

# ParkLife

Issue 25 | Summer 2018

The Peak District National Park Magazine

## WALK THIS WAY

The real-life story of an inspirational Sheffield walking group

## OUR ECO CHAMPIONS

The local businesses going green in the National Park



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**ON THE COVER:**  
A family enjoy a summer's day at Chatsworth. See all our events and a full-size National Park map from p15.  
PHOTO: VISITENGLAND/CHATSWORTH HOUSE TRUST

ParkLife aims to inspire, inform and share the experiences of those living, working in and visiting the Peak District National Park, along with the activities of the Peak District National Park Authority.

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# A National Park for a new generation

**W**e often can't help looking to the future in the Peak District National Park. It seems to be in our blood, when our predecessors had that same sense of vision as the National Park movement gathered pace, inspired by a daring and determined few leading the 'Mass Trespass' on Kinder Scout in 1932.



*“We remain a vital breathing space in the heart of the country”*

Back in May, the government launched a review of the UK's National Parks, some 70 years on from the legislation that led to their creation. Ministers said it was 'time to strengthen' National Parks in the face of present-day challenges, with environment minister Michael Gove adding that these precious landscapes should 'not only be conserved, but enhanced for future generations'. We now relish the chance to show how the UK's first National Park today balances welcoming millions of visitors, is home to over 38,000 residents and provides countless opportunities for communities within and beyond our boundary. We remain a vital breathing space in the heart of the country.

As an organisation, we recognise that we need to adapt too. That's why I've been leading a review of our own corporate strategy; looking at our landscapes, thriving communities and how we engage with everyone for whom the Peak District National Park plays a part in their life – whether every day, or just as an occasional visitor. To make us fit for the future, we need to look at what we do, and how we do it. We want to keep that ambitious and tenacious nature, always looking at a result where you, the public, come first.

This summer edition of ParkLife shares plenty of that same passion and innovation. The Sheffield-based 'Black Men Walking' group (p20) has inspired a runaway stage success, whilst our local Peak District businesses are putting the environment centre-stage (p7). Not to be outdone, we've launched our own campaign to reduce plastics in the National Park with #MyPeakCup (p14), and Edale's Bella Hardy (p12) shares how the landscape translates into her acclaimed folk music.

Whatever the Peak District means to you, we look forward to welcoming you this summer – and for many generations to come.

**Chief Executive Sarah Fowler**  
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## Devastating wild fires hit the Peak District

As we go to print in early July, Peak District National Park staff have joined the fire service and many others in tackling a number of wild fires within the National Park. Fires on the scale we have seen recently are deeply shocking, with the impact on wildlife and landscape, along with the environmental benefits that peatlands offer, likely to be felt long after the smoke clears. I would like to express my sincere thanks to all those involved in these ongoing efforts – especially our staff and FireWatch volunteers – and ask that as those who love our National Park, you will join me in



PHOTO: TOM MARSHALL

ensuring that the remainder of the summer is a safe one. Details on minimising the fire risk can be found on our website.

**Chief Executive Sarah Fowler**

For this year's National Parks Week (23rd to 29th July), we're celebrating the wide range of accessible opportunities in the Peak District.

“Come and join us at one of the locations to see how you can experience the area for yourself”



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PHOTO: TOM MARSHALL



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PHOTO: TOM MARSHALL

PHOTO: TOM MARSHALL



Children can make brass rubbings from panels beside each of the wooden carvings.

## Get close to nature at Millers Dale

Children can have lots of fun while learning about nature in a new discovery trail at Millers Dale.

The one-mile route – taking in the Monsal Trail and footpath alongside the River Wye – now features four carvings by local wood sculptor Andrew Frost. The carvings celebrate some of the dale's amazing features from the past and present, including a steam train, an ash leaf, a dipper and a water vole, and are designed to be clambered on and explored by young visitors.

Children can also make brass rubbings from panels beside each of the wooden carvings. A leaflet from the donations post at Millers Dale Station contains all they need plus facts and tips for making the most of your visit. The carvings and brass rubbing information panels were made possible by a generous donation and form part of a Derbyshire Wildlife Trust nature reserve.

Peak District National Park outreach ranger Sally Wheal said: "We want to encourage people visiting the Monsal Trail to also experience the beautiful River Wye below. There is so much wildlife to discover in the reserves next to the trail, if you take the time to explore. Dippers are regular visitors, and if you look closely at the riverbank, you can also spot little holes made by water voles – the famous 'Ratty' from *Wind in the Willows*."

## Grindleford's Dylan climbs his way to number one spot

The Peak District has once again proved to be the home of champions as Dylan Heason, nine, of Grindleford Primary School grabbed first place in the British Mountaineering Council (BMC) Youth Climbing Series National Final in Edinburgh. Dylan powered his way to the top of both age category preliminary rounds, including a final challenging 7a+ route, as well as three boulder climbs. More than 270 youngsters took part in the competition.



Champion Dylan Heason, nine, with his award.



A partnership between the Peak District National Park and Tarmac will see a range of projects secured.

## Paving the way for community schemes

A five-year, £100,000 partnership between the Peak District National Park and Tarmac is continuing to secure a range of dedicated community projects across the National Park. Supporting a full-time ranger, Harriet Saltis (far right), the scheme will provide opportunities

for students with learning disabilities to experience the work of the National Park, run rehabilitative and health agenda conservation days, and more traditional volunteering looking after the Peak District's well-used trails and footpaths.



Two hundred white-clawed crayfish have been released to kick-start a resurgence of the species.

## Crayfish making a comeback

The UK's only native crayfish – the globally endangered white-clawed crayfish – has returned to Peak District rivers thanks to a reintroduction project led by the South West Peak Landscape Partnership, Staffordshire Wildlife Trust, Environment Agency, Forestry Commission and Staffordshire County Council.

Recent months have seen 200 of the crustaceans released at two so-called 'ark' sites, that will act as hubs to kick-start a resurgence of the species, which is an indicator of

**White-clawed crayfish have the same endangered status as some species of whale, tiger and rhino!**

good quality wetland ecosystems, and traditionally a key part of the food chain for other iconic wildlife such as otters, fish and birds.

One of the primary threats to the species has been the non-native American signal crayfish which, along with its increased size and more aggressive nature, has led to the spread of disease in native crayfish, since their own arrival during the 1970s.

Volunteers can get involved in the programme by contacting Staffordshire Wildlife Trust at [southwestpeak.co.uk/contact/volunteering](http://southwestpeak.co.uk/contact/volunteering)

## LARRY AND GEORGE HIT THE TRAILS

The two-wheeled travelling duo of Larry and George Lamb got stuck into life in the Peak District National Park in May, for the next series of Britain by Bike on Channel 5. They kicked off their visit with a history-rich roll down the Monsal Trail through former stations and Litton Mill, finally arriving at Millers Dale for a spot of abseiling, before a whistle-stop of other bank holiday activities and traditions in nearby villages.

The show will be broadcast on Channel 5 this autumn.



George, left, and Larry Lamb explore the Peak District National Park by bike.

PHOTO: TOM MARSHALL



## Police partnership comes together

Derbyshire Police and Crime Commissioner Hardyal Dhindsa joined Peak District National Park chief executive Sarah Fowler and a host of local police representatives at National Park HQ in spring to discuss key issues across the National Park, including wildlife and rural crime.



## National Park team scoop RTPI heritage award

Innovative protection that 'sets an example for others to follow' for cultural and natural heritage on Stanton Moor has helped National Park planners land a prestigious Royal Town Planning Institute (RTPI) prize.

The Authority's Stanton Moor Principles have successfully protected Stanton Moor from the risk of quarrying for nearly two decades, leaving the moor well-loved by many for its extensive Bronze Age Scheduled Monument, cultural heritage, wildlife and moorland walks.

Judges said the long-term strategic vision for the moor 'could be used as a model for other areas as it provides a good outcome for all parties.'

Paul Ancell, chair of the Authority's planning committee, said: "Protecting the cultural landscape of this important area of the National Park, in line with our national park purposes and aspirations for the place, is something we can all be proud of."

## AHEAD OF THE FIELD

A ParkLife article has inspired one Peak District couple to put down roots for wildlife in the future with the planting of almost 1,200 trees in two former fields. After Kath and Keith Potter saw that the Woodland Trust were seeking 30 new woodlands in the National Park, consultation with the late Dave Frost (Tree Officer with the National Park Authority) and colleagues Ben Lambert and ecologist Frances Horsford, saw elm trees amongst others selected for a new project that will provide habitats for generations to come.



## Bogtastic on the road

Now hitting roads around the region, the Moors for the Future Partnership's 'Bogtastic' van is a fully interactive mobile roadshow of all that's great about our blanket bogs. From bouncing on the 'bog wobble' floor, to immersing in the sounds of wildlife and an upland storm, it takes you through all four seasons in just a few minutes.

Children can join Lizzy the Lizard in an exclusive on-board game. Behind the fun is a serious message of highlighting how pollution has affected our blanket bogs – a vital carbon store and flood relief tool – and how work by the Moors for the Future Project has turned around their fortunes over the last 15 years.

Find out when the Bogtastic van will be near you, and be part of the '15 for 15' celebrations. [moorsforthefuture.org.uk/bogtastic-events](http://moorsforthefuture.org.uk/bogtastic-events) #MFFP15 #Bogtastic

## Planning Awards 2018

The Peak District National Park Planning Awards will celebrate the best development in the National Park over the last three years. The Awards will recognise and reward outstanding development in various categories, where extra consideration has been taken to ensure the scheme makes a positive contribution to the special qualities of the National Park.

Winners on the evening will receive a Derbyshire Fossil Limestone trophy, designed uniquely from the Peak District, provided by Natural Stone Sales Ltd. The Awards aim to both celebrate exceptional schemes that have been developed and inspire excellence in the design of future projects in the National Park.

The Award scheme will be open for applications through our website from **16 July 2018**.



PHOTO: MIKE BATTY

A farming and conservation partnership in the South West Peak is helping to limit the amount of pesticides making their way into one Peak District river.

