

Park

PEAK
DISTRICT

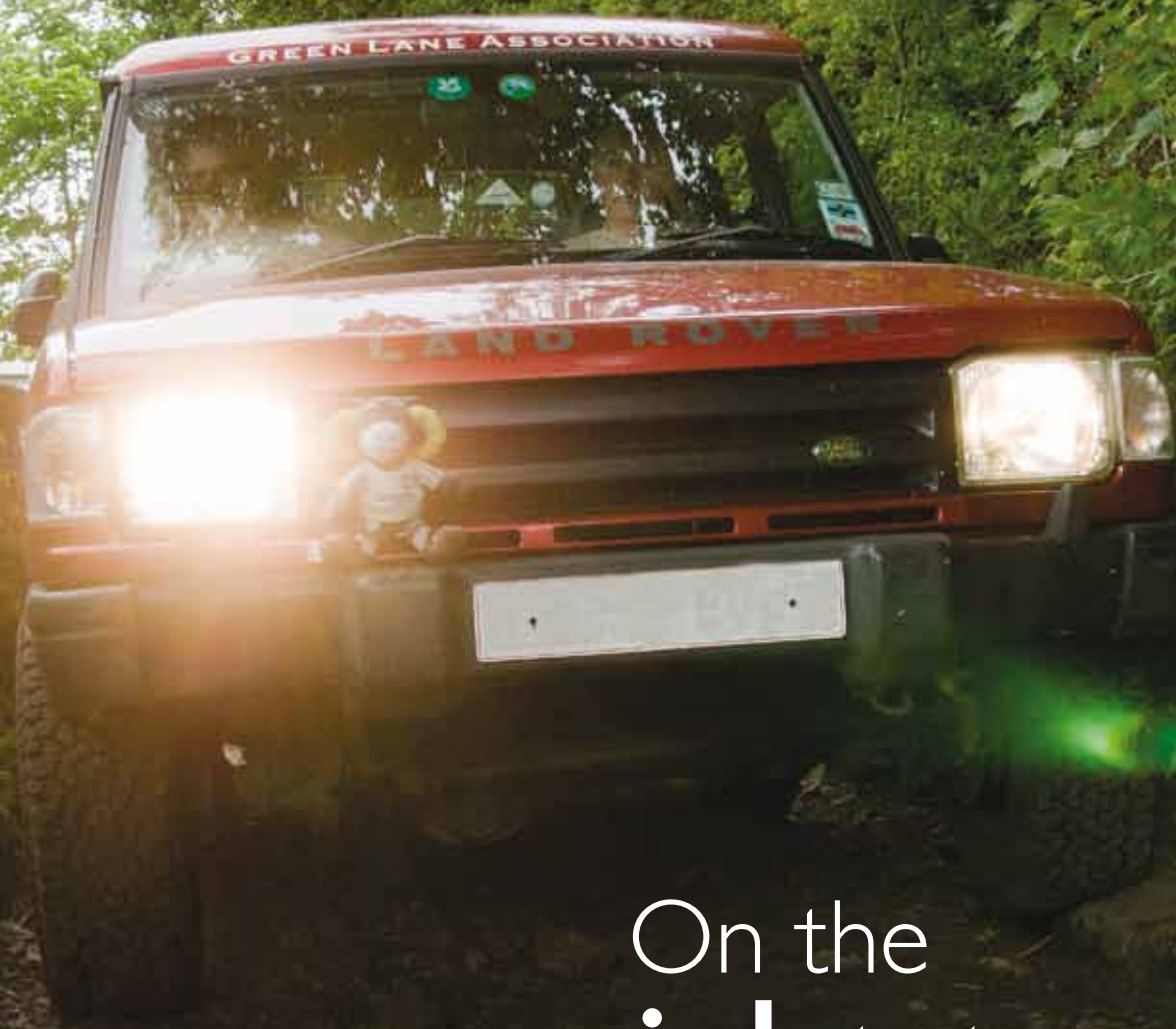
NATIONAL PARK AUTHORITY

Issue 12 - October 2011

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

Life

Peak Life is printed on recycled paper



On the right track?

New strategy ahead for
4x4s and trail bikes in
the national park

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www.peakdistrict.gov.uk

Chair's introduction

Villages help celebrate 60th anniversary

Hundreds of people have taken part in a variety of celebrations of the 60th anniversary of the Peak District National Park.

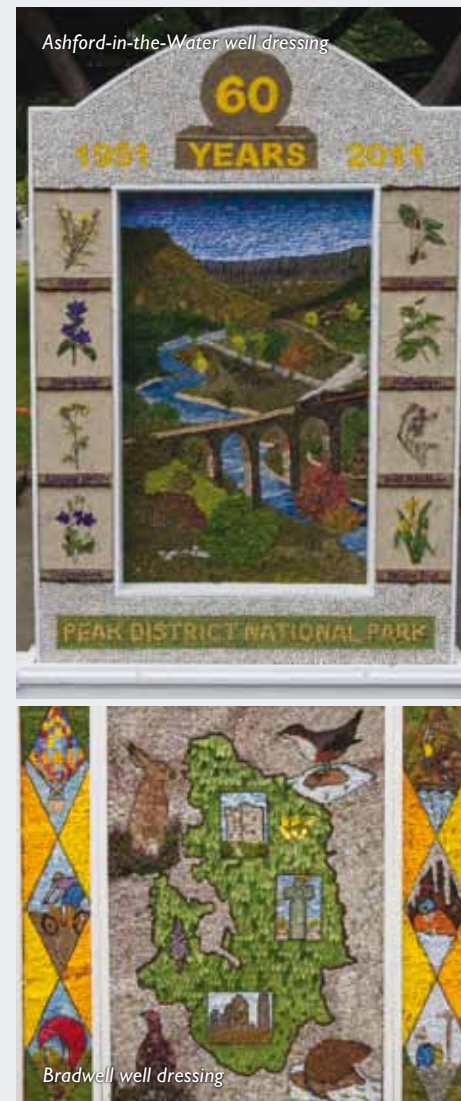
The Peak District became Britain's first national park on April 17, 1951. So throughout the year we've been encouraging communities to celebrate the diamond anniversary.

A series of organised events were held on the weekend of 16 and 17 April to celebrate the actual anniversary date. These included 11 ranger guided walks, charity walks and cycling events run by the Peak District National Park Authority, Sheffield Ramblers, Friends of the Peak

District and Marie Curie Cancer Care.

