

ParkLife

The **Peak District National Park** Magazine

Issue 22 | Spring/Summer 2017



www.peakdistrict.gov.uk

Mountain rescue

Bringing moorland back to life
Pages 14-15

Picture this...

Could you be a winner?
Back page

Pull out & keep map

Centre pages





The UK's original
national park

Contact us...

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01629 816200

or by post:

Peak District National Park,
Aldern House,
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Derbyshire,
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/peakdistrictnationalpark



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+peakdistrictgovuk



Celebrating our differences

By Sarah Fowler

Chief Executive

The Peak District National Park holds a special place in the hearts of millions. Its uniqueness is thanks to its location between the great northern



cities of Manchester and Sheffield, encompassing the Dark Peak's gritstone moorlands, the White

Peak's limestone plateau and dales, and the moors and foothills of the South West Peak. It means something different to everyone – and all those differences together create the magic.

In this edition of ParkLife people share their stories about how the Peak District National Park has influenced them and what they bring back to it: the adventurer, the Pennine Way walker and the farmer planting new woodland. We hope they will inspire you to discover more and support this wonderful landscape. What will your story be?

 @peakchief

sarah.fowler@peakdistrict.gov.uk



Brexit raises many questions for people living and working in – or visiting – the Peak District National Park and could impact on the environment, farming, rural economy and tourism. Will it change life for our hill farmers? Will existing

EU regulations and directives for protecting the environment remain in place? We are keeping a close eye on the situation and will look out for developments and opportunities to engage with this huge issue where we can to protect the National Park.

Cover image: Ladybower reservoir

ParkLife is produced to inform people about the work of the Peak District National Park and its partners.

ParkLife is written and designed in-house.
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There are 15 UK national parks

Loch Lomond and the Trossachs

Cairngorms

Northumberland

The Lake District

North Yorkshire Moors

Yorkshire Dales

Peak District

Snowdonia

Broads

Pembrokeshire Coast

Brecon Beacons

Exmoor

South Downs

Dartmoor

New Forest

The National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949 was part of the UK's reconstruction after World War Two. The Environment Act 1995 set out two statutory purposes for National Parks in England and Wales:

1. to conserve and enhance the natural beauty, wildlife and cultural heritage;
2. to promote opportunities for the understanding and enjoyment of the special qualities of national parks;

and a duty:

- to foster the economic and social well-being of local communities.

Find out more about national parks at

www.nationalparks.gov.uk

Together we're a family

The Peak District National Park means something special to all of us – it's ours, the people's National Park – because we live in it, make it our place of work, do business with it, visit it, see it as we travel through, love it.

It's extra special as the UK's original national park, designated on 17 April, 1951, but it's not alone. In total there are 15 national parks in the UK: ten in England, three in Wales and two in Scotland. Can you name them?

All have distinctive, naturally beautiful landscapes and characterful villages, the wildlife is wonderful and the cultural herit-

age fascinating – and as national parks these are protected with laws that safeguard the environment and wildlife and make sure that people benefit from them in sustainable ways.

Outside the UK, national parks are often state owned but here most of the land in our national parks is privately owned. You enter them for free, there are no opening and closing times or entrance gates – sorry there are no wild lions or tigers – but you will see plenty of inspiring scenery, receive a friendly welcome and discover loads of opportunities to enjoy for you and your family.

National Parks Week 2017

July
24-30
2017

Join in the annual celebration of Britain's national parks and enjoy everything that is unique and wonderful about our amazing wilder spaces.

Look out for walks with national park rangers, advanced navigation courses or adventurous pursuits such as abseiling and mountain biking. Try your hand at making a well-dressing at Castleton visitor centre. Call in at any of our visitor centres or visit

www.peakdistrict.gov.uk

Main photo:
Tom Harman/
NT Images

Discover Kinder

Why not learn more about Kinder Scout this summer on one of our guided walks with a National Park ranger?

Edge to Edge

Sunday
14 May

10.30am to
4.30pm

Take in the high spots and the best views from Kinder Scout on this strenuous 12-mile walk.

Moor Wrecks

Sunday
11 June

10.30am to
4.30pm

A nine-mile walk to visit some of the aircraft wrecks on Kinder Scout.

Kinder High

Sunday
9 July

10.30am to
4.30pm

Visit the highest points and learn how the moorland has been regenerated. See cotton grass in full bloom and other plants in their prime during this eight-mile walk.

Grough Stuff

Sunday
17 September

10.30am to
4.30pm

Discover natural drainage systems (groughs) on Kinder Scout and learn how their traditional use is changing as a result of restoration of the moorland during this 12-mile walk.

All walks are £6 per person, 18 and over. Children 17 and under go free. For more guided walks and to book, visit

www.peakdistrict.gov.uk/events

The Spirit of Kinder Day is organised by the Kinder & High Peak Advisory Committee, which includes the Peak District National Park, National Trust, Ramblers, British Mountaineering Council, Sheffield Campaign for Access to Moorland and Peak & Northern Footpaths Society.

New era for Kinder...

though trespassers' legacy lives on



They stepped out defiantly, determined to establish the right of ordinary people to roam freely on open moorland.

On April 24, 1932, more than 400 walkers strode across Kinder Scout in what would later be seen as a triumphant working class struggle against the rights of wealthy people to have exclusive use of the moors for grouse shooting.

The trespass was ultimately credited with the creation of national parks - the Peak District was the first in 1951 - and the legal right to roam in 2000.

Now, each April, the Spirit of Kinder Day remembers the trespassers and looks at present-day challenges to the environment and provision of access to the countryside.

This year's event is on Saturday 22 April (2pm) at Edale Village Hall and marks not only the 85th anniversary of the trespass but the 35th anniversary of the acquisition of Kinder Scout by the National Trust, and the transformation of the moorland since then.

Trespass specialist Roly Smith says the intrepid walkers of 1932

would not recognise the Kinder Scout summit - the Peak District's highest point - today.

He explains: "The main challenge to British uplands is over-grazing. The summit of Kinder has been fenced and 'bandit sheep', which had been left there to graze by farmers, removed. As soon as the sheep were taken away, the land began to regenerate and this was further helped by re-wetting the landscape, along with some planting, by the National Trust and Moors for the Future.