In partnership with Cheshire Wildlife Trust and United Utilities' Dane Valley Catchment Advisor Jack Norris, they are focused on efforts to improve water quality by working with farmers and land managers within the Hugbridge Safeguard Zone, located near Macclesfield.

Jack provides help to a range of rural land users including funding towards pesticide training, testing, equipment hire,

free pesticide amnesties and agricultural advice.

The programme works alongside the South West Peak Landscape Partnership Slowing the Flow project, which is helping to reduce downstream flooding in rivers and streams.

Jack says: "By helping farmers and landowners manage their land in a sustainable manner, the quality of water which drains from it can be improved and the need for costly and energy intensive treatment reduced."

Learn more at [southwestpeak.co.uk](http://southwestpeak.co.uk)

## DO YOU KNOW THE SUMMER FIRE RISK?

A series of spring wildfires have once again highlighted the huge risk to the Peak District National Park's upland landscapes from fire. Whilst criminal activity has been identified in a number of cases, the accidental starting of fires remains one of the easiest ways to cause damage to precious habitats and wildlife. Careful consideration of the use of barbecues, taking home or safely disposing of all of your litter and fully extinguishing cigarettes can play a major role in reducing the chance of fires starting.

Find out more at [peakdistrict.gov.uk](http://peakdistrict.gov.uk)



Chief executive Sarah Fowler, right, welcomes Australian government minister the Hon. Rick Colless, centre, to the Peak District National Park.

## Sharing knowledge across the world

We were delighted to welcome Australian government minister the Hon. Rick Colless to the Peak District National Park in April, to share our experiences of National Park management. Rick joined staff from projects that are helping to look after our upland landscapes including the Eastern Moors Partnership and Moors for the Future, and took in the stunning views from Curbar Edge.

# A new peak for **GREEN BUSINESS**



PHOTO: TOM MARSHALL

Shaking things up – recycled paper straws are proving a popular alternative to plastic at Blueberry Café in Castleton.

**Fiona Stubbs** discovers how the Peak District Environmental Quality Mark (EQM) is taking green values to the next level. ▶

“The process of applying for the award is designed to encourage applicants to ask themselves ‘What am I doing to inspire my customers to care for the Peak District and to be more green?’”

From paper straws to renewable energy... businesses in the Peak District National Park are at the very heart of sustainable tourism.

Many proudly celebrate their green achievements through the Peak District Environmental Quality Mark (EQM), which is presented to organisations which:

- support the local economy
- protect the global environment
- enhance the local environment
- invest in people and communities
- celebrate what’s special about the Peak District National Park

But the EQM doesn’t just recognise green credentials, it helps businesses to become even more environmentally aware.

EQM director Faith Johnson says: “The



EQM director Faith Johnson

Environmental Quality Mark is the Peak District National Park Authority’s award for businesses which are doing their bit to look after this wonderful environment.

“The process of applying for the award is designed to encourage applicants to think in a green way about all of their business activities but, very importantly, to ask themselves ‘What am I doing to inspire my customers to care for the Peak District and to be more green in their own lives?’”

“Award holders really take this to heart and are doing so many amazing things in their businesses. Whenever I do an audit, I’m so impressed with how much great ‘green’ stuff is going on.”

Here we discover just a few examples of the work going on in our EQM organisations.



PHOTO: TOM MARSHALL

### Upper Hurst Farm Ltd

Susan Green is proprietor of Upper Hurst Farm Ltd, a caravan and camping site at Hulme End, near Buxton.

Susan says: “We have a nature-based ethos and had already invested heavily in renewable energy when we discovered EQM. We had installed 100 field-mounted solar panels, which provide heat and hot water for the whole site, and most of our lights were low-energy LEDs.

“The process of applying for EQM is very detailed and made us aware of many other things we could do better, such as replacing all of the lights for LED and using environmentally friendly cleaning products. A further move forward is to install an electric vehicle charging point, which is in progress.

“EQM inspired us to look at how we communicate what we do to our customers. We are creating a storyboard to showcase all the eco-friendly things we do – from sustainable energy to increasing biodiversity through management of hedgerows to the things we do for the community and charity.”



### English Tilly

Carol Wilson runs Hope Valley-based English Tilly, producing handcrafted pieces and ‘wool paintings’.



Carol says: “English Tilly was already a green business but EQM has given me an even greater focus. It’s also helped me as a sole trader, providing a community of business people to talk to and bounce ideas off.

“Creating my landscape pictures is like painting to me – just using a different medium. I use local wool from sheep, such as Jacob and the rare breed Whitefaced Woodland.

“The wool is mostly dyed by a friend who uses natural dyes including woad, weld, madder, onion skins, logwood, marigold and iris root.

“I use natural soap in the felt-making process from EQM business Coconut Blush and I pass on my skills and knowledge to visitors by teaching workshops to people staying in Peak District holiday cottages.”





Owner James Shawe and a jar of home-made biscuits at Blueberry Café in Castleton, which have replaced individually-wrapped options to accompany hot drinks.

### The Blueberry Café

Carly Shawe runs Blueberry Café at Castleton Visitor Centre with her husband James (pictured left).

Carly says: "Our EQM journey began as we were setting up the Blueberry Café in Castleton and our decisions have been heavily influenced by what we have learned through the EQM process. We are constantly looking for new ways to ensure our business is sustainable and making a positive impact on our local surroundings.

"We are keen to minimise 'one use' plastics and are working hard with our suppliers and staff to come up with new products or smarter ways to work in order to achieve this. We have replaced biscuits in plastic wrappers – served with hot drinks – with home-made shortbread biscuits and have moved from using plastic straws to paper ones.

"Our takeaway disposables – cups, hot food containers, knives and forks – are made from a compostable and renewable material and we have switched some of our cleaning products to a more environmentally friendly, plant-based option which is 100% biodegradable.

"We use as many local suppliers as possible and educate our staff in what the EQM stands for and why we are putting into place the new initiatives, so they can share these with our customers."

### Whitehouse Barn Cottages

Elen Rees runs Whitehouse Barn Cottages at Thorncliffe with her partner Bill Boley.

Elen says: "We are always looking at ways to help improve the wildlife potential of our four acres. We are encouraging the increasingly rare bilberry – or Blaeberry – bumble bee to feed on clover and birdsfoot trefoil by planting bee-friendly flowers. I've also made a bee hotel, topped with wild flowers.

"Inside our property, EQM has inspired us to use eco paints and to install the Ecocamel shower head, which uses air to increase water pressure, so you use less water.

"Our heating and hot water are largely provided by our wood pellet boiler and we have replaced light bulbs with LED versions. We use eco-cleaning products and encourage our guests to recycle by providing containers inside the property."



### White Peak Shepherd Huts

Josephine Young owns White Peak Shepherd Huts, which crafts traditionally-built shepherd huts with contemporary comforts, in Tideswell.

Josephine says: "It was the humble shepherd hut's potential to provide an eco-friendly space that drew me to build these charming, wheeled buildings. Now, with the help of the EQM, I am doing exactly that.

"Our building process is relatively small scale and low-impact, however we continually monitor our production methods. We choose our building materials based on where they come from, the environmental and societal effect of producing them, how they reach us and how well they perform. We regularly seek advice from those with greater knowledge than ourselves.

"Our timber is Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) approved and the vast majority of our paint is water-based.

"Huts are insulated with a high-quality material made from recycled glass or natural alternatives such as wool. We source materials from local companies wherever possible to support the local economy and reduce our carbon footprint. We even give our sawdust to a local goat breeder for her stable floors!"



### Get involved

To apply, please visit [eqm.org.uk/peakdistrict](http://eqm.org.uk/peakdistrict) or contact Faith Johnson on 07702 452777 / [faith.johnson@eqm.org.uk](mailto:faith.johnson@eqm.org.uk)

Follow EQM on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/PeakDistrictEnvironmentalQualityMark) @PeakDistrictEnvironmentalQualityMark and [Instagram](https://www.instagram.com/PeakDistrictEQM) @PeakDistrictEQM



# On the trail of **WILDLIFE**

PHOTO: TOM MARSHALL

Now is an amazing time to enjoy the Peak District National Park's wild neighbours – from globetrotting visitors here for the summer, to year-round residents busy raising a family. There's also no better place to start than along our multi-user trails at Monsal, Tissington and High Peak – where former railway lines have given way to nature, along with some spectacular views. **Tom Marshall** discovers more.

Share your discoveries with us [@peakdistrict](#) [#mypeakmoment](#)

## SKY HIGH AT MONSAL VIADUCT



At 50ft above the valley floor, the Monsal or Headstone Viaduct (part of the Monsal Trail) puts you above the woodland canopy below, and eye-to-eye with well-travelled summer visitors like swifts, swallows and martins. The sickle-shaped wings and short tail of the larger swift (pictured) give them away, along with their screaming calls, whilst the white bottoms of house martins are easy to spot. The quintessential summer migrant, the swallow's forked tail gets longer with age. Incoming storms can often push insects below the clouds, leading to a feeding frenzy!



A chiffchaff.

## TWO OF A KIND

The woodlands that now nestle alongside our trails are home to two visiting warblers that are some of the easiest to listen out for. The chiffchaff is a great one to start with, calling its own name 'chiff-chaff-chiff-chaff'. The willow warbler, meanwhile – although essentially similar in appearance – has an unusual singing style, rolling down in descending notes, rather like it is running out of batteries!

A dipper on the River Wye.



## BRING YOUR GOGGLES

A few minutes from Millers Dale Station on the Monsal Trail, the River Wye has a very special resident in the shape of the dipper. Its white belly often showing up first, the dipper's party trick is hunting below the white-water of upland Peak District streams – aided by an extra set of clear eyelids, its very own set of swimming goggles. Another vibrant riverside resident is the grey wagtail, rather misnamed on account of its sulphur yellow colour, and often seen bobbing up and down at the water's edge.

A rare water vole makes an appearance.



