

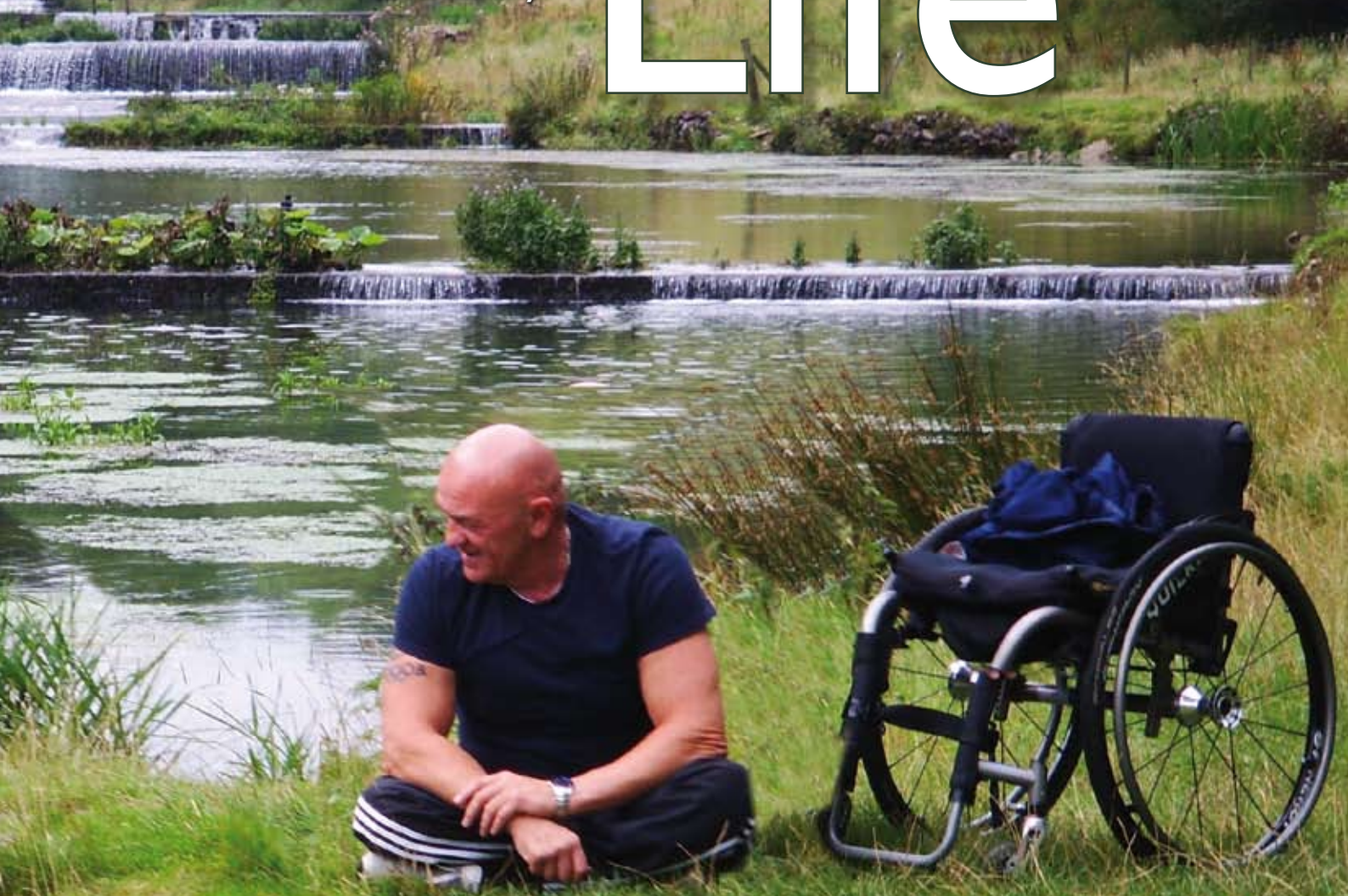
Park

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

PEAK
DISTRICT
NATIONAL PARK AUTHORITY

Issue 8 - July 2009

Life



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www.peakdistrict.gov.uk

 **1949-2009**
National Parks
Diamonds in the Landscape



Celebrating 60 years of UK national parks...



City walkers set out, then...

This year, as we celebrate the 60th anniversary of the parliamentary Act that created Britain's national parks, we want to look forward as well as back.

For just as our national parks were founded as part of Britain's post-war recovery, so they are now part of a drive to help the country out of recession.

The Peak District National Park has just launched a three-year £1.25m Live & Work Rural programme to support local businesses, communities and jobs.

With funding from the East Midlands Development Agency (emda) and Derby and Derbyshire Economic Partnership, the Live and Work Rural team is ready to offer business advice and sources of grants, and help residents improve their communities, sustain jobs and enhance the environment.

We need thriving businesses and communities to look after the landscapes, buildings and wildlife of the national park. So in these difficult times we offer our support to them to help pass on the national park in good shape for the next 60 years.



...and now



Above, the changing face of farming



Traffic congestion - Monsal Head, 1950s



A firefighter and National Park ranger 2009



National Park warden, 1950s style

Heritage

The world's first national park was America's Yellowstone in 1872. Europe followed with nine national parks, in Sweden, exactly 100 years ago.

But it was not until 1949, with a new vision for peacetime Britain, that politicians here acted to protect our most beautiful landscapes for all.

The National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act led to the first UK national park in 1951 – the Peak District.

