Par Peak District National Park Magazine

Welcome to Castleton

Our new Visitor Centre opens it doors

Pages 4-5

Back from the brink

Rare plant Hieracia, once thought extinct, found in the Peak District *Page* 6

www.peakdistrict.gov.uk

Photo competition

Send us your best photos and you could win Millie the Sheep! Page 24



Britain's Original National Park

Started by You, Supported by You

Established 17 April, 1951 following decades of campaigning. We're still as passionate about the place today.

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Cover image: My Peak District Photo Competition winner, by Jay Birmingham, 'Sunrise Over Lose Hill'.

ParkLife is produced to share the great activities happening within the Peak District National Park.

ParkLife is written and designed in-house. All images ©Peak District National Park unless stated otherwise. design@peakdistrict.gov.uk 01629 816240

Inspiring opportunities

By Sarah Fowler

Chief Executive

utumn and winter are our coldest seasons but you'll find the welcome is warm throughout the Peak District National Park. Whatever the weather it is an inspiring place to be, with diverse opportunities for you to experience our amazing



landscapes and friendly villages. I'm delighted that we've improved our own facilities to bring you more accessible options to enjoy in both our Dreamboat camping pod at our North Lees campsite (page 3) and our new Castleton Visitor Centre (pages 4 and 5).

I'm proud that we're able to encourage more people to experience our National Park. The recent visit by British Muslim TV (page 18) to film our trails, our rangers and Moors for the Future teams has brought our work to the attention of a wider audience.

Why not share how you are enjoying and discovering our landscape in new ways – enter our photography competition (page 23) or follow us on social media.

Whatever you do, have a great autumn and winter in Britain's Original National Park.

@peakchief sarah.fowler@peakdistrict.gov.uk

A new walk along the National Park boundary

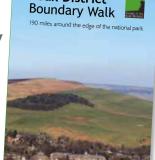
he Boundary Walk is a new long-distance footpath. The 190-mile route stretches from South Pennine moorlands to the Derbyshire Dales, embraces the urban edges of Sheffield and Oldham, and takes in the rugged moorland of Staffordshire and the hills of Cheshire.

The walk follows existing paths and trails but takes people into quieter, less well-known corners of the National Park. It was the brainchild of Julie Gough, a keen walker and Friends of the Peak District's fundraising and marketing co-ordinator.

A new guidebook to accom-

pany the walk is available: The Peak District Boundary Walk: 190 miles around the edge of the national park, edited by National Park member and

outdoor writer Andrew McCloy, and published by Friends of the Peak District. It costs £10 from bookshops or can be ordered direct from www.friendsofthe peak.org.uk/boundary-walk/ boundary-walk-book



Peak District

Access to nature, adventure and discovery

Will Clark at North Lees

Whatever your ability you're welcome in Britain's Original National Park. Whether you're visiting our new centre at Castleton (page 4) or exploring leafy dales and traffic-free trails, we want you to experience what's special here. Being able to wake up to the Peak District's fresh air in an accessible camping pod at our North Lees campsite is one example of how we're working to bring more people closer to nature.

ill Clark is a county councillor and campaigner for disability access, from Grasmere, Cumbria. Having grown up in the Lake District, Will has always enjoyed the outdoors and fell in love with the Peak District National Park whilst studying Outdoor Recreation Management at Sheffield Hallam University where he graduated in 2006.

Following a cycling accident in 2012, Will sustained a high level spinal injury breaking his neck at C4 (the 4th cervical vertebrae). This life-changing injury brought with it a huge adjustment for Will and his family, and a new way of life. As Will has no movement below the chest or elbows he relies on a battery-powered wheelchair that he steers with his chin.

He believes everyone should be able to enjoy National Parks irrespective of disability or level of mobility: "With the right equipment and modifications it's possible for me to experience the natural environment in the same way an able bodied person would."

Will stayed in the accessible



Basic, no-frills accommodation, with all necessary disability equipment, including a height adjustable bed

pod, Dreamboat, at North Lees campsite near Hathersage.

Will said: "It's fantastic to wake up to sunshine, hearing birds singing and the stream running outside the pod. The point is it's a down-to-earth camping experience. You could pay more and have more luxury but this provides simple facilities in a beautiful, tranquil location. It's also great if you want to stay with friends as they can camp in the field nearby or book their own pods.

"It's often perceptions of poor access to the countryside that deter people from visiting. While some areas are off-limits, and listed buildings cannot always be modified appropriately, there is still much that the countryside can offer to those with a disability."

Will loves the challenges different landscapes offer: "All-terrain wheelchairs are opening up new areas for people to get to. The Peak District National Park has one to hire so it is possible to explore places like Stanage."

He added: "Planning ahead of visits is vital when you have a disability. Accessibility is improving but people need to know about accommodation, paths, toilets and cafés to be able to enjoy places."

Find out more

Book the accessible camping pod on 01433 650838 or northlees. campsite@peakdistrict.gov.uk

Book the all-terrain bike or other adapted bicycles on 01298 84493 or parsleyhay. cyclehire@peakdistrict.gov.uk

More information about accessible places in the Peak District National Park: www.peakdistrict.gov.uk/visiting



t's here! After months of hard work and meticulous planning, the Peak District's new flagship visitor centre is open for business.

Our launch event in August was a huge success, with William Tucker, HM Lord-Lieutenant of Derbyshire, and BBC Countryfile presenter John Craven OBE cutting the ribbon to officially open the centre in front of invited guests and visitors.

There was family fun throughout the day, as young visitors joined our outreach teams in activities including stream dip-ping, well dressings, flag making, storytelling and face-painting.

The launch followed a £330,000 investment by the Peak District National Park Authority to make better use of space and to improve accessibility, especially for people with disabilities, groups with special needs and families with young children or elderly relatives.



Accessibility campaigner Will Clark chats to Castleton visitor centre manager Jo Kent

From the moment its doors opened for the first time, the new-look centre has been enthusiastically welcomed by local people and visitors to the area.

Sue Beswick, our visitor experience development manager, says: "We're delighted with the way people have responded. We've had so many wonderful comments about all aspects of the centre and people really appreciate the efforts we've made to make it accessible for all.

"We now have a superb facility to help visitors make the most of their holiday or day trip to the area – and, just as importantly, we have stylish and comfortable facilities to benefit the local community."

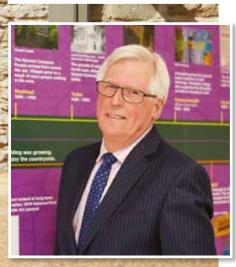
The centre is also reaching new audiences. In August, a team from Lonely Planet chose it as a base during a nationwide road trip – in an electric car – to showcase some of the best national parks in England, Scotland and Wales.