"There's vegetation on Kinder now that we haven't seen for 30 years. It's amazing. It was heavily grazed in the 1930s and became even worse. I'm sure the trespassers wouldn't recognise the place now because it's so different - and better."

The Spirit of Kinder event will include speakers, plus music from Sheffield folk singer Sally Goldsmith. It also includes the launch of a new book, *Clarion Call: Sheffield's Access Pioneers*. Admission is free but space in the hall is limited and visitors are advised to arrive early.

Peak of achievement



The Peak District National Park is popular with all types of cyclist and is renowned for having some of the best mountain bike trails in the UK.

There are several mountain bike routes around Ladybower and the Upper Derwent reservoirs, suitable for different abilities. A range of bikes can be hired from our cycle centre at Derwent (tel: 01433 651261).

Bikes can also be hired from our cycle centres at Ashbourne (tel: 01335 343156) and Parsley Hay (tel: 01298 84493). For more information, visit

www.peakdistrict.gov.uk/cycle

Adventurer Alan Sheldon has overcome sub-zero temperatures in the Arctic wilderness to twice triumph in one of the world's toughest cycling races.

Yet his talents were honed much closer to home, through the rugged terrain of the Peak District.

The National Park inspired Alan's love of competitive mountain biking and became his training ground for the extreme challenges which followed.

In 2009, Alan became the first person to complete the gruelling 436-mile Yukon Arctic

Ultra, in north west Canada, with temperatures as low as minus 50C. Two years later he won it again, beating Olympic rowing champion James Cracknell in a record time of 99-and-a-half hours.

Alan has also been runner-up in Alaska's 1000-mile Iditarod, a punishing route which takes cyclists across the frozen Bering Sea.

In both competitions riders carry their own tents, food and clothing, picking up extra food supplies at checkpoints.

"In the Iditarod, you need mental strength even more than physical strength to keep going," says Alan. "In the Yukon race you can get away with sleeping a couple of hours each day. You just get out your sleeping bag and sleep out in the snow. One of the hardest things is consuming the 8,000 to 10,000 calories you need every day - I have a lot of chocolates, nuts, cheese, salami and nutritional energy drinks."

Alan's love of the outdoors

began as a child in Darley Dale. "I was always out exploring around Rowsley and Stanton Moor," he explains. "I'd do a bit of cycling and, as I got older, began cross country and fell running. When mountain bikes first came out, in my early 30s, I started racing in the Peak District."

He went on to become British Mountain Bike Orienteering champion and unofficial world champion. Sponsorship from bike companies enabled Alan to take on increasingly tough challenges, including courses in Morocco and Ethiopia.

But he has always returned to his home territory. "To train for events, I do long, long rides in the Peak District, in all weathers," he says. "I also bring people I meet through competitions to experience the area's unique beauty. They often return for family holidays."

"For me, it's all about the challenge, the scenery - I just love being outside."



Sticking up for trees

Beautiful. Majestic. Long-lived. The year round display of trees in the landscape plays an important part in how we

experience the Peak District National Park. Trees are home to wild birds, bugs and creatures, provide shade and shelter for farm animals, retain

soil, nutrients and water, provide food and fuel, and produce oxygen. Thank goodness for trees, and the people who plant them!



As native tree species grow biodiversity will increase



Doubling up

Last year we reported on the creation of a two hectare woodland near Hathersage, and we're happy to tell you that David Simon's done it again – the woodland at Leam Lane has been increased to four hectares. "We've planted over 1,650 trees," David explains. "All are native to Britain, with a mix of traditional tall trees, like beech, and smaller ones such as holly, hawthorn and blackthorn – this way we get a more natural variety of trees and it's better

for the ecology of the site. With last season's trees growing so well we're already seeing more birds being attracted into the woodland."

But it's not just trees that David wants to see growing, "By leaving space within the woodland we're creating open glades where wildflowers will thrive – with a range of habitats we'll see more diversity in the plants and wildlife.

"You could say it's gardening

on a grand scale but what I love is seeing what you've imagined grow into reality. Trees reflect the seasons wonderfully and it's thanks to the fruits of the imagination and labours of previous generations that we're able to enjoy the woodlands we have today. By planting trees now future generations will reap the benefits."

Volunteers from the Whirlow Hall Farm Trust, Sheffield, helped plant the trees.

The Peak District Small Woodland Creation Scheme

Our partnership project with the Woodland Trust is going from strength to strength. Almost 9,000 native trees have been planted across the Peak District, covering more than ten hectares of land. The Peak District Small Woodland Creation Scheme was set up in 2015 to fund planting in small areas where the national Countryside Stewardship (CS) Scheme is not applicable. The scheme provides grants to landowners, covering the costs of

trees, shelters, planting and fencing.

We are looking for more sites for new woodland planting for the 2017/18 season and welcome new enquiries. Contact Ben Lambert on 01629 816395 or ben.lambert@peakdistrict.gov.uk

For more information about the CS scheme, email farming@peakdistrict.gov.uk, phone 01629 816270 or call into the drop-in centre at Bakewell livestock market to speak to a National Park Farm Adviser.



Macclesfield Forest

Protecting trees by law

We have an excellent track record of working with landowners to provide advice and agree positive management for trees and woodland, but recently we had to take legal action which resulted in a developer being fined £20,000 for removing and damaging trees in a Conservation Area. Criminal damage to the environment is a serious offence and this case demonstrated that serious penalties can be incurred.

You should always check before starting work on a tree or woodland to see if there is a Tree Preservation Order (TPO), find out if you are in a Conservation Area,

or if any other legal protection is in place. You can do this by contacting our customer and business support team on 01629 816200 or customer.service@peakdistrict.gov.uk

If there is a TPO no works can be done without written permission from us. For trees within a Conservation Area you must apply for written permission six weeks before any work is undertaken. Failure to obtain consent can result in a court appearance and an unlimited fine.

More information about working on trees in the Peak District National Park is at www.peakdistrict.gov.uk/treeworks

Walks for tree-huggers

Enjoy woodland wanders this summer with our National Park ranger guided walks:

Bluebell Bonanza

Sunday
14 May

11am to
2.30pm

A family friendly, gentle stroll of four miles in magnificent bluebell woods near Grindleford.

