

A View from the Bath

A Newsletter from

Matlock Bath Parish Council

Summer 2018



The Matlock Bath 'Spend a Penny' Project



Following the closure of the two public conveniences facilities in the village, a consortium has been formed by community groups to build a new facility in the village. The community consortium consists of Matlock Bath Development Association, The Grand Pavilion, Matlock Bath Town Team, The Peak District Mining Museum, Accessible Derbyshire, Matlock Bath Bowling Club and Matlock Bath Parish Council and is supported by Marketing Peak District and Derbyshire.

To be sited close to the Pavilion and at the entrance to Derwent Gardens, this facility will provide all year-round high quality unisex cubicles, a second more traditional facility for use at busy times such as bank holidays and during events and 'changing places' toilet. To cover running costs of the facility a small charge will be made for use. Added currently to the build will also be a tourist information point with a 24 hour access and free Wi-Fi, an office for a proposed Town Manager and storage.

The provisional development costs are around £180,000. To fund the building project, the consortium is applying for grant funding from the RDPE Growth Fund for Rural Tourism infrastructure (up to 80% of the costs) and a Derbyshire County Council Action Grant (£10,000) and to manage the facility and other work the consortium wishes to do in the village, a grant from the Big Lottery Partnership Fund of around £100,000. Further funding will be raised by Accessible Derbyshire towards the 'changing places' unit, a state of the art facility that can cater for the needs of those with disabilities.

However, we also need the help of the many visitors, residents and businesses in the village in two ways. Firstly, we need those who like us, who feel that such a facility is crucial to the village to either go on line at <https://goo.gl/WtF2q6> and add their voice of support or when you next visit a business in the village, add your name to the list of supporters that most are holding. Secondly, we are collecting pennies (and tuppences) at all of our support points in the village so if you can donate any coppers to this good cause, please do so on your next visit to a business in the village.

Further updates on the progress of grant funding can be found on our website.

The Illuminations, Fireworks & Access Only Roads

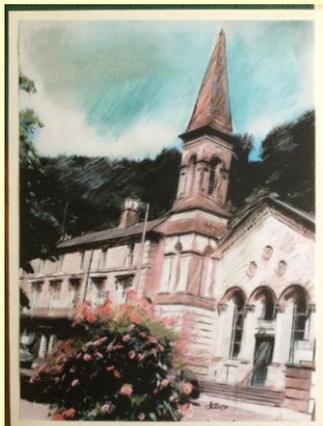
Although Summer has only recently arrived, our thoughts have to turn to that harbinger of autumn and darker evenings – 'The Illuminations'. If you live in a property on an 'access only' road or accessed from one of these roads you will receive with this Newsletter, a letter from Derbyshire Dales District Council along with two 'resident' car notices.

The most serious problems occur during the fireworks evenings and as there are to be eight this year, it is important to have in place the necessary safeguards to protect the village from parking gridlock. Focus has been on the side roads which seem to become a target for visitor 'free parking' – Clifton Road, Temple Road, Waterloo Road, Holme Road (and all roads accessed via Holme Road). On 'Fireworks Evenings' – the eight Saturdays from **8th September** – all these roads will have a 'road closure enforcement' from 2.00 pm. They will have a security officer from the illuminations stationed at the junction with the A6 (apart from Temple Road when they will be just past the entrance to Gullivers). Security Officers will only allow vehicles with the necessary permit to access these roads thus enforcing the 'access only' regulation. St Johns Road and the New Bath Road will also be closed but will not have an illuminations security officer.

Please read the enclosed letter carefully and put the notices in a safe place. As with everything the Parish Council does, we welcome feedback from residents – both positive and negative. We hope that these arrangements will make the side roads and properties much safer during these congested times for the village.

Pro Loco Art and Photography Competitions 2018

Just a reminder that both the Art and Photography Competitions for 2018 are now open! We love to see entries from residents which showcase our lovely village.



Entry from John Buckland, 2017

Pro Loco Art 2018 – This will be our 39th year of our Pro Loco Art Competition and you have until **Friday 7th September 2018** to register your entry. As in previous years, your finished piece does need to depict a scene or artefact within Matlock Bath. You can enter on line by completing the entry form 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.

