

A View from the Bath

A Newsletter from

Matlock Bath Parish Council

Spring 2018



Public Convenience Consultation



At a Special Meeting on 8th March, Derbyshire Dales Councillors considered a radical overhaul of public loos across the district in a bid to cut costs.

The District Council currently provides a total of 26 public conveniences on a discretionary basis at a cost of £467,000 per year and it has been reviewing public conveniences as one of its high priority measures in bridging a funding gap currently standing at £1 million over the next three years.

Councillors agreed to introduce a 20p charge for the use of the Memorial Gardens toilets.

A three week consultation will be held for toilets which are 'at risk'. These include the Pavilion and Artists Corner toilets. The consultation is designed to measure the potential impact of the closures.

Following consultation, Derbyshire Dales Councillors will meet again to make a final decision on the future of the Pavilion and Artists Corner toilets.

The Parish Council was approached with a view to taking over the toilets. After discussion it was agreed that the on-costs, ie maintenance and running costs were too high to be sustainable through the Precept. The Parish Council has sent in their objections to Derbyshire Dales as the Parish Council is very concerned about the closure of these two facilities.

Matlock Bath is a tourist destination and relies entirely on visitors to use the businesses in the village. Virtually all of the business are provided for the tourism market and the village's existence is a result of tourism.

Quality public conveniences are central to any tourist destination's success as they service the basic needs of all visitors to the village. DDDC has estimated around 700,000 visitors a year come to the village. The village economy, and that of the wider area, rely on this number being maintained and increasing. The possible proposal to close both the Pavilion and Artists Corner toilets will, we think, have a detrimental effect on visitor numbers. A single set in the Memorial Gardens for a village nearly 2 miles long with the number of visitors especially on busy days is insufficient.

Whilst the Parish Council is sympathetic to the fact that DDDC has difficult financial decisions to make, we feel that the bigger picture needs to be looked at. We think that given the correct planning and infrastructure, all the current Matlock Bath public conveniences could prove profitable. We are convinced that fewer toilet facilities will result in fewer visitor numbers and this will impact on both car park income and business rates for DDDC.

The Matlock Bath Development Association has commissioned an accessibility survey of the village to enable us to promote the village as an accessible destination. 15% of tourists have accessibility issues. The lack of adequate public toilet facilities disadvantages an already disadvantaged group, as most private providers do not have disabled toilet facilities.

Annual Parish Meeting

This year's Annual Parish Meeting will be held on **Wednesday 9th May 2018 at 6.00 pm**. All residents of the village are invited to attend. The purpose of this meeting is for residents to receive the annual report which consists of a written report on the work of the Parish Council over the last 12 months. The report will be published in the summer edition of 'A View from the Bath' as well as on our website. This meeting is a chance for you to tell the Parish Council what we are doing right and where we can improve what we do for the village.

Pro Loco Art and Photography Competitions 2018 – Cllr Lorraine Keeble

It's that time of year again ... and the Parish Council is excited to announce that both the Art and Photography Competitions for 2018 are now open! The days are starting to lengthen and the daffodils are peeping through so it really is the time to get creative. Following on from the success of last year's competitions, we now look forward to receiving your entries for this year. You have until September to submit so plenty of time to create your masterpieces! The competitions are open to all ages, we welcome entries from villagers and visitors alike and there are some great cash prizes to be won. Without the support of sponsors, the Parish Council would not be able to host the Pro Loco Competitions. We would like to take this opportunity to thank our sponsors of both competitions, in particular **Sir Richard Arkwright's Masson Mills** and **Heights of Abraham**.

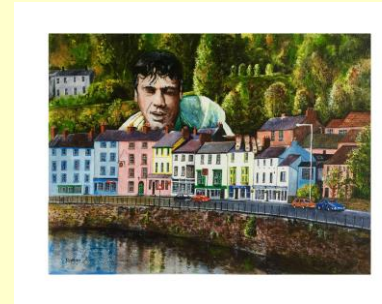


Entry by Georgia Davies, 2017

A Special Call to All Young Artists and Photographers in the Village!