Now we welcome the South Downs – just announced as the UK's 15th national park – 627 sq miles of chalk uplands and river valleys, with 120,000 residents.

National park authorities were set up to safeguard these precious landscapes, to ensure access and enjoyment for ordinary people and to foster economic and social well-being for residents.

This means balancing the demands of conservation with tourism, agriculture, industry and community welfare. It is a complex challenge, with sometimes difficult decisions having to be made. But our aim is that in another 60 years the Peak District will still be a thriving, beautiful place that people want to live in, work in and visit.

Narendra Bajaria

Chair

Peak District National Park Authority

narendra.bajaria@peakdistrict.gov.uk





Put diamonds on the soles of your boots...



The UK's national parks are celebrating the diamond anniversary of the National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act this year, signed on December 16 1949.

So in this diamond year we are urging people to get out there in boots, on bicycles or buses - and enjoy the wonderful landscapes protected for us by our forebears.

An anniversary website gives the history, plus "Diamonds in the Landscape Walks" and events for all the UK's national parks, Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty, National Nature Reserves, National Trails and other protected areas.

See: www.diamondsinthelandscape.org.uk or www.peakdistrict.gov.uk/anniversary

Also keep an eye on the media for updates on events throughout the year.

Celebrate a diamond year in the Peak District

Sun July 26 60th anniversary Picnic in the Park 10.30am-4pm

Bring a picnic, take part in activities, pond-dipping, arts and walks for all the family at Losehill Hall, Castleton. Book on 01433 620373. Parking limited – mini-buses will run from Castleton and Hope Station.



National Parks Week events

July 27-Aug 2. All these Ranger-guided walks are suitable for families and accessible by bus. For details of public transport services see www.traveline.org.uk or ring 0871 200 2233.

Mon July 27 - Dovedale at Dusk

2 mile easy walk as the sun goes down. Meet Milldale car-park (GR: SK137547) 7.30pm. Torch useful.

Tue July 28 - Family Earth Walk in Tideswell Dale

2 mile family walk with activities for children, 11am-2pm. Meet Tideswell Dale picnic site (GR: SK154742) Booking essential 01298 871869.

Tue July 28 - Warslow Wander

2½ mile easy walk including history, 2.30pm-5.30pm. Meet Warslow Village Hall (GR: SK086585).

Wed July 29 - Family Day in the Goyt Valley

Activities including navigation, mini-beast hunt and sensory trail. Bring picnic. Meet Errwood Hall car park (GR: SK012748) 11am-1.30pm, finish 4pm. Assistance dogs only.

Wed July 29 - Burial Chambers, Brilliant Views and a Setting Sun

2½ mile sunset walk with spectacular views. Some rough, uphill sections. Meet Minninglow car-park (GR: SK194581) 7.30pm. Torch useful.

Fri July 31 - Fishermen, Farmers and Feisty Beasts

3 mile easy walk - wildlife and farming around Hartington. Meet Hartington Centre (GR: SK128604) 10.30am-1pm.

Fri July 31 - From Ducal Splendour to Quarrymen's Delves

5 mile archaeological walk in Chatsworth Park, ancient oaks, site of 16th century gardens, ice pond and old drives. Some rough ground. Meet at pay-and-display car park, Baslow Nether End, (GR: SK258721) Bring picnic. 10.30am-4pm. Booking essential: 01629 816200.

Sat August 1 - Peak District Exposed

8 mile easy moorland walk – history, wildlife, views. Meet 'Cat & Fiddle' pub (Buxton to Macclesfield road, GR: SJ962712) 10.15am-3pm. Assistance dogs only.

Sat August 1 - White Peak Wander

5½ mile walk - river, dale, woods and limestone plateau to Sheldon. Some rough ground. Meet White Lodge car park on A6 Bakewell to Buxton (GR: SK170705) 11am-3.30pm.

Sat August 1 - High Peak Hike. Glossop to Edale

11 mile high level, linear walk following a classic route. Strenuous, rough ground. Bring picnic. Meet Torside car-park (GR: SK069983) 10.30am-4.30pm.

Sun August 2 - Morning stroll round Fernilee

3 mile easy walk round Fernilee reservoir on roads and woodland paths (no stiles). Includes one climb. Meet at Street car park (GR: SK013756) 10.30am-12.30 pm.

Sun August 2 - Afternoon walk in the Goyt Valley

3 mile walk on roads and woodland paths (no stiles). Two ascents. Meet at Street car park (GR: SK013756) 1.30pm-4pm. (Suitable for children over 7).

Sun August 2 - The Lakes of the Little Don

10 mile moderate walk around Langsett, Midhope and Underbank Reservoirs. Meet Langsett Barn car-park, Langsett (GR: SE211004) 10.30am-5pm.



Butcher James Hancock, Castlegate Farm Shop, Stoney Middleton

Rural Economy

Boost for Peak District businesses and communities

A £1.253 million scheme has been launched to provide vital support for rural Peak District businesses and communities.

The three-year Live & Work Rural programme will help businesses create new jobs and safeguard existing ones and assist communities to carry out projects to benefit local residents.

The project, which will be managed by the Peak District National Park Authority, is funded by a:

- £595,000 grant from the East Midlands Development Agency (emda) and the Derby and Derbyshire Economic Partnership
- £458,000 from the Peak District National Park Authority and
- £200,000 of additional support from various other partners.

The scheme will focus on working with small rural businesses and people who have ideas about setting up a new Peak District business but need help getting

it off-the-ground. The project will also support community groups looking to improve life in their village or town.

