

Park Life

*The Community Newsletter of the
Peak District National Park Authority*

PEAK
DISTRICT

NATIONAL PARK AUTHORITY

Issue 9 - January 2010



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www.peakdistrict.gov.uk

Chair's introduction

The unsung heroes of the national park

Every resident in the Peak District National Park knows the importance of the landscape to their lives.

It is a place to live, work and play in.

One of our priorities is working to protect and enhance this countryside for current and future generations. But this is too big a task for any one organisation to do by itself. We rely on an army of volunteers who go out in all weathers to do those tasks that otherwise might not get done.

They are the unsung heroes who construct and repair footpaths, build stiles, repair stone walls, lay hedges, clear ponds and plant trees. They also improve land drainage and build steps and footbridges to help us manage erosion caused by the number of visitors to the national park.

In this edition of Parklife we feature case studies of some of the groups that work with our Peak Park Conservation Volunteers group. But there are dozens of other organisations working with environmental volunteers in the national park including the National Trust, Natural England, Friends of the Peak District, British Trust for Conservation Volunteers, Derbyshire Wildlife Trust, Staffordshire Wildlife Trust, Severn Trent Water, United Utilities and many village or community groups.

All these groups offer volunteers the opportunity to make a real difference to one of the nation's most important landscapes. For many it is also the first opportunity to experience the environment at first hand. Volunteers are taught all the skills needed to carry out conservation work. Some use their new skills to help them apply for a job, while others do it for the satisfaction of a task well done.

Being a conservation volunteer is good for the mind and soul. Research has shown that people who regularly work in the outdoors benefit from better health and well-being. It is for this reason that the Government has recently launched its Muck in4Life campaign to encourage more people to become environmental volunteers. All national parks in the UK are supporting this initiative by offering opportunities for volunteers to work on environmental projects near them.

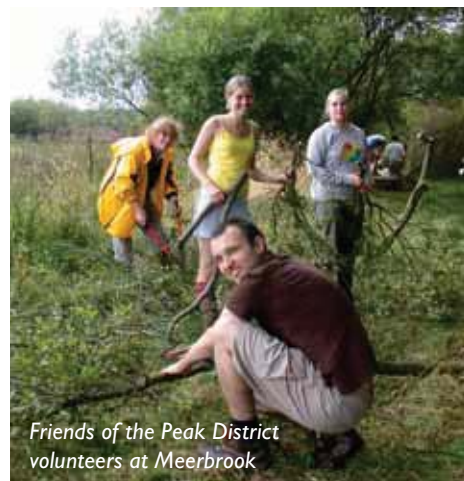
The campaign is also an opportunity to celebrate and recognise the work of the thousands of volunteers who work in the Peak District National Park each year. Their efforts make the national park a much better place for both residents and visitors.

If you would like to join the army of volunteers working in the Peak District National Park you can find out more at their website muckin4life.direct.gov.uk or contact one of the many volunteer or community groups who work with us.

Narendra Bajoria CBE

Chair

Peak District National Park Authority
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Friends of the Peak District
volunteers at Meerbrook



National Trust volunteer in Dove Dale
with Environment Secretary Hilary Benn



Listening to what you want

Residents in more communities are to get the opportunity to meet Peak District National Park Authority leaders to discuss issues that matter to them.

The move follows the success of a pilot scheme which saw our chair Narendra Bajoria and chief executive Jim Dixon visit Hartington, Bradfield, Parwich, Bakewell, Eyam and Waterhouses.

In our recent residents' survey you asked us to visit communities to hear more about the issues affecting your lives. What you think matters to us, so we will be announcing dates and locations of future visits on village notice boards and in the media.

Chair Narendra Bajoria said: "During the visits last year we met local people at venues including village halls, Post Offices, schools, houses, churches, sports clubs and even village pubs.

"The feedback we got was that residents liked us talking to them 'on their turf' and that they got the opportunity to discuss issues in more detail than you can at a public meeting.

"We found them equally useful because it showed us what is working on the ground and areas where improvements are needed."

Key issues that came up during the community visits included:

- Communication with residents about planning issues
- The need for more affordable homes
- The success of community planning work led by our village officers
- Projects involving our rangers, including work to manage 4x4 use on country tracks.

Narendra added: "One example of action following a community visit is in Bakewell where residents said they were struggling to get quick decisions on issues like road improvement.



Authority chair Narendra Bajoria meets Shaz Thompson,
who manages the post office, café and store in Bradfield

"So we came up with a simple solution. We set up regular meetings where the national park authority, Derbyshire Dales District Council, Derbyshire County Council, Bakewell Town Council and the Bakewell Chamber of Trade sit down together, agree what issues need tackling and who will do the work to make it happen."

Find out about our other work with communities by visiting www.peakdistrict.gov.uk/community

FREE!

RANGER GUIDED WALKS

The free Peak District National Park Authority ranger guided walks programme for 2010 can be seen online at:
www.peakdistrict.gov.uk/ranger-walks

Walk details are also in our new visitor guide that can be bought from national park visitor centres in Bakewell, Castleton, Edale and the Upper Derwent from February.





Mucking in to help the national park

Putting something back

As residents you know what a special place the Peak District National Park is. The Peak Park Conservation Volunteers are playing their part in helping make it an even better place to live and work in.



Long-time volunteer Arvon Lee



A sense of achievement

The efforts of the Peak Park Conservation Volunteers (PPCV) can be seen across the national park.

We caught up with a group from **Hft**, a national charity that supports people with learning disabilities. Members were clearing overgrown hawthorn on farmland in a conservation scheme to benefit wildflowers in Monsal Dale.

Brian Parsons, **Hft** support worker, said: "PPCV is great as there aren't too many opportunities for people with learning disabilities to be involved in regular jobs. It's real work, not paid, but with a real purpose."

"Conservation work is a great equaliser. People from all walks of life work side-by-side. It gives everyone a sense of achievement."

Some **Hft** members have volunteered for 25 years. Recently, they've cleared ponds near Monyash, at Hassop and Hartington; laid a footpath at Bowden Bridge car park, Hayfield; erected fencing at Whim Wood, Hathersage; and cleared trees and done coppicing along the Monsal Trail.