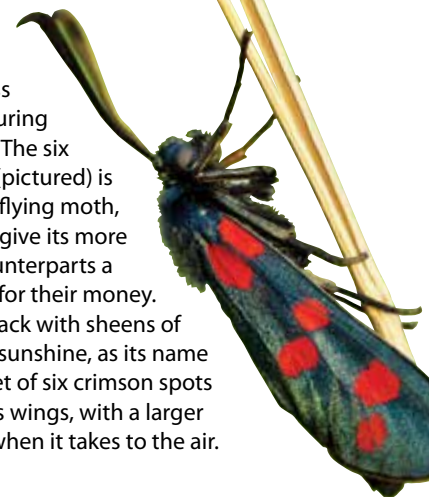
## VOLE IN THE WALL?

The Peak District's canal and river networks still play host to the rare water vole in some areas – better known as 'Ratty' from Wind in the Willows. With much smaller, almost indistinct ears, a furry tail and 'submarine'-like swimming style, a classic tell-tale sign is the audible 'plop' as they drop into the water from banksides.

## SPOT THE DIFFERENCE

It's not just butterflies that can dress to impress during the summer. The six spot burnet (pictured) is in fact a day-flying moth, but ready to give its more colourful counterparts a sartorial run for their money.

A deep black with sheens of green in the sunshine, as its name suggests a set of six crimson spots also adorn its wings, with a larger flash of red when it takes to the air.



## PURPLE PATCH

An historical favourite amongst gardeners even before Elizabethan times, and one of the 'original' geraniums, meadow cranesbill is a plant that also finds a home amongst the Peak District's former railway line routes.

With no relation to the flowers, their name comes from the late-season seed stems, which harden and bend to resemble the 'beak' that eventually led to their name of 'crane's bill'.

Like many of our wildflowers, they remain a vital food source for pollinating insects such as bees and butterflies.

The common blue butterfly.



## THEY CALL IT THE BLUES

The rough and tumble of former railway lines makes an ideal home for wildflowers, no more so than at Millers Dale, where the diminutive common blue butterfly is well worth looking out for. Scarcely bigger than a two pence piece, the flash of sky blue is instantly recognisable once they take to the air, while at rest, delicate black and orange spots adorn the edges of their wings.

## EGGS AND BACON?

Surely few wildflowers have as many names as bird's foot trefoil (pictured); or indeed 'butter and eggs', 'hen and chicken' or the slightly less appetising 'granny's toenails'! In bloom from spring right through to September, their vibrant yellow slipper-like flowers add a splash of fiery orange to grassy meadows, with their creeping style typical of members of the pea family. Not only stunning to look at they're also an important nectar source for bees, butterflies and moths.

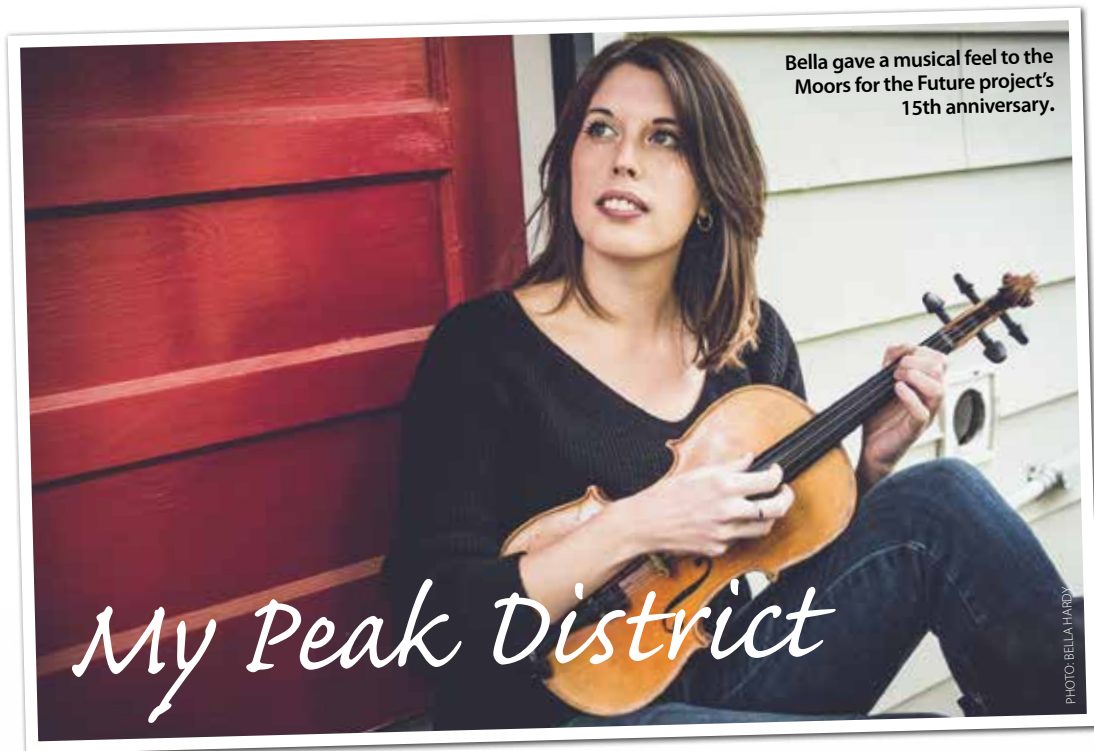


Meadow cranesbills are a vital food source for pollinating insects.



## Top wildlife tips

- Wildflowers are a 'fly through' restaurant for our declining bees and butterflies, so please leave them where you find them.
- Butterflies are less active when it's cooler weather, so this can be just as good a time to spot them, as they may be resting up instead of frantically feeding!
- Keeping your four-legged friends under close control or ideally on a lead from March-August, can reduce disturbance to birds or other creatures who make a home on the ground.



Bella gave a musical feel to the Moors for the Future project's 15th anniversary.

# My Peak District

PHOTO: BELLA HARDY

## Bella Hardy

The self-confessed 'gritstone girl' Edale-based fiddle singer and composer talks to **Alison Riley**.

*Living all her life in the shadow of Mam Tor, Lose Hill and Kinder Scout has been instrumental to Bella Hardy's musical interpretation of landscape and legends, people and places of the Peak District National Park.*

It crops up all the time in my song writing. It might be the mention of a hill or a place name, but the Peak District is there in the music itself, in the feeling of the music – an atmosphere

of moodiness that creeps in that makes me think of peat bogs and the tops of moors.

Inspiration is everywhere. It jumps out and hits me all the time! I'm a habitual notetaker so I end up with pages and pages and books of notes. I find sources of local history in old ballad books and in folk stories. I talk to people and find out about stories from their area.

I like traditional music and often write new folk songs with the traditional feel to them. I've always enjoyed new and old

music, songs and stories, so I smush them all together.

It's as important as water is to fish; being from the Dark Peak is part of who I am and it creeps into everything.

The sense of place is all over my work, even when it's not obvious, whether it's lines in lyrics: 'the skyline in my heart' which is obviously Edale, or it's in the mood of the music, or the way I play my fiddle, or where I was when I wrote something.

For *The Dark Peak and the White* album,



Trig Point on Mam Tor.



*Bella Hardy*  
**Raised:** Edale.  
**Dark Peak or White Peak?** Dark Peak – I’m a gritstone girl.  
**Favourite place:** Broadlee Bank, Edale. It features on *In the Shadow of Mountains*.  
**Best thing to do:** Be outside, looking and listening, especially at twilight.  
**Awards:** BBC Radio 2 Folk Singer of the Year 2014, Best Original Song 2012 for *The Herring Girl*.  
**Albums:** *Night Visiting* (2007); *In the Shadow of Mountains* (2009); *Songs Lost & Stolen* (2011); *The Dark Peak and the White* (2012); *Bright Morning Star* (2012); *Battleplan* (2013); *With the Dawn* (2015); *Hey Sammy* (2017); *Eternal Spring* (2017).

“ I’ll go on field trips with my fiddle to make sure the atmosphere of the place is in the music ”

I spent a lot of time in the locations I was writing about. For the song *The Drunken Butcher of Tideswell* I followed his route down to the pub in Chapel and had my fiddle with me. Fin Cop is on that album and hearing it makes me think of its position near Monsal Head and that valley – it’s in the fiddle plucks and the harmonium. For all these songs I went on field trips with my fiddle to make sure the atmosphere of the place was in the music, I wasn’t listening to birdsong and putting that in, I was trying to feel the place and bring that feeling into the music.

Whenever I’m on top of Kinder or Mam Tor looking at this great expanse of nature it really does make me feel that none of my own problems really matter.

We can do a lot of damage to the environment but nature wins in the end. You feel that here in Edale. Locally on our

moorlands it’s great to see the effects that the Moors for the Future Partnership is having in undoing a lot of damage that was inadvertently caused by industrial pollution in the 19th and 20th centuries.

There’s something about being here and being connected to the ground which feels good and makes you want to protect it from any harm that could be done to it in the future.

• *Read the full interview at [peakdistrict.gov.uk/BellaHardy](http://peakdistrict.gov.uk/BellaHardy)*

A grant from the National Park’s Sustainable Development Fund helped Bella produce *The Dark Peak and the White*.



## Enjoy more Peak District music

Live music in pubs, village halls, at festivals and even on trains can be heard throughout the Peak District:

### SHEFFIELD TO EDALE FOLK TRAIN

Fourth Tuesday of each month. Departs Sheffield platform 7 (check departure board) 19.14hr and returns from Edale 21.27hr. Music played on the train and in The Ramblers Inn, Edale. Cost: your rail ticket. Check times before travelling. [folktrain.org.uk](http://folktrain.org.uk)

### MANCHESTER TO HATHERSAGE FOLK TRAIN

Second Saturday of the month. Departs Manchester Piccadilly 11.49hr and returns from Hathersage 14.32hr. Music played on the train and at the Little John Hotel, Hathersage. Cost: your rail ticket. Check times before travelling. [hvhptp.org.uk](http://hvhptp.org.uk)

### BUXTON OPERA HOUSE & PAVILION ARTS CENTRE

Offering year round entertainment in a beautiful setting. [buxtonoperahouse.org.uk](http://buxtonoperahouse.org.uk)

### BUXTON INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL 6-22 JULY, 2018

Opera. Music. Books. [buxtonfestival.co.uk](http://buxtonfestival.co.uk)

### Y NOT FESTIVAL 26-29 JULY, 2018

A weekend of good music and good food set in the middle of the Peak District. Performances from The Libertines, Catfish and the Bottlemen, Jamiroquai, Manic Street Preachers, Kaiser Chiefs, The Wombats and more. [ynotfestival.com](http://ynotfestival.com)

## BELLA’S ADVICE FOR ENJOYING THE PEAK DISTRICT NATIONAL PARK

“Get muddy! Have fun! Don’t be afraid to get covered in mud, bring a change of clothes. Walk to the tops of hills, you have to get there to appreciate it!”