Dr Bryan Jackson, chair of emda, said: "We are meeting a need and providing an opportunity to use the environment to create business that generates wealth and jobs."

Other partners in the project include:

- Business Link
- Rural Development Programme for England
- Peak District Rural Action Zone LEADER Action Group
- University of Derby
- Peak District and Derbyshire Destination Management Partnership
- Natural England
- High Peak Borough Council
- Derbyshire Dales District Council
- Peak Partners for Rural Action.

Narendra Bajaria, chair of the Peak District National Park Authority, said: "We are delighted that emda has given us funding to help support local communities and businesses through the current difficult economic climate. We will be working with a wide range of partners to make a real difference to the lives of local people."

Grants to help small businesses

Live & Work Rural provides guidance on grants that are available to help small businesses.

The LEADER programme - overseen by the Peak District Rural Action Zone Local Action Group and managed by the Derby and Derbyshire Economic Partnership - offers grants of £3,500 or more to new businesses and businesses aiming to expand in many parts of the High Peak, Derbyshire Dales and Staffordshire Moorlands.

Two priority areas are:

- Land-based businesses who need to improve their profitability, or businesses wanting to diversify into non-agricultural areas
- Businesses with less than 10 employees wanting to develop or promote local products, which in turn create new jobs or services.

One recent example is the Queen's Arms at Taddington, which has been awarded a £4,500 grant to assist in converting part of the pub into a village shop.

Further information is available from Amanda Brown on 01629 816223.



Dr. Bryan Jackson and Narendra Bajaria with Diane Cone, landlady of the Barrel Inn and Judith Hancock, from Castlegate Farm, at the launch of Live & Work Rural



Arran Trading Post, an Environmental Quality Mark business



Dove Valley Centre, Sheen



Tindalls Bakery, Tideswell



Peak Farm Fayre, Chapel en le Frith



Threshing Barn, Bradnop

Keep it local – case study

The Barrel Inn at Bretton is the sort of business that Live & Work Rural will be working with.

The pub buys its meat and produce from the neighbouring Castlegate Farm, which in turn helps manage the stunning landscape that can be seen from the Barrel Inn.

Diane Cone, landlady of the Barrel Inn, said: "The farm gives us an excellent service and the produce can be with us within minutes. Customers love to know that they are getting produce from this beautiful countryside."

Live & Work Rural has worked with the pub to produce a menu that explains to customers about their use of locally sourced food. It also explains the farm's conservation work which has been recognised by an Environmental Quality Mark award from the Authority.

Judith Hancock and her husband John have owned Castlegate Farm for 48 years. She said: "We are looking after ponds, walls, grasslands and lead rakes – everything that is good about the countryside."

"It is vital that we have the customers because all the time the big supermarkets are pushing to undercut us. We are producing traditional products and rely on the local community to buy them."



What Live & Work Rural can do for people with business ideas

- Advise businesses – or people thinking of setting up a business – where to go for relevant support, grants and networking opportunities.
- Help new and existing businesses minimise their carbon footprint by
 - encouraging recycling
 - reducing energy use
 - introducing renewable energy and
 - using local products and services.
- Encourage businesses that care for the Peak District environment to use their green credentials as a marketing tool



A vital part of the economy

The importance of Peak District National Park businesses to the East Midlands economy has been revealed.

Independent research commissioned by the East Midlands Development Agency shows the Peak District National Park contributed around £155 million to the region in 2007.

The National Park has 2,800 businesses which support more than 14,000 jobs. The report found Peak District businesses gain a competitive advantage due to the quality of the environment and the area's profile.

The report can be seen at www.peakdistrict.gov.uk/liveandworkrural



Hope Valley Ice Cream - made from fresh milk and free range eggs at Thorpe Farm, Hathersage, an Environmental Quality Mark business.

What Live & Work Rural can do for communities

- Help community groups improve life in their hamlet, village or town
- Provide support to tackle community issues
- Encourage people to use their trade or professional skills for the benefit of the community
- Help find funding to carry out local community projects

How to get in touch

- Visit www.peakdistrict.gov.uk/liveandworkrural
- Ring the Live & Work Rural team on 01629 816338
- Email liveandworkrural@peakdistrict.gov.uk

Sustainable

Youlgrave

Community power helps save the planet

There's nothing low-energy about the efforts some Peak District communities are putting into going green.

Rather than feeling powerless about climate change, these village groups are taking action to reduce their carbon footprint, promote energy conservation and encourage recycling.

Helped, in many cases, by the national park's Sustainable Development Fund, they understand that the battles against global warming and waste start at home.

Sustainable Youlgrave

Set up in 2006, Sustainable Youlgrave has become a flagship for local green groups, pioneering proposals for the region's first community-run anaerobic digester to produce renewable energy.

Funded by a £20,000 grant from the Peak District Sustainable Development Fund, and £20,000 from emda, the award-winning group has commissioned a feasibility-study for the digester, which would generate electricity from slurry, farmyard manure and other green waste.

Its chair, John Youatt, said: "It's very encouraging that the Peak District National Park has confidence in our ambitious plans and is prepared to back community-led green ventures. We're grateful to the Sustainable Development Fund and hope it will inspire others to follow in our footsteps."

The group has held a Climate Change Day and conservation projects with the village school, it advises householders on energy, waste and water reduction and is investigating four other alternative energy schemes. It also promotes local shops and buses.