Win Hill, Woods and Water

Saturday
17 June

10.30am to
4.15pm

Explore from Ladybower Dam to Win Hill looking at wells, the old railway line and long-forgotten farms on this eight-mile walk.

Goyt Valley Ramble

Sunday
23 July

11am to 4pm

Take it easy on a family friendly ramble through woodland and riverside looking out for wildlife on this six-and-a-half-mile walk.

Sunday Saunter

Sunday
20 August

11am to 3pm

Discover woods aplenty on this easy-going, family friendly five-mile stroll near Hathersage.

Fungus Foray at Fairholmes

Saturday 30
September

11am to 4pm

Look for fascinating fungi in the Upper Derwent woodlands on a two-mile walk.



The walks vary from £4 to £6 per person, 18 and over. Children 17 and under go free. For more guided walks and to book, visit www.peakdistrict.gov.uk/events

Flower power

Wild flower meadows are important habitats for insects, butterflies and birds – and they're good for people too! Join one of our guided walks and enjoy the Peak District at its prettiest.



Cowslip

Wild Flowers around Millers Dale

Sunday 7 May

10.30am to 2.30pm

Discover spring flowers, including cowslips and possibly the first orchids in this 4-mile walk. £4 per person 18 and over.

Celebrate National Meadows Day

Saturday 1 July

10am to 1pm

A gentle, family-friendly walk through the Stanage-North Lees Estate, visiting spectacular hay meadows and grasslands boasting orchids, yellow rattle and butterflies. £4 per person 18 and over.

Discover our Jewels in the Landscape

Saturday 1 July

10am to 4pm

A 5-mile walk through dramatic Deep Dale, a PlantLife reserve, to Hard Rake hay meadows to see the wild flowers at their peak. £6 per adult. Children 17 and under go free.



Step into history

Catch up with the latest discoveries in the free magazine Archaeology and Conservation in Derbyshire (ACID) available from Bakewell visitor centre, libraries and local museums, or at www.peakdistrict.gov.uk/archaeology

Peeling Back the Layers

Sunday 16 July

11am to 4pm

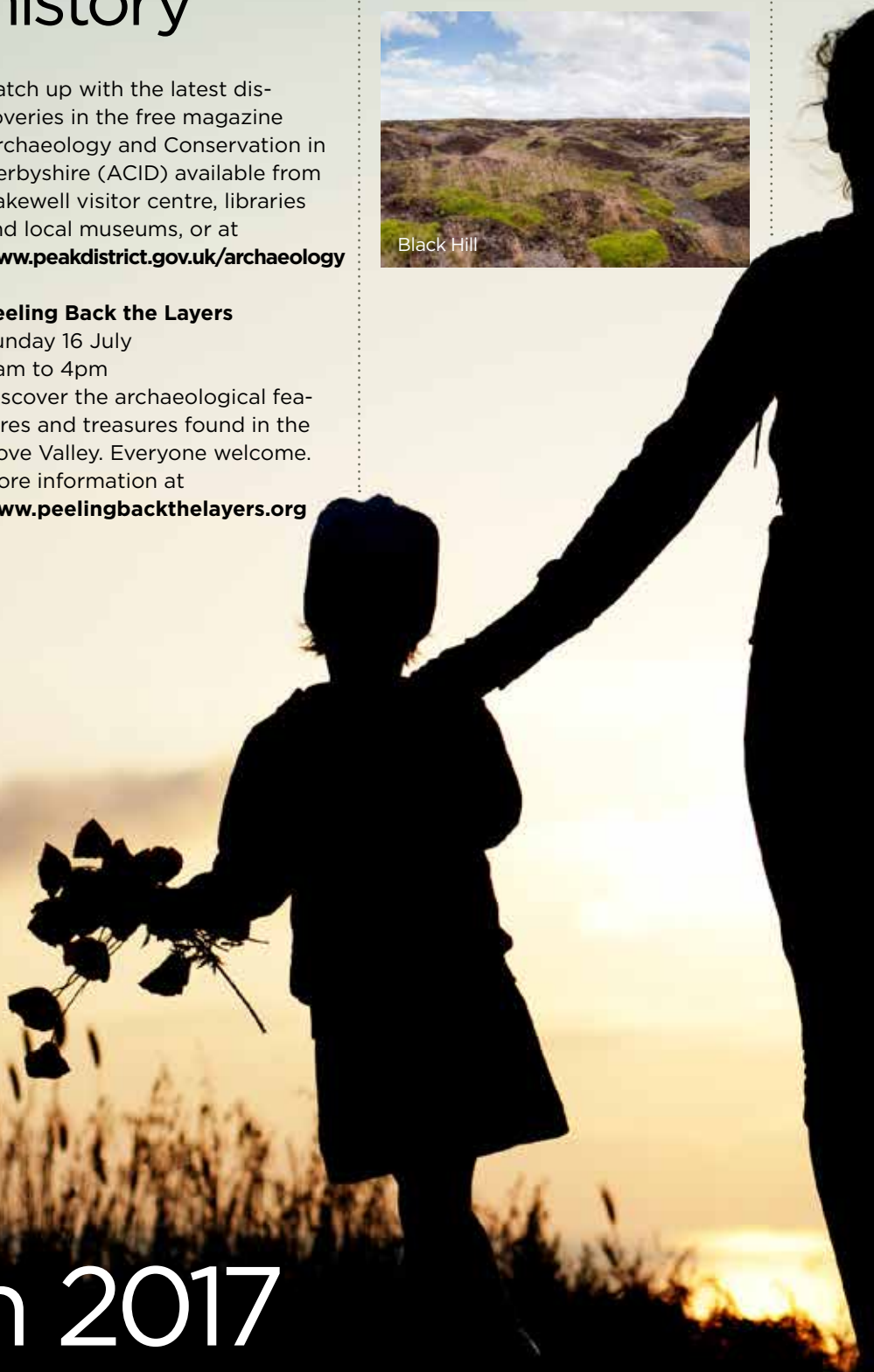
Discover the archaeological features and treasures found in the Dove Valley. Everyone welcome. More information at www.peelingbackthelayers.org

Fun for all the family

Get more from your walk. Download award-winning MP3 audio trails for self-guided walks on moors, plus maps and route directions. Includes Black Hill, Bleaklow, Kinder Scout, and Marsden Moor. www.moorsforthefuture.org.uk/audio-trails



Black Hill



Events in 2017

Nature for families

Discover family-friendly fun and activities in the outdoors.