### Bella’s tips for music makers & songwriters:

To write music or lyrics about the Peak District you’ve got to experience it. Stand in a field or on top of a hill, go out at night when you can only hear what’s in front of you rather than see. Listen to other people’s music and let that inspire you. Talk to people about local history and tales. And let other people hear your music. Perform at open mics and sessions.

# Caring for our National Park...



## - ONE BREW AT A TIME

The worldwide issues surrounding the environmental impact of plastics and other litter have never been far from the headlines in recent months, and now the Peak District National Park is playing its own part, with a campaign first for National Parks in the UK.

### What's the issue?

As national and global retailers commit to changing their attitudes towards the production of single-use plastics, the impact of disposable hot drinks cups remains one of the biggest challenges. Estimates suggest some 2.5 billion are used each year in the UK, with less than 1% recycled and half a million a day ending up as litter.

In the Peak District National Park, the average café or tea room may go through thousands of these cups – meaning millions of cups are used across the National Park each year.

Whilst many local businesses are now turning to plastic-free or compostable as a welcome alternative, the number of single-use cups in circulation remains significant.

### #MyPeakCup

One of the easiest solutions to reducing the number of disposable cups used is to swap to a reusable alternative. That's why we're the first UK National Park to launch our own reusable cup, produced to some of the highest eco credentials from chemical free, organic and sustainable bamboo and fully recyclable.



Alongside our new reusable cup, we're also working with local businesses in the #MyPeakCup campaign – to offer discounts to those

who chose to use reusable. Across the National Park, we hope to reduce the number of disposable cups used by thousands every year.

### HOW TO GET INVOLVED

You can buy a Peak District National Park reusable drinks cup from our visitor centres at Castleton, Edale, Bakewell and Upper Derwent Valley (Fairholmes), and at our Cycle Hire locations at Ashbourne, Upper Derwent and Parsley Hay.

A full list of those businesses taking part in the scheme is available at [peakdistrict.gov.uk/mypeakcup](http://peakdistrict.gov.uk/mypeakcup)

Join the conversation on social media at @PeakDistrict and #MyPeakCup

Read a review of our #MyPeakCup at [poppygoeswild.com](http://poppygoeswild.com)





PHOTO: TOM MARSHALL

Make the most of long, warm summer days by exploring our glorious Peak District National Park. There's a lot going on for all the family to enjoy.

## Family fun

Let your little ones go wild, with our regular activities!

### NATURE TOTS

Every Friday, term time only

10.30am to 12:30pm

This popular outdoor group for toddlers and pre-schoolers meets at Macclesfield Forest. Ideal for children aged from two to four, our Fun-in-the-Forest events include hunting for minibeasts, den-building, painting with mud – and much more!

Bring a packed lunch to eat during the session.

### FAMILY PLAY WILD

Thursdays during School Holidays only

10.30am to 1pm

Youngsters aged five and over can enjoy the great outdoors in our Family Play Wild sessions. Prepare to get grubby – bring spare clothes and a picnic to enjoy in the woodlands.

• Macclesfield Forest Ranger Station, SK11 0NE. £5 per child (£3 for siblings).



### CASTLETON VISITOR CENTRE

Throughout the summer

Our flagship visitor centre in the Hope Valley will be hosting plenty of family events.

During National Parks Week – 23rd to 29th July – look out for hands-on activities discovering the Peak District National Park's landscape and geology, wildlife and habitats, cultural heritage, communities and traditions – plus special Bogtastic events.

There'll also be lots happening on Wednesdays and weekends throughout August. Visit our website [peakdistrict.gov.uk](http://peakdistrict.gov.uk)

for more details.

• Castleton Visitor Centre, DE45 1DS.

## Guided walks

### WALK THE UPPER DOVE'S MOUNTAINS

Saturday 14th July

10am to 5.30pm

Explore the Upper Dove's two spectacular 'mountains' – Chrome Hill and Parkhouse Hill – to enjoy some of the best views in the Peak District National Park.

• Meet at Parsley Hay Cycle Hire Centre car park, SK17 ODG. Cost £6 per adult.

### SUMMER SAUNTER

Sunday 15th July

10.30am to 2.30pm

A relaxing, 5-mile riverside amble, exploring old quarry sites to discover the industrial history of the landscape – and identifying glorious summer flowers.

• Meet at Millers Dale car park, SK17 8SN. Cost £4 per adult.

Continued on page 18 ►



# PEAK DISTRICT NATIONAL PARK

- ☕ Café
- 🏕️ Camping
- 🚗 Car park
- 🚲 Cycle hire
- 🔧 Cycle hire & repair
- 🛍️ Gift shop
- 🌳 Picnic area
- 📍 Postcode
- 🍽️ Restaurant
- ☎️ Telephone
- 🚻 Toilets
- 📍 Visitor centre

## EDALE VISITOR CENTRE/FIELDHEAD CAMPSITE

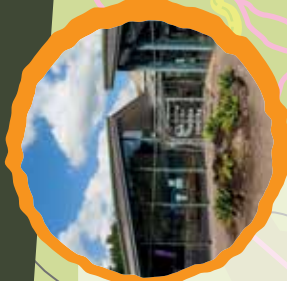


Gateway to the Pennine Way, Jacob's Ladder and Kinder Scout, easily reached by train from Sheffield and Manchester. Home to the Moors for the Future Partnership.

📍 S33 7ZA

📍 S33 7ZN

☎️ 01433 670207



## MANCHESTER

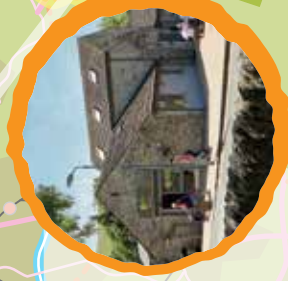
## CASTLETON VISITOR CENTRE



In the shadow of the Great Ridge, Mam Tor and just a short distance from Winnats Pass, this recently refurbished centre includes a range of interactive displays about the National Park, local history information and an attractive shop. Neighbouring the popular Blueberry Café.

📍 DE45 1DS

☎️ 01629 816572



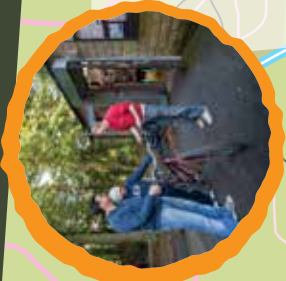
## FAIRHOLMES VISITOR CENTRE & CYCLE HIRE (UPPER DERWENT VALLEY)



The perfect place to begin your adventure in the Upper Derwent Valley – stand in awe of the Derwent Dam, follow the footsteps of 'Tin Town' reservoir workers or marvel at the iconic Dambusters story, all just a short walk away. Cycle options (including hire) include family-friendly surfaced tracks, or more traditional MTB routes. Circular trail of up to 10 miles around the reservoir.

📍 S33 0AG

☎️ 01433 650953



## SHEFFIELD





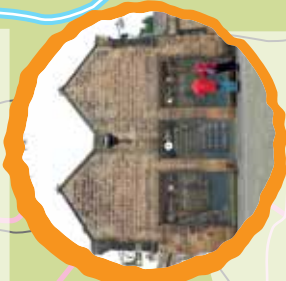


### NORTH LEES CAMPSITE



Nestled amongst natural woodland with neighbouring streams, our North Lees Campsite is ideal for exploring the imposing Stange Edge, or nearby footpaths and onto the village of Hathersage. The site also features an all-access camping pod, amongst the eight pods available at the site. Campervans by prior arrangement only.

**S32 1BR**  
**01433 650838**



### BAKEWELL VISITOR CENTRE



In the heart of this bustling market town, our Bakewell Visitor Centre hosts a regularly changing gallery of local photography, shop including locally produced crafts and National Park souvenirs, and information on all aspects of the Peak District National Park.

**DE45 1DS**  
**01629 813227**



### NATIONAL PARK CYCLE HIRE - PARSLEY HAY



With stunning elevated views across the White Peak, Parsley Hay is ideally placed for the High Peak and Tissington Trails. The centre also specialises in fully accessible cycle hire, with a wide range of specialist cycles and other equipment - please contact the centre to see how we can help you get the most from the local routes.

**SK17 0DG**  
**01298 84493**



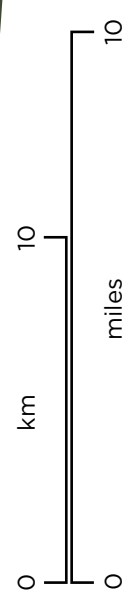
### NATIONAL PARK CYCLE HIRE - ASHBOURNE



At the southern tip of the National Park, our Ashbourne Cycle Hire Centre is on the popular Tissington Trail, running into the heart of the White Peak.

**DE6 2AA**  
**01335 343156**

- National Park boundary
- Pennine Bridleway
- Railway and station
- A-road
- Trail
- Reservoir/river/canal
- Pennine Way
- Information centre
- YHA hostel
- Motorway



## EVENTS

► *Continued from page 15*

### WALLABIES AND GREEN KNIGHTS

**Saturday 28th July**

**10.30am to 4.30pm**

Explore the stunning Roaches landscape – rich with history and intriguing legends – in this moderately strenuous 8.5-mile walk.

- Meet at The Roaches Tea Room, ST13 8TY. Cost £6 per adult.

### EARTH EXPLORERS!

**Tuesday 31st July and Wednesday**

**22nd August**

**10.30am to 3.30pm**

Discover beautiful Bradford Dale and the surrounding countryside on this easy 3-mile walk, ideal for children aged from five to 11. Spot dippers and wagtails, fish and flowers – maybe even a kingfisher if you are very lucky!