More information:
www.sustainableyoulgrave.org



Award - winning Sustainable Youlgrave



The energetic Bonsall Energy Group



Climate change and recycling displays at Bonsall's Big Green Day

Bonsall Energy Group

Bonsall Energy Group's Big Green Day in May was a typical lively enterprise, helping the whole village to find out more about going green through demonstrations and displays, games, pony trap rides and plant swaps.

In addition, the group was awarded £3,500 from the Sustainable Development Fund for an energy-efficiency and renewable energy feasibility study of seven community buildings including the village hall, church, school and chapel, conducted by the Centre for Alternative Technology.

Set up in 2007, they have also helped 112 householders do energy audits of their homes, promoted recycling projects and set up a low energy light-bulb library.

Secretary Wendy Bullar said: "The Sustainable Development Fund grant was absolutely invaluable, we couldn't have done the community buildings study without it. We're now raising funds to take action on the recommendations."

More information:
www.bonsallvillage.org.uk

Peak District

Edale Valley

Sustainable Edale

Sustainable Edale, established in 2008, is made up of five groups acting on separate issues: energy conservation, energy generation, transport, waste reduction and management and local food production and distribution.

Group member Gordon Miller said: "Edale is the only village in Derbyshire to have been given 15 energy monitors by the Energy Savings Trust, to see what savings can be made in a village not on mains gas.

"We are also investigating options for micro-hydropower, wind and biomass renewable energy schemes, and setting up a website."

They have produced re-usable shopping bags and t-shirts and set up a collective for bulk orders of oil and coal, cutting costs and lorry-journeys.

More information:
Gordon Miller - irfhq@hotmail.com



Edale resident Dan Bird checks his energy-use monitor



Grindleford Energy Group's 'Swap Shop'

For advice on the Sustainable Development Fund,

go to www.peakdistrict.gov.uk/sdf or contact Richard Godley, Peak District sustainable development officer, on 01629 816312 or sdf@peakdistrict.gov.uk

Grindleford Energy Group

Grindleford Energy Group is less than a year old, but has already put its ideals into practice with simple, low-cost conservation projects.

One of the group's innovations is a 'Swap Shop' recycling scheme coinciding with the monthly visit of the council's "skip lorry." Before items are dumped, group-members put them on display so people can claim them for free. Anything from bicycles to bedside cabinets have found new homes. They also have a "freecycle" noticeboard in the village shop, advertising items people want to give away.

Group member Dave Jenner said: "We want to highlight how everyone can reduce their impact on our climate and perhaps save money at the same time. Green awareness cannot start too early: the village is proud that Grindleford School has been awarded a 'green flag' - the top environmental award for schools - at its first attempt!"

Other efforts centre on community buildings, including the Bridge Pavilion - improving insulation and investigating the potential for a ground source heat pump.

More information:
Dave Jenner 01433 639581

Sustainable Bakewell

Sustainable Bakewell was launched in 2008 to promote sustainable lifestyles and green business practices in the national park's main town. Its launch included an exhibition, workshops and a discussion forum, and it held a Sustainable Living Workshop in the Spring. With a grant from the Peak District Sustainable Development Fund it will promote the green message in local schools, and is investigating the feasibility of micro-hydro schemes.

Chairman, Dan Zamoyski said: "Green business practices are good business practices - they reduce waste, energy-use and costs. We're glad to see many Peak District businesses taking an active approach to helping the environment and we hope to encourage others to follow suit."

More information www.sustainablebakewell.org.uk



Sustainable Bakewell at Victoria Mill

Give your village an online voice

Parwich

Alstonefield

When a group of Parwich residents set up a ground-breaking community website last year they had no idea of the success story it would become.

Today www.parwich.org has had almost 180,000 page hits more than 1,600 articles posted and 1,700 comments made.

The volunteer-run website has also helped bring the local community together and supported local events and businesses.

Jane Bennett, from the website team, said: "I have been staggered with the number of hits the website has achieved and how it has taken off. It has given the village more of a voice."

The parwich.org team – which also includes Peter Trewitt, Lynne Goldsworthy, Mike Atkinson, Emma Spence and Mike Hughes – are now encouraging other villages to set up their own websites.

[Parwich.org](http://parwich.org) differs from most village websites because they use a community blog – regularly updated pages of information, pictures and videos that allow readers to comment on what they have seen. As a result the website's home page changes regularly on most days.



Lynne Goldsworthy and Peter Trewitt, part of the up-to-the-minute, interactive www.parwich.org team

Top tips for creating a community website.

1. Get four to 10 volunteers to run the website.
2. Share the workload and let people work on the website at a time to suit them.
3. Agree ground rules which all contributors have to follow. Make them clearly visible on the website.
4. Have at least one person with good IT skills.
5. Encourage the whole community to contribute pictures and stories.

Find out more

Get help and advice by visiting our website at www.peakdistrict.gov.uk/community

The section includes:

- full interviews with the www.parwich.org and www.alstonefield.org website teams
- a video showing how easy it is to create posts or comments and
- advice about the software you will need.

Alstonefield goes live

Nine months hard work paid off on 1 May when Alstonefield launched its blog-based website.

www.alstonefield.org is run by administrators Cathy Reavy, Richard Shuttlewood and Meg Handscombe, with the assistance of six contributors from community groups.

Cathy said: "We do have a tourist section but the whole point of the site is that it is run by the community for the community."

"Having initiated the development of the website, the parish council owns and funds the site, but it is a communication tool to let people talk to each other and to quickly and easily get feedback on issues and ideas."