Arvon Lee, one of the longest-serving

volunteers, is out twice a week with PPCV. He said: "I don't like sitting in the house, telly is boring. I like to come out and do some work."

His favourite job is building footpaths. Arvon said: "I love digging the trench out, shovelling the stone in and using the wheelbarrows. But I don't mind, I'll do anything."

Paul Arnold, **Hft** volunteer from Grindelford, enjoys working with his friends. He said: "I like lopping branches, sawing and chopping firewood. I really look forward to it."

Andy Mackie, enjoys the partnership between **Hft** and PPCV. He said: "We are out in all weathers. Rain can be running down your neck but we don't mind."

Helen Parry, PPCV ranger, supervises the work on site. She said: "Everyone is responsible for kitting themselves out with boots and waterproofs but we provide heavy duty protective gloves and tools. We show people how to use the equipment safely to get the job done. It's amazing how much we can do in one day."

Why not become a volunteer?

Peak Park Conservation Volunteers (PPCV) are individuals and groups of all ages and backgrounds who love doing practical work in the countryside.

Volunteers carry out a wide variety of projects from hedge laying to pond clearance and stile repairs through to stone walling.

Find out more at:

www.peakdistrict.gov.uk/ppcv or contact Dave Cramp, Conservation Volunteers Officer, on 01433 631433 or email dave.cramp@peakdistrict.gov.uk

National parks are also supporting the national Muck in4Life campaign to encourage more people to take part in environmental activities. Find out more at <http://muckin4life.direct.gov.uk>

muck in 4 life

Scouts on the right path for the future

Barnsley Scouts have been volunteering with the Peak Park Conservation Volunteers for more than 10 years.

In that time hundreds of youngsters, aged from 8 to 18, have taken part in weekend residential courses.

Charlie Wilkins, Group Scout Leader and volunteer PPCV supervisor, said: "The Scouts have done scrub clearance, footpath repairs, fencing, dry stone walling and pond clearing. They work really hard and get very muddy but have a great time doing something worthwhile for the environment."

Recently the Scouts have worked on a footpath at Mam Tor. The PPCV experience enables them to work towards the Scouts' community and environment badges.

Charlie said: "We match activities to the different age groups. The younger ones love clearing out woodlands. We give them a pair of loppers and they have a great time trimming the trees."

The older ones like a bit more variety and can manage heavier work with the wheelbarrows."

The young volunteers enjoy going back to sites to see the full effect of

their activities. Charlie said: "They get very excited when they discover newts in a pond they've cleared out. It's a great start for kids to appreciate the countryside."



Barnsley Scouts take a breather from their work on Mam Tor

Graduates do Groundwork

Graduate volunteers are developing work skills in the 'outdoor classroom' of the Peak District National Park.

Environmental group Groundwork Oldham runs 13-week courses for graduate volunteers, with two days spent with the Peak Park Conservation Volunteers (PPCV).

James Ferguson, from Groundwork, said: "The students are aged 21 to 25 and get a lot out of the experience."

"It's not just about learning new skills and increasing their knowledge of countryside maintenance. It's about having an enjoyable time and doing

something good for the environment. Our groups develop motivational and teambuilding skills as they work."

The students carry out practical tasks from pond clearing to dry stone walling and go on to learn how to manage community projects in Oldham and Rochdale.

James said: "PPCV conservation activities are well managed and the safety aspects of working in the countryside are well explained. The rangers and volunteer supervisors are always friendly and helpful – they are good role models for our students."





A sparkling year of celebrations



Environment secretary Hilary Benn spent a day meeting a variety of projects and groups in the national park.

Among the places he visited was the Stepping Stones at Dovedale, where he met our rangers and representatives of the National Trust.

The UK's national parks celebrated the diamond anniversary of the National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act in 2009.

Various family events were held in the Peak District National Park throughout the year for residents to mark the occasion.

A few highlights were:

- Dozens of guided walks throughout the national park from January to December
- A UK-wide photography competition to capture the best national park pictures in May and June
- A health walk in partnership with Natural England in July
- A family picnic and celebration day at Losehill Hall in July
- A day-long visit by environment secretary Hilary Benn to various national park projects in July
- Residents of Foolow using the 60th anniversary as the theme for their annual well dressing in August
- A £5,000 legacy project which the public voted for in November-December
- Exhibitions on the national park in Sheffield libraries between September and December
- Planting 60 trees to mark 60 years in December

Some of the best moments were captured by national park photographer Andrew Midgley.



Trees were the inspiration for a family fun activity day at the Moorland Centre in Edale. Youngsters identified trees, created a collage and took part in environmental games.



Residents in Foolow took up the 60th anniversary theme for their annual well dressing in August.



The Peak District National Park Authority and Natural England put their best foot forward with a 50-strong group of walkers in Hayfield and the surrounding countryside.

The three-mile walk also helped launched the latest phase of Natural England's Walking the Way to Health Initiative.



Fun for all the family...Children and their parents enjoyed a two-mile walk in Tideswell Dale where they learnt about the earth and the national park environment.

Inspired by the Peaks

Britain's wild spaces have long inspired artists, musicians and writers. We asked local novelist Berlie Doherty to help us celebrate the 60th anniversary of the National Parks Act by being a cultural champion - explaining how the Peak District has played a big part in her life and inspired her writing.

She said: "Where would we be without National Parks? We need them! They're an endless source of inspiration, in everything you see, hear, smell and touch.

"A lot of what I have written is set in the countryside. Even when the story is set in a city, like Dear Nobody set in Sheffield, the characters come out of the town to the countryside. Dramatic scenes inspire me most. I love to be surrounded by the natural beauty of trees, hills, mountains and rivers.

"When I lived in Sheffield I would drive out to Burbage Bridge or Ringinglow to write. I wrote Children of Winter, inspired by the Eyam plague story, and Jeannie of White Peak Farm a long time before I lived in the Peak District."

Berlie now lives in Edale, next to a working farm that's been the inspiration for her Peak Dale Farm stories. She said: "I can write about what I see from my window. I often describe what the weather is doing in my stories. Sometimes you can't see the hills for days because of the mist, but you know they are there.