We award a number of prizes including a prize to the best "Villager".

For further details regarding prizes etc, please log on to www.matlockbathparishcouncil.gov.uk

Pro Loco Photography Competition 2018 – This will be our 9th Pro Loco Photography Competition and you have until **Friday 5th October** to submit up to 4 photographs depicting a scene or artefact of Matlock Bath.

All shortlisted entries will be 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.

We award a number of prizes including a prize to the best "Villager".

For more information regarding entry and prizes available, log on to www.matlockbathparishcouncil.gov.uk



Entry by Steve Watson, 2017

Matlock Bath Rowing Boats – Paul Henshall



Matlock Bath rowing boats welcomes MEGHAN, a brand new motorboat. It has an easy access ramp that is ideal for wheelchair users and anyone with mobility needs.

Carers go free when assisting clients Monday-Friday.

Sit back, relax and view our beautiful river from a different perspective at a leisurely pace.

The pleasure trip takes approximately 30 minutes for you to take in the views and watch the wildlife on the river, see Dippers, Moorhens, Pied Wagtails, Canadian Geese, Kingfishers and Ducks with their ducklings.

Matlock Bath residents please cut out this article and bring along to receive a discount on your trip.

Open from 11.30am - 6.00pm, 7 days a week throughout the season.

Seniors Christmas Lunch 2018

We are pleased to announce that we will be hosting another Seniors Lunch this year. The lunch will be held on **Tuesday 4th December 2018**. We have yet to confirm the venue. If you would like to attend the Seniors Lunch this year please contact the Clerk at clerk@matlockbathparishcouncil.gov.uk or telephone 07914 420545 to reserve a place.

As we reported last year, the numbers attending has increased year on year. In view of these increasing numbers we would ask again this year whether a contribution of £5 is made towards each meal. This allows us to accommodate more attendees.

A View from the Bath Chair – Cllr Peter Baranek



With us all enjoying some unusually hot and fine summer weather and the so-called summer break soon to be upon us we are hoping that work for the Parish Council will ease during the coming weeks. With the news today that Network Rail is to close the crossing at the station and all the other issues we have already reported in this newsletter, I fear that this is not the case. The possibility of the crossing closure has been on the cards for some time. It appears to be a national policy with no account being taken for our local circumstances. This is the main pedestrian access to the Heights of Abraham and it is a well-used local footpath. The Heights have issued the following statement today: *The crossing has provided a vital access route for the local community, visitors to The Heights of Abraham and High Tor since 1849. Whilst we do not believe the crossing is dangerous, we do understand that it is in need of considerable investment and improvement. We therefore look forward to working with Network Rail, Derbyshire Dales District Council and all stakeholders to find a solution.* The Parish Council will, of course, give as much support to the aims of the Heights as we can and endeavour to keep the pedestrian access currently enjoyed open.

This is just one of the many challenges facing the development of the village currently. The efforts and enthusiasm of many residents and businesses to take the village forward currently seems fraught with further hurdles. Apart from the Clerk, which is a paid post, all others who work tirelessly for the Parish Council do so as volunteers. We rely heavily on these volunteers to make things happen. With an increased workload and 'aging' volunteers these positive outcomes become harder to achieve. We therefore call on all those residents who would like to see the village move forward positively to see if they can find a small amount of time to assist us in our work. The nine councillors cannot do everything – made harder because we are 1 councillor short. We also rely on other volunteers to assist with managing the florals in the village, assisting with the competitions we run including during the voting process that takes place over two weekends in October, assisting on the nature reserve, serving on committees with Councillors and helping deliver the 400 newsletters 4 times a year. If any of these tasks appeal, we would love you to join our team. Maybe you have a skill or interest in an area we could use that I have not mentioned here. If so let us know for we would love to accommodate you if we can. Everything that the Parish Council does is to make Matlock Bath a better place. The Clerk looks forward to hearing from you very soon.

Derbyshire Wildlife Trust



The Whistlestop, Matlock Bath is open!

In May 2018, Derbyshire Wildlife Trust excitedly reopened The Whistlestop Discovery Centre. The beautiful old station building is now open every day 10am – 5pm throughout the year serving coffee, speciality teas, cakes and light lunches, catering for everyone – vegan, gluten free and meat eaters.