As well as its forum, the website includes information about community groups, local businesses, public services, has an events calendar and also sells a walks' booklet.

The website includes information about community groups, local businesses, public services, has an events calendar and also sells a walks' booklet.



Cathy Reavy and Richard Shuttlewood - getting quick feedback on www.alstonefield.org



Way to go!



You really do NOT have to be a paralympian to enjoy the Peak District in a wheelchair, but John Harris makes a gold-medal guide in a new DVD that will inspire disabled and non-disabled people alike.

South Wales-based John, 63, was paralysed in a fairground accident at 18 and took part in five Paralympic Games, winning gold in the discus.

But, having never visited the Peak District before, he said it was “a fantastic experience. It gave me a sense of space and achievement that you just couldn’t get anywhere else.”

The “Access Passport” DVD was produced by Axess Film (the UK’s only charitable film company) for the National Park Authority. It opens up like a travel passport, with John giving his reports at each venue, including Surprise View, Curbar Edge, the Goyt Valley and Lathkill Dale.

He gives a realistic view of what most wheelchair-users could achieve, and he does so with infectious enthusiasm.

John uses an adapted cycle along quiet trails at Parsley Hay, he rolls up at a cavern in Castleton and he joins young disabled people abseiling at Millers Dale.

Here’s a flavour of his reaction: “If someone said a fortnight ago, John, you’ll be in the Peak District National Park abseiling 90ft off a bridge over a river, I’d’ve thought, you’re crazy – but it was one of the most unbelievable experiences I’ve ever had in my life.



John Harris abseiling for the DVD in Millers Dale

“It gives people with a disability the opportunity to take part in activities they never would have had, and I was treated no different from anyone else. It was an unbelievable moment to see that river below. I want to do it again, even higher!”

The “Access Passport” DVD is available at £2.99 from National Park Visitor Centres in Bakewell, Castleton, Edale and Derwent Valley, phone 01629 816558 or email bakewell@peakdistrict.gov.uk

Or you can see it free online at www.peakdistrict.gov.uk/accesspeak



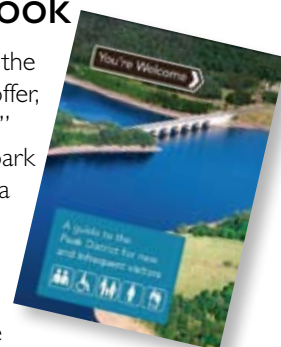
Find family-friendly paths in “You’re Welcome” guide

You’re Welcome! – free guidebook

For a first taste of all the Peak District has to offer, the “You’re Welcome” guide from national park visitor centres offers a wealth of easy-going trails and viewpoints.

Ideal for families with small children, people who are less mobile or unused to the countryside, “You’re Welcome” includes information on wheelchair/pushchair access, toilets, playgrounds, car parks and public transport.

Available free at national park visitor centres (tel: 01629 816558 or email bakewell@peakdistrict.gov.uk). Some pages are online at: www.moorsforthefuture.org.uk/mftf/yourewelcome.htm



The greening of Black Hill

Cotton grass

High up where the Holme Moss transmitter pierces the clouds, Black Hill has earned a fearsome reputation among Pennine Way hikers.

The great walking writer Alfred Wainwright thought it “gruesome and treacherous” – showing “a desolate and hopeless quagmire to the sky.”

We wish Wainwright could see it now – restored by the Moors for the Future Partnership and hopeless no more – verdant with cotton grasses, crowberry and cloudberry, home to skylarks, curlew and hen harriers.

Not only do walkers and wildlife benefit, but householders too, for this is a prime catchment area for our domestic water supplies, and healthier, more absorbent peat moors mean better tap-water quality and less likelihood of torrential flood.

Long-term, the greenery will also help protect us against climate change, absorbing and storing the greenhouse gas carbon dioxide (CO₂). It is estimated that Britain's peat bogs, in a healthy state, could store more CO₂ than all the forests of the UK and France put together - the annual equivalent of 10 times the country's total current CO₂ emissions.



Chris Dean, Moors for the Future manager, with the super-absorbent sphagnum, which soaks up carbon and up to 20 times its own weight of water.



Inset: Black Hill 2004 Main picture: Black Hill, now green today

New Sphagnum Project

“The Sphagnum Project will probably be the most important piece of work in restoring the UK's degraded moorlands,” says Moors for the Future manager Chris Dean.

The Moors for the Future Partnership has been restoring large expanses of peat moorland since 2002, and its latest pioneering project has had a huge boost from the Co-operative Foundation and Natural England.

They are funding the re-introduction of bright green sphagnum moss - the super-plant of healthy peat bogs - to Black Hill and Bleaklow.

Chris Dean explains: “Sphagnum is a super-absorbent, natural water purifier; it is a key component in regenerating peat, and actually locks in carbon, mitigating climate change.

“Sphagnum was once plentiful here, but bog vegetation withered after two

centuries of acid-rain from the former mill-towns, fires and agricultural drainage. Our aim is to stop the water and carbon leaking away.

“The completely new techniques developed here could have significant impact on other UK degraded moorlands. There has been very little work before on the large-scale cultivation and spreading of sphagnum for restoration.

“We're very grateful for this vital help.”

The Moors for the Future funding partners are the Peak District National Park Authority, National Trust, Natural England, United Utilities, Severn Trent Water, Yorkshire Water, the Environment Agency, Derbyshire County Council, the Moorland Association and the RSPB.