Nature Tots

Book for term time fun

Every Friday

10.30am to 12.30pm

At both Macclesfield Forest and Longdendale Environment Centre.

A pre-school play group with a difference, where mud is the menu of the day, making new friends along the way. £4 per child, £2 for siblings (max two per family, must be accompanied), includes a refreshment. Adults and younger siblings under 18 months free.

Family Play Wild

School holidays, various dates, booking required

10.30am to 1pm

At both Macclesfield Forest and Longdendale Environment Centre.

Explore woodlands in your wellie boots! Bring a picnic. Ages 5+ but younger siblings welcome (max two per family). £5 per child (must be accompanied). Adults and siblings under 2 go free.

Beavers, Bears and Wolves?

Wednesday 31 May

10.30am to 4pm

Great family day out discovering Biggin Dale, Wolfscote Dale and Beresford Dale. Includes maps, wildlife, lead mines, beautiful riverside walking and activities for children aged 8+. £6 per person 18 and over.

New to Nature

Sunday 16 July

10.30am to 2.30pm

A family-friendly 5-mile guided walk for adults and over 5s, investigating plants and animals around Padley Gorge and Lawrence Field. £4 per person 18 and over.

Bats, Bugs and Night Time Noises

Saturday 9 September

7.30pm to 9.30pm

See what comes to life when day time creatures have gone to roost. A short 1.5 mile walk from Miller's Dale Station to discover the nocturnal world of Chee Dale. Bring a torch. £4 per person 18 and over.

Bogtastic!

Wednesday 16 August, drop in event
10.30am to 3.30pm

Discover how moorland landscapes are looked after for people and wildlife. Can you raise the bog's water level, put out a moorland fire or peck like a bird? Activities for all ages, wear wellies or boots. £4 per person. Moorland Discovery Centre, Longshaw. Minibus shuttle to and from the moors.

Festival fever

We love a bit of a do, whether it's a well-dressing festival, such as Tissington's 25 to 31 May, a feast of food like Bakewell's Baking Festival 12 to 13 August, or an agricultural show such as the Manifold Show 12 August. Keep up to date with what's on at

www.visitpeakdistrict.com

RHS Chatsworth

7-11 June

The first RHS flower show at Chatsworth will celebrate horticultural 'Design Revolutionaries'

www.peakdistrict.gov.uk/rhs



Eroica Britannia

16-18 June

Don't miss 'The World's Most Handsome Bike Ride' and festival
www.peakdistrict.gov.uk/eroica

AND Festival

21-24 September

The UK's only roaming digital festival. The peaks and caverns of Castleton will be turned into a laboratory - a temporary haven - inviting world-class artists to reflect on time, the underground and sites of industrial discovery. Workshops, exhibitions, subterranean adventures and film events in Castleton and Sheffield
www.andfestival.org.uk

www.peakdistrict.gov.uk/events

PEAK
DISTRICT
NATIONAL
PARK

Find your happy place here!



*On top of the world
at Kinder Scout (page 14)*



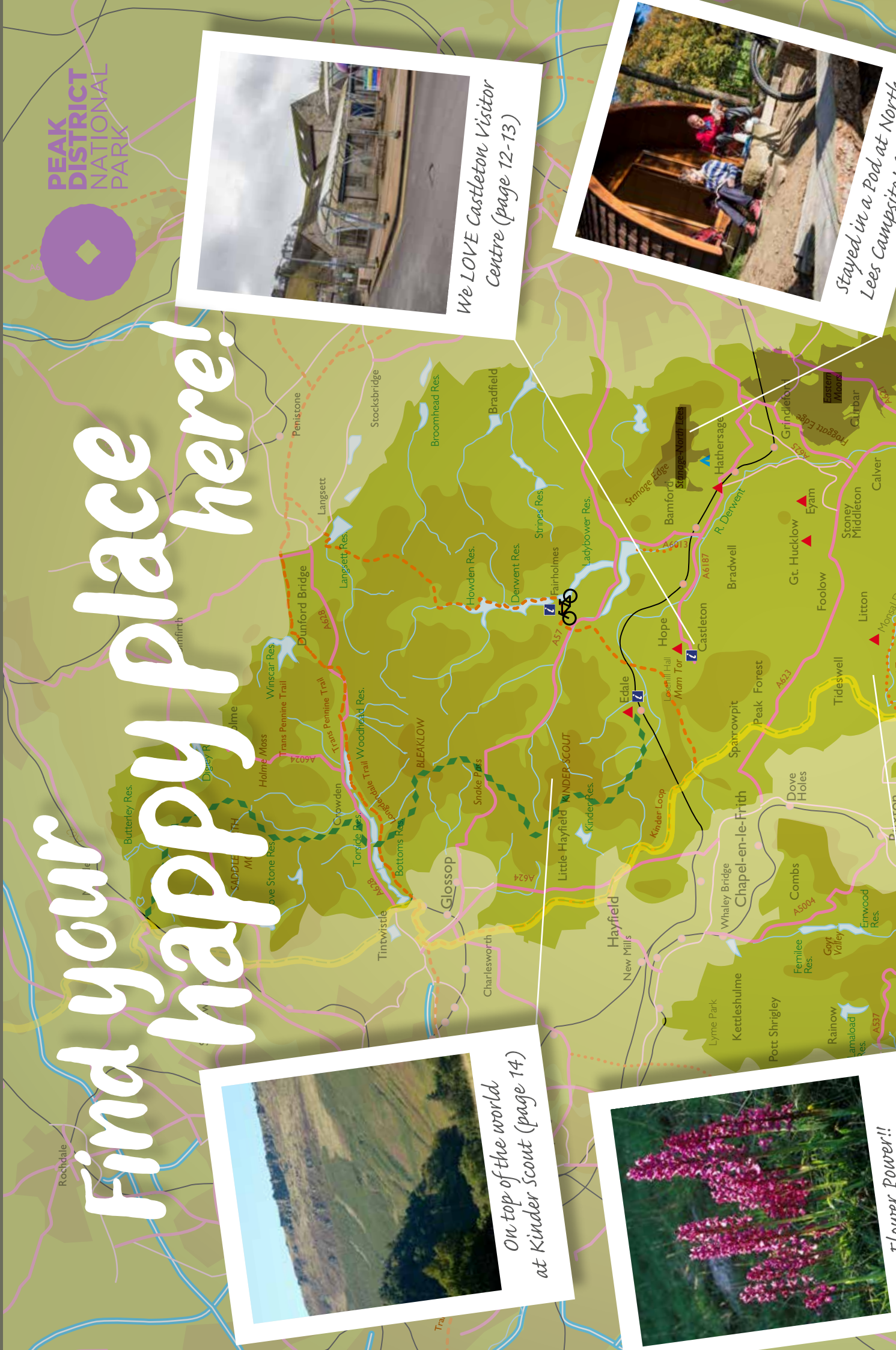
*We LOVE Castleton Visitor
Centre (page 12-13)*