The national park's birthday was also celebrated through the traditional art form of village well dressings. Villagers in Ashford-in-the-Water, Bradwell and Chapel-en-le-Frith (just outside the national park boundary) used the 60th anniversary as inspiration for their colourful displays this summer.

We also asked a selection of people to share their thoughts about the national park – from horse riders to environmentalists, business people to farmers. These can be seen at www.peakdistrict.gov.uk/anniversary



Could you attract advertisers to this publication?

At the Peak District National Park Authority we are always looking to provide the best value for money services possible.

In the last edition we experimented with taking adverts in Park Life to raise some additional revenue.

We would like to take adverts in each edition so are looking for someone to sell adverts in Park Life to interested companies or community groups in return for a commission.

If you are interested in doing this - or know someone who is - then please contact John Fern on **01629 816356** or email john.fern@peakdistrict.gov.uk

www.peakdistrict.gov.uk

“My name is Tony Favell and I became chair of the Peak District National Park Authority in April.”

I have a hard act following Narendra Bajaria, whose term of office with the authority ended in March. Narendra was a wonderful ambassador for the national park and had a real passion for supporting local communities.

My links with the national park go back many years. I have lived in Edale for 41 years. I founded and ran a solicitor's practice and building society agency in Hathersage. A High Peak Borough councillor and former Edale parish councillor, I have held community roles including President of Hope Show and President of the Longshaw Sheep Dog Trials Association. So becoming chair of the authority is a real honour for me.

The Peak District is unique and wonderful because of the way it has been looked after by generations of people living and working here, particularly its farmers.

Issues

There are three main issues I will focus my energy on as chair of the authority.

Top of my list is the issue of managing the use of 4x4s and trail bikes on unsurfaced routes. This is a complex issue but it is an important one for local communities as well as visitors. We have already agreed to update our existing management strategy to bring in tougher management restrictions on contentious routes (see pages 4-5).



Authority Chair Tony Favell (right) chats to Edale farmer Cedric Gilbert at Nether Booth Farm



Accountable

The second is my desire for members of the authority to be more visible and accountable to local communities. We have all committed to increase contact with communities and develop a better two-way conversation on a range of issues. We are starting by allocating different areas of the national park to individual members so you know exactly who to contact (see pages 18-20).

Planning will always be a major issue in any national park. Although 80 per cent of planning applications are approved we know how deep seated views of the planning process are and want to tackle this head on.

Improvements

We are introducing measures to improve customer service. We also want to change the image that planning is there to control development to one where planners are recognised as enabling appropriate developments to happen. This doesn't mean every planning application will be approved but it does mean we will be working with applicants to achieve a development that meets their needs and is still appropriate for a national park.

You help make the national park what it is and I look forward to meeting as many of you as possible in the coming months to discuss how we can continue to ensure the national park thrives for current and future generations.

Councillor Tony Favell

Chair

Peak District National Park Authority
tony.favell@peakdistrict.gov.uk

On the right track?

Few subjects stir passions more than the issue of 4x4 and trail bike use in the national park.

We look at the work taking place to resolve the issues and talk to people on both sides of the argument.

Taking action to manage 4x4 and trail bike use

Although 4x4 use is often called 'off roading' many unsurfaced countryside tracks in the national park are legally classified as roads so can be used by 4x4s and trail bikes.

In December members of the authority will meet to agree a new strategy and policy to manage the use of such routes.

It follows concerns from residents and groups representing walkers, cyclists and horse riders about the impact on the tranquillity of the national park and on the condition of unsurfaced routes from 4x4 and trail bike use.

At the same time members will look to increase spending in this area to help resolve problems caused by the

inappropriate use of motor vehicles on unsurfaced routes.

Recreation user groups representing walkers, cyclists, horse riders, community groups and vehicle users are currently working with the authority to produce the new strategy and policy.

Since 2007, 24 priority routes have been identified as needing the most urgent action and work is taking place to manage their use.

At the end of August the authority introduced an 18-month Traffic Regulation Order banning vehicles from using Chapel Gate, between Edale and Chapel-en-le-Frith. Derbyshire County Council is in the process of considering three similar orders on other routes.

Work on other routes has included carrying out repairs to damaged surfaces, introducing voluntary restraints and one way systems and improving signs so people know who can or can't use a route.

Operation Blackbrook, led by the police and supported by national park rangers, has stopped and prosecuted illegal 4x4 and trail bike users and carried out education campaigns encouraging drivers and riders to act responsibly.

More information:

www.peakdistrict.gov.uk/vehicles - click on the latest news section for a full update about the 24 most damaged routes.

Case study: The campaigners' view

Rocking the BOAT is an action group set up to campaign against the damage being caused by 4x4s and trail bikes on countryside tracks known as Byways Open to All Traffic (BOATs).



Committee members Sue Woods and Joyce Poulter would like the Peak District National Park Authority to introduce more Traffic Regulation Orders banning vehicles from routes when it revises its strategy and policy in December.

Joyce said: "The definition of a BOAT is that it is a special category of highway and one used mainly by walkers, cyclists and horse riders. A lot of these routes are unsuitable for trail bikes and 4x4s.

"This year is the 60th anniversary of the national park and a wonderful way to celebrate that would be to do something about protecting the national park from damage caused to routes like Chertpit Lane in Great Longstone."

Rocking the BOAT says the past five years has seen a rapid increase in 4x4 and trail bike use in the national park and this is putting greater pressure on sensitive routes.

Sue said: "4x4s have a legal right to use routes but you have to look after the good of the majority and not a minority when damage is being caused that makes it dangerous to other users, particularly for horse riders and people with pushchairs.

"In places the damage is getting to the point where some users are unable to use the route. Safety is also an issue because some routes are very narrow with no passing places or limited visibility.

"The off-roaders always say they don't have many routes to use and they want to enjoy the countryside. They actually have the whole road network and in many cases this would give as good a view as they would get by using a BOAT."

Case study: The driver's view

The Peak District Vehicle Users' Group (PDVUG) was formed to represent locally the views of various national recreational vehicle groups and work pro-actively with the police, highways authorities, Peak District National Park Authority and other user groups on the management of unsurfaced routes.

Nigel Bennett, vice-chair of the group, said: "The number of routes that vehicles can use is minuscule. If you look at the totality of the national park we are talking about one per cent of rights of way that we are allowed to use.