In September it was chosen as the launch venue for the four-day Abandon Normal Devices (AND) Festival, celebrating new cinema, digital culture and art.

Of course, the centre continues to tell Castleton's own story. It brings together the best of old and new, with exciting digital interpretation displays – including



Castleton visitor centre official opening. Left to right – front row: Sarah Fowler, CEO Peak District National Park; John Craven; Mr William Tucker, HM Lord-Lieutenant of Derbyshire; Lesley Roberts, Chair of the Peak District National Park Authority. Back row: Mrs Jill Tucker





Above: Millie the Sheep meets a young admirer. Left: John Craven learns more about the Peak District's new flagship visitor centre

an interactive gesture wall – alongside artefacts collected by Castleton Historical Society, detailing the village's rich history.

Maria Kenyon, chair of Castleton Historical Society (CHS) says: "This refurbishment was an opportunity, not only to re-think the museum displays but to be part of a hugely exciting development for the village.

66 We now have a superb facility to help visitors make the most of their holiday or day trip ??

"The CHS and the National Park have a common purpose: to share their love of the village and the Peak District with the widest possible audience. To do so in a beautiful, accessible and exciting space is a real privilege."

Throughout the renovation process, we worked closely with the charity Accessible Derbyshire. Co-founder Gillian Scotford says: "This centre has got everything – good parking, level access, social and educational environments, a quiet area which can be reserved and plenty of space to move around, all in a very modern environment. Accessible Derbyshire has wanted to see this type of facility for a number of years."

Our improved retail area offers a tempting selection of treats, from homewares – including our own Peak District tartan products and mascot Millie the Sheep – to locally produced foods. The local theme continues in the new Blueberry café, which favours Peak District products and suppliers. The café







From top to bottom: The Peak District tartan is perfect for autumn homewares; delicious treats in the Blueberry café; the new retail area offers a wide selection of gifts

has also created 12 new jobs for the area.Both the retail area and café build on our previous facilities and are designed to attract people to visit Castleton. We will continue to encourage visitors to enjoy all that Castleton and the local area have to offer.

The redevelopment of the centre is set against a backdrop of reduced budgets in the public sector. Our investment will improve efficiency by reducing running costs and creating opportunities to generate income, allowing the centre to move towards becoming self-sufficient from April 2018.

The Peak District National Park's chief executive Sarah Fowler adds: "We hope Castleton Visitor Centre will develop as a community hub - helping to make Castleton more attractive for all, growing visitor numbers, supporting local businesses and providing facilities for local residents."

Look what we've found!

Leek-coloured hawkweed was thought to have died out in the 1950s, but this summer it was discovered flowering by the Monsal Trail.

e were delighted to find a rare native British plant, thought to be globally extinct, in our National Park this summer.

Hieracium subprasinifolium, to give leek-coloured hawkweed its botanical name, was found by Dr Tim Rich whilst collecting seeds for Kew's Millennium Seed Bank. Tim discovered 62 plants flowering by the Monsal Trail, in Chee Dale.

"We thought leek-coloured hawkweed had died out in the 1950s so I was thrilled to find two small but healthy populations," said Tim. "It has only ever been recorded in the Peak District and is not known anywhere else in the world."

The Monsal Trail is owned by the Peak District National Park and Chee Dale nature reserve is Derbyshire

Wildlife Trust's; both manage the area for nature conservation.

Rhodri Thomas, the Peak District National Park natural environment team manager, said: "Hosting the entire world population of a species shows that the way we look after the Monsal Trail is



great for wildlife. Our trail rangers and volunteers regularly clear the embankments of invasive hawthorn and young trees to allow wildflowers and plants to thrive."

Julia Gow, reserves officer at Derbyshire Wildlife Trust, said: "The rarity and particular biological requirements of leek-



coloured hawkweed show how vital nature reserves are for providing places for wildlife." Leek-coloured

hawkweed is a perennial plant and only grows in rocky limestone habitats. Seed has been collected to safeguard its future by Kew Gardens' Millennium Seedbank Partnership, which has seeds from more than 37,000 species worldwide.

FACTFILE

Victorian discovery Leek-coloured hawkweed was first identified in the Peak District in 1898 but had



not been seen since the 1950s.

Cousin to dandelions

Hawkweed is a member of the dandelion and daisy family. Each petal is an individual flower, with lots bunched together to form the flower-head.

Name game

How hawkweed got its name is unclear. In 1551, William Turner suggested "the downe that groweth in the toppe of this herbe after the flowers be gone, be good to be taken of the hawke to make him cast his gorge wyth it." In 1863, Prior thought "from a notion entertained by the ancients, that with this plant, hawks were in the habit of clearing their evesight". So did hawks eat the downy seeds to help them bring up pellets or did they clean their eyes with it? Or could it be Dr Tim Rich's interpretation that they grow in places where hawks like to live?

Unusual and rare

Other rare hawkweeds, unique to the Peak District, are British hawkweed. Dales hawkweed and Derby hawkweed.

Make hay while the sun shines

This summer volunteers helped Glorious Grasslands spread donor hay at Steps Farm, Warslow

Birds singing, insects buzzing, cattle grazing, scent of freshly cut hay... golden memories as the year turns to winter. But summer's effects are at work in the ground putting future plants into production.

Seeds from ox-eye daisy, common knapweed, great burnet and hay-rattle are preparing to germinate to bloom next year; others such as common spotted orchid, meadow vetchling and twayblade may take three to five years to show themselves. Seeds of some orchids are so small they rely on a fungus being present in the soil to give them the energy to grow. If the fungus isn't there they can't grow - this is why some species, such as greater butterfly orchid, are so rare.

In the South West Peak, farmers and volunteers are working together with the Landscape Partnership, supported by the Heritage Lottery Fund, to give nature a helping hand by reviving traditional farming methods.

Ann Cantrell, Glorious Grasslands project officer, explains: "The South West Peak is already a hotspot for flower-rich hay meadows and grasslands but they are often isolated and fragmented, so we want to help reconnect them and increase their plant diversity. The best way to do this is to take seeds from local donor fields and spread them into fields that need more wildflowers. We do it either by cutting the hay using a machine, such as our own softrak cutter, and transferring it to the recipient field straight away so the seed falls off the donor 'green hay' onto the soil, or we hand-collect seed from individual plants and spread these by hand onto the



FACTFIL

- 97% of hay meadows in the UK have been lost since the 1940s (an area 1.5 times the size of Wales).
- Glorious Grasslands aims to see 50 hectares of hay meadows in the South West Peak restored by 2022

 equivalent to 100 football pitches.

new site. This summer we worked with local farmer Geoff Hallam and Stuart and Malcolm Wood to do this at Warslow.