*Stayed in a Pod at North
Lees Campsite*

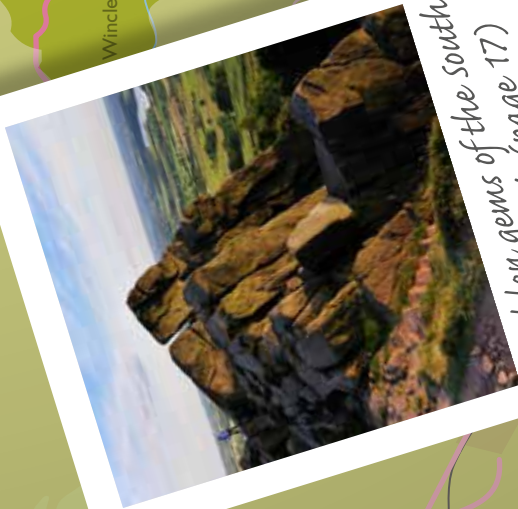


Flower Power!!



(see page 8-9)

(see page 19)



Hidden gems of the South West Peak (page 17)



We cycled the High Peak Trail! (page 5)



Visitor Centres:

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

www.peakdistrict.gov.uk/visiting



Cycle Hire Centres:

Ashbourne
Mapleton Lane,
Ashbourne
DE6 2AA

Tel: 01335 343156

www.peakdistrict.gov.uk/cycle

Derwent
Fairholmes,
Derwent
S33 0AQ

Tel: 01433 651261

www.peakdistrict.gov.uk/cycle

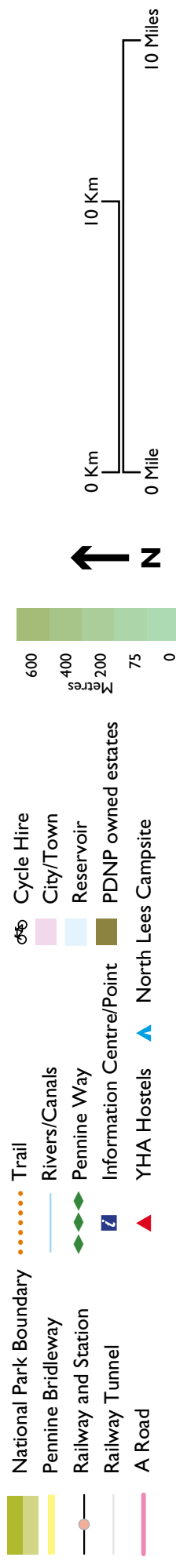
Parsley Hay
near Buxton,
Derbyshire
SK17 0DG

Tel: 01298 84493

www.peakdistrict.gov.uk/cycle

Peak District National Park Authority, Aldern House, Baslow Road, Bakewell, Derbyshire DE45 1AE
Tel: 01629 816200 Email: customer.service@peakdistrict.gov.uk

Contains Ordnance Survey data. The relief depicted on MiniScale is generalised and should only be used as an approximate indication of height. This map is for quick reference only, for more detailed maps of the area please refer to OS Explorer Map (1:25 000) The Peak District - Dark Peak OL1 & White Peak OL24.



Heart of the community

...a new era for Castleton visitor centre



Castleton has a wealth of history, fascinating traditions, a vibrant business community... and, from this summer, the Peak District's premier visitor centre.

Over the last few months, work has been underway to transform the property into a flagship centre for the Peak District National Park, with a strong emphasis on accessibility for all visitors.

The refurbishment has been being designed to improve the visitor experience particularly for people living with disability, young people, families, and local school, youth and community groups.

Improvements include exciting new interpretation displays, a dedicated space for Castleton Historical Society's museum, an improved retail area and space for activities.

The new café will serve a varied and contemporary menu, using local produce where possible.

Sue Beswick, our visitor experience development manager, says: "We have worked closely with Accessible Derbyshire to make sure there is plenty of space for people in wheelchairs or families with young children in pushchairs to enjoy the facilities.

"The Darnbrough room at the rear of the café has been converted to include comfortable seating, which will be especially helpful for families. Some children can be overwhelmed with activity and noise, so we are creating a space where children can enjoy quiet activities which will, of course, be a comfortable area for everybody."

Our National Park staff have worked with interpretation specialists Wide Sky and Quercus Design to develop creative interpretive displays and content in association with Castleton Historical Society for the museum. The centre will celebrate Castleton's unique qualities, telling its stories through audio and visual media.

Throughout the centre, countryside themes will be reflected in the colours and



textures of the décor. A feature will be the café servery area, incorporating a dry stone wall – a little bit of the Peak District indoors, a rural skill and part of the landscape.

Upgrades are also being made to visitor centres in Bakewell and Edale. The Castleton centre is expected to re-open during early summer.

For more National Park visitor services information, visit www.peakdistrict.gov.uk Follow progress at Castleton, via www.peakdistrict.gov.uk/castleton



 @peakinfocentres

 /peakdistrictnationalpark



Learn more about Castleton's past

Treasures reflecting Castleton's rich and varied past will be displayed throughout the visitor centre and in a new museum area.