"Other users who wish to avoid motor vehicles can use the other 99 per cent of rights of way and not meet a vehicle.

"There is a lot of talk about the damage done to routes but by and large it is water erosion or large agricultural vehicles which cause that rather than recreational vehicles.

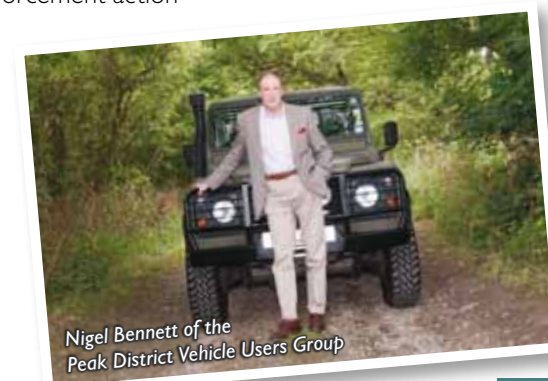
"Volunteers from our group carry out repairs to unsurfaced routes. A recent example was the work we did with other user groups on Black Harry Lane at Great Longstone."

The PDVUG opposes illegal vehicle use in the national park

but argues legal rights should not be taken away because of the actions of irresponsible users.

Nigel said: "Lots of people break the law by driving at 40mph instead of 30mph which poses safety risks but we don't have calls to close public roads. So why do we get calls to ban vehicles from all unsurfaced routes because some irresponsible people break the law? It is a disproportionate reaction to the problem."

The PDVUG takes part in Operation Blackbrook, an operation led by the police, and supported by national park rangers, to take enforcement action against illegal drivers and educate other vehicle owners about the need to act responsibly.



Chapel Gate, near Edale; showing surface damage...

...and how it looks after it was closed to traffic for three months and repaired

Full steam ahead on the Monsal Trail

Thousands of people have walked, cycled or ridden through the Monsal Trail's four former railway tunnels since they were officially opened in May.

The Duke of Devonshire said at the opening ceremony: "The great Victorian engineers have done our generation a huge favour which may have profound effects on how people experience this part of the Peak District in future..."

"Especially in a national park, the way we travel defines us. It is vital that all of

our footprints - the booted ones and the carbon ones - are as light as possible and what could be lighter than our feet, horses' hooves and the wheels of bikes, pushchairs and wheelchairs?"

Now people who experience the dark chill of the tunnels can emerge to thrilling views of Monsal Dale, Water-cum-Jolly Dale and Chee Dale.

For the future, the National Park Authority will continue to work with Derbyshire County Council, High Peak and Derbyshire Dales councils and organisations such as Peak Cycle Links to develop connections from national park trails to Buxton, Matlock and further, to the world heritage site at Cromford.

TRAIL TRANSFORMERS

The opening of the tunnels on the Monsal Trail opened new possibilities for local people - for commuting and keeping fit.

Litton Mill resident Derek Watson commutes to work in Great Longstone, where he renovates classic cars.

"It takes ten minutes longer by bike than it does by car. I cycle 4 miles via the Trail to work instead of driving 8.5 miles by road. I do it about three times a week so I'm saving on fuel.

"It has benefited my health - cycling is pleasant, easy to do and doesn't take a chunk out of your day like going to the gym. I had a heart attack six years ago and afterwards the doctors ask how much exercise you get. I like walking but it takes up time. Cycling to work fits exercise into my daily routine and doesn't feel like a waste of time."

Brenda Barnes and Jo Gregory, Great Longstone residents in their seventies, cycle to keep fit.

Brenda hadn't cycled for 50 years and now tots up 70 to 100 miles a week: "The Trail crosses the viaducts so you cycle level with

the treetops surrounded by the colours and sounds of nature - it's wonderful. I hope I am still doing it in ten year's time!"

Jo said: "We feel fortunate to live close to the Monsal Trail, it's made such a difference being able to cycle through the tunnels - we can go further and vary our route. We've loved watching the seasons change with the different wildflowers at the trackside."

Cycling most days, Jo and Brenda prefer an early start. They said: "The Trail is not very wide so it helps when people stick to the code of conduct by walking or cycling on the left and keeping dogs on leads, for their safety as much as ours, especially in the tunnels.

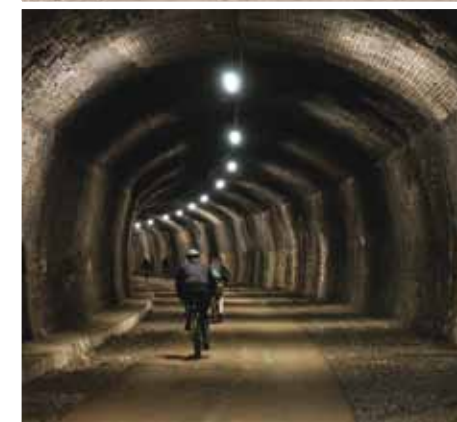
"We use our bicycle-bells as a courtesy to walkers because they don't always hear you coming especially when you approach them from behind."



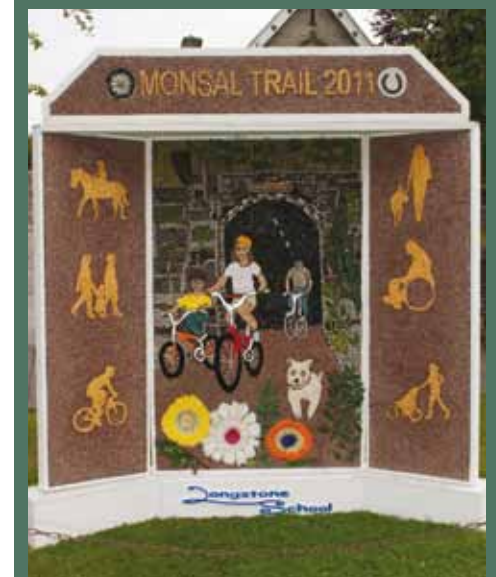
Keep to the code

June to August saw a 690% increase in cyclists, with around 500 people a day pedalling through the tunnels at weekends. Add hundreds of walkers and a number of horse riders to the mix and inevitably pressure builds. Follow the code of conduct to enjoy the Monsal Trail and tunnels safely:

- **keep to the left**
- **be considerate to other trail users**
- **keep horses at walking pace**
- **cyclists keep your speed down**
- **cyclists use a bell or call out "Bike"**
- **do not leave litter and clean up after your dog**
- **keep dogs under control and use short leads in tunnels**
- **respect the privacy of properties next to the trail**



Well done



Great Longstone schoolchildren made the Monsal tunnels a centrepiece of their well dressing.