"Species-rich hay has health benefits for livestock – good gut health and better digestion means healthier animals. And the nutritional content of their food contributes to the quality of meat and milk people consume."

The benefits don't end there. As well as being beautiful to look at, species-rich hay meadows are carbon stores that help reduce climate change, they soak up water to alleviate flooding and improve water quality, and they provide habitat for birds and insects. But there are challenges. Ann adds; "With uncertainty over what Brexit will mean for farmers, pressure to increase production, and previous losses of hay meadows, Britain's grasslands are under threat. We don't want people to give up on them – by working together we can help.

"Hay making season is a challenging and stressful time for farmers with the unreliable British weather often having the upper hand. But there are benefits from managing species-rich hay meadows, the hay and seeds are resources of great value, so we'd like to hear from farmers and landowners with fields they want to restore, and from those with fields that would make a good donor site.

"Make hay while the sun shines' is an old adage but it contains valuable advice – let's make the most of what we have before it's too late."

Find out more

For Glorious Grassland news and events.

f /swpeak g @southwestpeak

Email SWP@peakdistrict.gov.uk if you have a hay meadow in the South West Peak that needs help.

www.southwestpeak.co.uk

The South West Peak Landscape Partnership is supported by the Heritage Lottery Fund.

How does your moorland grow:

round 200 years ago, the industrial revolution took place in the cities surrounding the Peak District. Burning coal caused huge amounts of acid rain to fall directly on the moors, killing the plant life and leaving the ground more acidic than lemon juice. Where there aren't enough mosses holding moisture in. wildfires can accidentally start burning uncontrollably, leading to massive and long lasting devastation. The Dark Peak and South Pennines were the most damaged moors in the world until 2003 when the Moors for the Future Partnership began to reverse the damage.

FACTFILE

- Wind and rain destroy a year's worth of peat growth every fortnight on bare peat.
- Whilst bare peat loses 2.5cm per year, it forms at a rate of only 1mm per year.

Restoring a moorland

The Moors for the Future Partnership's quick guide to moorland restoration.

Step 1: Cover bare peat with heather brash and geo-textiles to create a barrier protecting the surface from erosion while providing a stable base for plants to grow. The brash contains heather seeds which will germinate when the health of the peat returns.

Step 2: Drop seeds, fertiliser and lime by helicopter, enriching the soil and protecting it from further erosion by knitting the peat together with fast-growing grasses.

Step 3: Hand plant shrubs which help bring back the natural moorland species.



Step 4: Use natural materials such as local stones and heather bales to make mini dams and keep water where it belongs while they regrow.

Step 5: Finally, reintroduce Sphagnum moss to allow the peat to start growing again.

The benefits include improved water quality and biodiversity, natural flood management and carbon storage. Our work is scientifically supported and monitored by our science team. The Peak District National Park Authority is a lead partner in the Moors for the Future Partnership.





The Blanket Bog Guide

Blanket Bog - Outcomes Approach: Land Management Guidance, has been collaboratively



produced by the Uplands Management Group. It is designed to help land managers put into practice the joint voluntary Defra Blanket Bog Restoration Strategy.

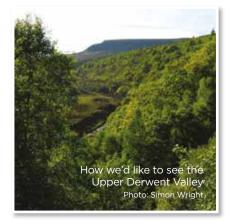
Following the guidance will enable land managers to take practical steps to improve their blanket bog. The key to this is to ensure the mixture of vegetation includes a balanced mixture of bog vegetation, and to help it live up to its name by taking steps to re-wet it if necessary.

Clough woodlands

Healthy and diverse habitats are key to biodiversity which is why we work with partners to develop native clough woodland across the Peak District and South Pennines.

Healthy blanket bogs fringed with clough woodlands form a mosaic landscape which provides habitats for many species, stores carbon, improves water quality and helps with natural flood management.

Clough woodlands have declined over the years, leading to small fragmented woodlands which are poor for wildlife. Bare cloughs are also prone to rapid water run-off and erosion, which can increase flood risk and impact on water quality.



Our biggest scheme so far is in the Upper Derwent Valley with the National Trust and will lead to nearly three square kilometres of new native woods.

Taking to the skies

Moors for the Future's first fixed-wing unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV) will be out surveying in 2018. This new 'earth observation' technology will enable us to monitor the huge scale of our conservation work. After an intensive week of training in Northumberland to help the science team's training take flight, followed up with weekly practice sessions, we are proud to be a Civil Aviation Authority-approved commercial flyer and have one qualified pilot.

Calling all citizen scientists

Learn how to be an otter spotter! Hone your tracking skills with free training from the Community Science team and survey for water voles, mink and otters. Take part in a postcard survey – butterflies, birds, hares, and lizards, toads and adder – cards are in pubs, cafés and visitor centres across the National Park. Return your sighting by post, or use our website or free

FACTFILE Moors for the Future by numbers (2016/17)

- **10,000** dip well measurements taken
- **8,317** bags of heather brash spread over nearly 42 hectares of bare peat
- 5,116 gully blocks installed
- **4,564** community science volunteer hours
- **291** hectares of Sphagnum plug application
- **3** kilometres of flagstone path constructed

apps. Wildlife sightings help us study how climate change is affecting plants, animals and habitats. www. moorsforthe future.org.uk/ communityscience



Moor information

MoorApps **www.moorsforthe future.org.uk/moorapps** Discover more about wildlife and moors, download for free onto phones, tablets or as a pdf document.

Audio tours **www.moorsfor thefuture.org.uk/audio-trails** Download mp3 audio trails for self-guided walks on Black Hill, Bleaklow, Kinder Scout and Marsden Moor.

- /moorcitizens
- @MoorCitizens

Miles without Stiles

DISTRICT NATION

New handbook highlights the Peak District's most accessible routes.

he Peak District has something for everyone – and we're making it even easier to explore our special landscape. A new handbook, Miles without

Stiles, will showcase accessible countryside routes for people with limited mobility – including wheelchair users, elderly and visually impaired people and families with children in push-chairs.

All the routes highlighted in the guide are well surfaced and free from stiles, steps and narrow gates.

The Peak District National Park is producing the guide with sponsorship from Yorkshire Water.

We're working with Accessible Derbyshire, the Local Access Forum and disabled groups to explore ways to improve access.

Our access officer Sue Smith explains: "We want everyone to have the opportunity to enjoy this beautiful National Park...and to explore with ease and confidence.

"Each route will contain maps, pictures and a grading system showing whether the routes are accessible for 'all', 'many' or 'some'. These are mainly based on surface conditions and gradients. "Some of the routes may be suitable for mountain trikes and off-road mobility vehicles – some may be ideal for young children to cycle on.