"The national park gives a sense of permanence and continuity in an ever-changing society. It makes people feel good to see the villages and old stone cottages, the traditional layout of places with ancient churches and village greens." It's not just the place that inspires Berlie's work. She talks to local people to research her books.

She said: "It fascinates me that the Peak District is full of farming communities - living, working, vital rural communities - in all the villages, and yet they are so near to big towns and cities.

"Cities have wonderful parks but the countryside gives you the real thing. The wild park. The real taste of freedom that we all need to keep us going."



Berlie's novels set in the Peak District National Park are:

EDALE
The Snake-stone,
Holly Starcross,
Bella's Den,
A Beautiful Place for a Murder,
A Calf Called Valentine and
Valentine's Day (both Peak
Dale Farm stories)



LADYBOWER
Deep Secret
HOPE VALLEY
Jeannie of White Peak Farm
CASTLETON
Blue John
EYAM
Children of Winter





Protecting the past

A helping hand to cherish our history

If you are fascinated by history and archaeology, the Peak District is a treasure trove. Humans have left their stamp here since prehistoric times, and we are lucky to have residents who take an active role in researching and cherishing this long heritage.

If you would like to save some historic object in your village for future generations, or to research relics of the past in your locality, get in touch.

The national park's cultural heritage team offers advice and support in applying for grants, liaising with other organisations, research and conservation skills, and analysis of artefacts.

For more information: 01629 816200 – ask for the cultural heritage team.

Across these pages are current examples:

Fin Cop hill fort reveals its secrets



All hands to digging the ditch

The Lottery grant helped pay for professional archaeologists from Bakewell-based Archaeological Research Services Ltd, to supervise. Liaison and organisational support was provided by national park senior conservation archaeologist Sarah Whiteley, and the whole community got involved in aspects of research, survey and excavation during the project.

Some 160 schoolchildren excavated test pits with help from national park ranger Andy Shaw, teenagers filmed a DVD with original music and a Druid re-enactment. Nearly 80 adult volunteers dug, trowelled and laboured over the three weeks, and 71 villagers turned out to find out more on a community open day.



Volunteers and children help sort the finds

Members of Longstone Local History Group were exhausted, elated and intrigued at the end of their three-week excavation of a prehistoric hill-fort on Fin Cop, overlooking Monsal Dale.

Their biggest surprise came when one member lifted a shovel-full of rubble – and found part of a human skull. Careful investigation revealed a contorted skeleton that possibly dates from the Iron Age.

They had originally wanted to discover how the hill-fort was built and, helped by the national park's cultural heritage team, they won £49,000 from the Heritage Lottery Fund to find out. In the event they found a lot more besides, including hundreds of pieces of worked Mesolithic chert, flint and several fragments of Iron Age pottery.

Ann Hall, the group's project manager, said: "Teamwork really made it a success. It brought so many parts of the community together, and we had valuable support from the Authority, English Heritage, the Heritage Lottery Fund, the tenant farmer Neil Brocklehurst and landowner Peter Hunt. Though it was hard work, it really was a wonderful, genuine community project across several villages, including Great and Little Longstone and Ashford-in-the-Water."



Archaeologist Clive Waddington points out human thigh bone

A video by group member Frank Parker can be viewed on www.greatlongstone.net

Post-excavation analysis will be presented at Derbyshire Archaeology Day at the Pomegranate Theatre, Chesterfield, on 16 January 2010.

Silence reigns once more

For more than 150 years Silence Mine clanged with the din of lead mining, but by recent times it was long-derelict and neglected. Villagers in nearby Hucklow and Foolow were deafened instead by trail-bikers churning up the four-hectare site.

The two parishes wanted to reclaim the area and conserve its heritage and wildlife, but no owner could be traced. So the national park authority bought it by compulsory purchase and helped the parishes' Silence Heritage Trust to apply for a £27,000 Heritage Lottery grant to take it on.

Now the villagers are restoring it, with advice from wildlife experts, botanists, archaeologists and the national park's cultural heritage and natural environment teams. The Peak District Mines Historical Society spent 18 months excavating the outlines of old buildings, including a steam engine house and boiler house.

Silence Heritage Trust chairman Nick Williams said: "Over the next year we hope to start creating footpaths and interpretation panels to explain the site's historic and wildlife significance. We want to make it a real amenity for both communities."

- Hucklow residents have just published their own book, *Lead in the Veins*, tracing lead-mining history in the area, along with a two-mile Lead Trail along Hucklow Edge (available at national park visitor centres and local shops). The project



Silence Heritage Trust members Patricia and Peter Miles look at the newly-excavated remains of Silence Mine

was supported by national park staff and the Heritage Lottery Fund.

More information: www.hucklow.net
Peak District Historical Mines Society:
www.pdhms.com

Good news for historic Calver Weir

Residents around Calver, Curbar and Froggatt were delighted, in the autumn, to receive the final go-ahead for a £1.244m Heritage Lottery grant to save a mighty 18th century weir from collapse.

Calver Weir, on the River Derwent, powered one of the earliest cotton mills during the Industrial Revolution, and created Calver Marshes, which harbour scarce species such as harvest mice, water voles and wild orchids. But parts of the weir were collapsing and its future was in jeopardy.

Helped by the national park cultural heritage and natural environment teams, villagers set up the Calver Weir Restoration Project in 2004. They worked tirelessly to raise £597,000 in donations (including from the Authority), grants

(from the Environment Agency and English Heritage), non-cash contributions and offers of volunteer labour to augment the lottery grant.

Now they are forging ahead with the £1.84m project to restore the weir, erect a fish pass, conserve the wetlands and improve access.

Project chairman Mike Hennessy said: "Engineering work will go on throughout 2010; we are enhancing footpaths, installing benches, bird and bat boxes and information panels. It will be a testament to the dedication of local people who wanted to save Calver Weir for future generations."

www.calverweir.org.uk



Work to restore Calver Weir will go on throughout 2010

Live & Work Rural

support for rural businesses

Tailor-made advice from **Live & Work Rural**

- Do you have a business idea that makes the most of the Peak District and benefits the environment?
- Would it help sustain local jobs for the long-term?