- Meet at Middleton by Youlgrave village centre, DE45 1LS. Cost £6 (adults).

### CROWDEN HORSESHOE

**Sunday 12th August**

**10.30am to 4.30pm**

Discover old and new Pennine Way routes on this 11-mile walk, which also takes in Chew Reservoir – the second-highest reservoir in England – and the 541m trig point on Featherbed Moss.

- Meet at Crowden Car Park, SK13 1HZ. Cost £6 per adult.

### HEATHER HEAVEN

**Sunday 12th August**

**10.30am to 4.30pm**

Experience the Salt Cellar in its late summer splendour, taking in the heady fragrance of carpets of heather before heading down into the rarely visited and dramatic Abbey Clough in this 10-mile walk.

- Meet at Fairholmes Visitor Centre, S33 0AQ. Cost £6 per adult.

### LONGSTONE MOOR – HISTORY AND HEATHER

**Saturday 25th August**

**11am to 4pm**

Enjoy the heather in full bloom, an abundance of wildflowers and some extraordinary views across Longstone Moor in this 6-mile walk. Discover the moor's lead mining history and climb to the highest point where a stone cairn sits upon a Bronze Age bowl barrow.

- Meet near Great Longstone school, DE45 1TZ. Cost £6 per adult.

### DISCOVER THE DALES

**Wednesday 29th August**

**10.30am to 4pm**

Investigate the wonders of Biggin Dale, Wolfscote Dale and Beresford Dale on this 5-mile adventure. With maps, wildlife, lead mines, beautiful riverside walking and activities for children aged eight-plus – it's a great family day out.

- Meet in Hartington Village Centre by the duck pond, SK17 0AL. Cost £6 (adults).

### DERWENT DISCOVERY

**Sunday 9th September**

**10.30am to 4.30pm**

This strenuous 10-mile walk takes you from historic railway tunnels, through a wooded valley onto the high moors to find the source of the Derwent.

- Meet at the car park below the A628 at Woodhead tunnels, SK13 1JE. Cost £8 per adult.

### LANTERN PIKE VIA KINDER RESERVOIR

**Sunday 23rd September**

**10.30am to 4.30pm**

A 9-mile walk over Chunal Moor to the site of the Liberator aircraft wreck and on to Mill Hill and views over to Kinder Scout. Then walk in the opposite direction to the Mass Trespassers of 1932, to Little Hayfield and climb to Lantern Pike.

- Meet at Chunal Layby on the A624, SK13 6JY. Cost £6 per adult.

### FUNGI FORAY AT FAIRHOLMES

**Saturday 29th September**

**11am to 4pm**

A short, 2-mile stroll with expert Kevin Gilfedder, looking in detail at the fascinating fungi of the Upper Derwent woodlands.

- Meet at Fairholmes Visitor Centre, S33 0AQ. Cost £6 per adult.

### AN EVENING IN THE FOREST

**Saturday 13th October**

**5.30pm to 8pm**

Explore Macclesfield Forest, listening for the night time wildlife and, hopefully, seeing the secretive Red Deer.

- Meet at Trentabank (Macclesfield Forest) Ranger Centre, SK11 0NE. Cost £4 per adult.

## National Parks Week 23rd-29th July



For this year's National Parks Week, we're celebrating the wide range of accessible opportunities in the Peak District. Suitable for wheelchairs, buggies or with local hire available (with discounts).

### ACCESS OPEN DAYS

**Monday 16th July, 10am to 3pm**

Explore accessible trails at Parsley Hay Cycle Hire (SK17 0DG) and from 2 to 4pm our all-access camping pod at North Lees Campsite (S32 1DY). Mobiloo at Parsley Hay.

### ROLL AND STROLL

**Monday 23rd July, 11am to 1pm**

Wheelchair-friendly, 1.5 hour walks from Parsley Hay Cycle Hire (SK17 0DG).

### EXPLORE THE BROKEN ROAD

**Tuesday 24th July, 1.30 to 3.30pm**

Exploring landscape and geology of the Hope Valley. Starting at the turning circle near Treak Cliff Cavern. Cost £4 per adult.

### DISCOVER DERWENT DAM

**Thursday 26th July,**

**10.30am to 12.30pm**

Access for all, at this iconic location. Discounted mobility scooter hire. (S33 0AQ). Cost £4 per adult.

### WHEELYBOAT TRIPS

**Thursday 26th July, 2pm to 4.30pm**

Taster trips on the accessible 'Wheelyboat'. Ladybower Fisheries, (S33 0AZ). Book on 01433 659712.

### FAMILY DISCOVERY WALK

**Saturday 28th July, 12noon to 3pm**

Easy stroll with family activities, Tissington Trail to Ruby Wood. Hartington signal box (SK17 0AZ). Cost £4 per adult.

- See centrefold map for all directions

## Find out more

For full details of walks and events – and to book – please visit [peakdistrict.gov.uk/events](http://peakdistrict.gov.uk/events)

# Shining a light to...

# Mend our MOUNTAINS

TV presenter Julia Bradbury and Made In Chelsea's Sam Thompson led the Great Ridge Light Night procession, held in May.

PHOTO: ALI CLUSICK

How you can help us to protect our most precious landscapes.

A trail of twinkling lights illuminates the magnificent Great Ridge as 600 walkers wearing headtorches stride out into the night.

The Great Ridge Light Night procession, held in May and led by TV presenter Julia Bradbury and Made In Chelsea's Sam Thompson, created a spectacular show of support for our Mend Our Mountains campaign.

Separating the Vale of Edale from the Hope Valley, the Great Ridge is one of the projects featured in Mend Our Mountains: Make One Million, run by the British Mountaineering Council (BMC) and supported by the UK's National Parks.

It aims to raise £1million to repair iconic paths across the UK's 15 National Parks by encouraging a sense of pride and responsibility for looking after places that play an important role in our lives. In the Peak District National Park, we aim to raise £144,000 for path repairs to the Great Ridge and £70,000 for Cut Gate bridleway – aka the 'Bog of Doom', a popular multi-user route on the Derwent Moors.

The Light Night was organised as part of National Camping and Caravanning Week. Donations were collected on the night and further funds will be raised from the sale of

official images taken during the event. To order your copy, head to the BMC's online shop [shop.thebmc.co.uk](http://shop.thebmc.co.uk)

The Peak District National Park's fundraising development manager Sarah Slowther said: "Lighting up the Great Ridge showed an amazing collective determination to celebrate the landscapes we care about, and raise awareness of the tough job to keep them in good condition.

"The atmosphere was incredible and we'd like to say a huge thank you to the walkers, stewards and marshals who took part in the event – and also to the landowners and people of Castleton for being so accommodating."

Both Peak District projects are capturing the imagination and support of user groups. Recently, the South Yorkshire and North East Derbyshire Area Ramblers generously donated £10,000 towards the Great Ridge campaign, while mountain bike advocacy groups Ride Sheffield and Peak District MTB, along with @KeeperofthePeak are actively supporting the Cut Gate project.

Peak District National Park staff have also got behind the campaign. We've had a bake off, and a team running in the Dambuster 10-mile race. Brave members of staff will also be cycling 340km of the Peak District National Park boundary in the autumn.



## Scone-age Edge anyone?

You don't have to don your running shoes or venture to great heights to support the Peak District National Park. A friendly bake sale, coffee mornings and sponsored events such as walks, swims and bike rides are all fun ways to show you care.

You can also volunteer, put up a poster, have a donation tin or donate a prize for our crowdfunding – email [donations@peakdistrict.gov.uk](mailto:donations@peakdistrict.gov.uk) for more details.

If everyone who enjoyed the Great Ridge over the summer gave us just £1 we'd smash our target. To donate online visit [mendmountains.thebmc.co.uk/donations/great-ridge/](http://mendmountains.thebmc.co.uk/donations/great-ridge/)

Please also share your Mend Our Mountains stories on social media via **#MendOurMountains #GreatRidge #BogOfDoom**

Why not keep up to date with our projects and campaigns to protect and care for the Peak District National Park by signing up to our quarterly e-newsletter, ourPeak? Just follow the link [peakdistrict.gov.uk/donate](http://peakdistrict.gov.uk/donate)



# From Stanage to the STAGE

**Fiona Stubbs** meets the Peak District National Park walking group that inspired one of this year's most talked-about stage productions.

**T**hree black ramblers stride out in some of the Peak District's harshest conditions, losing their way as the stories of their lives unfold...

*Black Men Walking* is one of the UK's theatre hits of the year, attracting rave reviews throughout a recent 14-week tour, while its themes of race and identity have been scrutinised by national media.

Its success has also thrust into the spotlight the real-life, Sheffield-based walking group that inspired the production.

The 100 Black Men Walking for Health group was launched in 2004 by journalist and academic Maxwell A. Ayamba and his friends, teacher Mark Hutchinson and college vice-principal Donald McLean.

"The walking group wasn't set up to send out a political message or to be a campaign," says Maxwell. "The ethos was simply to get middle aged black men walking. As youngsters, we're fairly active but in middle age we tend to become sedentary and all the stresses of life begin to take their toll.

“Walking helps to de-stress... whatever your background, health comes first”

"Black people genetically are tropical beings. Living in a temperate climate like the UK, our intake of Vitamin D from sunlight is very low, which can trigger all kinds of illnesses. Our genotype is also



Maxwell Ayamba and a group of walkers ready to set off on a hike.

susceptible to diabetes, high blood pressure and stroke, prostate cancer and other health issues.

"Walking is beneficial for both physical and mental health. When you walk, you talk... you share a lot. It helps you to de-stress. Without your health, you have nothing. Whatever your background, health comes first."

Maxwell was born in Ghana and has lived in Sheffield for 22 years. He studied journalism before gaining a Masters degree in Environmental Management and



Maxwell Ayamba and walking group colleague Jenson Grant at Mam Tor.

Conservation for Leisure and Recreation at Sheffield Hallam University, where he has worked as an associate lecturer/research associate and is now an environmental consultant.