"The guide will also focus on the Peak District's special qualities and look at our different landscapes including waterways, dales, trails and moors. Our routes are not restricted to level, flat areas...there is plenty of adventure out there!"

Accessible Derbyshire co-founder Gillian Scotford says: "Sometimes it is difficult to access the countryside with barriers such as stiles or gates but this project is pulling together the best accessible paths. The brilliant National Park staff and Yorkshire Water are doing improvements and maintenance to give wonderful days out for everyone."

The handbook will be available from our visitor centres at Castleton, Bakewell and Edale and from our website shop. All proceeds from its sale will go towards developing more Miles without Stiles. The routes will also be downloadable from our website.

FUNDING FACTS

If you would like to help look after the National Park please consider a donation to the Access



Fund at www.peakdistrict.gov. uk/donate All donations of any amount are welcome. The fund helps us to:

- develop new accessible routes
- restore and promote paths on access land
- introduce new paths to improve links to existing access land
- make other improvements such as signage
- £40 repairs one metre of path
- £100 pays for a volunteer working party to work on access projects
- £110 pays for a fingerpost
- £150 pays for a new stile
- £250 pays for a new wicket gate.

To find out more, please visit www.peakdistrict.gov.uk/ accessfund

Easy exploring

Our traffic free trails - Monsal, High Peak, Tissington and Thornhill - are ideal for days out in autumn and winter.

The level and well surfaced routes follow former railway lines and offer an insight into both the National Park's rich and varied history and our special qualities.



On the High Peak Trail at Minninglow you will be able to see what our dark skies looked like to our ancestors and to marvel that these wonders are still available to us due to the low levels of light pollution here.

Dark sky panels (left) for each season can be found at www.peakdistrict.gov.uk/darkskies and for more trails information, visit www.peakdistrict.gov.uk/trails

Miles without stiles at Long Causeway, Stanage



A multicultural landscape

Britain's Original National Park is a mosaic of diverse landscapes but what about cultural diversity? National Parks are for everyone, but does everyone know?

Peak District Mosaic is helping spread the word about cultural diversity. Through their Peak Wise People training programme, Mosaic encourages black and minority ethnic communities living around the borders of the National Park to visit, and provides support to give people the skills, knowledge and confidence to inspire others to enjoy the place.

Godfrey Francis lives in Sheffield and has just qualified as a Peak District Mosaic Champion,



along with 14 others. "I love the Peak District. And I love walking in the National Park. It's somewhere to relax as a family, to spend quality time together in the open air, and see things you don't see every day.

"I regard it as my back garden. One minute I am in the city and the next I am among wild deer on White Edge. Hearing deer calls in the rutting season is incredible – it makes me feel part of nature. You can see it on TV but up close and

> personal it makes the hair stand up on the back of my neck!"

The National Park is accessible but there can be perceived barriers, Godfrey explains: "Some people worry about what sort of welcome they are going to get, but I've always found people to be friendly and approachable. It's nice to compare notes with walkers you meet."



Peak District National Park outreach rangers train Champions in understanding national parks, wildlife, farming and moorland management, map reading, first aid and walk-leading.

Godfrey says: "There's so much to enjoy – natural beauty, agricultural shows, well dressings, guided walks. My aim is for my grandkids to love the Peak District National Park too. They are the future custodians of these incredible landscapes."

Peak District Mosaic works with the Peak District National Park Authority and Derbyshire Dales Council for Voluntary Service (CVS) to introduce new audiences to enjoy the Peak District National Park.

More information

Email peakdistrictmosaic@gmail.com

Peak perfection

From rich autumn colours to frosty winter hues... the Peak District National Park is stunningly beautiful whatever the season. This time of year is perfect for getting out and about and discovering more about Britain's Original National Park.

Wintry wheels

Our cycle hire centres at Parsley Hay, Ashbourne and Derwent will open specially for prebooked groups from November to February.

Cycling is perfect for burning off those Christmas calories and, by hiring bikes from the centres, you are helping to support our amazing National Park.

To find out about special opening times, or to book a group trip, please visit www.peakdistrict.gov.uk/cyclehire

Off the beaten track

Sunday 22 October 10.30am to 3.30pm

Step back in time on a 6-mile walk, taking in an ancient settlement, a burial site and a visit to the highest chambered cairn in the country. Meet at Wye Dale Car Park, on the A6. £6 per person 18 and over. Children 17 and under go free.





Night-time adventures

Make the most of relaxed autumn half-term evenings by joining in our fun, torch-lit walks in Macclesfield Forest and Longdendale Valley. Enjoy chasing shadows and seeing what creatures lurk in the dark!

Macclesfield Forest: Tuesday 24 October

5pm to 7.30pm Meet at classroom near Forest Office/Trentabank reservoir.

Longdendale Valley: Thursday 26 October

5pm to 7.30pm Meet at Longdendale Environmental Centre, Bottoms Office, Tintwistle.

Both cost £5 per child and are suitable for children aged 5+ (younger siblings welcome – adults and under-2s go free). All children must be accompanied. Booking essential.

Creepy Castleton

Wednesday 25 and Sunday 29 October 1pm to 5pm



Experience ghostly goings-on at Castleton Visitor Centre! Make witches' broomsticks, conker spiders and origami bats then follow our trail to learn more of the village's other-worldly inhabitants.

Drop in any time – no need to book. There's no charge but donations are welcome.





The Enchanted Forest

Sunday 29 October

10am to 3.30pm

A 7.5-mile walk from Danebridge, discovering a wealth of spooky tales, myths and legends which have inspired local storytellers and brewers.

Meet at Wincle Beer Company Brewery, Danebridge. £6 per person 18 and over. Children 17 and under go free.

Autumn around Bradfield and Broomhead

Saturday 4 November 10.30am to 3.30pm

Enjoy a family friendly 8-mile walk around Bradfield and Broomhead in the beautiful Loxley and Ewden Valleys. Bring a packed lunch!

Meet at Low Bradfield Car Park, The Sands. £6 per person 18 and over. Children 17 and under go free.

Festive lights switch-ons

Castleton Saturday 18 November 4.30pm



Bakewell Saturday 25 November 4.45pm Look online for more winter lights events in your favourite Peak District villages.

Christmas at Castleton

Escape the town and city crowds and do your Christmas shopping in style at our new-look visitor centre! Discover gorgeous gifts in our retail area, then relax with foodie treats and warming drinks in the centre's new café. You can also find locally made goods and gifts as well as our own brand products at Bakewell visitor centre.