In a slight change from previous years when entries for the Art Competition have been organised by Matlock Bath Holy Trinity School, we hope this year that alongside the school entries, families will be able to help children to enter individually and encourage their younger members to be inspired by Matlock Bath and all it has to offer. Of course, this also applies to the Photography Competition and all children are very welcome to enter both competitions.

Pro Loco Art 2018 – This will be the 39th year of our Pro Loco Art Competition and you have until **Friday 7th September 2018** to register your entry, with the main rule of the competition being that your work must feature a scene or artefact of Matlock Bath. The finished piece does not have to be a painting – you can use any media or mix of media, including textiles, 3D, embroidery, ceramics and graphics. If you would like to enter you need to register by completing an entry form either on line or by contacting the Clerk for a form. All finished work should be dropped off at a central location in Matlock Bath (to be confirmed) either before the closing date or no later than **Sunday 9th September 2018**. All entries will be displayed on Saturday 22nd and Sunday 23rd September 2018 in the Pump Room of the Pavilion where members of the public will be invited to vote for their favourite.



Entry by Stephen Allen, 2017

Prizes are awarded across all age ranges as well as prizes for Best Villager, Most Artistic and Innovative Design, Highly Commended and the Parish Council prize. For further details log on to our website.

To register your entry and for further details please see the website – www.matlockbathparishcouncil.gov.uk or contact the Clerk – clerk@matlockbathparishcouncil.gov.uk



Entry by Josh Dyson, 2017

Pro Loco Photography Competition 2018

This year marks the 9th Pro Loco Photography Competition hosted by Matlock Bath Parish Council and we look forward to showcasing your photographs of our beautiful village. Entrants have until **Friday 5th October** to submit up to 4 photographs depicting a scene or artefact of Matlock Bath. To enter the competition you will need to upload your photographs via our website.

Prizes are awarded across all age ranges as well as prizes for Best Villager, Best Picture of 'The Heritage of Matlock Bath', Best Picture of 'A Hidden Gem' and the Parish Council Prize. There will also be prizes for Best Picture of Categories. Our categories depend on sponsorship so there may be more – please keep an eye on the website for updates.

After the closing date, entries will be shortlisted and displayed on **Saturday 13th and Sunday 14th October** in the Pump Room of the Pavilion where members of the public will be invited to vote for their favourites.

To upload your photographs and for further details please see our website – www.matlockbathparishcouncil.gov.uk or contact the Clerk – clerk@matlockbathparishcouncil.gov.uk

We look forward to receiving your entries!

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.

A View from the Bath Chair – Cllr Peter Baranek



Since the December edition of the newsletter there have been some busy times in the Parish Office. Before Christmas there was the usual rush of events – *seniors' lunch* and *singing round the tree*. However, much time was taken with organising the new winter lighting at short notice as we heard very late that we had been awarded the Leader Grant and even though we managed to get the lights installed well before Singing Round the Tree, the electricity supply provided more of a challenge. Thanks to the support of DDDC, all the lights were operative by the evening of the event.

This should have been a warning of what was to follow in the New Year. Phase 2 of the leader grant has proved even more of a problem. We are due to meet with DDDC and the engineers to discuss the second phase of the lighting, which after feedback on the first phase has change slightly. The illuminated tree proved so popular that we have decided to have 3 more along the section from the Memorial Shelter to the Bridge. There will also be a continuation of the festoons from the bridge to The Riverside complex, but this necessitates new infrastructure fastened to the railings for which we need permission of DCC. We hope to have this in place in time for the end of the summer and a switch on of our winter lighting for 2018/9. Work on extra signage has been delayed by both planning issues and more latterly the possible closure of the public conveniences. There is little point us putting up signage pointing to non-existent toilets.