If the answers are yes, the Peak District **Live & Work Rural** Programme can help. It can give free, tailor-made business development advice and link you into other organisations for specialist advice, networking or grants.

More details: www.peakdistrict.gov.uk/liveandworkrural

Tel: 01629 816338, or email liveandworkrural@peakdistrict.gov.uk



Certification Mark for Businesses

Is your business doing sterling environmental work?

The Peak District Environmental Quality Mark gives recognition you can use in your marketing. This prestigious certificate goes to local businesses that actively look after the environment. More details:

www.peakdistrict.gov.uk/eqm

Tel: 01629 816338

Growing the business - a farmer branches out



Neil feeds his Belted Galloway cattle



Caring for his traditional-breed Swaledale sheep

Neil Richardson is rightly proud of the produce from Big Fernyford Farm near Longnor, where he uses non-intensive methods to rear Swaledale sheep and Belted Galloway cattle, mainly for breeding stock.

Neil also likes to see wildlife thrive, working with Natural England and the national park authority to create wildflower-rich hay meadows and habitats for upland birds such as lapwings, curlew and snipe.

Much of the farm is a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) and the farm was awarded the Peak District Environmental Quality Mark in recognition of its

conservation management.

But now Neil wants to develop the meat side of his business, doing his own on-farm processing and packaging of traditional lamb and beef. This is where an adviser from **Live & Work Rural** stepped in.

"For 15 years my direct sales have just been at the farm gate, or local deliveries to customers I know," said Neil. "Now I want to develop my own cutting and processing room and put my marketing on a more professional basis.

"I got advice from **Live & Work Rural** about support for converting an old farm building, promotion, branding, packaging,

pricing, grants, and linking into joint marketing networks like 'Foods from the Peak District.'

"It was helpful, and it's given me a good basis for the way I need to go forward."

Support for farmers and land managers is also available through the Peak District Land Management Advisory Service on 01629 816270.

Live & Work Rural is operated by the Peak District National Park Authority, supported by the East Midlands Development Agency and Derby & Derbyshire Economic Partnership.

LEADER grants boost rural economy

If you want to start, grow or improve your rural business, maybe the Peak District LEADER programme can help.

Farmers, caterers, cabinet-makers and many more businesses are benefiting from the LEADER fund to get new ideas off the ground.

Grants of £3,500 and upwards are available to help land-based businesses to diversify, and small rural enterprises (up to 10 employees) to develop innovative projects with positive benefits for local jobs, communities and the environment.

The money comes from the EU and Defra, with £1.9m being channelled through the Peak District Rural Action Zone in North Derbyshire and Staffordshire until 2013.

LEADER is run by the Derby and Derbyshire Economic Partnership and is based at Peak District National Park Authority headquarters in Bakewell.

More information: 01629 816223 or

www.ddep.co.uk/rural-forum/leader-/



LEADER programme manager Amanda Brown



Jane and Kirsty Allen in their pub shop that becomes a pool room at night



Pub serves up a new village store

Mother and daughter team Jane and Kirsty Allen used a LEADER grant to create something that Taddington residents had missed for seven years – a village store.

What is more, it could not be more convenient – it's in the popular village pub, the Queens Arms, which Jane and her husband Steve took over two years ago.

Each afternoon, as well as serving drinks and pub meals, they transform the pool room into a shop, with local people from Taddington, Chelmorton, Flagg and

Monyash popping in to buy groceries.

Tourists too are pleasantly surprised to find milk, eggs, bread and other local produce for sale so handily next to the bar.

"We're from the village, and we knew people wanted a shop, so we collected signatures from residents and support from the parish council to prove there was a need," said Jane.

They applied for a LEADER grant and were offered £4,500, which covered

half the cost of adapting the room. Now Kirsty manages it, using local suppliers such as Peak District Dairies. She even takes deliveries and pub meals out to people who are housebound.

It benefits the elderly who have no car, other villagers who no longer have to travel for everyday items, the pub which gets more customers, and the environment with fewer food-miles. And we can all drink to that!

Queens Arms, Taddington - 01298 85245

News in brief



Backdale quarry, at the eastern end of Longstone Edge

Progress on Longstone Edge quarry issues

The quest continues for long-term solutions to the problems of quarrying on Longstone Edge, near Bakewell.

The Authority has long been concerned about permanent damage to the landscape of Longstone Edge, where more than 130 hectares is covered by a 1952 planning permission.

The permission covers several quarry sites, and its interpretation has been the

subject of legal action going back several years.

The principal dispute involved Backdale quarry at the eastern end of Longstone Edge, where operations stopped in the summer after the House of Lords refused to hear an appeal by the landowner.

Last year the Government amended regulations to ensure that old permissions such as this will be reviewed. The

Authority is following those new procedures, which will lead to modern working conditions and restoration requirements.

Now the Authority is seeking information from the Longstone Edge operators and landowners so that it can do this wherever operations will continue. And at the same time it is talking to them about possible alternatives to quarrying.

Operation proving a success

An operation to encourage 4x4 drivers and trail bike riders to behave responsibly in the national park has seen more than 1,000 people given advice in the past 30 months.

Operation Blackbrook is a joint operation that has taken place on most weekends through the year. It involves Peak District National Park Authority rangers, Derbyshire Police, South Yorkshire Police, Derbyshire County Council's countryside service and representatives of vehicle user groups.

The team has spoken to drivers and riders in the national park countryside and given them advice on:

- Driving legally and correctly
- Avoiding wildlife and archaeological sites

- Having consideration for residents and other users of the countryside, like walkers and cyclists

The operation has also targeted drivers on illegal routes or those without tax or insurance. Any found to be breaking the law have been prosecuted by the police.

Mike Rhodes, access and rights of way manager, said: "This approach is proving very successful because it brings responsible 4x4 and trail bike user groups into the process.

"We have also received a lot of support from parish councils, walkers, cyclists and other users who recognise that the operation is making a real difference on the ground."