£Pounding the Trail

The re-opening of the tunnels has opened up opportunities for businesses in the area. There are two new cycle hire businesses, at Blackwell Mill and Hassop Station, and Peak District Dairy runs a refreshment concession van at Millers Dale.

Jim Harrison, Chair of the Business Peak District group and managing director of Thornbridge Brewery, whose HQ is close to the Monsal Trail, believes there is potential for the local economy to make the most of the Trail pound.

Jim said: "The Monsal Trail offers fantastic opportunities for businesses nearby. I'd urge everyone to get creative and think how they can tap into the ready-made market that is walking and cycling past their doors. It's time to be innovative, whether it's hiring out electric bikes or

promoting special food deals. It's up to businesses to see the potential and go for it.

"Living locally I see the spin-off for trade near the Monsal Trail - like the pub in Little Longstone which is benefiting from people walking a mile across the fields to it for lunches. The visitor economy is definitely getting a boost.

"If you've not been then go and see the Monsal Trail, understand what it is people are wanting from their visit and meet the demand. The opportunities are out there for us all."



The £2.25 million Pedal Peak District project to re-open the tunnels was carried out by the National Park Authority and funded by the Department for Transport. For more information about the Monsal Trail visit www.peakdistrict.gov.uk/monsaltrail

Resolving planning enforcement cases

Planning enforcement cases can arouse strong feelings but like all local planning authorities we have to investigate any potential planning breach. Often people do not realise they have broken planning rules until they get a call from us.

Advice can be a bridge over troubled water

Denise and Jim Mackenzie bought a bungalow in Curbar after falling in love with the views. Keen to put their mark on the bungalow they spoke to a planning officer to discuss what was allowed.

The planning officer explained what paperwork was required and agreed what building materials would be used. Denise said: "We found the procedure for the bungalow quite straightforward."

They then began work on the garden, levelling it to create a flat lawn and replacing a wooden bridge over a water feature with a stone one. The first time they knew something was wrong

was when they received a call from enforcement officer, Dan Matthewman.

Denise admitted being 'a little shocked' but arranged for Dan Matthewman to visit. She said: "When you get a call telling you there's an issue it is uncomfortable but Dan helped us work through it. He came to see what we'd done, talk about our future plans, explain the enforcement process and put everything in writing.

"We had to apply for retrospective planning permission for the ornamental bridge so additional paperwork was required. We've still got ideas for the garden but since Dan explained

what is possible we know what we can and can't do.

"There may be other people like us who think you only need planning permission for buildings and don't realise you need it for some kinds of work within the garden. We live in the Peak District because we love the area – our intentions have always been to improve the outlook – after all, our property is part of the view that everyone enjoys."

This case shows that, under national planning law, permission can be needed for some structural or engineered landscaping, even in gardens.



Where to get advice

Talk to the planners whilst you are thinking about what you want to do. New planning laws can come in or changes made.

There is a 'drop in session' at Aldern House, Baslow Road, Bakewell weekday mornings between 9.15am and 12.45pm. We offer a 20 minute slot for people to get free advice and informal guidance from a planning officer.

Visit us, phone 01629 816200 or email customer.service@peakdistrict.gov.uk

Alternatively, complete the householder's questionnaire at www.peakdistrict.gov.uk/planning Or, click on the interactive house on the national planning website www.planningportal.gov.uk

What happens when someone breaks the rules

- We contact the owner or occupier to see if they will put the problem right or submit a retrospective planning application, which may or may not be approved. In some cases people may have to undo or alter the work.
- If this approach fails and the issue is serious, we serve a legal notice telling them how to deal with the breach.
- If they ignore the legal notice then we can prosecute them and, in severe cases, carry out the necessary work and make the owner pay the cost. Each year just a few cases get this serious, we try and solve most through negotiations.

Who deals with cases

We take planning enforcement issues seriously and have protected spending in this area. Currently our planning enforcement team is four full time, and one part time, members of staff who:

- Handle nearly 500 new planning enforcement enquiries a year
- Deal with 420 active planning enforcement cases
- Cover an area of 555 square miles, from the edge of Ashbourne in the south to Holmfirth in the north, and the edge of Macclesfield in the west to Sheffield in the east.

Andrew Cook, monitoring and enforcement manager, said: "When planning permission is given it makes clear what it's for, if people want to do anything different they may need another planning permission. Problems can arise when planning permission is given with conditions and these have not been complied with.

"Things like gates, fences, satellite dishes, porches, sheds and hard-standings, depending on the property and its location, may need planning permission.

"Retrospective applications should not be seen as a way to get around the planning rules. If retrospective permission is not given people may have to put things back to the way they were."

How to tell us about a possible enforcement case

To contact us with details about:

- What the alleged breach is
- When it happened
- People involved and how they can be contacted

- Who the owner or occupier is and how they can be contacted
- Exact location
- Photographs

Go to

www.peakdistrict.gov.uk/planning-breach, phone 01629 816200 or email planning.service@peakdistrict.gov.uk

Why it sometimes takes a long time to resolve cases

Even simple cases can mean going through lengthy legal processes. People responsible for planning breaches have a right to appeal at certain stages of the process. The Government also expects us to spend time trying to agree solutions. Some people exploit these stages to cause lengthy delays. As a planning authority we cannot take action on the ground without the correct legal backing.



Saving energy – and making it

Well-sited photo-voltaic tiles just below the roof-ridge

Have your say on new sustainable energy policy

With rising concerns about energy bills and climate change most people are wanting to cut costs and shrink their carbon footprint.

The National Park Authority is keen to promote a sustainable future too, and over the coming months we will be asking for residents' views on draft guidelines to supplement the Authority's new policies for Climate Change and Sustainable Buildings.

The policy will include guidelines for householders and developers on

incorporating energy efficiency into buildings old and new and advice on where renewable energy technology may be appropriate.

Everyone from householders to farmers, businesses, developers, housing associations, parish councils and local organisations will be invited to comment. As it will affect people making a planning application, your views are important.

Look out for details on our website at: www.peakdistrict.gov.uk/consultations



Above: A 4kW capacity waterwheel in a micro-hydro electric scheme at a house in Calver. The converted corn mill was one of the sites highlighted in Friends of the Peak District's Peak Power report. © Graham Woods, Friends of the Peak District.