There has been some noticeable success to report though. Many forget that the civil parish stretches from Masson Mills / South End to the bottom of St John's Road – just past Artists' Corner. These can often become the forgotten parts of the village. We were pleased when we were able to replace a rather dilapidated notice board at Artists' Corner with the much nicer (and bigger) board taken from the wall of the Pavilion. It is currently undergoing repainting (weather permitting) and will soon be in the smart black livery of all new signage in the village.

The Parish Council has agreed to produce a ***Neighbourhood Plan*** for the village. Many other Town and Parish Councils in the country are producing these. It comes at no financial cost to the Parish as it is funded by a grant from central government. However, to produce this document which will inform planning in the village for the foreseeable future, we will need the help of residents. No previous experience of planning is required just a little local knowledge and a desire to improve and protect the lovely village where we live. More information will be available shortly.

We are currently awaiting the outcome of our planning application to use the 'run down and unusable' sports area to rent out as an activity area for young people during the season. This too has been a difficult process but we hope the area can be in use for all by this Easter Holiday.

The Parish Council has always been proactive in representing the residents' views to the Illuminations organisers. We are pleased to say that we now have a seat on the Illuminations Working Group and will continue to lobby on behalf of residents of the village.

Under the auspices of Marketing Peak District and Derbyshire's Market Town project, a Matlock Bath Town Team has been formed by some of the business owners in the village. This has met several times now and is developing many excellent ideas for promoting the village. Any business owner who has not become involved already would be welcome to join and become part of this vibrant organisation.

Ladybird Shopping Village

Ladybird Shopping Village is located in a former Methodist Church right in the centre of the main high street in the village of Matlock Bath. Every weekend from February, you will find up to 20 independent small retailers selling a fabulous selection of handmade and carefully selected unique items & gifts. ENTRY IS FREE and every week we try to bring you something different, which includes:

- Homemade Honey & Preserves
- Delicious Pastries & Cakes
- Beautiful Jewellery & Scarves
- Handmade Woodwork Items
- Handmade Greeting Cards
- Handmade Picture & Bottle Art
- Therapy Products & Services
- Sweets & Confectionery

...in fact, the list is endless. So why not take a walk along the beautiful North Parade in Matlock Bath and pop-in to the Ladybird Shopping Village. You'll receive a warm welcome from all and maybe find that unique and personal gift or treat for yourself. By visiting Ladybird Shopping Village you'll not only be supporting small businesses, you'll also be supporting Derbyshire.

Seniors Christmas Lunch 2017/2018

Our Seniors Christmas Lunch for 2017 was held again at The New Bath Hotel. The hotel was a delightful venue and a fine lunch was enjoyed by all 51 who attended. We are extremely delighted that the numbers attending our Christmas Lunches have continued to grow each year. In view of the increasing numbers we ask those attending whether they would contribute £5 towards their meals. This allows us to accommodate more attendees.

We are still looking at dates for the 2018 Christmas Lunch and we will publish details in the Summer edition (June) of "A View from the Bath".

The Frankenstein Festival - Matlock Bath Development Association

As mentioned in previous newsletters, the Development Association are working with the English Literature department of Sheffield University co-ordinating a 9 day festival in the village from 27th October until 4th November. Why Frankenstein and why in Matlock Bath? This year is the 200th anniversary of the publication of the iconic book by Mary Shelley. In the novel, Dr Frankenstein visits Matlock Bath. The purists will say it is Matlock but the mention of 'little Switzerland' and a visit to the caves clearly identifies Matlock Bath and 200 years ago the whole area was known as Matlock. The final programme for the festival will not be announced until the summer but already we have commitments to a short story writing competition; talks on **Mary Shelley** and on **our perception of 'the monster'** by world renowned experts in this field; a free exhibition about the book, Mary Shelley, Matlock Bath in the early 1800s; music events, activities for all ages and much more. The list is growing every week.



As the small germ of an idea has blossomed into quite an event, we realised that this could not happen without funding. We have applied to the Arts Council for a grant to help support this event which we hope will become an annual occurrence. We will know the outcome of our bid in mid-April and then we will be able to plan on a more formal footing.