Photographs, documents and artefacts have been collected by Castleton Historical Society and showcased at the visitor centre – along with occasional temporary exhibitions – since 2001.

We have worked closely with society members to ensure that Castleton's history is strongly reflected in the refurbished visitor centre.

Castleton Historical Society Chair Maria Kenyon says: "We are very excited at the prospect of a new, smaller, but beautifully formed museum. We are confident our excellent relationship with the Peak District National Park will continue. And, most of all, we look forward to playing our part in giving all visitors a wonderful welcome to our beautiful village."

The society was formed over 45 years ago to share local information and research Castleton's history.

Support the Park while you shop

A visit to Castleton is a great opportunity not only to explore... but to shop! And the new-look centre will offer more temptation to indulge in retail therapy than ever before.

A new tartan, specially created for the Peak District National Park, will feature in upholstery and as a swathe of curtain in the new café at Castleton Visitor Centre. Designed by Derbyshire-based Tweeds with Style, the tartan reflects the colours of the National Park and will be developed into a range of distinctive homewares.

Another new arrival is Millie the

sheep, named after the National Park's millstones. A cute cuddly toy, Millie is our new mascot of the Peak District and is to feature in a new range of products.

The tartan and Millie ranges will be sold through all our visitor centres, along with already popular products. These include tablewares reflecting the Peak District's special qualities and a selection of National Park-inspired teas by Sheffield-based Birdhouse.

Peak District aficionados can also show off their allegiance in style... in our range of branded t-shirts.





Snow stopping us! The weather posed some interesting challenges

These flagstones could tell a good story from moor to mill and back again



Extreme patioing around the Brown Knoll trig point

Paving the way to conserving the Peaks

Flag stones ready to be laid

The popularity of a walk on Brown Knoll (Kinder Scout), from Rushup Edge to the trig point above the Edale valley, led to vegetation being damaged and areas of fragile peat becoming exposed. Now the vulnerable blanket bog in a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) has been protected after reclaimed flag-

stones were given a new purpose, creating a 2.7 kilometre long footpath.

Organised by the Moors for the Future Partnership (MFFP), the work was carried out by Lancashire-based Aitch Conservation. One of their contractors finished up as a member of the MFFP team. Meet Richard Guy,

MFFP conservation works officer: "It is incredibly rewarding to see the conservation works helping protect such amazing landscapes for future generations. I went from building the path to supervising its completion. I am now waiting on an update to Google Maps so that I can show off my work to family and friends!

"Healthy blanket bogs, like those protected by this project, provide many benefits: a valuable habitat for a range of specialist plant, bird, insect and mammal species; improve water quality, help reduce the risk of flooding downstream and cut the risk of wildfires."

The remote location meant that materials had to be flown onto site and manoeuvred into place by hand. The helicopter made more than 1,800 flights to transport the stone. The big bridging stones weighed up to half a tonne. Stones were moved into place using six foot steel crowbars and rollers. Some 830 tonnes of Rossendale stone reclaimed from demolished Lancashire cotton mills, originally quarried from the South Pennine hills during the Industrial Revolution, were used.

Sarah Fowler, chief executive of the Peak District National Park who lead the partnership, said: "Collaborative partnership work is fundamental to success in projects like this as we work together to restore historical damage to our threatened moorlands and safeguard it for the future."

Plans for the path were 14 years in the planning, as MFFP worked collaboratively with partner organisations: Peak District National Park, Natural England and National Trust, and private land owners. The project was funded through environmental stewardship via Natural England.

Find out more about MFFP and how the new MoorLIFE 2020 project is restoring our precious moorlands at

www.moorsforthefuture.org.uk

5 benefits of moorland restoration:

1. Enriched biodiversity

Providing breeding habitats for moorland plants, birds, insects, mammals and amphibians.

2. Reduced flood risk

Reducing the flow-rate and volume of water flowing to towns and villages.

3. Improved water quality

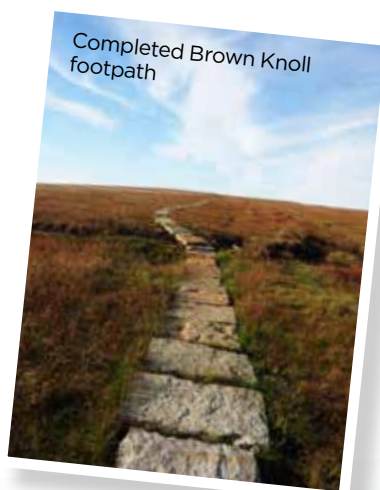
As less peat gets into streams, rivers and reservoirs.

4. Reduced fire risk

Wetter moorlands resist wildfires spreading.

5. Stored carbon

Revegetated peatlands are the UK's biggest carbon store, bare peat releases it.



What have you seen?

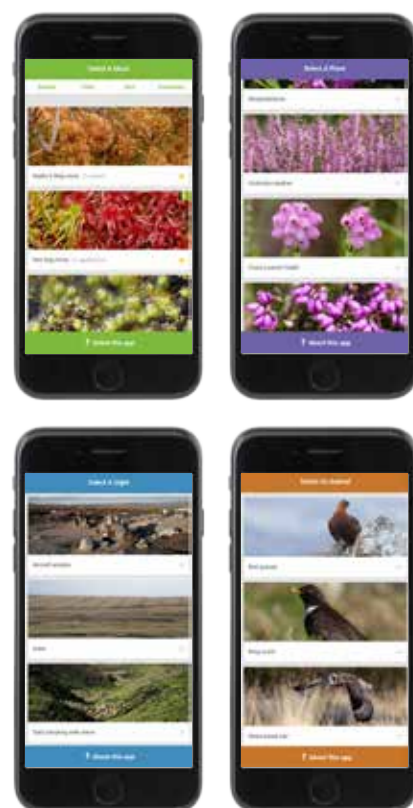
This summer you can get involved by sending in your sightings of Community Science survey species including curlews, mountain hares and ring ouzels this summer. For details visit www.moorsforthefuture.org.uk/community-science/surveys

MoorAPPs for your phone

www.moorsforthefuture.org.uk/moorapps

Discover more about moss, plants, wildlife and landscape in our series of moorland apps.