Shutlingsloe – Cheshire's 'Matterhorn'

Saturday 25 November

10.30am to 3.30pm

Join our Rangers on a 6 to 7-mile 'mountaineering' walk through Macclesfield Forest to Cheshire's 'Matterhorn', Shutlingsloe, (summit 1659ft) and return over open access moorland with panoramic views.

Meet at Trentabank Ranger Centre. £6 per person 18 and over. Children 17 and under go free.

Nature Tots @ Longdendale and Macclesfield Forest

Every Friday during term time

10.30am to 12.30pm

Outdoor sessions for toddlers and pre-schoolers, ideal for ages two to four. Discover and explore in the great outdoors. From the tallest tree to the leaf littered floor. Where mud is the flavour of the day, and making new friends along the way. Bring a packed lunch to eat during the session!

Join us at Longdendale Environmental Centre, United Utilities Bottom Office, Tintwistle or Macclesfield Forest (Forest Classroom), near Forest Office/ Trentabank reservoir. £4 per child, £2 for siblings. Younger siblings under 18 months are free but must book in and must be accompanied by an older, paying, sibling.

Find out more

For more details of these walks and events – and to book – please visit **www.peakdistrict.gov.uk/events** Remember to check our website for more exciting events in 2018!

'Cycle Friendly is good for business

Our Pedal Peak for Business project is helping local businesses understand their cycling customers' needs.

BoleHill Holiday Cottages offer self-catering accommodation located between Bakewell and Monyash. New owners Dan and Fay Opala say: "We're close to the Monsal Trail, High Peak Trail and Tissington Trail cycle routes so we're keen to reach out to cyclists. We've installed a cycle store with a Pedal Peak for Business grant. A safe place to store bikes overnight gives our guests peace of mind and from a business point of view it will soon pay for itself.

"We're also providing a bike wash facility and information on local routes so people who bring their bikes know the best places to cycle in the Peak District.

"We would urge other small holiday cottage owners to think what they could do to accommodate people who bring bikes. It's fairly simple to provide facilities and the initial outlay is relatively small. It's about being flexible and accommodating." www.bolehillfarm.co.uk



Tissington Trail, fun to ride all year



Peak Cycling UK is a cycling holiday and training business. Professional cycle guide and coowner Paul Gant explains how they plan their cycle tours: "We start with a Google search specifying 'cycle friendly hotels'. We check out their websites for location, cycle friendliness, quality, number of rooms available, dinner, B&B provision and price.

"We then email with our requirements. It's at this point that there are normally one or two stand-out establishments as many accommodation providers simply fail to answer emails.

"Our selection process is thorough but the key things we look for are location and cycle friendliness. Secure bike storage is a must. Items like cleaning facilities and a covered maintenance space are welcome too." www.peakcyclinguk.com

www.peakcycliliguk.co

Find out more

Business is booming for Hassop Station café and cycle hire, near Bakewell. Co-owner Rebecca Stokes says: "We've experienced tremendous growth as a result of the Monsal Trail tunnels re-opening in 2011 and the route now being part of the National Cycle Network: National Route 680. There's been at least a 100% increase in our cycle hire and cafe sales as it brings cyclists and walkers to the area.

"We're always looking at ways to improve the customer experience and are delighted to have had a Pedal Peak for Business grant towards the cost of a public pump with tools and extra bike racks." www.hassopstation.co.uk



Pedal Peak for Business is part of the £1.49million Growing the Visitor Economy in Derbyshire programme, part funded by the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF). Grants are available to help businesses provide good facilities for cyclists. www.peakdistrict.gov.uk/pedalpeak

Mountain bikers are helping us to care for the countryside

any people fall in love with the Peak District and want to help conserve it... and mountain bikers are no exception.

Whether lobbying for funds to improve iconic bridleways such as Cut Gate on the Derwent moors or rolling up their sleeves to repair routes, mountain bikers are keen to give something back to the National Park.

For a decade, we have been working with riders to consider ways to improve mountain biking in the Peak District and to minimise impacts on the countryside.

Access manager Mike Rhodes launched a forum with mountain bikers in 2007. He says: "Some aspects of mountain biking can be controversial in a busy national park like the Peak District. So it's important that we address these issues and help ensure that people can enjoy the National Park with a good understanding of legal rights and their responsibilities towards other users and the environment.

"We set up a group which met for a couple of years on Tuesday evenings in the pub. From that faltering start, advocacy groups Peak District MTB and Ride Sheffield emerged.

"It's great to have people who are willing to stand up and say 'we'll do something'. Twitter is a powerful tool for highlighting routes that are becoming damaged and, through Keeper of the Peak (@KoftheP), riders share news on trail conditions.

"They also repair tracks through 'dig days' – going out voluntarily with spades – and they are taking the initiative in campaigning for



larger projects such as the repair of Cut Gate."

Chris Maloney, who runs the website KoftheP.com and @KoftheP twitter feed, adds: "Riders learn where there are problems and can then avoid fragile areas for a while, giving them a chance to recover. It's about being responsible for where we ride and being proactive in looking after the hills."

Both advocacy groups run dig days – arranged in collaboration with relevant authorities and landowners - to restore and redefine paths and to clear and build drains where problems have been reported. James Irwin, of Peak District MTB, explains: "The key is to carry out sensitive

66 It's great to have people who are willing to stand up and say 'we'll do something' ??



maintenance – a path may not look different after we've worked on it, but it will be more sustainable.

"Riders feel very passionate about routes and our maintenance work benefits other people too. It's an incredibly positive way to engage with walkers and horse riders."

Mountain bikers are also taking the lead on social issues – with Ride Sheffield devising the Peak Bike Code. Simon Bowns, of Ride Sheffield, says: "We identified a need for a concise way to explain trail etiquette to local mountain bikers, without preaching to them. We worked with the Eastern Moors Partnership to publish our four suggestions for responsible riding.

"In addition to working with other trail users, we've found our work with land managers to be fruitful and rewarding. It's often simply a case of opening a dialogue, explaining viewpoints and then working together to find the best solutions."





Missing mile marker returned after 30 years

Thirty years after a historic mile marker near Morridge Top vanished, a collaborative effort has seen it returned to its home.

historic mile marker near Morridge Top, on the A53 between Royal Cottage and Flash, has been returned to its original location after it was stolen over 30 years ago.

Howard Price of the Milestone Society said: "The milestone 'disappeared' in 1986, just 6 months after it was listed. But just recently, two of our members spotted it on an auction site. Staffordshire Police helped get it withdrawn from the auction and we accompanied them to Sheffield to collect it."

The mile marker was restored by the Milestone Society with funding from the Peak District National Park Authority and Staffordshire Moorlands Partnership. It was reinstated by Staffordshire County Council and Amey volunteers.

Howard added: "It has been a

Find out more

great collaborative effort to bring the post home to Staffordshire."