He was previously a member of a Peak District National Park Authority Equality & Diversity Comprehensive Committee and

## Black Men Walking

### Donald McLean

"For me, the walking group has been a fantastic source of companionship amidst the highs and lows of life. At first, we were like brothers. Now it's like a group of brothers and sisters."

"I was already reasonably fit, but the group has helped me to maintain an interest in staying fit. Walking is beneficial for both physical and mental well-being. Exploring the countryside triggers a slow release of feel-good endorphins – and their effects last well beyond the end of the walk."



### Noida Darien-Campbell

"I was the first woman to join the group – my husband suggested I went along after he'd been on some of the walks and really enjoyed them. It's lovely to walk and chat, to learn about each other's work and different backgrounds."

"I've always loved the countryside and nature. I'm an artist and art therapist and the walks not only give me inspiration for my work but also clear my mind. They give me space to think and be creative."



### Mark Hutchinson

"In my parents' generation, the people you bonded with were from your family or neighbourhood – but it's different in the UK."

"The walks are an opportunity for people of colour to come together, talk and share in a safe space. It's interesting how walking helps people of different generations to talk to each other in a way they don't do generally."



*Enjoying the bluebells!*

Young walkers exploring the countryside.

Enjoying a trip to Whirlow Hall Farm organised by SEM.

was involved in setting up Mosaic, which encourages black and minority ethnic communities to explore and enjoy the countryside.

A former Ramblers UK board member, Maxwell is now projects co-ordinator of the charity Sheffield Environmental Movement (SEM), where he organises outdoor activities for people from Black, Asian, Minority Ethnic and Refugee (BAMER) communities.

"There's so much written in academia and policy documents about the lack of participation in the environment by minority groups," he says. "But policy alone doesn't bring about the desired change. To do that we need people with passion and commitment who are willing to change perceptions."

"Walking has to be promoted as an attractive hobby, a positive experience. As the message gets around, more people will become enthused and motivated. That's where the sea of change will begin."

Maxwell considers it especially important to encourage young people to experience the countryside. "When you give people the opportunity to have positive experiences, they are likely to form a habit to continue," he explains. "They begin to appreciate the eco-history of the countryside, its flora and fauna – and to develop a sense of belonging to the place. Then issues like inclusion, diversity and equality can begin to be addressed in a more systematic way."

He is keen, however, not to compartmentalise the involvement of ethnic groups in countryside matters. "I don't see colour, I see people," insists Maxwell. "As human beings we are part of nature – we are biocentric. If we see people as people it doesn't matter about race or class – and we'll have a better environment for everyone."

"I haven't experienced racism in the countryside. People are friendlier there – they say 'hello' when they pass. If you say hello to strangers in the city, people think you are weird! Nature is a platform to promote the one-ness of humanity."

**“ If we see people as people... we'll have a better environment for everyone ”**

Nevertheless, he concedes there are barriers for town and city-dwellers on low incomes to access the countryside. "The cost of outdoor clothing and pressures on public transport make it difficult for some," he says. "And, ideally, people should be able to walk at all times, in all weathers."

The Black Men Walking for Health group – which now also includes women and young people – heads out to the Peak District on the first Saturday of each month. As a result of the stage play – produced by Sheffield's Eclipse theatre company and written by Yorkshire-based rapper Testament – its numbers have recently been swelled by accompanying actors, theatre teams and media people.

"The play has attracted so much publicity nationwide, but we just hope it will serve as a vehicle to encourage more people to go walking into green spaces and the wider countryside," says Maxwell. "This will help to promote the health and wellbeing of people, regardless of race or background. The countryside is for all of us."

• ALL PICTURES COURTESY OF SEM.



Mark P, Mark H, Andy and Danny from the Countryside Maintenance Projects Team (CMPT) on a break during resurfacing of a popular trail near Monsal Head.

# From footpaths to fingerposts

We meet the new faces and old hands behind the Peak District National Park's Countryside Maintenance and Projects Team, helping to make your visit to the National Park safe and enjoyable.

It doesn't matter what the weather is in the Peak District National Park, there's always a job to be done. Whether it's replacing the all-important signposts along our miles of trails, or the careful craft of repairing the drystone walls that are synonymous with the Peak District, Neil Hanshaw and his team have got all the skills (and the cups of tea and sandwiches) to make it happen.

Working in partnership with our National Park rangers and dedicated volunteers, the Countryside Maintenance and Projects Team (CMPT) look after those aspects of the National Park that visitors experience the most (but often easily overlook), from stepping over stiles or heading through access gates, to clearing away litter at our car parks, mowing and controlling overgrown vegetation and looking after our loos.

With 28 years as a National Park ranger, former site joiner and builder Neil is now heading up the team of six, with new faces Danny and Mark, who joined this year. "No two days are the same when you're looking after a National Park, but we're really lucky with the breadth of expertise

across the team, which allows us to turn our hand to almost anything," says Neil.

Joining Neil in the team are Martin, Steven, Mark 'P' and Andy – never without his trademark hat – and new additions Mark 'H', and Danny. Amongst them is a range of skills and experience perfectly suited to looking after the National Park, from joinery and wood crafting to mechanical engineering, farming, and bushcraft.

A week for the team can be as varied as it is important, kicking off with checks of our vehicle fleet, picking up repairs to our visitor centres and other facilities, or jobs that take the team into the heart of the National Park like trail repairs or tree maintenance that enable our most popular routes to welcome thousands of visitors.

Neil is keen to break down some of the perceptions of where funds from the National Park car parks are used, when natural cynicism can often play a role. "When you spend the cost of a coffee or ice cream to park at one of our sites, that money goes straight back into things that you probably don't see, like a new

waymarker appearing, better surfacing on the trails, or the collection of litter that keeps the place looking tidy. There's an irony that it's often what you don't see – like the team clearing away illegal fly-tipping on a freezing winter's morning, or keeping the plumbing working in our loos that helps a visitor's experience to run smoothly."

As well as working on the National Park's own properties and Rights of Way, Neil is keen to build on our work with other organisations such as the National Trust, Parish Councils and Wildlife Trusts to use the team's skills to best effect and bring in the vital funds needed to support the National Park. So next time you're stepping over a stile, or pondering a path underneath a waymarker, take a moment to think of the helping hands that got it there.

If you have a project where you think the team can help please contact Visitor Experience Development Manager Chris Bray on:  
[chris.bray@peakdistrict.gov.uk](mailto:chris.bray@peakdistrict.gov.uk)

# Peewits a-plenty

One of the Flash resident lapwings.



PHOTO: TIM MELLING

Peak District farmers with a passion for wildlife and cultural heritage are joining together for bigger and better conservation success on a landscape scale.

There's unsurprisingly a stiff breeze across the fields next to Flash – often claimed as Britain's highest village – in this Staffordshire corner of Peak District National Park, but that isn't stopping the resident lapwings showing off their aerial prowess on a May morning.

Earlier in spring, these displays would have been for courtship and territory. Today, with a young feathered family to care for in the grasslands below, their distinctive electronic-sounding calls are alerting a gathering of friendly farmers to the peewits' presence.

Developed as part of the South West Peak Landscape Partnership by the Peak District National Park and Staffordshire Wildlife Trust, the South West Peak Farmers' Conservation Group brings together like-minded farmers. Among them is chair of the group, John Stone, who farms 155 hectares (383 acres) at Onecote Grange. "I feel very passionate about conservation farming because locally and nationally we're losing habitat at an alarming rate. But there are people very interested in looking after what's on their land and that's where our new group comes in," says John.

"Helping wildlife and encouraging others to do the same gives us a goal – together we can achieve so much more.

"It's giving us the opportunity to meet and talk with a common purpose. It can be things like what date we're putting cattle on the HLS restricted fields, how many and for how long, but sharing this detailed knowledge and practical experience can make a big difference, it's an exciting time."

At Onecote Grange, John has 20

hectares (49 acres) in Higher Level Stewardship for its high wildflower interest: "We have 83 different species, the rarer ones being trailing St John's wort, heath orchid, common spotted orchid and southern marsh orchid, and the wild primroses were a sight to see this year."

John is equally proud of the birdlife that thrives thanks to his wildlife-friendly farming methods: "There's hobby, merlin, redstart, treecreeper, all three types of woodpecker, dippers, kingfishers and a heronry – watching them in our hidden valley is like looking in on a lost world.

"Meadow pipits and skylark breed well with us. They're able to nest in our spring-

*“Helping wildlife and encouraging others to do the same gives us a goal – together we can achieve so much more”*

sown corn which provides ideal nesting material. We don't cut until the end of July so the birds have time to fledge. Later on the stubble provides a winter home for seed-eating birds which feed on the unsprayed stubble.

"I have 35 years experience of farming the South West Peak. You build up a lot of knowledge about weather conditions, soil, what affects your animals and wildlife, and



The South West Peak Farmers' Conservation Group. PHOTO: TOM MARSHALL

this is what we can bring to the Farmers' Conservation Group."

Jeff Sim, land management team coordinator at Staffordshire Wildlife Trust runs the group with National Park farm advisor Rob Townsend. Rob adds: "Crucially this is a two-way street of knowledge exchange. We help farmers with advice for their Countryside Stewardship agreements and general conservation advice, but we are also learning from their successes in managing the land sympathetically.

"There's a growing sense of community because farmers can see they are not working in isolation, their efforts are benefiting the wider countryside, their work is appreciated and together we can show it brings benefits for a healthy environment."

The South West Peak Farmers' Conservation Group's training programme includes visiting the Yorkshire Dales National Park to meet farmers participating in a 'results-based' pilot project for wader habitat and traditional meadows; drystone walling; best practice for the historic environment; talks on managing traditional hay meadows, moorland management, and renewable energy and carbon management.

# Supporting the National Park every time you shop

Whether you're sitting down for a cuppa, heading to the Peak District on two wheels or creating a home for a queen (bee), then we've got it all covered this summer. Every purchase from our online or visitor centre shops helps to look after the Peak District National Park.