Derbyshire Wildlife Trust are in the process of developing the site into an exciting and vibrant visitor centre, with outdoor seating, visitor information boards about the town and surrounding areas.

Inside the Whistlestop it is spacious yet intimate, with many of the original building features harking back to the days of steam.

Pop down and take a peek at this beautifully rejuvenated building and perhaps enjoy a cuppa and homemade cake. Derbyshire Wildlife Trust are also looking for volunteers to come and join the team in various roles including retail, gardening and building a model railway. Anyone interested should visit their website www.derbyshirewildlifetrust.org.uk or call 01773 881188.

Matlock Bath Sports Area

As you may have noticed, we have this year again rented the sports area for use as a childrens' exercise entertainment area. The Agreement is for two years and after this time, the Parish Council will seek quotes in order to renovate the area which we hope will start in the New Year of 2020. Without this rent, the Parish Council is unable to renovate the area. Updates on the area will be posted on our website and in future editions of 'A View from the Bath'.

District Councillor Report – Cllr Garry Purdy

The continuing deep cuts by Government to each Authority in the Country means some very difficult decisions have to be made, the most recent being the consultation on the provision of public conveniences in the District, and of course, in Matlock Bath. Despite our objections to the proposals to save all three toilet provision in the village, namely at Artists Corner, the Memorial Gardens and the Pavilion, we realised the enormity of the task when Full Council had to vote on making yet more savings of over £1million pounds. The savings became the priority, not the provision of public conveniences in the Dales. The fact is that there is no legislation that requires any Authority to have to provide public toilets in their area. Is this not a Public Health issue? In my view there needs to be a public outcry to Government that public conveniences are an absolute necessity. It is proposed to make the Memorial Gardens toilets a pay on entry system, so they will be saved. However, the other two have been closed.

We have held talks with Matlock Bath Development Association and the Town Team and we are grateful for their efforts in trying to save the situation at the Pavilion, so if you can assist these two village organisations in any way do please get in touch.

Over the past few years the Council had been in talks with the Canoe Club who showed an interest in wanting to take on Artists Corner building, but those talks broke down. More thought needs to be given with regard to this facility and its future.

Because the Matlock Bath Illuminations made a small profit last year, the Authority has the confidence to put them on once again this year, and I am aware that publicity has already gone out on this event, together with requests for lawful road closures off the main A6 road.

As Vice Chairman of the Derwent Valley Community Rail Partnership I am aware that much publicity has been put out by East Midlands trains on the effect that significant improvement works at Derby Station will have on the Matlock to Derby line. The main point is that no trains will be running between Matlock and Derby between 25th August and 7th October. Passenger bus services will replace. For further information please visit East Midlands trains website.

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:



- Delicious Pastries & Cakes
- Homemade Honey & Preserves
- Beautiful Jewellery & Scarves
- Handmade Woodwork Items
- Handmade Greeting Cards
- Handmade Gifts & Homeware
- 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.

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](#)
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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Matlock Bath Development Association CIC – News Update

Our focus this spring has been dominated by the issue of the Pavilion Toilets. We lobbied strongly to try to prevent closure and when this failed we instigated the consortium of community groups to come together to try to raise the necessary funds to build a state of the art facility that the village can be proud of. We will continue to lead the way on this project for without the necessary facilities for visitors, the village cannot flourish as a tourist destination.

This has not been our only work. We are continuing to work with Accessible Derbyshire on producing an accessible guide to the village using the information that is in the accessible audit of the village. We will be lobbying the facility providers in the village to consider the report and take heed of the many recommendations in it. The implementation of these recommendations will not be a speedy process, but we aim to make the village a beacon of how a tourist destination can cater for all those with disabilities. We are also looking at designing an accessible trail and a sensory trail.

Work on the Green Man trail in the Derwent Gardens and Lovers' Walk continues with now only some of the bureaucratic hurdles to overcome. As well as permissions and licenses from the landowners (DDDC) we will be consulting with Natural England and The Gardens Trust.

