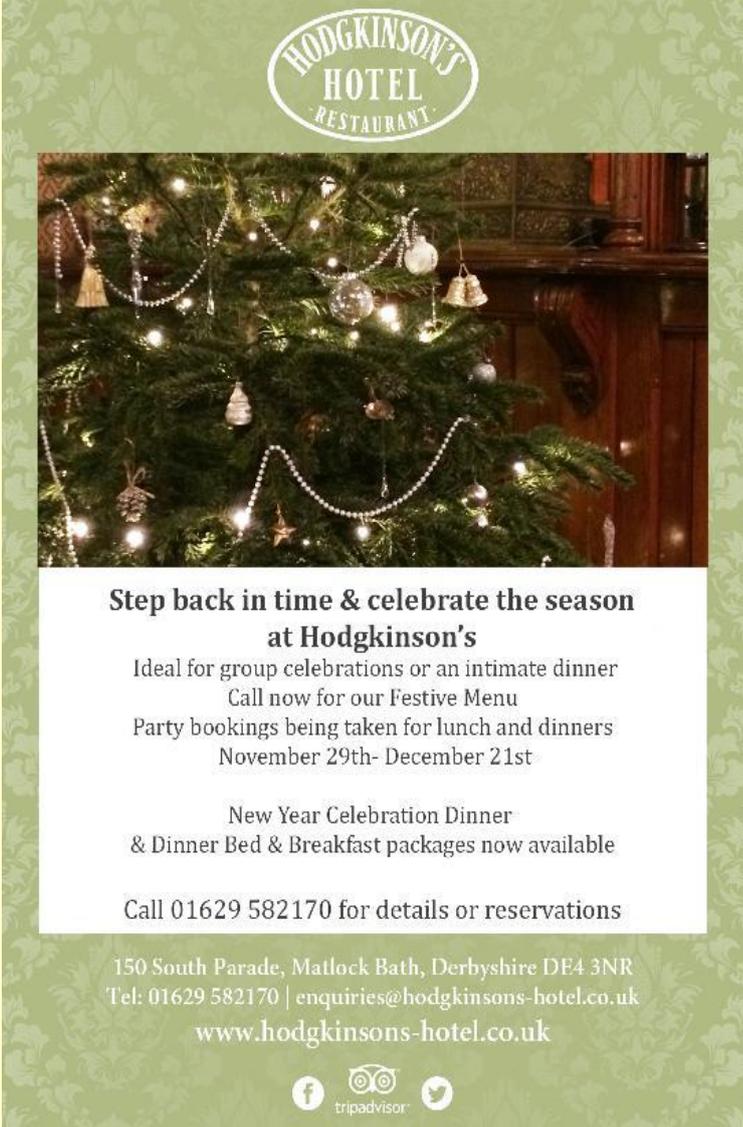
The Illuminations have had to battle the elements this year with the last night having to be cancelled. It is doubtful therefore that we might make any profit this year, but otherwise it has been a very successful event again and has bought much needed business to the village.

I do hope that you Have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Our Volunteers, Our Supporters and Our Thanks!

The Parish Council is appreciative of all the support it receives from the volunteers and supporters who help us with the work we do. From delivering Newsletters, planting trees, working in our Nature Reserve, planting and looking after our florals, litter picking, ‘manning the stand’ at our Competitions, sponsoring a prize or competition, station adopting or sitting on a Committee and more, we are truly grateful for the work you do.

It is encouraging to see so many people willing to support the Parish Council and we hope that you will very much wish to continue. There are so many to mention by name but you all know who you are so THANK YOU!



HODGKINSON'S HOTEL RESTAURANT

Step back in time & celebrate the season at Hodgkinson's

Ideal for group celebrations or an intimate dinner
Call now for our Festive Menu
Party bookings being taken for lunch and dinners
November 29th- December 21st

New Year Celebration Dinner
& Dinner Bed & Breakfast packages now available

Call 01629 582170 for details or reservations

150 South Parade, Matlock Bath, Derbyshire DE4 3NR
Tel: 01629 582170 | enquiries@hodgkinsons-hotel.co.uk
www.hodgkinsons-hotel.co.uk

***A View from the Bath' is published by Matlock Bath Parish Council, Coppice End, Woodland Terrace, Derby Road, Matlock Bath and printed by Ashover Print using FSC Certified Sources
Please recycle this Newsletter responsibly***

Website: www.matlockbathparishcouncil.gov.uk E-Mail: clerk@matlockbathparishcouncil.gov.uk

Telephone: 07914 420545