Mile markers were introduced as early as the Roman period, though most date from the Turnpike era

66 The restored milepost is a Grade II listed structure 99

of the late 18th and 19th centuries. The posts provided travellers with distances between towns and villages and are a common sight in the English countryside.

The restored milepost is a Grade II listed structure, designated for its historic interest. It is made of cast iron and its particular 'bobbin' style is distinctive to North Staffordshire and South and West Derbyshire.



For information or advice on the milepost or any other listed buildings in the National Park, contact the Built Environment section of the Cultural Heritage team: BuiltEnv@peakdistrict.gov.uk



Anna plans community projects to discover Peak District treasures.

nna Badcock has no qualms about mixing business with pleasure. As the Peak District National Park's new team manager for cultural heritage, she is eager to discover more about the archaeological landscape of the area she has long known and loved.

Anna says: "I love the Peak District. I've lived on the edge of it, walked and cycled in it for nearly 30 years. I've always thought of it as my playground. Now I've got a little girl, Florrie, who is five and loves running and scrambling through the heather and spotting Belted Galloway cattle!

"I was attracted by the opportunity to be involved with managing this big and varied landscape. There are lots of complexities - but that makes it even more interesting."

Brought up in Kent, Anna headed north in 1989 to study archaeology and prehistory at the University of Sheffield and has lived in the city ever since. She was previously assistant director of the university's archaeological consultancy ARCUS and, most recently, director of ArcHeritage, the Sheffield branch of the York Archaeological Trust.

Anna adds: "I think the Peak District has some of the best archaeology in the UK and I'd like to make sure that people understand the wonderful continuity of history that we have here.

"I've got lots of plans in mind and I'm very keen to try and set up a Heritage at Risk project, which would be community-based. People would receive training to help with surveys of heritage sites.

"I helped to deliver one of these for the DerwentWISE Landscape Partnership, in and around the Derwent Valley Mills World Heritage Site. This type of project really engages communities in the heritage of their local landscape and would provide valuable information for the National Park. These kinds of project draw on the experience and knowledge which is held in the community - and get people out and about as they can combine surveys with a great walk in the countryside.

"I think it's really important to get people involved so they can appreciate what's gone before and understand why the landscape is like it is.

"Equally, those of us who play a role in managing these landscapes benefit enormously from the knowledge held by local communities. Our heritage belongs to everyone.

"Funding is also going to be a major consideration in the coming years – so we need to think creatively about different ways to get work done."

How to share your finds

THIN XDOURS

One important way to share information about archaeological finds is through the Portable Antiquities Scheme.

Funded by the Department for Digital, Culture, Media & Sport, the project encourages the voluntary recording of archaeological objects found by members of the public in England and Wales.

Each year thousands of objects are discovered, many by metal-detector users, but also through everyday actions such as walking and gardening.

Anna explains: "People who've found things are encouraged to report what they've found so that it gets properly recorded in a database. It's an amazing research tool. There are also strict laws and codes of practice surrounding metal detecting which people need to be aware of."

More details of the Portable Antiquities Scheme (PAS) can be found here: **https://finds.org. uk/**. Each region has its own PAS Finds Liaison Officer and they can offer help and advice.

Read all about it!

Catch up with the latest discoveries in the next edition of Archaeology and Conservation in Derbyshire (ACID), published in January. The free magazine reports what



archaeologists have found in Derbyshire and the Peak District over the previous year.

Copies are available from local information centres, libraries and museums and at **www. peakdistrict.gov.uk/archaeology**

All in a day's work!

Maha is filmed as she learns to use the Sphagnum <u>spreader</u>

TV presenter Maha El-Jack brings Peak District projects to a new audience.

elevision presenter Maha El-Jack swapped the studio for the great outdoors when she worked for a day in the Peak District.

Maha was filmed for Sisters' Hour, a flagship magazine programme on British Muslim TV, which is based in West Yorkshire. Footage from her day in the Peak District featured in the programme during National Parks Week in July.

Maha began work at Millers Dale Station with trails ranger Steve Farren (right) and assistant estate ranger Emily Irving-Witt,



improving surfacing leading to an interpretation panel.

Later, in Edale, she learned the benefits of re-introducing Sphagnum moss to the moorland from Joe Margetts of Moors for the Future and Matthew Barney of Micropropagation Services – a company which propagates some of the Sphagnum used in the re-introduction. She also joined Joe and his Community Science colleague Tom Aspinall in a bumblebee survey.

Maha said: "It was an amazing day. At first I felt a bit anxious, especially about building the path because I'd never done that sort of manual work. Steve and Emily really made me feel part of their team. I got an incredible sense of satisfaction when we'd restructured the path.

"Later, I learned so much from the Moors for the Future team. It was fantastic trying new things and gaining knowledge about the important work they are doing. It was an enriching experience and I'd love to encourage more people to experience this beautiful National Park."

Steve added: "Maha was great to work with and really got herself involved, having a go at digging out for the path and installing timber edging. She appreciated a day out in the National Park after usually being inside a studio and hopes to encourage others to explore opportunities for voluntary work."

In Edale, Maha learned how to use a Sphagnum spreader before embarking on the bumblebee survey.

Joe explained: "Huge areas of eroding bare peat in the Peak District and South Pennines used to resemble the surface of Mars - and were just about as devoid of life. Re-introducing plants, and particularly Sphagnum mosses, to the landscape has provided multiple benefits. As damaged



Maha with Joe Margetts (centre) and Tom Aspinall (right) during the bumblebee survey in Edale

blanket bogs become rich in Sphagnum and wet again, they can trap and store carbon from the atmosphere instead of releasing it. Not only does this benefit wildlife, but also people. A re-vegetated landscape should provide cleaner water, and reduce the risk of flooding downstream."

He added: "Bumblebees are in serious trouble and need our help. Walking routes regularly and counting the number of bumblebees along the way allows us to see if their populations are increasing or decreasing. By understanding what is happening, people can try and reverse their fortunes."



Together we're making things happen

People power: a sense of community and shared goals.

Powerful connections are made between people and the places they live and work in. The Peak District National Park's 555 square miles are home to 38,000 residents, there are some 5,000 businesses. Together we welcome more than 12 million visitors a year: that's a lot of connections!

There are challenges: high house prices, low wages, an ageing population, restricted job opportunities, and inconsistent access to services. But local people are working together with the National Park to overcome some issues through affordable housing, building new or restoring community buildings, and projects that enhance the local environment. Much has been achieved, more is welcome. We can help you:

- apply for a Communities Small Grant of up to £1,500 towards project costs;
- write a statutory neighbourhood plan or village plan;
- look after community greenspaces and buildings;
- develop community initiatives: allotments, community shop/pub, broadband, renewable energy, old folk's lunch club, play area, sports club;
- do practical conservation walling and tree planting;
- create village trails or put on local history events;
- learn about conservation areas and listed buildings.