Download for free, onto phones, tablets or as a pdf document.



Moors audio tours

Get more from your walk. Download award-winning MP3 audio trails for self-guided walks on moors, plus maps and route directions. Includes Black Hill, Bleaklow, Kinder Scout, and Marsden Moor. www.moorsforthefuture.org.uk/audio-trails

Getting to the heart of it

There are 30 members of the Peak District National Park Authority, from a range of backgrounds with a wealth of knowledge and experience. Find out more at www.peakdistrict.gov.uk/members

Talking about landscape with Pennine Way walker and writer Andrew McCloy, who moved to live in Youlgrave 20 years ago, you quickly discover what makes a south Londoner up sticks and transplant his family in limestone country. It's the lifelong lure of the hills and wild upland landscapes. He recalls as a boy avidly reading about long treks across the windswept northern moors and mountains; 40 years later he walked the 268 miles from Edale, in the Peak District, to Kirk Yetholm, in the Scottish Borders, along the Pennine Way.

"It's much more than just a long walk," he says. "It embodies the long struggle for public access to our wild spaces, the creation of our first national parks, and is a personal challenge and adventure."

Andrew translates his passion for walking and the Peak District into being actively involved in rural community life serving as

a Youlgrave parish councillor and as a member of the National Park Authority (appointed by the Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs). "I'm not born and bred here but it's every bit as special to me as I chose to live here and appreciate what it stands for as a working, living landscape along with the opportunities it offers for escape and fulfilment.

"National parks are very different to other local authorities – I wanted to know how they juggle the demands of people wanting to build, work, live, visit and how they square those with looking after the landscape. I love the outdoors and wanted to play a part in influencing it – so that when I'm very old and have to hang up my walking boots I'll know I've done my bit to help keep it special for future generations."

But that doesn't mean wrapping it up in cotton wool. Andrew explains: "It's about making sure

the National Park is responsive and effective for everyone, especially local people. As Authority members we share a common love of the Peak District and are aware of the pressures it faces at all levels and know how important it is to keep it special for everyone.

"There's very little politics, it's more about working together and not taking sides. We're acutely aware of the pressure across the UK to provide more homes, for instance, and we'll do our best to accommodate that in the National Park, but ultimately we're a nationally designated landscape and can't allow inappropriate development to spoil the landscape. More than ever UK national parks are our breathing spaces and wild upland paths like the Pennine Way are crucial for our physical and mental good health."



Andrew's book *The Pennine Way: The Path, the People, the Journey*, published by Cicerone Press, price £12.95, is available at Edale visitor centre, local bookshops and via www.cicerone.co.uk

The Pennine Way was the inspiration of walker and writer Tom Stephenson in 1935. It became Britain's first National Trail in 1965 and passes through three National Parks: Peak District, Yorkshire Dales and Northumberland.

www.nationaltrail.co.uk/pennine-way



Andrew McCloy loves the camaraderie of the trail and the solitude of the hills, however incongruous that seems

Landscape at a Crossroads is a five year £4.1m scheme, funded largely by the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF), run by the South West Peak Landscape Partnership, to shape a better future for communities, landscape, wildlife and heritage, where trust and understanding thrive.

The South West Peak Landscape at a crossroads

Described as the Peak District's hidden gem, the South West Peak is defined by the spectacular gritstone ridge at the Roaches and Axe Edge moors as much as by its close communities and fierce spirit. It's where the rivers Dove, Manifold, Goyt, Dane and Wye rise and is home to important breeding bird communities including curlew, snipe, short-eared owl, merlin and golden plover.

Now, the South West Peak Landscape Partnership's

Landscape at a Crossroads scheme wants people to get involved to help understand the area and protect it.

Manager Karen Shelley-Jones says: "We're looking to local people to help make the most of their rich heritage and local traditions – it could be field study opportunities, rural skills apprenticeships, or restoring field barns and heritage features – the aim is to encourage people to enjoy, understand and care for this special area."

Community grants

Aimed at groups of residents, schools, village clubs and societies and parish councils, grants of up to £10,000 are available for projects connected to local heritage.

Make a difference and encourage your community to take part. Activities could include a heritage-themed guided walk, doing up a well, training a team in traditional skills such as drystone walling or hedge-laying, creating a wildlife area, or showcasing what's special about your area.

Contact: Esther Jones at Support Staffordshire, 01538 381356 or esther.jones@supportstaffordshire.org.uk

www.southwestpeak.co.uk

 @SouthWestPeak

 /swpeak

Glorious grasslands

Who doesn't love to see hay meadows, roadside verges and churchyards in bloom from May to July?

Unimproved grasslands are a rare and threatened habitat but with uncertainties over farming subsidies, and so many unprotected sites, the challenge to conserve them has never been greater.

We are raising awareness of their importance, whilst helping landowners enhance and protect this precious resource, with a toolkit of options such as green hay spreading and hand seeding. We are also providing grants to support good management.

Look out for activities this summer including a hay meadow hunt.

Contact: Karen Shelley-Jones, 01629 816269 or karen.shelley-jones@peakdistrict.gov.uk

Counting birds

Do you know your curlew from your lapwing and snipe?

Curlew have long, down-curved beaks, lapwing have a distinctive crest and call 'peewit', and snipe are mottled brown birds with long straight beaks.

All three species are waders which breed in the South West Peak and need wet areas to find their food and raise young.

The RSPB is organising surveys of these birds during the breeding season April-June.

Contact: Mike Shurmer, RSPB, 01694 724791 or mike.shurmer@rspb.org.uk



Curlew

Mindfulness matters

Where better to cast off the stresses of everyday life and learn to live in the moment than in the beautiful Peak District countryside?

This summer, two of our ranger walks are devoted to mindfulness. The first, on Sunday 14 May, is guided by volunteer ranger Mike Pupius, a mindfulness trainer and co-founder of the Sheffield-based Centre for Mindful Life Enhancement.

Mike says: "Mindfulness helps us to enhance our attention and awareness, to notice and savour things and to really be in the present moment. When we are out walking, enjoying the beauty of the countryside, we're not worrying about what's gone off at work or what might happen next week. Worries and anxieties diminish.