More details: www.moorsforthefuture.org.uk



Co-operative Group volunteer planters

Climate change action hots up



Flooding in Bakewell ...

... and Sheffield



Climate change is coming closer to home - weather extremes can cause fire, flood, subsidence or storm damage to our buildings and land, and affect our wildlife, agriculture and recreation.

The National Park Authority launched its Climate Change Action Plan this spring, co-ordinating action across the national park towards a government commitment to reducing greenhouse gases by 80% by 2050.

Many local authorities, organisations and residents are addressing the problems, and the Authority is the umbrella-body for the national park, co-ordinating action and identifying gaps.

www.peakdistrict.gov.uk/climatechange

What the Authority is doing:

- helping restore peat moors to store carbon and absorb downpours – www.moorsforthefuture.org.uk
- strengthening wildlife resilience through the Local Biodiversity Action Plan – www.peakdistrict.gov.uk/bap
- supporting communities and business with advice, grants and recognition – www.peakdistrict.gov.uk/liveandworkrural
- demonstrating good practice, including ground source heat pumps, a biomass boiler, a low-emission vehicle fleet and a local, ethical purchasing policy.

From medieval to modern - micro-hydro at Alport Mill

Micro-hydropower is well-suited to the Peak District, using its plentiful water-courses to produce renewable energy, with a low environmental and visual impact.

A model scheme is the Haddon Estate's new micro-hydro plant at historic Alport Mill, employing an energy-source it used for nearly 1,000 years – a weir on the River Lathkill.

With safeguards to protect the Grade 2 listed mill, riverbank and wildlife, it was given wholehearted support by National Park planners.

Andrew Thompson, the estate's land agent, explained: "The idea came from Lord Edward Manners (who heads the Haddon Estate). The crossflow turbine can generate up to 30kw of electricity – equivalent to the needs of Alport village, saving over 100 tonnes a year of CO₂. Any revenue will help maintain the estate."

The mill, first recorded in 1086, produced animal feed until the 1950s. It became a trout hatchery, and appeared in the 1970 film of D.H. Lawrence's "The Virgin and the Gypsy."



Alport Mill micro-hydro plant under construction



Author and broadcaster Matthew Parris was an early convert to ground source heat pumps for renewable energy. Pictures above and below taken during and after installation at his Peak District holiday cottage. (More details: www.heatpumps.danfoss.com)



What you can do:

- Insulate your home and reduce energy/water use.
- Get free advice from:
Act on CO₂ – 0800 512012 or <http://actonco2.direct.gov.uk>
www.energysavingtrust.org.uk
- Walk, cycle, use public transport more.
- Shop locally, buy local produce.
- Consider generating your own renewable energy – ask if planning permission is needed on 01629 816200. Visit: www.peakdistrict.gov.uk/energy

Local homes for

Working together on local needs homes

"Of all matters that are raised when we visit communities, affordable housing remains number one," says Jim Dixon, chief executive of the Peak District National Park Authority.

"It's a huge issue for local people, and of course for national parks too."

House prices remain relatively high in national parks despite the economic downturn, while a combination of lower-income jobs and slow turnover of affordable housing affects local people badly.

The Authority cannot build new homes itself, but as the Local Planning Authority it influences what is built and where, identifying potential sites and working closely with communities, local housing authorities and housing providers.

From the early 1990s the Authority led the way for other UK national parks in requiring all new housing schemes to include "local needs" homes where there is a shortage. It attaches local occupancy clauses to ensure properties remain lower-cost for local people whenever they change hands.

And it acts as an umbrella body for all the national park's constituent councils in pressing for more Government help.

The Authority, working with Derbyshire Dales and High Peak councils, recently brought together all the local housing providers to put their case to senior figures from the Homes and Communities Agency, a new body which funds all the affordable homes schemes in England.

"We want them to help us to help the people who live in the national park," said chief executive Jim Dixon.

To learn more about affordable housing and the work of the Authority go to: Jim Dixon's blog at <http://jimdixon.wordpress.com>



Local needs housing, Monyash



Local needs housing, Bakewell

Encouraging lower cost homes

Encouraging sympathetically-sited, modest-sized, lower-cost homes in settlements where surveys show local people need them is a priority for the Authority.

Since 1994 it has permitted more than 400 such homes, including in the past three years, 22 homes in Tideswell, 42 in Bakewell, 12 in Bradwell, 16 in Baslow, 10 in Eyam and four in Hope.

Smaller schemes also help – permission was given to a housing association last year for a barn and cottage conversion at Warslow into three local needs homes.

To apply for a local needs home...

...you need a lengthy local connection and lack of an adequate, affordable alternative. You can apply to go on your district council's housing register. Options may include a rental or shared ownership home run by a housing association.

Find more details from your district council.

Derbyshire Dales and High Peak residents can register and bid for properties online at www.home-options.org or 01629 761311.

Individuals can also seek planning permission to build a local needs home if there is a shortage, and if there is a sensitively-located site with shops and services nearby.

See: www.peakdistrict.gov.uk/spg-housing



Affordable homes need affordable sites

Alison Clamp, Peak District Rural Housing Association manager, wants to hear from community-minded landowners.

"The National Park Authority works hard to help us provide homes" said Alison. "Our main problem is finding suitable sites to meet local needs.

"The policies in place mean that site values are relatively low because only local people can live in the houses. This low value is vital to a scheme being financially viable as the build costs are high. Finding landowners who will sell at these prices can be difficult."