Further information is available at www.peakdistrict.gov.uk/vehicles

Pedal power for more active lifestyles

A multi-million pound project is to encourage residents to use pedal power instead of the car.

Cycling England - an independent expert body funded by the Department of Transport - has pledged £2.25m to help turn the Peak District National Park into a haven for leisure and commuting cyclists.

It chose the Peak District to pilot extending its Cycling Towns and Cities concept into a rural area because it already has 58 miles of dedicated off-road trails and several cycle hire centres.

The National Park Authority is also seeking other funding partners for a total £3.7m project to:

- improve existing trails and designate road routes to create a cross-Park



cycle trail between Buxton and Matlock railway stations

- re-open four disused rail tunnels on the Monsal Trail for cyclists and walkers
- link up the Monsal Trail with the High Peak and Tissington trails
- encourage people to cycle for health and family fun
- give residents and commuters a realistic alternative to the car

- help reduce traffic congestion and environmental pollution.

Jim Dixon, chief executive of the Authority, said: "The national park is a huge asset and this project gives us a real opportunity to develop a generation of regular cyclists, with all the health benefits that brings.

"It will create both a spectacular cycling route and an alternative to the car, and benefit local tourism businesses with rail and cycling packages."



Kinder gets national nature reserve status

One of the Peak District National Park's iconic landscapes has been designated as one of the finest wildlife and geological sites in the country.

Kinder Scout was made the 223rd National Nature Reserve by Natural England at a memorial walk to celebrate the life of Sir Martin Doughty.

Sir Martin, who was chair of the Peak District National Park Authority between

1993 and 2002, died of cancer in March 2009.

He was also leader of Derbyshire County Council, before becoming chair of English Nature and its successor Natural England.

Kinder Scout is one of the most popular walking areas in Britain and holds a special affection as the site of the famous 1932 Mass Trespass - the catalyst for the

creation of our National Parks.

The upland area covers 1,730 acres (around 700 hectares) and is owned and managed by the National Trust.

Memorial walking events for Sir Martin Doughty were organised by Natural England, the Peak District National Park Authority and Derbyshire County Council, on what would have been Sir Martin's 60th birthday in October.



Memorial walk for Sir Martin Doughty, Kinder Scout, 11 October 2009



Sustainable Development Fund

Moors for the Future

Grants feed growth for Peak projects

What do hydro-power, bees and a side-saddle have in common? Answer: they have all benefited from the Peak District Sustainable Development Fund (SDF).

The SDF helps local projects that improve the long-term economic, social and environmental vitality of Peak District communities. Every year it gives out some £180,000, helping projects that protect the past, improve the present or brighten the future.

Its independent panel of local business-people and community representatives meets quarterly to decide on larger applications. The 2008-09 allocations included:

- £25,000 to the Arkwright Society to help develop hydro-power at the World Heritage Site of Cromford Mill, for both energy and educational purposes
- £3,300 to Grindleford's bee-keeping project – to help sustain honeybees at the community-run allotments
- £412 to help Castleton Garland Committee buy a side-saddle for their Lady Consort, enabling a centuries-old annual tradition to continue.

Other projects included: £5,700 to Off Peak Energy to help develop a sustainable woodchip supply chain for the Peak District; £32,500 to Over Haddon Village Hall Committee to help install renewable energy technology; £7,200 to Peak Organics to hold courses in organic gardening; £8,300 to Arts for Health, a therapeutic scheme for local patients creating art inspired by the Peak District; £1,000 to Groundwork Oldham & Rochdale to help inner city children visit and learn about the national park for the first time.

Groups receiving SDF grants also applied for match-funding from other organisations, drawing in more than £633,000 additional money in 2008-09.

The SDF (financed by Defra and managed by the Peak District National Park Authority) helps projects that:

- benefit the environment and help action against climate change
- boost community facilities
- innovate "green" technology and sustain jobs
- promote healthy activities
- improve environmental education
- create social links within communities or between city and rural groups
- ensure local traditions and heritage can live on.

More information: www.peakdistrict.gov.uk/sdf or 01629 816312.



Cromford Mill - hydro power



Grindleford Allotments bee-keeping project



Castleton Garland Day - Lady Consort

Children take the Climate Change Challenge

Derbyshire Wildlife Trust applied for a £15,000 Sustainable Development Fund grant to launch a Climate Change Challenge for local schools that reached more than 550 children in its first eight months.

Pupils constructed their own wind-turbines, designed an eco-home, explored the wildlife-threats of global warming, or found out how to make their school more energy-efficient. The learning is linked to the National Curriculum, investigating issues of energy use, environmental change and sustainable development.

Project manager Monique Nickols said: "It's been very worthwhile and has given us the basis to carry on the workshops in the coming year. We wouldn't have been able to launch it without the Sustainable Development Fund. It made all the difference, knowing that support was there."

www.derbyshirewildlifetrust.org.uk



Kniveton C of E School's eco-homes project



South Darley C of E School's wind-power workshop



Hulland Ward Primary School's Our World workshop

Gathering moor memories

Do you remember summers when the moors were ablaze, or winters when sheep had to be dug from snowdrifts? Can you recall wartime activities on the moors – planes swooping over dams, or PoW work-parties?

Did you work on the moors – could you describe your experiences as a farmer, gamekeeper, ranger or mountain rescuer? Maybe you constructed paths or your family helped build dams. Or perhaps your interest is in recreation, following the changes from rambling to para-gliding over the years.

If you would like to share your moorland memories, or could help interview local people for a lasting oral history archive, Moor Memories project officer Tegwen Roberts would like to hear from you.

Throughout January and February, Tegwen is holding workshops with community groups, looking for potential interviewees and local volunteers to train in recording techniques.



Moor Memories officers talk to a local villager about the project



Rescuing sheep in one of the severe winters in the 1960s

Tegwen explained: "Moor Memories is about adding the human side to the important landscape restoration work of the Moors for the Future project.

"It's about giving local people a voice, getting feedback on what's important to them in their heritage, and giving them the skills to preserve knowledge that would otherwise be lost to future generations.

"We'll be giving training to local people so that they can carry on with their oral histories when this two-year project ends, enabling a lasting archive of Moor Memories which will be stored at the

Moorland Centre in Edale."