We are currently helping Bakewell, Hartington, Leekfrith and Saddleworth with neighbourhood plans, and we're developing other community projects across the national park. We would love to hear from you if you've got an idea for a project you'd like to discuss.

To share ideas and join in discussions about community planning, request an invite to the Peak District National Park communities group on Facebook.

More information

Contact community planner Adele Metcalfe: adele.metcalfe@peakdistrict.gov. uk 01629 816375

Support for Peak District upland farmers

How improvements to the Countryside Stewardship Mid-Tier could work for you.

t the time of going to print discussions continue about further changes to improve Countryside Stewardship Mid-Tier, in particular for upland farmers. It looks likely that the full scheme will open at the start of 2018.

It's worth having a look at the scheme and how it might work for you and your farm. If you need help please contact the National Park farm advisers on farming@ peakdistrict.gov.uk or 01629 816200, or call into the drop in centre at Bakewell Livestock Market on Mondays between 10.00am and 2.00pm.

The Countryside Stewardship Hedgerow & Boundaries Grant Scheme is also expected to open early in 2018. Last year our farm advisers helped 32 farmers with



applications for the restoration of over 5,000 metres of dry stone walls and 660 metres of hedge worth more than £135,000. National Park farm adviser support will continue to be available for this scheme in 2018.

A walk on the wild side with Junior Rangers

unior Rangers enjoy getting close to wildlife so an expedition to identify mammals in woodland alongside the Monsal Trail was a winner. Peak District National Park outreach ranger Pete Feetham and Derbyshire Wildlife Trust's Marc Whitlock helped them develop species identification skills.

Junior Rangers say:

"I love wildlife so I thought it would be good to find out more. We've helped clear woodland to make it better for butterflies – we used loppers to open up the space for wildflowers."

"It's a good way to get to know the national park and enjoy the wildlife."

"It's fun – I look forward to it when I'm at school."

"I wanted to meet people with similar interests in being a Ranger and looking after the countryside."

Are you 11 to 18 years old and



want to help look after the special qualities of the Peak District National Park? Junior Rangers meet up once a month on a Saturday, join in trail patrols and do practical conservation work.

Find out more

www.peakdistrict.gov.uk/juniorrangers

Email: learning.discovery@ peakdistrict.gov.uk

peakdistrictyouthvoice



Mark of approval

Environmental Quality Mark celebrates green businesses in the Peak District.

s we become increasingly aware of environmental and ethical concerns, it's heartening to discover that businesses also care.

In the Peak District, a growing number of organisations are highlighting their green credentials by working to achieve the Environmental Quality Mark (EQM).

It is presented to businesses which support the local economy, enhance and protect the environment, invest in people and communities and celebrate what's special about the Peak District National Park.

Companies apply online and are independently audited by qualified assessors, then judged by an independent award panel. If successful, they can use the EQM logo in their business promotion.

The EQM was launched by the Peak District National Park Authority in 2003 and was originally funded by government



run by the not-forprofit Environmental Quality Mark Community Interest Company (EQM CIC) on behalf of the National Park Authority.

Director Faith Johnson says: "When you buy a product or service that has been awarded the EQM, you can be



confident that you will be helping to look after the Peak District environment, as well as local people and communities."

Numbers are steadily increasing and 65 organisations now have EQM status. Four businesses to recently receive the award are:

- Hargate Hall, a holiday and wedding venue at Wormhill, Buxton;
- The Red Lion, Birchover, which has its own brewerv and produces a traditional Peak District blue cheese from local milk:
- The Anglers Rest, Bamford, a cycle-friendly community-owned pub, post office and café;
- Beyond the Edge, a Peak District specialist mountain training company.

Award holders are inspected every two years, which many find helpful. Faith says: "We take a 'critical friend' approach to accreditation. Many businesses value the structure the scheme

gives them to help them achieve their environmental goals. Part of the process is an opportunity to learn how other EQM organisations do things and to take advantage of training opportunities."

Our head of landscape and conservation, Suzanne Fletcher, adds: "Whenever I meet EQM businesses I am struck by their energy, enthusiasm and passion for the Peak District.

"I know that they enjoy networking with like-minded businesses, seeing each other not as competition but as a source of new local products and services, mutual support, best practice and improving both business and environmental performance."

Could you be an EQM business?

To learn more:

• Visit the EQM website: www.peakdistrict.gov.uk/eqm

• Email: faith.johnson@eqm.org.uk or telephone on 0770 245 2777.

Started by you Supported by you

How you are helping us to look after Britain's Original National Park.

e're in this together! From the pioneers who strode across Kinder Scout for the right to roam the moors to the supporters we value so highly today, the Peak District inspires passion and commitment.

It was the UK's first National Park, designated in 1951 after decades of campaigning. Since then, we have been custodians and champions of this special place, devoted to caring for it and promoting enjoyment of its special qualities.

We're helped by an army of volunteers and through donations from businesses, families and individuals.

Debbie Read, our head of marketing and fundraising development, says: "The generosity of our supporters helps us to protect and care for the Peak District's natural beauty for everyone to enjoy.

"In the face of challenging public funding, we are always very grateful, whether people are making financial donations or giving their valuable time to help us in our work."

If you care about your Peak District National Park there are many ways to show your support:

- Volunteer we have a range of roles, including conservation projects, community science, moorland science, rangers, environmental education and outdoor learning.
- Corporate support experience a range of activities with the people who know them best. Learn more by emailing donations@peakdistrict.gov.uk
- Run an organised event donations from event organisers and participants is spent on conservation work across the National Park (www. peakdistrict.gov.uk/visiting/ running-large-events)
- Leave a lasting legacy in your will. For more information email legacy@peakdistrict.gov.uk

- Shop with us at our visitor centres at Castleton, Edale, Bakewell and Derwent or hire cycles from our centres at Parsley Hay, Derwent and Ashbourne. Fancy a camping trip? We manage North Lees campsite and pods.
- Make a gift of goods or services. Learn more at
 - www.peakdistrict.gov.uk/donate

Together we can do so much more. Every penny you give helps to care for the Peak District National Park.

Mend our Mountains



For more than 25 years, Alan Beardsley (right) volunteered as a Peak District National Park

ranger. When



A fitting tribute

he passed away in 2014, family, friends and colleagues chose to celebrate Alan's life with a donation to the Peak District National Park.