John and Althea de Carteret



A future without energy bills? It's possible now



What can **you** do at home?

By far the most effective measure is to reduce your energy needs:

- draught-proof and insulate lofts, walls, floors, doors and windows
- make the most of natural heat and light
- choose the most energy-efficient electrical items
- use heating/lighting only when and where needed
- service heating systems regularly.

Then you could consider generating your own renewable energy to reduce running costs - though the initial investment can take several years to pay back.

National park planners can approve many schemes. They advise choosing the least obtrusive technology, positioned with care to protect the beauty of our landscape and buildings.

Options include:

- solar and photo-voltaic panels or tiles – most do not need planning permission, but always check. Position panels where possible on south-facing rear roofs or free-standing in the garden.
- wind turbines – tend to stand out on the landscape, so planning applications can be complex and costly. But small-scale single turbines (up to 15 metres) have been approved.
- ground source heat pumps – draw heat from the ground, very unobtrusive. Air source heat pumps are another possibility – affordable housing providers have opted for them in the national park.
- micro-hydroelectric schemes using rivers and streams – worth exploring for communities, businesses and individuals.

- anaerobic digesters (farm-based, mainly using slurry) – need to be for a single farm or a small cluster.

Help available:

- Feed-in tariffs - payments from energy suppliers for generating renewable electricity. Rates of return currently excellent.
- Renewable Heat Premium Payments – a short-term Government scheme to subsidise installation of solar thermal panels and (for those not on mains gas) ground, air or water source heat pumps and biomass boilers.

For planning advice, contact customer.service@peakdistrict.gov.uk or phone 01629 816200.

For general advice, go to www.energysavingtrust.org.uk or phone 0800 512 012.

John and Althea de Carteret have a comfortable home near Thornhill in the Hope Valley – warm in winter, airy in summer. They use all the normal electrical appliances, no need of a hair-shirt – and their energy bills are nil.

How have they done it? By making the most of what nature gives in heat, light and water, plus payments for generating renewable electricity.

"If you do nothing else, the most effective and cheapest way to reduce your bills is draught-proofing and insulation," advises John. "Think of the insulation you want and double it – it won't cost much more but it will be more effective and last longer. These measures alone can reduce your heating needs by up to 60-70%."

INSULATION

John and Althea have well-insulated walls, floors and ceilings, mainly using Warmcel (recycled paper). They also have triple glazed windows (double glazing plus a secondary removable pane). Outside, the upper floor has larchwood cladding.

NATURAL HEAT AND LIGHT

John and Althea capture natural heat for the whole house from March to October from the large south-facing conservatory. Its special glass retains heat, and warm air wafts through the inner doorway into the open plan living area.

In winter they shut the conservatory door, which adds insulation, and use a wood-burning stove. The chimney breast holds a hot water tank, and warm air is pumped to the bedrooms.

SOLAR POWER

On the south-facing roof are solar panels for hot water and photo-voltaic panels to generate electricity, capturing renewable energy all year round.

"We can top up the water with a gas boiler, but that's rare in summer," says John. "We generate a little more electricity than we use, and the feed-in tariff more than covers our energy bills. So we actually don't have energy bills any more."

RAINWATER HARVESTING

A large tank collects rainwater for use in the house and garden. Used water from the house is channelled into a reed-bed purifier that feeds a pond in the wildlife garden.

"We live a comfortable life using less energy," says John. "It takes investment in the beginning, but now the running costs are really, really low."

SOURCES OF ADVICE OR HELP

- Energy Saving Trust on www.energysavingtrust.org.uk or 0800 512 012.
- Rural Action Derbyshire offers free household energy assessments. Contact Joe Dugdale on j.dugdale@ruralactionderbyshire.org.uk or 01629 821924.
- Transition Hope Valley promotes local self-sufficiency: www.transitionhopevalley.org.uk

Boosting the Peak District economy

Advice and support for business and communities

The **Live & Work Rural** programme has been helping eco-friendly businesses and community groups develop in numerous ways across the national park since 2009.

Lindsay Allen, **Live & Work Rural** senior officer explains: "We help small to medium businesses and organisations on a one-to-one basis, and run locally focused events to help businesses develop new markets and build skills, knowledge and contacts."

In the past year **Live & Work Rural** has held:

- A Tender Ready workshop in the Hope Valley to help farmers and sub-contractors bid for major moorland restoration contracts
- A Meet the Buyer event in Bakewell - local craft and art producers gained tips on what customers want at local visitor attractions, including

Chatsworth, Haddon Hall, National Trust shops and tourist information centres

- A Renewable Energy workshop for farmers, held at Litton with the Farming Life Centre
- A Green Cleaning workshop in Ilam with the Farm Holidays group, demonstrating effective, economical, natural cleaning materials for B&Bs and self-catering accommodation.

Live & Work Rural also supports nearly 100 businesses through the Peak District **Environmental Quality Mark** scheme. Awarded to environmentally-conscious businesses with high ethical standards (like those pictured below), the EQM recognises excellence in food production, tourism, farming and beyond, and has been validated by VisitEngland.

www.peakdistrict.gov.uk/liveandworkrural



Fletcher Tree & Forestry Services, Derwent



Cox Brothers Dairy, Great Longstone



Watsons Farm Shop, Hope



Eco Eco homeware, Hope



Jim Harrison, chair of Business Peak District

Backing Business Peak District

Business Peak District, a private-sector led partnership of key businesses in the area, has developed in the past year with help from the Peak District National Park Authority, Derbyshire Dales, High Peak and Staffordshire Moorlands councils.

With a wide range of representatives from the business community, chaired by Jim Harrison, of Bakewell's Thornbridge Brewery, the group is promoting the special setting of the Peak District as a place to do business.

It aims to be a voice for the Peak District, both nationally and with our six neighbouring Local Enterprise Partnerships - to attract investment, increase apprenticeships, improve broadband services and widen the business-base.

It also puts business people in touch with advice and support.

Some 150 people attended a launch event at Thornbridge Hall, Great Longstone, in May and further events will follow.

Find out more at www.businesspeakdistrict.com

Cheers!

Pub puts fizz into local community

When Matteo Frau, publican of the Red Lion Inn at Birchover, wanted to diversify his business and create jobs, he welcomed support from the national park's **Live & Work Rural** programme.