If you would like Tegwen to talk to your organisation, contact her (Thur-Fri only) on 01629 816585 or email tegwen.roberts@peakdistrict.gov.uk

- Moor Memories is funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund, Peak District National Park Authority, English Heritage, United Utilities, the National Trust, Ramblers Association and the Sheffield Campaign for Access to Moorlands.

£5.5m boost for Peak moorland restoration

The Moors for the Future Partnership has secured a £5.5m grant from the EU's Life+ Fund to expand its vital restoration projects to more than 2,000 acres of Peak District and South Pennine moorland until 2015.

The new MoorLife project, starting this summer, will revegetate vast expanses of bare, eroding peat, enabling it to retain moisture and carbon dioxide, reducing flood-risks in nearby towns and mitigating climate change. The new green growth also provides habitats for internationally-important wildlife and purifies our water supplies.

More details: www.moorsforthefuture.org.uk



Volunteers helping restore degraded moorland

Combating climate change at home



Air source heat pump - outdoor unit in a garden



Wind turbine near Tideswell

Insulate before you generate

If you want to combat climate change at home, the most effective way by far is to insulate and buy energy efficient appliances.

Save energy before you make energy is the key message to help lower your carbon footprint. First ensure your loft, walls, water-cylinders, pipes, windows and doors are cosily insulated and replace any

worn-out appliances with A-rated ones.

Then, especially if you need to replace an old boiler, have no mains gas or are undertaking major building work, small-scale renewable schemes can come into play.

For more details:

www.energysavingtrust.org.uk
<http://actonCO2.direct.gov.uk>

Do you need planning permission?

Many renewable energy devices do not need planning permission these days – but it is always best to check with the national park planning service.

The location of the house and of the device can make the difference between needing planning permission or not. Conservation areas need special consideration and listed buildings always need special consent.

By law (1995 Environment Act), the Authority must give priority to conserving the natural beauty, wildlife and heritage of the national park. Low-impact small-scale technologies are well-suited to the national park but larger ones could intrude on the wild protected landscape.

The Authority has approved sensitively-located small-scale technologies, including individual wind turbines and hydro-power schemes. So to be sure of your position, just ask.

Devices that may not always need permission:

- Solar panels (under 200mm depth, at the rear)
- Photovoltaic cells
- Ground source heat pumps (within a garden)
- Water source heat pumps (within a garden)
- Biomass boilers (with a low flue, at the rear)

Wind turbines do need planning permission, and air source heat pumps may do.

More information:

www.peakdistrict.gov.uk/energy
www.lowcarbonbuildings.org.uk/info/permitted

Call 01629 816200 and ask for the planning customer service adviser, or email customer.service@peakdistrict.gov.uk



Photo-voltaic tiles below roof ridge - Curbar



Photo-voltaic panels - Wardlow



Photo-voltaic cells on glazed roof - café in Northumberland National Park



Field concealing pipework for ground source heat pump at Gratton

Heat from the ground up

When Peter Pimm was looking to replace the old oil-fired boiler in his four-bedroom farmhouse in Alport, he wanted to help the fight against climate change.

He had already insulated the house as much as possible, so he did his research, and decided a ground source heat pump would suit his needs.

Two 200-metre loops of plastic pipe were laid horizontally, one metre deep, under land next to the house. Filled with water and anti-freeze, they draw low-temperature energy from the ground.

The heat pump (the size of a large fridge) has a refrigerant circuit and compressor which raises this temperature to supply the central heating and hot water system.

"Why did we do it? Well, we had to replace our oil boiler, and everybody has a responsibility to consider their impact on the planet," said Peter. "The experts all say this is a one of the best micro energy saving schemes if you have the land to do it on.



Peter Pimm and his grandson watch pipes being laid for ground source heat pump...



...the same land a year later

"There's a common misconception that it's hugely expensive. The initial cost is large, but so is a new oil boiler and you recoup the rest of your outlay in the long-term because of much lower running costs.

"We've had it up and running since September 2008 and it's been clean, efficient and maintenance-free."

Andrew Hubble, of Coefficient Renewable Heating Solutions, which has installed several ground and air source heat pumps in the national park, said:

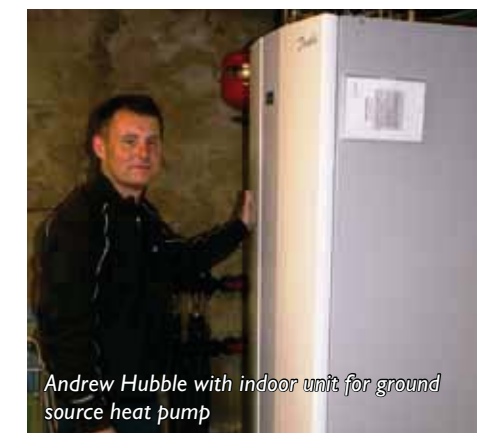
"They're ideal if, like Peter, you have no mains gas and you need a new heating system, or if you're doing major building work.

"They work well with underfloor heating, which Peter already had, or appropriately sized radiators."

Air source heat pumps are more appropriate when space is limited – the

air unit can be installed in a garden and screened with a fence or shrubs. Water source heat pumps need a large pond or lake nearby.

www.energysavingtrust.org.uk/Generate-your-own-energy/Ground-source-heat-pumps



Andrew Hubble with indoor unit for ground source heat pump

MICRO HYDRO POWER - back to the future

The Peak District's mills, powered by its abundant rivers, were the cradle of the Industrial Revolution – and now hydro-power could be making a comeback.

Supported by the national park's Sustainable Development Fund, the Friends of the Peak District recently completed a two-year study into potential sites for small-scale hydro-power schemes. Many of the most promising are at old mills, including Bamford, Low Bradfield, Rowsley, Edale, Bakewell and Edensor.

A workshop for interested communities was held with non-profit company Water Power Enterprises at Bradfield in November.



Haddon Estate river-keeper Warren Slaney at Alport Mill's hydro power plant

The Haddon Estate has already installed a micro hydro-plant (pictured left) at Alport Mill, generating enough power (through the National Grid) to fuel Alport's 30 homes.