The association, funded by the Homes and Communities Agency and local councils, now runs some 220 homes. Its most recent developments, with Derbyshire Dales District Council, are 4 homes in Hope and 10 in Baslow.

"We try to keep the build costs down but at the same time work to provide homes which are an asset to their communities," said Alison. "It's a real challenge working in the area but we are involved in the Authority's housing policy reviews, so we do have a say."

More details: www.peakdistrictrha.org.uk or 01629 826040



Peak District Rural Housing Association Manager Alison Clamp (right) at the opening of Hope affordable housing, with builders and Hope parish councillors.

The go-between

Isabel Bellamy, Rural Housing Enabler for Derbyshire Dales and High Peak, is a vital link between communities who need housing and the agencies who provide it.



She helps assess community needs and pinpoints options with local people, parish councils and planners. She also liaises with landowners to find suitable sites.

"The National Park Authority is pro-active in wanting to meet local affordable housing needs in its settlements," said Isabel, "and most parishes are very supportive. "They've seen the damage to communities when young families move away, with loss of key services such as schools and shops. We want to dispel the fears of a minority about providing affordable housing."

More details: isabel.bellamy@derbyshiredales.gov.uk or 01629 761256

The resident

Vicky Moseley and her daughter Ruby, 3, were delighted to move into a new two-bedroom affordable house in Hope, run by the Peak District Rural Housing Association, in February. Vicky, 28, who was born and brought up in Hope, had been on the housing waiting list for 12 years. Her wage as a gift shop assistant left little scope for savings.

"In the past, with my former partner, we were paying £600 a month for a private rented house," she said. Now, as a single parent, she is getting back on her feet.

"It's brilliant," she said. "There are four houses in this row, we're all families from the village who couldn't afford to stay here otherwise, and we're over the moon."



National Park Newsround

Walk to remember Sir Martin



Sir Martin Doughty © Paul Cousans

A commemorative walk in October will celebrate the life and environmental legacy of Sir Martin Doughty, former chair of the Peak District National Park Authority.

Sir Martin died in March after a long battle with cancer. He was Authority chair from 1993 to 2002, leader of Derbyshire County Council from 1992 to 2001, and was chair of Natural England when he died.

An informal family day around Kinder Scout will be held on Sunday 11 October – which would have been Sir Martin's 60th birthday – with a picnic and walks for all abilities.

Check www.peakdistrict.gov.uk from mid-August for details.

Quarry protest camp finally cleared



Protestors at Nine Ladies stone circle

Court of Appeal supports Authority on Backdale quarry

Three Court of Appeal judges unanimously upheld the Authority's enforcement action to control limestone quarrying at Backdale on Longstone Edge.

The judges, in March, overturned last year's High Court decision and re-instated a planning inspector's ruling that only a limited amount of limestone is allowed to be removed off-site and sold in the course of extracting fluorspar, the primary mineral named in the 1952 planning permission.

The Authority thanked local and national campaign groups for their support, and has been closely monitoring operations since then. However, the landowners have subsequently applied for leave to appeal the House of Lords judgment. At the time of writing the outcome was not known.

The Authority will continue to strive for a permanent resolution of the risks to Longstone Edge for the sake of the national park landscape and environment.



Authority chair Narendra Bajaria at Backdale Quarry

One of the longest-running protest camps in the country was peacefully cleared in April after nearly 10 years. Campaigners removed more than 50 tree-houses and tents, and filled in tunnels at the former Lees Cross and Endcliffe quarries near historic Stanton Moor.

They originally set up camp as a "human shield" against a resumption of quarrying at the site which is close to the Nine Ladies Stone Circle. In January the situation was resolved when planning permission was officially revoked in return for an extension at the less-sensitive Dale View quarry, after complex negotiations by the Authority.

"Off-roaders" put on right track

National park rangers and Derbyshire and South Yorkshire police are continuing joint operations to encourage 4x4 drivers and trail bikers to stick to lawful routes and behave responsibly in the national park. Rangers and police talk to drivers and riders at popular meeting points, giving out information on avoiding wildlife and archaeological sites, consideration for residents and other users, and reducing damage to the countryside.

See www.peakdistrict.gov.uk/vehicles

We're here to help you

When you need help or advice about any of our services we are here to help you.

Our website has a wealth of information about our work and the services we provide for you as residents. And it's available whenever you need it at www.peakdistrict.gov.uk. It includes a section devoted to planning matters at www.peakdistrict.gov.uk/planning

If you can't find what you need on the website our friendly customer service advisers are here to help on weekdays between 8:45am and 5pm – whether you phone, email, write or visit our headquarters in Baslow Road, Bakewell.

Our Customer Service team deals with 11,500 visitors to reception a year, 70,000 e-mails, 200,000 letters and more than 40,000 phone-calls - 80% of which are answered within 20 seconds.



Customer Service team manager Lisa Dunsby said: "Planning is the reason most people need to contact us, so if you have a general query, Customer Service is your first stop. If you need more detailed advice, we'll put you onto a duty planning officer Monday to Friday, 9.15am-12.45pm – in person or on the phone.

"If you cannot speak to them immediately, they will normally call back within 48 hours."

All types of queries come into Customer Service, from people wanting ranger-guided walks to job-vacancies, business grants or support for community groups.

You can even call in and use one of our reception computers to view planning applications.

Whatever you need to know, contact us on:

Website: www.peakdistrict.gov.uk

Tel: 01629 816200

Email: customerservice@peakdistrict.gov.uk

Minicom: 01629 816319

Chief executive's blog:
<http://jimdixon.wordpress.com>

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. This is a list of members as at 31 May 2009 (councillor members can change after local authority elections).