The village had lost its only shop last year, so Matteo sought a grant and advice on converting a former garage into a community shop and deli. After a lot of hard work he opened it in June, selling fine local produce and everyday items to residents and visitors.

Then, after making medal-winning cheese for the pub for the past four years, he turned to **Live & Work Rural** again for advice on developing a new cheese-room and micro-brewery.

When they open next year, Matteo intends to run cheese, bread and beer-making courses, taking visitors to local farms and markets to show the whole process, and he will encourage them to use local B&Bs and shops.

By the time he's finished, Matteo estimates he could be providing jobs for up to 24 people.

"We couldn't have got this far without the help of **Live & Work Rural** senior officer Lindsay Allen," said Matteo. "Lindsay explained step by step everything I should do, where I should apply to, what forms I needed, and she pointed me in the direction of other support including the Leader fund. She really went the extra mile to be helpful."

Matteo, a chef from Sardinia, came to England in 1996 and settled in the Peak District with his wife, Alyson - a full-time teacher - five years ago. They both have a real commitment to the area where they are bringing up their two young sons.

"I love the Peak District, the scenery and historic buildings," said Matteo. "The pub is part of the community, and we want to support it as much as we can."

www.birchoverredlion.com
www.peakdistrict.gov.uk/liveandworkrural



Matteo with some of his award-winning cheese



Red Lion community shop and deli was created after Birchover lost its only shop

Since its launch in 2009 **Live & Work Rural** has:

- Approved 74 grants providing £101,440 of financial assistance to small and micro businesses. Businesses have added to this, meaning the sector has had an overall £225,000 cash injection.
- Created or safeguarded 106 jobs
- Helped 248 local businesses to improve their performance
- Given 1584 hours of training to 264 local business people
- Carried out environmental audits and given advice on energy efficiency and renewable energy to 142 businesses
- Helped 3,919 people involved in community activities.
- The programme, largely funded by emda and the National Park Authority, is due to end in March 2012.

Find out more at: www.peakdistrict.gov.uk/liveandworkrural

Farmers dig deep to care for the countryside

Helping farmers grow their business

The national park needs farmers to look after this beautiful landscape, but farmers also need to make a living, especially in the often challenging economic climate of the uplands.

Farmers make a significant contribution to the conservation of the national park by:

- managing important habitats for wild flowers, animals and birds
- looking after woodlands, moorlands and ponds
- maintaining dry stone walls, hedges, traditional buildings and archaeological and historic features.

So when they need help, the Peak District National Park's Countryside and Economy team is able to advise on:

- conservation management
- sources of funding for conservation
- the maze of legislation and regulation
- other sources of funding and advice on supporting their business.

Advisers offer farm visits to help assess the best options and schemes available.

Some farmers may want to diversify by making and selling their own products, such as ice-cream (see case-study, right), cheese, beef, lamb, sausages, or by providing holiday accommodation, supplying a growing market for locally-sourced produce.

Others prefer to concentrate on straight agriculture - growing grass and rearing livestock.

Whatever their choice, the Countryside and Economy team can advise (often for free, sometimes at a small charge) on:

- Natural England's Environmental Stewardship Scheme, which provides payments for conserving and enhancing biodiversity, landscape, historic sites, natural resources, and

public access and understanding.

- The Forestry Commission's English Woodland Grant Scheme
- The National Park's Environmental Enhancement Scheme – a discretionary grant which can help support management of traditional hay meadows, pastures, dry stone walls, hedges and ponds. Funds are limited so there can be a waiting list.
- The National Park's Live & Work Rural programme – provides business advice and small grants to help set up or grow a business.
- The Environmental Quality Mark – an award for businesses with high environmental and ethical standards.
- Other sources of funding such as Defra's Rural Development Programme for England (RDPE), which supports diversification and economic improvements for rural areas.



Where to find help...

Contact the Countryside and Economy team on 01629 816270 or farming@peakdistrict.gov.uk or visit www.peakdistrict.gov.uk/farmersupport

You can also speak to Countryside and Economy advisers at the Peak District Land Management Advisory Service, a 'first-stop shop' to explore

funding and development opportunities. It holds a drop-in centre every Monday 10am – 2pm at Bakewell Agricultural Business Centre.

The service is run by the National Park Authority, Natural England and the Environment Agency, with support from the Forestry Commission.

Ice-cream as a teaching tool? **Cool**

Most of us return from Italy with just souvenirs and a suntan – but farmer Mick Dakin and his wife Mandy came back with ideas for a whole new business.

"It was eating ice-cream at Lake Garda that sparked it off," explained Mick at their Masson Farm home in Snitterton, near Matlock. "It gave us the idea to make ice-cream with our own milk and local fruit when in season. As a dairy farmer I've always wanted more control over the price of our product and to add value to our milk."

"But we also wanted to add value for young people," went on Mandy. "We realised that a lot of youngsters don't know much about where their food comes from, and the story of ice-cream could teach them how a dairy farm works."

The couple created a brand-name, 'Matlock Meadows,' and an all-weather education facility which will welcome schoolchildren, students and community groups when it opens next year.

"They'll be able to see the whole

process from cow to cone," explained Mandy. "They'll see cattle grazing, calves being fed, cows milked, and finally the ice-cream being made and flavours added."

Mick, whose family has farmed in the national park for generations, manages the 90-hectare beef and dairy farm with help from their two sons. The business has become a real family affair since Mandy gave up her previous nursing career to concentrate on 'Matlock Meadows.'