More details:

www.friendsofthepeak.org.uk or www.h2ope.org.uk

The Peak District Sustainable Development Fund can help renewable energy schemes for community buildings:

www.peakdistrict.gov.uk/sdf
More grant information:
www.lowcarbonbuildings.org.uk
www.energysavingtrust.org.uk

We're doing our bit to help

Keeping in touch

Working to beat climate change

The National Park Authority uses resources in caring for the national park so it is important that we work in environmentally-friendly ways - we're not perfect but we are committed to improving. So far we have:

- reduced our carbon footprint by 9%
- reduced carbon emissions by 89 tonnes
- reduced gas use resulting in a 48 tonne reduction in carbon emissions
- decreased business miles in staff cars cutting emissions by nearly 20%
- increased the tonnage of waste we recycle from 28% to 30%
- reduced waste sent to landfill by 8 tonnes

www.peakdistrict.gov.uk/climatechange



Authority chief executive Jim Dixon uses the office can-crusher

Cutting our carbon footprint



We use energy in buildings and burn fuel when we travel releasing greenhouse gases into the atmosphere. But we're doing things differently where we can.

Our carbon footprint is made up of:

- Electricity use: 49% (434 tonnes)
- Gas use: 25% (222 tonnes)
- Fleet vehicles: 20% (175 tonnes)
- Other staff car travel: 6% (51 tonnes)
- Public transport and air travel: 1% (7 tonnes)

DRIVING DOWN EMISSIONS

The national park covers 555 sq miles, and staff use public transport when practical, but many miles are still travelled in vehicles, accounting for 25% of our carbon emissions.

Recently we replaced our Field Services vehicles. Three estate rangers opted for lower emission vans rather than 4x4 vehicles. Bill Gordon, North Lees

Estate ranger, said: "I've used 4x4s for 30 years so it wasn't an easy decision to change."

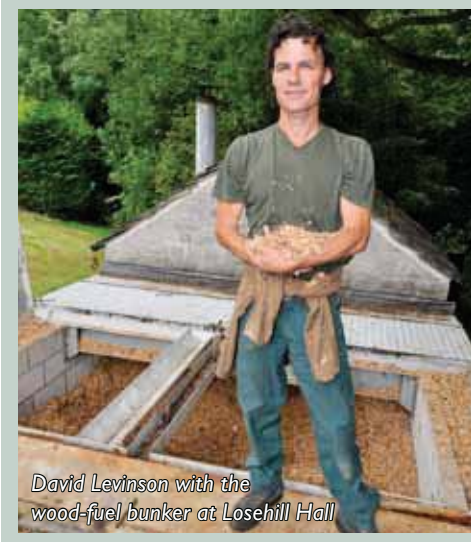
Bill realised that 85% of the time he didn't need four-wheel drive. He said: "We don't have a right to use 4x4 vehicles because we operate in the countryside. But we do have a responsibility to use vehicles in an environmentally friendly way.

Wonderful wood fuel

Losehill Hall, our centre for environmental learning at Castleton, has Eco-Centre status for its environmentally-friendly systems. David Levinson, who maintains Losehill Hall's wood-fuel burner, explained: "We installed a biomass boiler in 2004. It runs on woodchips and meets one third of our hot water and heating needs. It has reduced Losehill Hall's carbon emissions by about 20%."

The wood it burns comes from a nearby habitat restoration scheme and is of no use to the industry for fencing, building or furniture. David said: "Wood is sustainable. Trees can be grown as a crop, coppiced and replanted so the supply can be sustained unlike coal, gas or oil. Trees provide habitats for wildlife and they release oxygen into the air."

Wood is a carbon neutral renewable source of energy – that means it won't run out and does not contribute to the greenhouse effect.



David Levinson with the wood-fuel bunker at Losehill Hall

"I'm thinking how I could cycle and walk more to reduce the miles I drive. We may never be completely carbon neutral but we can aim for it."

For the full environmental performance report and 2009/10 targets go to www.peakdistrict.gov.uk/emp

More ways to interact with the Peak District National Park Authority

There are now more ways for you to get in touch with the Peak District National Park Authority.

The authority has joined the social networking revolution with:

- Our own Twitter page at www.twitter.com/peakdistrict - giving regular updates about events and news in the national park
- A YouTube channel showing videos about aspects of the Peak District National Park Authority's work. This includes a selection of videos showing the many opportunities and activities in the national park suitable for wheelchair-users to enjoy. Find it at www.youtube.com/peakdistrictnpa
- A personal blog written by the authority's chief executive Jim Dixon, which lets him explain more about his work and thoughts on key issues that have an impact on national parks. It can be seen at <http://jimdixon.wordpress.com/> He also has a Twitter page at www.twitter.com/peakchief

Links to all the social media sites can also be found on the authority's main website at www.peakdistrict.gov.uk on the home page and in the news and media section.

The new services are in addition to our existing methods of communication with residents, which include our customer service team handling more than:

- 40,500 phone calls
- 200,000 letters
- 70,000 emails
- 11,500 visitors in reception at the authority's headquarters at Aldern House, Baslow Road, Bakewell

In addition the authority each year organises or attends dozens of public meetings, carries out community visits and gets 620,000 visitors to its website, creating more than 2.41 million page views.

National Park Authority Members

Thirty Members control the Authority. Sixteen are councillors appointed by county, district, city or borough councils and six are parish councillors. Eight are appointed by the Defra Secretary of State for their specialist knowledge of issues that affect the National Park.