"People are under a lot of stress and anxiety, in the workplace and in society generally. There is an increasing interest in health and wellbeing: we go to the gym; we go walking and running. We all have to take responsibility for ourselves - and the earlier we do it, the better we're going to be as we get older."

Mike, who had a long career with the Royal Mail, including the post of district head postmaster in Sheffield, discovered mindfulness 25 years ago during a particularly stressful period. "I was running the Royal Mail operation in Sheffield, South Yorkshire and north Derbyshire," he recalls. "We had complex building issues and were entering a major reorganisation. At the time, my younger son had a serious illness which contributed to my concerns."

Recognising the need to deal with the pressure, Mike took a course in transcendental meditation which in turn led him to more physical exercise, including running. "That is also a meditative experience," he says. "I ended up completing four marathons and it helped me deal with a major career change."

He worked in quality management and business excellence in Europe before joining Sheffield Hallam University as director of Organisational Excellence. Now retired, he is a visiting fellow at Sheffield Business School and, as a volunteer mindfulness trainer, he has worked with Sheffield City Council, Kier Services and Sheffield Hallam University and other organisations.

Committed to lifelong learning, Mike says that becoming a ranger taught him more about the Peak District's special qualities, which include opportunities to improve physical and emotional wellbeing.

"It's enhanced my understanding of the beauty of the Peak District and its tremendous resources in terms of geology, archaeology, natural beauty, landscapes and other factors," he explains. "I'd walked in the Peak District in the past but I'd never been into some of the areas I'm learning about as a ranger. It's an absolute delight."

He adds: "Mindfulness has its origins in Eastern philosophy, going back 2,000 years. It is this wisdom that we are building on while bringing the practice into a modern secular context."

For more details about mindfulness visit

www.mindfulenhance.org

Walking mindfully

Enjoy woodland wanders this summer with our National Park ranger guided walks:

Sunday 14 May

10.30am to 4pm

True Relaxation between Hartington and Pilsbury Castle. Mike Pupius offers an opportunity to truly appreciate the peace and tranquillity of the upper reaches of the Dove Valley, Pilsbury Castle and Carder Low.

Sunday 13 August

10.30am to 3.15pm

Mindfulness Walk at Grindleford. Join ranger Phil Bradley on this picturesque stroll from Grindleford, which includes periods of slow walking and quiet moments for reflection, stillness and appreciation of the special qualities of the Peak District.



River Dove, Pilsbury

Both walks cost £6 per person. Children aged 17 and below go free. For more details visit www.peakdistrict.gov.uk/events

Camp in comfort

Accessible pod allows more campers to experience the beautiful National Park

Imagine waking up to the sound of birdsong in the trees, water splashing over rocks in a nearby stream... and views of stunning Stanage Edge just outside your door.

Now the idyllic camping experience of North Lees can be enjoyed by more visitors, thanks to new easy access facilities.

An accessible camping pod – named Dreamboat after one of the climbs on Stanage Edge – has been installed at the Peak District National Park's campsite near Hathersage.

Our North Lees property manager Rebekah Newman says: "The camping pod is accessible for people with a range of disabilities and would also be ideal for older people with mobility issues. The beauty of the location is that it's right next to the stream at the edge of the woodland so even if you don't go anywhere else it's a nice place to just be. It's an intimate countryside experience in its own right."

The comfortable wooden pod has been carefully planned and equipped in partnership with Accessible Derbyshire co-founders Jane Carver and Gillian Scotford.

They sourced and bought the pod's height-adjustable electric profile bed with rails, a hoist to help people in and out of bed and a chair which can also be used as a commode.

We arranged for the equipment to be serviced by Sheffield-based specialists Clark & Partners before installation. Easy access shower and toilet facilities are close by and can be reached via a gently sloping path.

For Gillian and Jane, the new facilities bring to life one of their key aims.

"This camping pod was one of our original dreams," says Gillian. "It allows anyone with limited mobility or sensory issues to enjoy the countryside.

There may also be people who've previously loved being active in the outdoors, but have spinal injuries or have had a stroke. Now they can have the experience of wilderness camping."

Jane adds: "We want to make Derbyshire the most accessible area of the country and these camping facilities are another big step towards that."

The easy access pod complements six other pods elsewhere on the site, which can also accommodate up to 60 small tents. All wooden pods are built locally and have a double glazed window and lockable French doors. They are insulated for winter warmth and to keep summer temperatures down, have a covered veranda and include lighting and heating and the opportunity to charge a phone or laptop.



Accessible Derbyshire's Jane Carver and Gillian Scotford with Hannah Taylor

To plan your camping trip to North Lees visit www.peakdistrict.gov.uk/camping
email northlees.campsite@peakdistrict.gov.uk
or call **01433 650838**

MY PEAK DISTRICT PHOTO COMPETITION

Enter our photo competition to be in with a chance of winning a Rab® Ascent 700 sleeping bag, worth £270!

This lightweight, luxury sleeping bag, kindly donated by Rab®, could soon be keeping you warm and snuggly on camping trips in the UK's original national park!

Love taking photos when you're out and about? Picnics, birthdays, starting the Pennine Way

- whatever the reason, we want to see your original pictures of you having a great time in the Peak District National Park!

We will publish the winning photo and a selection of our favourites on our website and share them through our social media accounts.

All we ask is that the photo is taken in 2016 or 2017, and it must be in the Peak District National Park.

WIN! WIN! WIN! WIN! WIN! WIN! WIN! WIN! WIN!

Send your pictures to: parklife@peakdistrict.gov.uk

Send your picture (1Mb to 2Mb in size), along with a brief description of why you love the place, your name, address, telephone number, and the date and location of the photo.

Closing date for entries is 31 August, 2017.

We prefer digital images but if you are sending hard copies, please note we are unable to return them.

 Rab®

Rab® Ascent 700

- highly durable Pertex® Microlight inner and outer fabric
- hand-filled in Derbyshire with 700g of 650FP European Duck Down
- hydrophobic water resistant down responsibly sourced
- ideal for year round UK use with light weight and small pack size