This enabled us to improve the children's nature trail at Derwent

and install a bike wash area, a bench and a listening post. We're also working on a visitor guide for Derwent and training volunteer rangers, thanks to the generous support of Alan's family - a fitting tribute to the dedication and commitment that Alan gave to the National Park.

A private donation of £5,000 allowed us to install chainsaw carvings and brass rubbings on the children's trail at Millers Dale and to produce a leaflet detailing the wildlife and history of the trail. In 2016 we raised over £17,000 to repair the path below the Ringing Roger rock outcrop on Kinder Scout, as part of the British Mountaineering Council's Mend Our Mountains campaign.

We're now looking forward to working with the British Mountaineering Council and UK National Parks on their next campaign -Mend Our Mountains: Make One Million. We'll be fundraising for repairs of both the iconic Great Ridge footpath above Castleton and Cut Gate bridleway on the Derwent moors.



WIN! WIN! WIN!





#MillieTheSheep

NAME:

Millie; inspired by our Peak District

All things Peak District National Park - all 555 square miles of it.

Ashford in the Water Sheepwash sheep there before going to market

horns. Her family roots are in the Yorkshire Dales and the moors around Swaledale but she is very at like a waistcoat, that stops cold sheep breeds to spot in the Peak District are Derbyshire Gritstone Jacobs, Lonk, Masham, Mule and Whitefaced Woodland. FOR SALE:

Buy Millie from Peak District National Park visitor centres. Profits from sales are re-invested in Britain's Original National Park.

Did 'ewe' know?

About 400,000 sheep live in the Peak District National Park - that's a ratio of about ten sheep

nter our photo competition to be in with a chance of winning Millie!

Love taking photos when you're out and about? Picnics, celebrations, starting the Pennine Way - whatever the reason, we want to see your original pictures of you having a great time in in Britain's Original National Park!

All we ask is that the photo is taken in 2017 or 2018, and it must

R. 150 68 QUAL include people enjoying the Peak District National Park.

Please include a brief description of why you love the photo, your name, email addre telephone number, the date and location of the photo.

We'll publish the winning photos and a selection of our favourites on our website and share them through our social media accounts and future editions of Parklife.

Send your pictures to: parklife@peakdistrict.gov.uk Closing date for entries is 31 January 2018.

31/31

RAW+FIND

Pictures should be 1MB to 2MB in size.



Sunrise Over Lose Hill Jay Birmingham

ongratulations to our photo competition winner! Jay Birmingham bowled us over with this gorgeous sunrise over Lose Hill, taken from Mam Tor, looking along the Great Ridge. You can see Win Hill on the far



horizon and an early morning mist clinging to the low ground in the Hope Valley. Jay won the amazing Rab® Ascent 700 sleeping bag, worth £270!

We received 75 entries and the standard was exceptionally high as

you can see from the runners-up photographs below. Well done to Adam Gray, Alan Twigg, Eric Chadwick, Giles Pease, John Bragg, John Ranyard, Nedelcu Razvan Stefan, Robert Dudek, and Stephen Elliott.

RUNNERS UP:



Adam Gray



Heather on Win Hill, nr Bamford Giles Pease



Parkhouse Hill and Chrome Hill, nr Earl Sterndale | Nedelcu Razvan Stefan



Winnats Pass, nr Castleton Alan Twigg



Winnats Pass, Castleton John Bragg



Mother Cap, Millstone Edge, nr Hathersage | Robert Dudek



The Trinnacle & Greenfield Reservoir, nr Saddleworth | Eric Chadwick



Ladybower Reservoir, nr Bamford John Ranyard



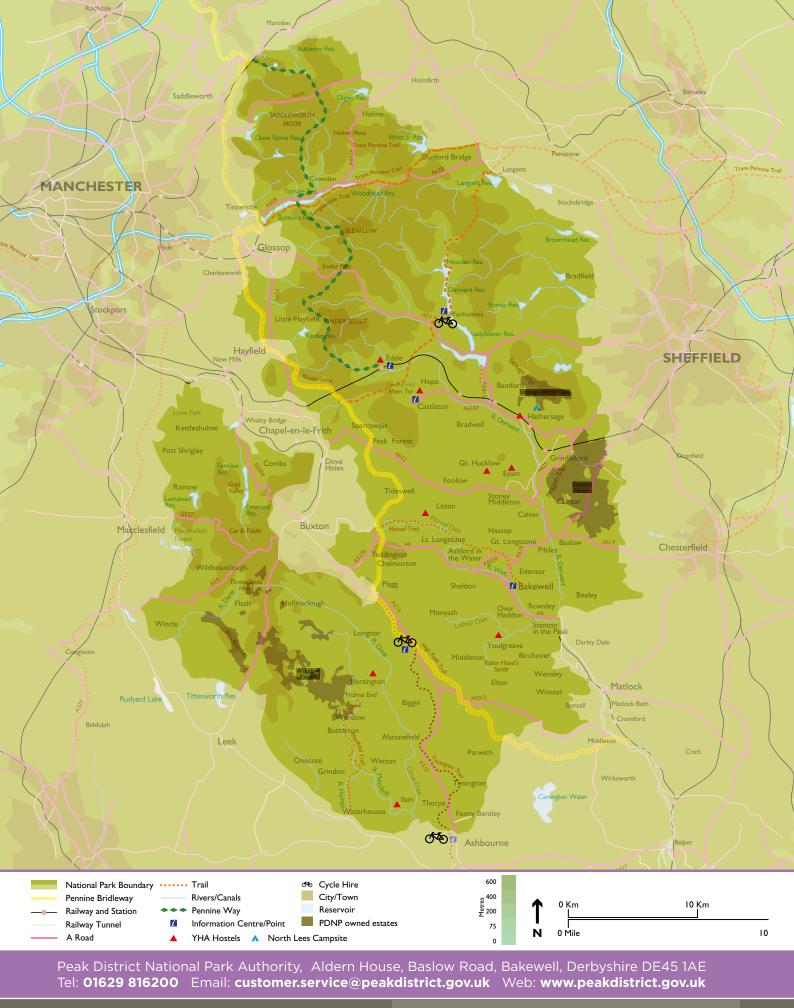
Winnats Pass, Castleton Stephen Elliott

Peak District Members as of October 2017



Cut out and keep this page handy in case you need to contact us

X



Peak District National Park Visitor Enquiries: 01629 816558 or email bakewell@peakdistrict.gov.uk

Upper Derwent Valley Moorlands Centre, Edale Tel: 01433 670207

Tel: 01629 816572 Tel: 01433 650953

Cycle Hire Centres:

Parsley Hay near Buxton, Derbyshire S17 ODG

Derwent Fairholmes, Derwent S33 0AQ

Ashbourne Mapleton Lane, Ashbourne DE6 2AA