## FOR THE RIDE

Our exclusive 2018 Peak District National Park cycle jersey is now available to buy in a range of dedicated men's and women's sizes, developed in partnership with leading UK performance racewear designers, Milltag. Showcasing the National Park's iconic landscape features and revered hill climbs, grab yours at one of our visitor or cycle hire centres.

## Get the buzzzz!

Wing it to our visitor centres to get your hands on the new 'Beekeeper' range of homewares now available, celebrating these furry garden visitors, that also help to keep the National Park's wildflowers in bloom.



### Where to shop

You'll find these items and more, including maps, books, clothing, locally-made products and souvenirs, on sale in Peak District National Park visitor centres at Bakewell, Castleton, Derwent and Edale. Or shop online at [peakdistrict.gov.uk/shop](http://peakdistrict.gov.uk/shop)  
Your purchases help us look after the Peak District National Park for everyone to enjoy.

Millie  
the sheep



 @PeakMillie  
#MillieTheSheep

Highly cuddle-able at any time of year, we love to see where Millie makes it on her adventures with you around the UK's original National Park! More than 400,000 real-life Millies live here too, so look out for them.



## Take the lead

Summertime means a very busy period for wildlife and livestock in the Peak District, and keeping your dog under close control, or ideally on a lead, is the best way to ensure a safe and enjoyable day out for you and your four-legged friend. When the moors turn vibrant purples and greens, then capture the look with some of our Peak District tartan range – including leather leads and collars.

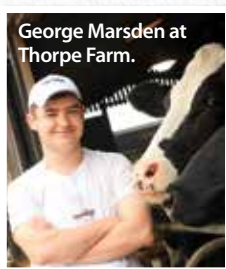


## It's in the bag

From bilberry bumble bees to barn owls, our special qualities range celebrates all creatures great and small from across the Peak District, including a wide range of stationery, mugs, aprons and tea towels.



# Taste of *summer*



**T**his stylish Mediterranean dessert, featuring some of the season's finest berries, has been created for ParkLife by Jane Marsden, of Hope Valley Ice Cream, based at Thorpe Farm, Hathersage.

The addition of meringue pieces adds texture to this Eton Mess-inspired treat. Jane says: "The advantages of this semifreddo are that you don't need an ice cream maker and you can use a combination of summer fruits, depending on your tastes or what is in season. It can also be made a few days before you need it – perfect for summer entertaining."

@HopeValleyDairy



## Summery Eton Mess Semifreddo

### Ingredients

- 300g fresh sweet fruits (strawberries, raspberries, blackcurrants, blackberries, blueberries)
- 300ml whipping cream
- 3 large free range eggs
- 50g caster sugar
- Grated zest of 1 lemon
- 50g meringue or about 4 meringue nests, broken up

*Optional:* 5tbsp orange liqueur or limoncello

### Fruit Sauce:

- 300g fresh sweet fruits
- 3tbsp icing sugar or to taste
- 3tsp lemon juice
- 3tsp orange liqueur or limoncello if used

- A selection of fresh fruits to serve with the semifreddo

### Method

1. Take a 1.5 litre freezer-proof dish or line a 1-litre loaf tin by oiling and lining with cling film.
2. Prepare the fruit by removing the stalks and pureeing in a food processor to a coarse puree.
3. Separate the eggs into two bowls.
4. Whisk the egg whites to form soft peaks.
5. In another bowl, whisk the cream to form soft peaks.
6. Whisk the egg yolks and caster sugar to a creamy mixture.
7. Gently fold the whisked cream into the egg yolk mixture.
8. Fold in the fruit puree and, if used, the liqueur.
9. Fold in the whisked egg whites and meringue pieces.
10. Pour the mixture into the prepared serving dish.



*Semifreddo is Italian for 'half cold' and is a type of semi-frozen dessert, often with the texture of frozen mousse.*

11. Cover with cling film and freeze overnight.

### For the sauce:

Puree all the ingredients in a liquidiser until smooth and check for sweetness. Strain through a sieve, cover and store in the fridge until needed.

### To serve:

Lift out the semifreddo from the freezer to gently soften at room temperature. Turn

into a serving dish – or, if using a loaf tin, lift semifreddo onto a serving plate. Pour over the sauce and serve with fresh fruits.



Thorpe Farm is a long-established family-run dairy. Visitors are welcome to explore its scenic footpaths and to enjoy ice cream made with fresh milk from the farm's own cows, living just metres away!

# What's this?

**O**ur mystery object for this edition is this seemingly simple carved stone. We're unsure of its function, or where it came from. It is made of carved sandstone, measuring roughly 25cm x 16cm x 10cm (depth) and it has a small trough carved into one face. The other faces, even the underside, have all been 'dressed' and show the marks made by the maker's chisel. Do you know what it is or what it was used for?

We'd love to hear your thoughts. Email us on [parklife@peakdistrict.gov.uk](mailto:parklife@peakdistrict.gov.uk) with 'What's this' in the subject line.

If we find out any more about this mysterious object we'll update you in a future edition of ParkLife.

Anna Badcock, Peak District National Park cultural heritage manager with our mystery item. PHOTOS: TOM MARSHALL



## THE WORK OF A MASTER CRAFTSMAN

Thanks to all of you for the responses to the wooden figure found in a garden in Tideswell, featured in the spring edition of ParkLife. Gwyn Higginson of Leek thought it



could be a carving by Advent Hunstone – the skilled Victorian wood-carver who created many beautiful wooden figures and other carvings that can be seen in St John's church, Tideswell. The 14th

century church, known as the Cathedral of the Peak, has carved wood and stone by several generations of the Hunstone family. The church is usually open and the village is well worth visiting, especially as one of many locations for the annual 'well dressing' festivals across the Peak District.

### Have you been to...?

- Bakewell's Old House museum [oldhousemuseum.org.uk](http://oldhousemuseum.org.uk)
- Eyam museum in the historic 'plague village' [eyam-museum.org.uk](http://eyam-museum.org.uk)
- Haddon Hall [haddonhall.co.uk](http://haddonhall.co.uk)

## OUR HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT

The Peak District and the UK's 14 other National Parks are among our most treasured cultural landscapes and contain some of the earliest evidence of how our ancestors have lived and worked from prehistory to modern times. Staff from all our National Parks are working together to bring this rich cultural legacy to the attention of decision makers, funders, collaborators and partners. A new leaflet sets out the diversity and quality of historic environments and highlights the work being done to protect them. For more information or to download the leaflet visit [peakdistrict.gov.uk/culturalheritage](http://peakdistrict.gov.uk/culturalheritage)





## Win copies of... Kinder Scout: The People's Mountain

Kinder Scout will forever be associated with the 1932 Mass Trespass, the 'pedestrian rebellion' which helped shape modern access legislation – and ultimately led to the creation of the UK's National Parks.

But there's so much more to the Peak District National Park's highest point than a story of the working class taking on the elite, as writer Ed Douglas and photographer John Beatty reveal in their new book *Kinder Scout: The People's Mountain* (Vertebrate Publishing, £19.95).

A combination of painstakingly researched prose and elegant photography, the book highlights the social, political, cultural and ecological developments that have shaped the physical and human landscapes of Kinder.

"Marked by the passage of millions of feet and centuries of farming, a graveyard for lost souls and doomed aircraft, this much-loved mountain is a sacred canvas on which mankind has scratched and scraped

its likeness for millennia," writes Douglas. "It is a record of our social and political history, of conflict and community."

He adds: "Kinder is undoubtedly the people's mountain. It's the wild heart of Britain's first national park, that brave attempt to drag back the people's stake in its own natural heritage."

### TO WIN:

For a chance to win one of the two signed copies, simply tell us the exact date of the Mass Trespass in 1932.

Please send your entry – with your name, address and telephone number – to [parklife@peakdistrict.gov.uk](mailto:parklife@peakdistrict.gov.uk) and write *Kinder Scout Book Competition* in the subject line.

• Closing date for entries is Friday 31st August 2018. Two winners will be selected at random after this date. The competition is open to everyone except PDNPA paid staff.

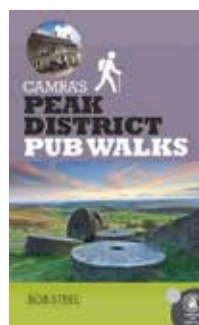
## Peak District Pub Walks

Discover some of the best walking and best pubs in the Peak District in this new book from CAMRA.

The third edition of *Peak District Pub Walks*, by Bob Steel, explores some of the region's fascinating industrial heritage and includes handy information about local transport and accommodation.

Completely updated to reflect changes to the Peak District pub and beer scene since the last edition, it includes new or altered routes and many new pubs. Easy-to-use Ordnance Survey maps and concise route information make it ideal for the casual walker as well as more serious hikers.

The pocket-sized guide costs £12.99. For more details, visit [camra.org.uk](http://camra.org.uk)



The winner!

## 100 words writing competition

Thank you to everyone who entered our 100 words writing competition in the spring edition of ParkLife. The writing had to link to the Peak District National Park. The



13 entries we received included poetry and prose, but all were inspired by the special landscape and places people enjoy such as Mam Tor and Kinder Scout. Charlotte Brontë put in an appearance, and a mountain hare also featured.

Many congratulations to Christina Eagles, of Hathersage, whose winning entry *Hidden Gem* wowed the judges. Christina wins a signed copy of Jon McGregor's award winning novel *Reservoir 13* which is inspired by the Peak District's landscapes and communities.

### The winning entry

#### Hidden Gem by Christina Eagles

Brendon stands on the Surprise View boulders in his yellow climber's jacket. Sun reflects off the damp sheen of the rocks, but the Hope Valley below is half-filled by a broil of mist. It swallows the road that drops past birches, millstones and unkempt sheep to the grey walls of Hathersage. Beyond the village the hills that roll out of the fog are the ones that buried Blue John veins in limestone. Brendon fingers the stone in his pocket. He wonders if Susie will also love its swirls of colour, will love the land that birthed it.

# Peak views

Get in touch with us by email, Twitter, Facebook, Instagram, or write. We love to hear from you.