The main tagline for the festival will be **Big Monsters in Little Switzerland – the Return of Frankenstein**. Very shortly a website dedicated just to the festival will be live at www.thefrankensteinfestival.co.uk with a Facebook page @TheFrankensteinFestivalMB and also a twitter account. If you need to email the festival organisers - frankenstein@matlockbathda.co.uk will find us. We also have a Frankenstein adaption of our logo. If you or someone you know would be interested in helping with an event or putting on an event or just has some great ideas, please get in touch. I am sure we all know monsters, big or small, who will enjoy being part of what should be a memorable event.

Eroica Britannia Festival - DCC

Eroica Britannia is keen to help local residents of Derbyshire enjoy the experience of the vintage bike ride and associated festival. This year the organisers are pleased to offer a special promotion to local residents. If the promotional code PCDISCOUNT2018 is entered onto the website www.eroicabritannia.co.uk when booking a Tier 2 three-day adult festival pass then the price is reduced by 50% to £17.50. (Note: this code expires on the 13th April). Remember Kids aged 12 and under are FREE. Also please pass on this information to your friends and families as this code is also valid for them.

<p>OPEN Tuesday - Saturday evenings From 6pm Last Table 8pm</p> 	<p>Our new 'Artistry' restaurant is now open</p> <p>to book call 01629 340340</p> <p>or visit</p> <p>www.newbathhotelandspa.com</p>
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Boxing Day Raft Event 2017 – Stephen Eyre (DASAC)

This was the 56th year of the event run by the Derbyshire Association of Sub Aqua Clubs for divers and their guests to have some fun down the River Derwent on Boxing Day.

The event started at Matlock – about 3 miles down the River Derwent to Cromford Meadows. 40 rafts and 400 rafters started with around 5,000 spectators along the course.

The Mayor of Matlock presented the prizes this year at the Fishpond following the event.

A street collection raised £1809 for the RNLI. An award was presented to DASAC to acknowledge the fundraising over the years. To date the money raised for the RNLI over the past 56 years through this event is about £120,000.

Thankfully there were no major medical incidents this year apart from a suspected sprained arm. DASAC would like to thank Singletons Medical Cover of Lincoln for their help and assistance with this.

We had three live radio interviews with BBC Radio Derby to publicise the event and to request no eggs or plastic be thrown. 200 flyers were given out with the same request. Thankfully, more marshals were positioned in the 'hot spots' and we managed to confiscate over 600 eggs which were later donated to a homeless shelter. You may recall that in 2016, we had a serious problem with eggs being thrown which can be dangerous and cause injury. Although we allow flour in paper bags as these will dissolve in the river, plastic bags are NOT allowed as this can damage wildlife.

Thanks go to Matlock Bath Parish Council for a grant to purchase safety radios.

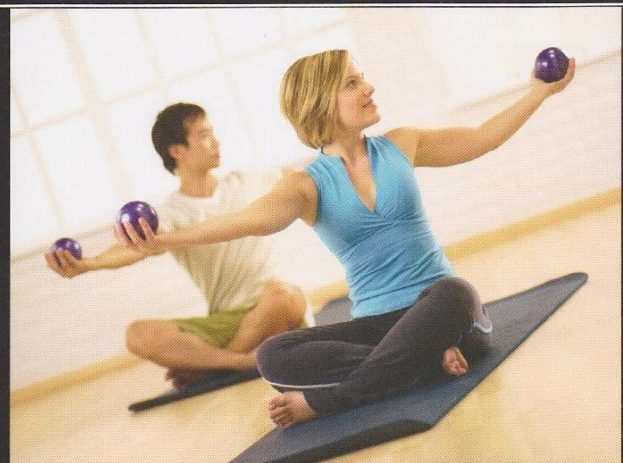
Another very successful year for the event and have received good reports so far.