Chair:	Narendra Bajaria CBE	Secretary of State Member
Deputy Chair:	Cllr Trevor Bagshaw	Sheffield City Council
Council-appointed Members:		
Cllr Denise Wilde	Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council	
Cllr Hilda Gaddum	Cheshire East Council	
Cllr Garry Purdy	Derbyshire County Council	
Cllr Marian Stockdale	Derbyshire County Council	
Cllr Judith Twigg	Derbyshire County Council	
Cllr Jean Wharmby	Derbyshire County Council	
Cllr Jacque Bevan	Derbyshire Dales District Council	
Cllr Tracy Critchlow	Derbyshire Dales District Council	
Cllr Tony Favell	High Peak Borough Council	
Cllr Chris Pearson	High Peak Borough Council	
Cllr Andrew Marchington	Kirklees Metropolitan Borough Council	
Cllr Dorothy Ward	NE Derbyshire District Council	
Cllr Colin McLaren	Oldham Metropolitan Borough Council	
Cllr Gill Heath	Staffordshire County Council	
Cllr Edwin Wain	Staffordshire Moorlands District Council	

Secretary of State Members:

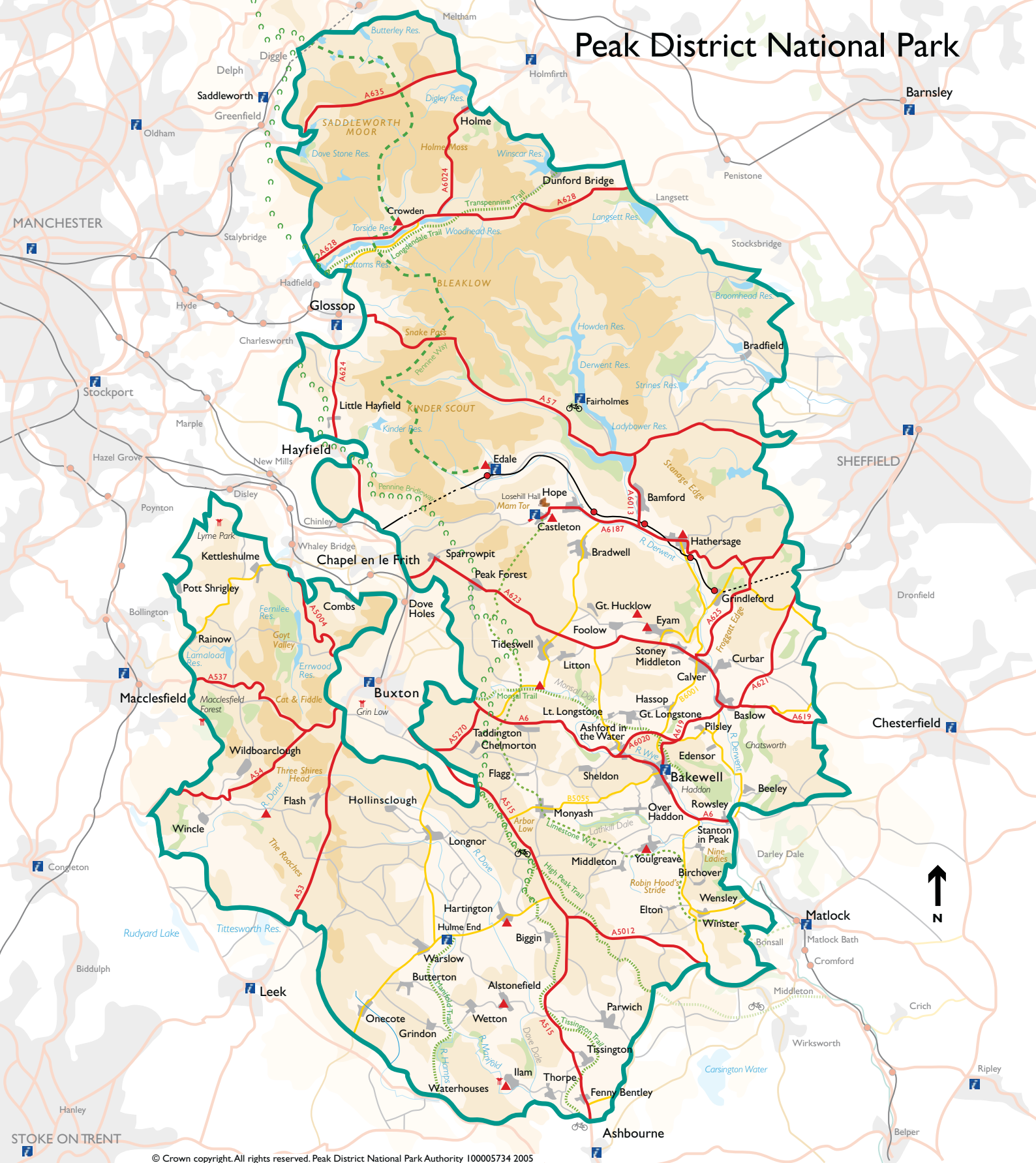
Anne Ashe
Pauline Beswick
Harry Bowell
Roger Clarke
Suzanne Leckie
Geoff Nickolds
Christopher Pennell

Parish Members:

Christopher Carr
Patricia Coleman
Prof. John Herbert
Kath Potter
Ron Priestley
Lesley Roberts

For contact details: www.peakdistrict.gov.uk/members or telephone 01629 816200

Peak District National Park



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	National Park Boundary		Railway and Station		Pennine Bridleway		Information Centre		Settlement
	Land over 400 metres		Railway Tunnel		Pennine Way		Cycle Hire		Reservoir
	Land over 300 metres		A Road		Trail		Youth Hostel		Woodland
	Land over 200 metres		B Road		Limestone Way		Country Park		
			Minor Road						

Peak District National Park Visitor
Enquiries: 01629 816558 or email
bakewell@peakdistrict.gov.uk
 Bakewell & Castleton Visitor Centres
 Tel: 01629 816558
 Upper Derwent Valley. Tel: 01433 650953
 Moorlands Centre, Edale. Tel: 01433 670207

Tourist Information Centres
 Ashbourne Tel: 01335 343666
 Barnsley Tel: 01226 206757
 Buxton Tel: 01298 25106
 Chesterfield Tel: 01246 345777
 Congleton Tel: 01260 271095
 Glossop Tel: 01457 855920

Holmfirth Tel: 01484 222444
 Leek Tel: 01538 483741
 Macclesfield Tel: 01625 504114
 Matlock Tel: 01629 583388
 Saddleworth Tel: 01457 870336
 Sheffield Tel: 0114 221 1900
 Stockport Tel: 0161 474 4444

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