Chair: Narendra Bajaria *Secretary of State Member*

Deputy Chair: Cllr Irene Ratcliffe *Derbyshire County Council*

Council-appointed Members:

Cllr Denise Wilde	<i>Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council</i>
Cllr Hilda Gaddum	<i>Cheshire East Council</i>
Cllr Judith Twigg	<i>Derbyshire County Council</i>
Cllr Roger Wilkinson	<i>Derbyshire County Council</i>
Cllr Barbara Wilson	<i>Derbyshire County Council</i>
Cllr Jacque Bevan	<i>Derbyshire Dales District Council</i>
Cllr Tracy Critchlow	<i>Derbyshire Dales District Council</i>
Cllr Tony Favell	<i>High Peak Borough Council</i>
Cllr Chris Pearson	<i>High Peak Borough Council</i>
Cllr Andrew Marchington	<i>Kirklees Metropolitan Borough Council</i>
Cllr Dorothy Ward	<i>N.E. Derbyshire District Council</i>
Cllr Colin McLaren	<i>Oldham Metropolitan Borough Council</i>
Cllr Trevor Bagshaw	<i>Sheffield City Council</i>
Cllr James Muir	<i>Staffordshire County Council</i>
Cllr Edwin Wain	<i>Staffordshire Moorlands District Council</i>

Secretary of State Members:

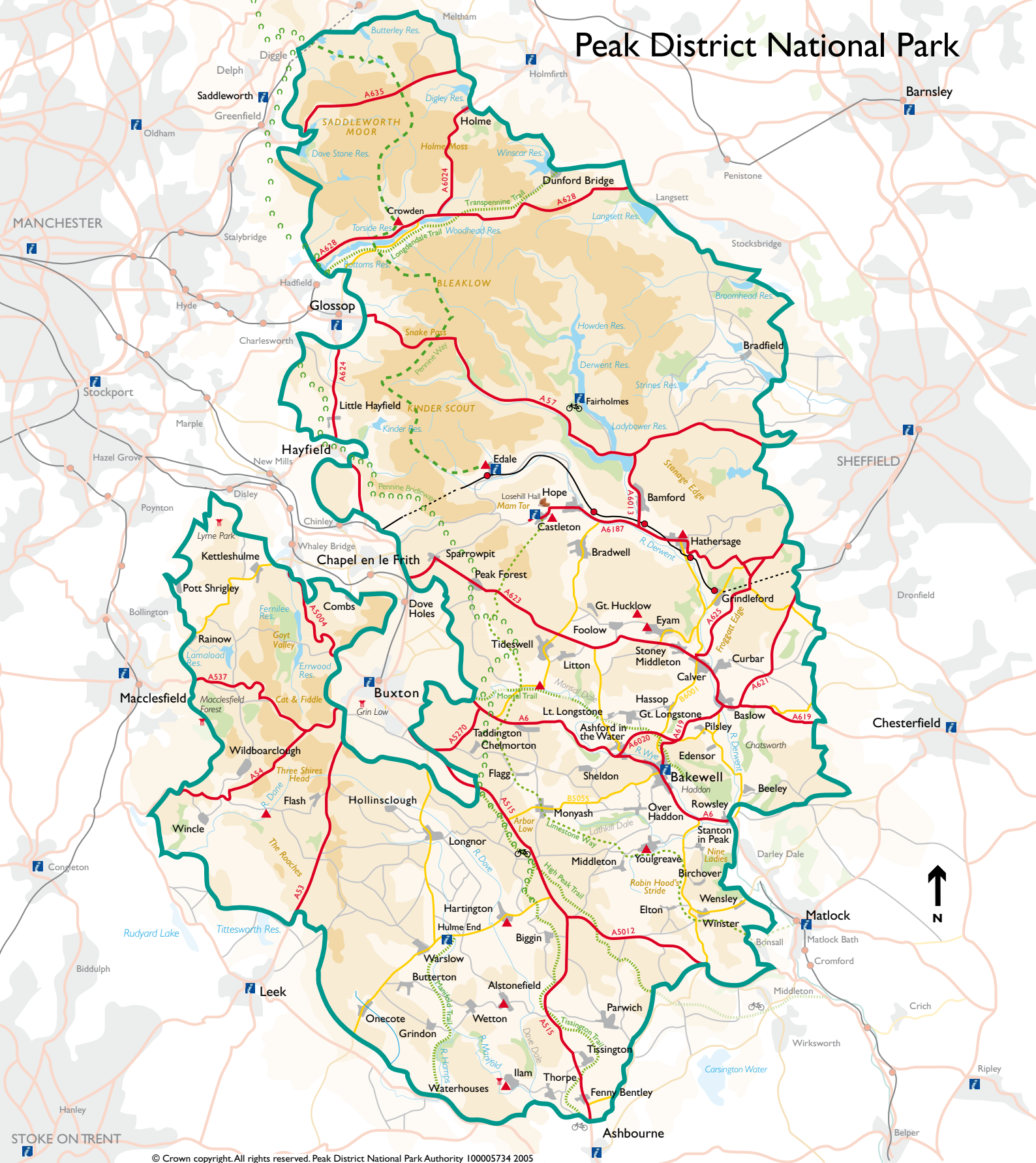
Anne Ashe
Pauline Beswick
Harry Bowell
Roger Clarke
Geoffrey Nickolds
Christopher Pennell
1 vacancy

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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