To see photographs from the event, log on to www.matlockraftevent.co.uk

Preparations are now in hand for this year's event. All divers and guests are welcome to enter – please see our website or e-mail me at Stephen.eyre@blueyonder.co.uk or telephone 07813207944.



We need more help and volunteers to assist with this event. If you can help us please contact me.



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7pm – Intermediate class – Suitable for sporty types

£7 drop in

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or Email helenmednikovball@gmail.com

find us on Facebook **Pilates at the pav**

District Councillor Report – Cllr Joyce Pawley

Fuel Poverty – On a bright, cold frosty morning I started to think about how lovely it was to be tucked up warm inside. Not everyone is so lucky.

We keep hearing about climate change, fuel poverty and energy efficiency in the news but did you know that Derbyshire Dales District Council is working in partnership with the Local Authorities Energy Partnership, Derby County Council and local GPs to identify those people who live in energy inefficient houses?

If you struggle to pay your energy bills or find it difficult to afford to improve your home, or suffer from chronic health problems associated with cold living conditions, help is at hand. The District Council has decided to work with their partners to assist those people who are most at risk from fuel poverty.

For more information about this scheme contact Derbyshire Dales District Council on 01629 761212 or envhealth@derbyshiredales.gov.uk

What Goes in Which Bin? For a full A-Z list go to Derbyshire Dales Clean and Green Tab on their website and select the A-Z of Waste. It's amazing what's included!

Do you ever ask where do I put this? Here are the answers for a few of the more unusual waste items you might need to recycle:

Aluminium Coffee Capsules - Grey bin/Black sack
Crab Shell - Food Caddy
Envelopes (with window) - Blue lid/blue bag
Knitting Needles - Grey bin/black sack

Wishing you all an enjoyable and healthy Spring.

Live Life Better Derbyshire

Live Life Better Derbyshire is a free healthy lifestyles service that offers advice and help on a wide range of health and wellbeing topics.

This covers the following key areas:

- stop smoking
- weight management
- getting active
- mental health and wellbeing
- falls prevention
- alcohol awareness
- housing and financial help

Live Life Better also works closely with local businesses to improve the health and wellbeing of Derbyshire workforces.

How can people join?

Find out more about the Live Life Better Derbyshire service by calling 0800 085 2299 or 01629 538200.

Alternatively visit the website to take part in a short online assessment. Visit: [Lifelifebetterderbyshire.org.uk](http://lifelifebetterderbyshire.org.uk)
Call: 0800 085 2299 or 01629 538200 Email: lbd.info@derbyshire.gov.uk

HOLY TRINITY CHURCH MATLOCK BATH

invites you to

MATLOCK BATH LUNCH CLUB

*12 noon to 2pm at the church
The first Thursday of every month*

SOUP and SANDWICHES

No charge, donations welcome.

We would be delighted
if you would join us!



District Councillor Report – Cllr Garry Purdy

As you will no doubt have heard that a special meeting was called by Derbyshire Dales District Council to deal with an extensive survey our officers have conducted on the whole of the public conveniences owned and run by the Authority. This has been brought about due to the continuing austerity cuts by HM Government and the fact that the Authority has to save at least another £1 million pounds in its budget.

If they agree to the recommendations throughout the District, it will save the Authority in the region of £250,000 per annum.

The recommendations are as follows:

Artists Corner – close the public convenience and offer the building for sale at public auction.

Memorial Gardens – pay on entry.

Grand Pavilion – this facility is annexed to the Grand Pavilion and has a significant issue regarding its age and high cost to bring it up to modern standard – proposal is to demolish the toilet block and landscape the site.

The officers conducting this review have carried out a thorough and comprehensive survey over the past few months looking at all of the issues surrounding each public convenience in the district.

At the beginning of March a meeting took place to deal with recommendations on Business Rates

Discretionary Relief Policy, a policy designed to assist and encourage business growth in the Derbyshire Dales. The recommendations in the report can be seen on our website, www.derbyshiredales.gov.uk but the meeting was mainly to seek approval to go out to consultation on the recommendations.