The Green Man Trail is a series of 12 sculptured heads to form a sculpture trail along Lovers Walk and in Derwent Gardens. A questionnaire sheet will accompany the trail (pick up points to be announced) which is being devised in partnership with The Whistlestop. A great family activity. At the moment we do not know when it will be ready but details will be on our website – www.matlockbathda.co.uk

Work on the Frankenstein Festival – October 27th to November 4th continues with the launch of the Short Story competition. We would love to see entries from residents from the village. We may be able to find a best villager prize! There will also be an exhibition on Mary Shelley and the writing of the book in the Pump Room. We are hoping to acquire material from the Wordsworth Trust who have an exhibition running currently and throughout the summer in Grasmere plus material about the connection of the village with Mary. Finally there will be a showing of one or two old Frankenstein films and an open discussion on how the film industry colours our interpretation of Mary Shelley's monster. Various venues in the village are also putting on events and the final weekend of the Illumination will have a 'Frankenstein monster theme. For full information go to www.thefrankensteinfestival.co.uk , the Facebook page or email frankenstein@matlockbathda.co.uk

Other projects are making slower progress. The work with Historic England is currently on hold as the officer we were working with has left and no replacement has yet been put in post. We are awaiting feedback from Nottingham University on the 'thermal water' project but now of course, university students are on their summer break.

POLYMER CLAY WORKSHOPS



Do you have a little time on your hands? and fancy being creative?

Then come join me on one of my polymer clay workshops.

Great for Kid's Birthday Parties, Hen Nights etc....

All you need is a little creative imagination and you will come away with a beautiful finished product.

All materials provided.

For further details, bookings and prices please contact:

Liz Goodwin Tel: 07989 537723

Email: lilibetsbuttons@btinternet.com

www.facebook.com/lilibetsbuttons



Holy Trinity School – Hannah Pearson



Matlock Bath Holy Trinity CE Primary School are Swift Aware!

At Matlock Bath Holy Trinity Primary School, we love our beautiful grounds and we try to get outside for lessons as much as possible. Appreciating nature and understanding the related aspects of learning in science and geography is a big part of outdoor work, and this year in particular, we have focused our attention on birds. We were concerned to hear about the decline in the swift population in the U.K. and the children were set to task researching and writing an article for your newsletter to help raise awareness in our local community.

It was 'National Swift Awareness Week' from 16th to 23rd June this year, and there has been much in the press (for example on Springwatch) to encourage us all to spot the birds and help them nest. We are planning to install two swift nest boxes at school and have also been making artwork inspired by these wonderful, well-travelled creatures.

Please find out more by reading the article below, by William Exley-Nowill, aged 10.

You can report sightings on the RSPB website or with the Derbyshire Wildlife Trust, who have some fantastic events on to promote awareness across the county.



What are Swifts and Why Should we Care? – by William, Age 10

What are swifts? - Swifts are birds that migrate from Africa to Britain in the summer months, but in the last twenty years the numbers have dropped by half. There are now only 87,000 breeding pairs in the U.K. They're 16-17cm from head to tail and measure 42-48cm from wing-tip to wing-tip. The 26-50kg birds can fly up to two years without stopping, feeding on wing and sleeping on wing. In previous summers, you may have seen them flying low over your house. One day that might change.

Why should we care? - Swifts have been sharing our buildings since the Roman times. They are one of the U.K's fastest bird, able to fly at the speed of 115kph, making them able to cover hundreds of thousands of kilometres a year.

Swifts Habitat - Swifts only touch land when they nest. Swifts rarely nest in trees, instead they nest in old buildings. As some old houses are being demolished, there are fewer and fewer homes for swifts. They have been also known to nest high up in cliffs. Swifts nest in holes in houses. The holes need to be 40mm tall and 65mm wide, with at least 3m drop and a clear flight path.

How you can help - Helping swifts is surprisingly easy. You can help by putting swift boxes three or more metres above the ground with a clear flight path into the nest. Report sightings to the RSPB or the Derbyshire Wildlife Trust. Check your house for any signs of swifts nesting.