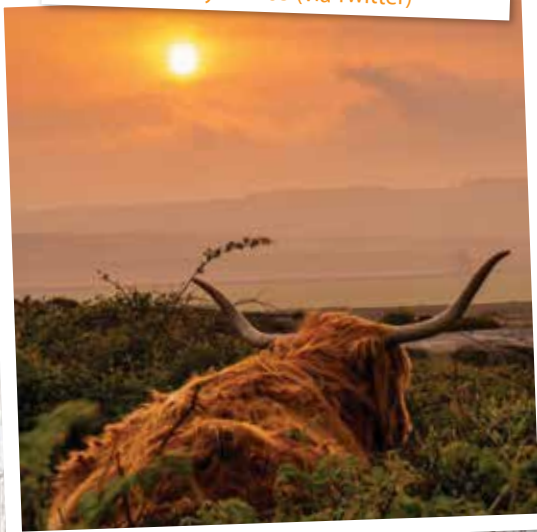


Not an undiscovered Peak District giant, but a great shadow over Big Stone.  
Thanks to @tonystrials (via Twitter)

This highland cow certainly seems to be enjoying the view at Baslow Edge.  
Thanks to @Wayne9963 (via Twitter)



No surprises where cotton grass gets its name...  
From @kiers (via Twitter)



The May torchlight walk in aid of Mend Our Mountains captured perfectly on the Great Ridge.  
@team\_BMC (via Twitter)



## More of your moments

Whether it's posting a great Peak District selfie, an amazing wildlife encounter or fun with the family, we'll share some of our favourites here.



Look who @tourismMark (via Twitter) spotted going underground!




Springtime at the Don Williams Memorial Hut in the Roaches, with @Safarbrit (via Twitter).



Jay Birmingham's stunning shot secured top spot in the Moors for the Future project's upland photo competition for 2018.



Lee Cooper climbed into second place with this heart-stopping 'selfie' from 5,000ft above Mam Tor!

 @peakdistrict

 /peakdistrictnationalpark

We promise to read all of your letters, but unfortunately we won't be able to respond personally.

# 5 minutes with...

Tom Lewis

You can't get a greater attachment to the National Park than being born on the side of one of its hills. Quite literally Peak District born and bred, today **Tom Lewis** is a member of our ranger team, with over 20 years' experience in the National Park.

**M**y studies were all the way down in South Devon, where I began with a qualification in Rural Land Management. I then worked for the National Trust before joining the Peak District National Park in 1994 on the Pennine Way Maintenance Team. It was a great 10 years in the north of the Park, before becoming a ranger at Brunt's Barn covering the eastern side of the National Park.

I was fortunate to be born in the Hope Valley. In that way I have always appreciated its special qualities and had an affinity for natural history. For me it was about being out all the hours I could, finding out what things were. I have great parents to thank for enthusing me about the fantastic outdoors, and getting me into all manner of outdoor pursuits.

One of the best attributes you can have as a ranger is to speak the language of those you live and work alongside every day. This is no more true than when dealing with recreational and landowner conflicts. My job has given me the licence to walk, mountain bike, kayak, fish, and climb, to understand where people are coming from, in terms of their needs and inspiration.

Living in the Peak District National Park and working on a farm in my early years, along with a lifelong passion for wildlife and conservation, has given me a keen insight into rural working relationships, making my role rewarding and fun. This has given me the chance to inspire others to get out there and explore this amazing place.

The less glamorous side of the job is the continual frustration of litter and fly-tipping. It feels like a constant battle to try and comprehend why people attempt to ruin the very thing they have come to enjoy.



PHOTO: TOM MARSHALL

Choosing a favourite part of the Peak District is a really tough one as there are so many great places for a myriad of reasons. It would have to be Black Hill for remoteness and solitude and Win Hill in terms of views and personal attachment. I was born on the side of it – at home in the hamlet of Thornhill – and have now moved back there with my family.

I think people would be surprised by the sheer scale of the things that you get involved within this job, and the positives that can be achieved through face to face interactions.

To get the most out of the Peak District National Park is all about perspective. This is an extremely challenged place; just take time out to consider just how truly

Tom's favourite parts of the Peak District are Black Hill and Win Hill.

amazing it is despite the pressure put upon it. Respect it and challenge yourself to know it better.

When I'm not in the Peak District, it has to be the west coast of Scotland. Abundant wildlife, spectacular scenery, kayaking and fishing, but most of all climbing mountains, particularly in winter. Cooking freshly caught fish on the beach at Cuil Bay near Glencoe takes some beating too!

**Bakewell tart or Bakewell pudding?**  
Neither, I'm afraid. I'm more Bakewell Pork Pie from Bakewell Market.

# Representing your local community

Who are your National Park Authority members, and what do they do?

**F**armer. Small business owner. Ecologist. Lecturer. Solicitor. Miner. Parish councillor. These are just some of the diverse roles Peak District National Park members hold outside their position on the Authority. But they all have one important thing in common: passion for the Peak District National Park.

We have 30 members on the Authority: 14 appointed by the Secretary of State and 16 from the local authorities that cover the National Park.

Members serve on a variety of committees and working groups to make sure we fulfil our statutory purposes to look after the area. They provide leadership, scrutiny and direction, and balance environmental, social

and economic considerations across all of our operations. They are the nation's champions for the Peak District National Park.

Committees meet on a regular basis with live audio streaming available to the general public and links available from our website and social media channels.

Find out more at: [peakdistrict.gov.uk/members](http://peakdistrict.gov.uk/members)

## *A few words from the Chair*

Lesley Roberts has been chair of the Peak District National Park Authority since 2014, with her tenure coming to an end in July. She was appointed to the Authority as a parish member in 2008, and was chair of the planning committee from July 2012 to June 2014. Lesley continues as a member of the Authority for another year.

### **What are you most proud of from your time as chair?**

It has been a privilege to carry out this role and I am very proud of being the first woman to be appointed as chair of the Peak District National Park Authority. I am the first member from Staffordshire to be chair, and the first parish councillor in England to become a National Park Authority chair. All this in the UK's original National Park – that's a lot of firsts! I was also proud to serve as the elected chair of National Parks UK.

I am proud of many things in our beautiful National Park but to pick out a couple: I am really proud of the ongoing development of the Moors for the Future Partnership which this year is celebrating 15 years of moorland restoration; and I am particularly proud of the continuing development of affordable houses in the National Park that help local people stay in their communities and keep our villages vibrant.



**Lesley Roberts – chair of the Peak District National Park Authority since 2014.**

### **What do you hope for the future of the National Park?**

It is always this: we must continue to

hand on the places we look after to the next generation in a better condition than we found them in.

### **Do you have any words of advice for the new chair?**

At the time of writing we don't know who the new chair will be, he or she will be elected at the National Park Authority meeting in July. Whilst it can be a challenging role, my advice to the next chair is to enjoy the experience.

### **What will you be doing next?**

I will be concentrating on chairing the proposed Leek Neighbourhood Plan, being chair of Leekfrith parish council, and continuing on the Executive Committee of INVOLVE which is dedicated to including patients and carers in medical research. I hope to do some gardening too!

### **Where is your favourite place in the National Park?**

The Roaches are my sanctuary. I appreciate the tranquillity of the area. I hold them dear as a place of rest, relaxation and solace. I will always remember being there with my family and watching buzzards encouraging their fledglings to fly from the rocks there.

# Peak District National Park Authority Members as of June 2018

This map shows which members cover the area where you live. Use the colour code to help.




**7**

**Cllr Lesley Roberts**  
Parish Member

01538 388900



**2**

**Cllr David Chapman**  
Council Member

01298 85067



**7**

**Mr Paul Ancell**  
Secretary of State Member

01625 613995



**2**

**Mrs Penny Anderson**  
Secretary of State Member

01298 27086



**4**

**Cllr Jason Atkin**  
Council Member

01629 258834



**3**

**Mr James Berresford**  
Secretary of State Member

07810 528460



**5**

**Cllr Doug Birkinshaw**  
Council Member

01226 243716



**3**

**Cllr Patrick Brady**  
Parish Member

01298 85798



**2**

**Cllr Chris Carr**  
Parish Member

01335 390342



**5**

**Cllr Mike Chaplin**  
Council Member

07789 549790



**5**  
**6**

**Cllr Tony Favell**  
Parish Member

01433 670281



**1**

**Cllr Chris Furness**  
Council Member

01433 621811



**4**

**Mr Zahid Hamid**  
Secretary of State Member

0114 2366332



**7**

**Cllr Andrew Hart**  
Council Member

01782 379431



**7**

**Cllr Gill Heath**  
Council Member

01538 381601



**1**  
**6**

**Mr Robert Helliwell**  
Secretary of State Member

01433 670250



**6**

**Cllr Caroline Howe**  
Council Member

07800 819901



**1**

**Cllr Harold Laws**  
Council Member

0114 247 5376



**4**

**Cllr Barry Lewis**  
Council Member

07920 484207



**7**

**Cllr Jamie Macrae**  
Council Member

07872 807367



**2**

**Cllr Andrew McCloy**  
Parish Member

01629 636125



**6**

**Cllr Colin McLaren**  
Council Member

0161 6274197



**6**

**Cllr Jim Perkins**  
Council member

01298 812927



**4**

**Cllr Kath Potter**  
Parish Member

01629 734320



**6**

**Cllr Robert Walker**  
Council Member

01484 221000



**5**

**Cllr John Walton**  
Council Member

01433 650031



**6**

**Cllr Becki Woods**  
Council Member

07462 883798



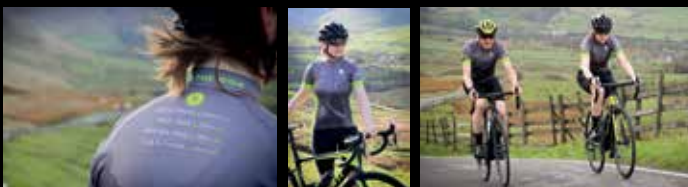
**PEAK  
DISTRICT  
NATIONAL  
PARK**



# FOR THE ROAD FOR THE CLIMB FOR THE RIDE

THE PEAK DISTRICT NATIONAL  
PARK CYCLING JERSEY

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