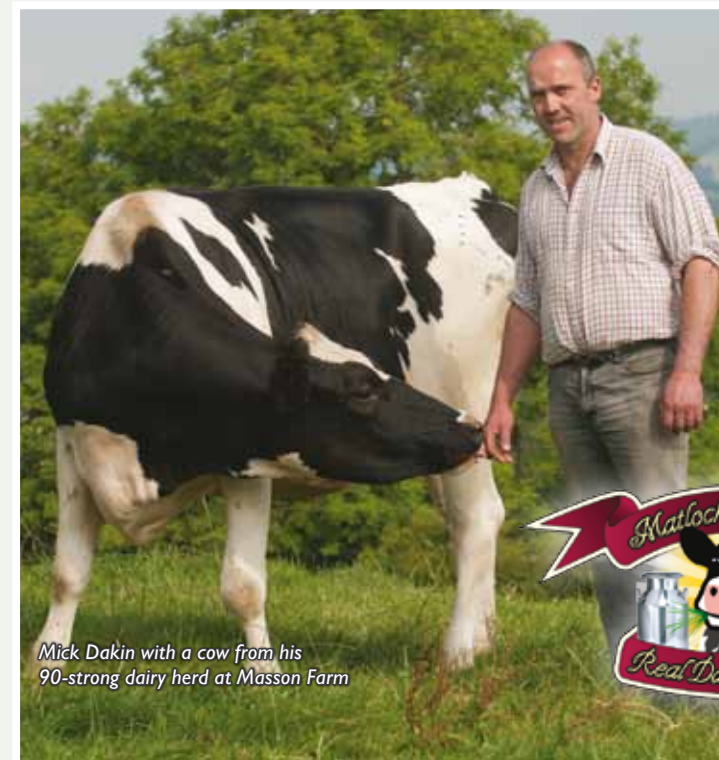
National Park Countryside and Economy adviser Suzanne Fowkes has helped Masson Farm access support for environmental management over the last nine years. An initial National Park scheme helped to manage species-rich grassland and restore a small traditional building. Now a Higher Level Environmental Stewardship scheme supports the management of important wader habitat, a scheduled ancient monument, species-rich grassland and lead-rakes. Mick and Mandy are proud to conserve rare species such as leadwort and the dark green fritillary butterfly.

Suzanne also directed them to sources of support for farm diversification for their new ice-cream enterprise. The National Park's Live & Work Rural senior officer Lindsay Allen helped Mick and Mandy achieve funding from Defra's Rural Development Programme for England (RDPE). Recently a small additional Live & Work Rural grant has helped them with training and setting up a website.

"We certainly wouldn't have been able to get going on this scale without help from the national park, especially Suzanne and her colleagues," said Mick.

For more details:

www.matlockmeadows.co.uk



Mick Dakin with a cow from his 90-strong dairy herd at Masson Farm



Mandy Dakin and son Josh make Matlock Meadows ice-cream with milk from their own dairy



New life for our landscapes

Wind of change over national park estates

A wind of change is blowing across the Peak District National Park Authority's estates, and it should bring benefits for people, wildlife and heritage.

The Authority is in the process of transferring some of its most beautiful wild areas to like-minded organisations or individuals such as charities, trusts, local farmers or businesses who will safeguard conservation and recreation for the future.

Authority chief executive Jim Dixon explains why: "One way we're adapting to financial cutbacks is to share more work with partners. Our budget from Defra is being cut from £8.2m in 2010-11 to £6.5m by 2014-15, so it makes sense to open the way for others to do what we cannot.

EXPERTISE

"These bodies often have long experience in sensitive land management, plus bigger budgets, access to grants, professional expertise and volunteers. We took on these properties in the 1970s and 80s to protect them and we've made tremendous improvements. I'm convinced we'll see even more benefits for people and wildlife as our partners build on our achievements."

After consulting local people and users, the Authority draws up requirements for:

- conservation and enhancement of wildlife habitats, heritage features and farmland
- public access for recreation and enjoyment
- active involvement of local people and user groups
- commitment to education and information.

It invites proposals and, after rigorous assessment, decides which bidder offers best value for those requirements. A legal agreement is then reached for a long lease or sale.

The Authority's property portfolio includes moorland estates, historic buildings, farms, woodlands, trails, visitor centres, cycle hire centres, campsites and car parks.

But it adds up to only a small proportion of the national park - more than 95% is owned by the people who live and work here, along with major landowners such as the National Trust, Chatsworth and Haddon Hall estates, water companies, grouse-moor owners and councils.

Main properties affected:

- the 2500-hectare Eastern Moors, which borders Sheffield - leased to a partnership of the National Trust and RSPB
- three bidders are being assessed for the 395-hectare Roaches estate in Staffordshire. They are the Land Trust, National Trust and Staffordshire Wildlife Trust. A decision is expected by December.
- proposals are currently invited for the 542-hectare North Lees estate, above Hathersage, which includes world-class climbing crags at Stanage Edge.
- Losehill Hall, Castleton, has been sold to YHA and is undergoing £1.5m refurbishments for use as a hostel and environmental education centre.

More information:

propertyservice@peakdistrict.gov.uk



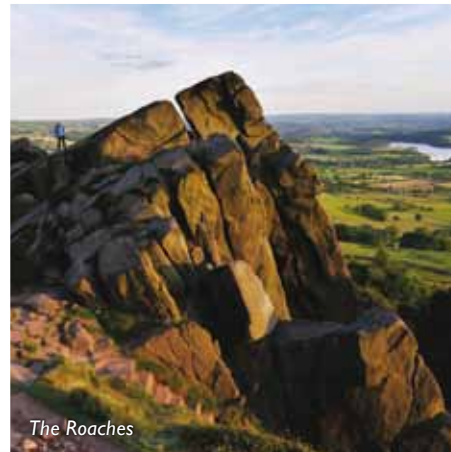
Stanage Edge



Eastern Moors



North Lees Hall



The Roaches



Henry Folkard is keen to see the National Park Authority's estates secured for future generations

'We need to protect our precious heritage' - a user's view

Henry Folkard, of Great Hucklow, is an access volunteer for the British Mountaineering Council and a member of the Stanage Forum and Peak District Local Access Forum. Here Henry gives his views on the transfers of the Authority's estates.

"Few places in the country are of greater importance for climbers and hill walkers than the Peak District National Park Authority's estates at North Lees, Eastern Moors and the Roaches.

"Their rock climbing sites are internationally important and many people feel so passionately about these wilderness sanctuaries that they think of them as their own.

"At first we were dismayed when we learnt the Authority was reviewing the future management, or indeed ownership, of these iconic places. We were very happy with the close working relationship we had developed with the Authority and, to be frank, wanted it to continue.

"When the transfer of the Eastern Moors came up we were scarcely reassured by suggestions of greater investment, and sceptical whether unrestricted open access would be guaranteed and a landscape free from intrusion retained. But the BMC engaged in dialogue with all parties, insisting management and ownership must always remain for the public good.

"We were delighted when Friends of the Peak District independently agreed to support a joint proposal from RSPB and the National Trust - but only after we had both had our say on management style and community involvement. The opportunity to achieve a shared vision promised a better prospect than any alternative.

"It is still early days, but is this approach vindicated?

"Happily the answer is a resounding 'yes.' The openness of the new partnership in involving all users is generating a strong mutual vision.