Ladybird Shopping Village

♥ Matlock Bath ♥

“The Heart Of Independent Shopping”

Ladybird Shopping Village is located in a former Methodist Church right in the centre of the main high street in the village of Matlock Bath. Every weekend from February, you will find up to 20 independent small retailers selling a fabulous selection of handmade and carefully selected unique items & gifts. ENTRY IS FREE and every week we try to bring you something different, which includes:

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OPENING DAYS/TIMES

- Sat & Sun from 17/2 to 28/10
- Every Bank Holiday Inc Good Friday
- Every Mon, Tue, Wed of the Children's School Holidays.

Opening Time: 10.30am
Closing Time: Vary throughout season

Like our FACEBOOK page:
[@ladybirdshoppingvillage](https://www.facebook.com/ladybirdshoppingvillage)
where you will find all the opening & closing dates/times along with lots of other up-to-date information.

Facebook: www.facebook.com/ladybirdshoppingvillage
Email: ladybird.bookings@hotmail.com

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[/NewExerciseRoadshow](https://www.facebook.com/NewExerciseRoadshow)
Janine 07769 565012

Christmas & Singing Round the Tree 2017/2018



In December, around 50 residents joined together to have a Christmas "sing-song" around the Christmas Tree. Music was again provided by John Phillips and Gerry Kreibich. Afterwards the Midland hosted a buffet on behalf of the Parish Council. Our thanks for all their help and support go to the Midland, Gerry, John and MDS who provided the PA system.

Following a hectic 'run up' to the event, we managed to get Phase 1 of our Winter Lighting up. Thank you for the feedback so far – we very much hope that residents feel that the introduction of these lights has 'lit up' Matlock Bath.

The date for this year's singing round the tree will be announced in the Summer issue of "A View from the Bath".

Matlock Bath Development Association CIC



Uncovering the Past, Improving the Present, Building the Future

The Community Interest Company, set up last year as a result of the Into the Future project with Derby University, continues to press forward with improvements in the village. We have new members joining, including residents, who will help and advise the directors in their work. Full details of all the meetings are published on the website at

www.matlockbathda.co.uk

Heritage - Work continues with the Heritage Interpretation Boards that will be placed at strategic points around the village that will tell the exciting story of the history of the village. Many of the iconic buildings have been lost but with the help of pictures and the use of technology we hope these will bring the history of the village to life. We hope to be submitting a HLF grant application this Spring.

Frankenstein Festival – see separate article

Accessibility Study - We received a grant from Derwentwise at the end of last year and have commissioned Accessible Derbyshire to do an accessibility study of the village and liaise with the businesses on accessibility issues. The report is now complete and is being studied by the Directors and Members. A guide will be available shortly and we hope this will encourage more people with disabilities to visit the village. Visit England statistics show that 'the purple pound' is 15% of tourism income. Any improvements to the village resulting from this report will of course also benefit residents.

Historic England - Our contact continues to progress, and they are to facilitate a full day conference in early October at the New Bath Hotel and all parties who have an interest in the development of the village are being invited. We hope to update you on this in the summer.

Renewable Energy Source - We have made contact with Nottingham University Energy Innovation and Collaboration Department and meeting with them after Easter to look at organising a feasibility study into the use of the thermal water in the village as a source of renewable energy. This is an exciting project which we hope will bring assistance to many buildings in the village.

Please check the website for all the latest information and Minutes for all meetings. We have updated our 'vision' for the village and after this month's meeting will be publishing it on our website. A reminder that the links in our 'vision' are all based on the University report into the future of the village and that also is on the website at <http://matlockbathda.co.uk/images/MBDA/Docs/Destination-Management-Plan-final-draft.pdf>

If you would like to get in touch with us about any aspect of what we are doing, please contact info@matlockbathda.co.uk or call 07970 420545. This could be with ideas or offers to assist with the work we are doing. We are a group of enthusiastic volunteers working to make Matlock Bath a better place for all

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

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