Five facts about swifts

1. Swifts can fly up to two years without stopping.
2. Swifts can fly hundreds of thousands of kilometres a year.
3. Swifts can fly up to 115kph (almost 70mph).
4. Swifts can't perch on surfaces.
5. Swifts have hairy eyelids to protect their eyes from the sun.

I hope you've enjoyed reading this, please pass on the message to other people.

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. So why not take a walk along the beautiful North Parade 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.

Matlock Bath Parochial Hall/Youth Centre – Rev N Grayshon

Many years ago this building was a great asset to the community being used for numerous activities such as a youth club and for the Pantomime. The Youth Centre group stopped meeting well over ten years ago and have now closed their Charity so the building has not been used for ages. It needs a lot of money spending to make it useable and as both Holy Trinity Church, with its new kitchen and toilets, and the Pavilion are available for community use it's time for the building to be sold. The Trustees have decided, in conjunction with the Parochial Church Council, that the time has come to sell. We've had several enquiries about a private sale but to satisfy Charity legislation it has to sell at auction. We were hoping for July but it's very probably going to be later in the year due to the amount of legal preparation etc. required. If you have any comments please do get in touch with me via www.holytrinitymatlockbath@hotmail.com

Frankenstein Festival



Based on the concept that created the novel Frankenstein when Mary Shelley, her husband Percy, Lord Byron and their physician decided to have a short story writing competition during a holiday on the continent. The challenge is to write a short story of up to 500 words with a given opening. There are 3 competitions – primary school age, secondary age (at 31st July 2018) and adult. Full details of the competition and how you should start your story can be found on the website. All entries must be

received by midnight on 1st October. Chair of the judging panel is Matthew Parris, writer and journalist. Winners will be announced on 4th November in Great Masson Cavern at the Heights of Abraham when the winning stories will be read. There will be prizes in all categories – full details to be announced shortly.

Log on to www.thefrankensteinfestival.co.uk for full details.

Winter Lighting Update



Phase two of the winter lighting programme is currently on track. We are still waiting for final written permission from the County Council to attach support poles to the railings along the riverside and the official green light from the funding provider (leader grant) to change the specification slightly. We hope we can instruct the contractors to fit the string of festoon lights from Jubilee Bridge to the Riverside Development and to install tree lights in 3 more trees from the Memorial Gardens to Jubilee Bridge. These will be switched on with our existing lights for the Illuminations season 2018 starting on 8th September and will continue to brighten up North Parade throughout the winter months until 30th March 2019 when daylight saving time begins.

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/NewExerciseRoadshow
Janine 07769 565012

Do You Love Your Village?

Do you love the village you live or work in? I am sure there are times when you are annoyed and want to shout and complain. Instead of complaining and feeling though nothing is being done, help do something about it by being involved in the Matlock Bath Development Association. One of our four aims '*an inclusive and sustainable future for the residents*' recognises the importance of those who live and work here. Of course, the life blood for the businesses of the village is visitors, we have been a tourist destination since 1698 and the reason the village exists. The current Directors and Members are overstretched so we desperately need more help in our work. This could be working with others on major projects such as the toilets, promoting and preserving the heritage of the village or helping with our social media, events, etc. It could be as much or as little time as you can spare. The village is at an important crossroads in its development and we need the help and support of all to take us forward. With your commitment to this we can do it – so please get involved. Contact us now by e-mailing info@matlockbathda.co.uk or calling 07914 420545.

Matlock Bath Railway Station Adoption



Adopters of our lovely station have been working hard planting up for the summer. New self watering barrels have been purchased through grant funding from Derbyshire County Council which will mean that once the reservoirs are full, adopters will only need to water every two or three days instead of daily.

There's always plenty to do at the station and we would like to appeal to those 'green fingered' residents who would like to join our current team in keeping the station looking nice. If you would be interested in this please contact the Clerk – clerk@matlockbathparishcouncil.gov.uk or 07914 420545.

NEW BATH HOTEL & SPA

Recruitment opportunities



We are looking for talented individuals to join the team at New Bath Hotel. Experience is not essential as full training will be given. There's a range of positions available including full and part time work.

If you are looking for a new challenge, we'd like to hear from you.

If you are interested in finding out more, please send a copy of your CV to jana@newbathhotelandspa.com

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