"Eastern Moors manager Danny Udall has met the local BMC group several times and senior National Trust and RSPB personnel have attended our area meeting. One outcome is a request that the BMC draw up a management plan for the climbing edges - and this has proved quite an undertaking.

"What of the aspiration of greater investment in the Eastern Moors?

"It is happening. Some 5700 archaeological sites have been identified, and detailed surveys into everything from bryophytes to bogs completed. Knowledge about the landscape, biodiversity, hydrology and history is being shared to explore new ways of improving people's understanding and enjoyment.

"Are we reassured?

"We are certainly well pleased with what has been achieved on the Eastern Moors so far, but much is still at stake for the Roaches, North Lees, and indeed all the Eastern Edges. What we want for all the estates is for our precious heritage to be secured for future generations to treasure and enjoy."

www.easternmoors.org.uk

We're here for you...

For more details
about Members go to:
[www.peakdistrict.gov.uk/
members](http://www.peakdistrict.gov.uk/members)
or call 01629 816200

Members are appointed to set the strategy for the authority, ensure the organisation is accountable and meets its statutory purposes and duty.

To make it easier for residents to have regular contact with authority members the national park area has been divided up with named members for each area.

A colour coded map on the back page (with a smaller version on this page) shows which members cover the area where you live.

If you need to talk about a national park issue contact them using the details given.

PARISHES IN YELLOW AREA ON MAP:

Abney & Abney Grange, Highlow and Offerton, Barlow, Bradwell, Brampton, Eyam, Foolow, Hucklow (Great Hucklow, Little Hucklow, Grindlow & Windmill), Grindleford, Hathersage, Hazelbadge, Holmesfield, Litton, Outseats, Tideswell, Wardlow, Wheston



Cllr Chris Furness
Parish Member

01433 621811



Cllr Janet Goodison
Council Member

01433 621415



Cllr Harold Laws
Council Member

0114 247 5376

PARISHES IN PURPLE AREA ON MAP:

Aston, Bamford with Thornhill, Bradfield, Brough & Shatton, Castleton, Derwent & Hope Woodlands, Dunford, Edale, Green Fairfield, Hartington Upper Quarter, Hope, King Sterndale, Langsett, Peak Forest, Stocksbridge, Wormhill



Cllr Ron Priestley
Parish Member

01433 621483



Christopher Pennell
Secretary of State
Member

0114 235 1568



Pauline Beswick
Secretary of State
Member

01433 631256



Cllr Janet Bragg
Council Member

0114 233 0005



Cllr Tony Favell
Council Member

01433 670281



Cllr Denise Wilde
Council Member

01226 754259

PARISHES IN GREEN AREA ON MAP:

Bradbourne & Ballidon, Brassington, Eaton & Alsop (Newton Grange), Elton, Fenny Bentley, Gratton, Harthill, Hartington Nether Quarter, Hartington Middle Quarter, Hartington Town Quarter, Middleton & Smerrill, Over Haddon, Parwich, Thorpe, Tissington & Lea Hall, Youlgrave



Cllr Andrew McCloy
Parish Member
01629 636125



Geoff Nickolds
Secretary of State
Member
0115 938 3305



Cllr Garry Purdy
Council Member
01629 823636



Cllr David Chapman
Council Member
01298 85067

PARISHES IN PINK AREA ON MAP:

Chapel en le Frith, Charlesworth, Chinley, Buxworth & Brownside, Chisworth, Hayfield, Holme Valley, Meltham, New Mills, Saddleworth, Tintwistle, Whaley Bridge



Cllr Ron Priestley
Parish Member

01433 621483



Ben Rayner
Secretary of State
Member
07857 182947



Cllr Barbara Beeley
Council Member
0161 652 0930



Cllr Godfrey Claff
Council Member
01457 864331



Cllr Jean Wharmby
Council Member
01457 856905



Cllr Cahal Burke
Council Member
01484 643953

PARISHES IN RED AREA ON MAP:

Aldwark, Ashford, Blackwell, Brushfield, Chelmorton, Flagg, Great Longstone, Hassop, Ible, Ivonbrook Grange, Little Longstone, Monyash, Nether Haddon, Rowland, Sheldon, Taddington & Priestcliffe, Winster



John Herbert
Parish Member

01629 814229



Cllr David Chapman
Council Member
01298 85067



Cllr Kath Potter
Parish Member

01629 734320



Roger Clarke
Secretary of State
Member
01629 582122



Cllr Marion Stockdale
Council Member
01623 742197



Cllr Judith Twigg
Council Member

01629 813292

PARISHES IN BLUE AREA ON MAP:

Bakewell, Baslow & Bubnell, Beeley, Birchover, Bonsall, Calver, Chatsworth, Curbar, Edensor, Froggatt, Pilsley, Rowsley, South Darley, Stanton-in-Peak, Stoney Middleton

PARISHES IN ORANGE AREA ON MAP:

Alstonefield, Blore with Swinscoe, Bosley, Butterton, Fawfieldhead, Grindon, Heathy Lee, Heaton, Hollinsclough, Ilam, Kettleshulme, Leekfrith, Longnor, Lyme Handley, Macclesfield Forest & Wildboarclough, Onecote, Pott Shrigley, Quarnford, Rainow, Sheen, Warslow & Elkstones, Waterhouses, Wetton, Wincle



Cllr Lesley Roberts
Parish Member

01538 300003



Paul Ancell
Secretary of State
Member
01625 613995



Cllr Norma Hawkins
Council Member
01538 306683



Cllr Gill Heath
Council Member
01538 381601



Cllr Peter Raynes
Council Member
01565 633487



Suzanne Leckie
Secretary of State
Member
01298 872909

PARK-WIDE

Peak District National Park

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MANCHESTER



Stockport



Congleton

STOKE ON TRENT



KEY:

- = A Roads
- = National Park Boundary
- = Information Centre
- = Youth Hostel

Peak District National Park Authority, Aldern House, Baslow Road, Bakewell, Derbyshire DE45 1AE

T: 01629 816200 E: customer.service@peakdistrict.gov.uk W: www.peakdistrict.gov.uk Minicom: 01629 816319

Peak District National Park Visitor

Enquiries: 01629 816558 or email bakewell@peakdistrict.gov.uk

Bakewell Visitor Centre Tel: 01629 813227

Castleton Visitor Centre Tel: 01629 816572

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

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



0 Miles
0 Kilometres 5 4

See pages
18-19 for the key
to the colours on
this map