

# A View from the Bath

A Newsletter from

Matlock Bath Parish Council

September 2011



## Pro Loco Photography Competition 2011

We are pleased to announce that the Photography Competition for 2011 opened on 1<sup>st</sup> April and have over the summer received some great entries depicting scenes from our lovely village.

So did you take some cracking photographs over the summer? Why not enter them in our Photography Competition? What have you got to lose? We would love to see more entries from local residents. So pick up your camera and take a photograph, you could be a winner!

Due to the kind generosity of our sponsors, this year we are able to offer more prizes. Prizes will be awarded as follows:



Adults - 1<sup>st</sup> Prize - £75, 2<sup>nd</sup> Prize - £50, 3<sup>rd</sup> Prize - £30, Best Picture by a Resident - £50  
Young Photographer (Aged 11-16) – 1<sup>st</sup> Prize & 2<sup>nd</sup> Prize  
Junior Photographer (Aged 10 & Under) – 1<sup>st</sup> Prize & 2<sup>nd</sup> Prize

Specialist prizes of £30 each will be awarded for the "Best Picture of ...." Category. These include the best picture of Sir Richard Arkwright's Masson Mills, Illuminations, Pavilion, Mining Museum, Holy Trinity Church & the retail outlets.

The competition closes at midnight on 7<sup>th</sup> October 2011.

Once the competition has closed entries will be shortlisted by a panel of judges.

All shortlisted entries will then be displayed in the Pump Room of the Mining Museum on **Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> October**. Between 3.00 pm-9.00 pm members of the public will be invited to vote for their favourite photographs. Voting will also take place on line. On line voting will open on 13<sup>th</sup> October and close at midday on Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> October. Votes cast on line and in person on Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> October will be counted overnight and winners will be awarded prizes on Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> October.

For more details about the competition together with the terms and conditions of entering, please log on to our website [www.matlockbathparishcouncil.gov.uk](http://www.matlockbathparishcouncil.gov.uk)

If you do not have access to the website but would like further details and an entry form for the competition, please contact the Parish Clerk.



## Remembrance



The remembrance ceremony this year will take place in the Memorial Gardens **on Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> November 2011 at 2.00 pm**. Wreaths will be laid on behalf of the Parish and also the young people of the village. The Wirksworth Orchestra will again provide the music.

A warm invitation goes out to all to attend.

## Open Meeting on Parking



Following the survey we undertook on possible parking solutions in the village, the Parish Council have organised an open meeting where the options will be put to the residents. The meeting will be held on **Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> October 2011 at 7.00 pm in the Community Centre**. Please come along and see what is being suggested.

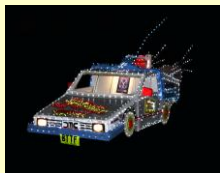
Following this meeting the Parish Council will again meet with the County Council to present the views of the village.

## Village Favourite

Every year, the Parish Council sponsors prizes for the best illuminated boats. In the past the young people of the village have chosen the winners; this year we have decided to invite all residents of Matlock Bath to vote. We will still arrange with the school for us to visit and allow the pupils to ballot for their favourite boat and we will do the same for Playgroup. Residents can vote on line by logging on to our website

[www.matlockbathparishcouncil.gov.uk](http://www.matlockbathparishcouncil.gov.uk)

The 'Village Favourite' will be announced at the illuminations **on Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> October at 7.30 pm** when the prizes will be awarded. Here are this year's entries.



## County Council Report – Cllr Garry Purdy

There are two separate but equally important public engagement exercises I would wish to draw your attention to this month.

The first relates to the proposed closure of Darley Dale Birth Unit by NHS Derbyshire County. Readers will recall that the Birth Unit at Darley Dale was saved from threatened closure in 2007 by a massive publicity campaign run by MOMS, (local mothers in the area).

Also under threat of closure is the Birth Unit at Corbar Road, Buxton. NHS Derbyshire County argue that both units have a low birth rate and that it is not economically viable to keep them open. The options for mothers if the two Units are closed would be a home birth, if safe, or the mother would have to travel to Stepping Hill, Stockport or Chesterfield dependent upon the area that they live in.

If you wish to have your say in this matter you can do so by logging on to [www.derbycitypct.nhs.uk](http://www.derbycitypct.nhs.uk), e-mail [nedcpals@derbyshirecountypct.nhs.uk](mailto:nedcpals@derbyshirecountypct.nhs.uk) or telephone 0800 783779 and speak to a Member of the Patient Advice & Liaison Service (PALS). [www.derbycitypct.nhs.uk](http://www.derbycitypct.nhs.uk)

You may also, if you wish, contact me, I am involved in the Scrutiny process of this matter at County Hall as Vice Chairman of the Improvement & Scrutiny Peoples Committee.

The second consultation relates to the way in which the County Council grits its roads in inclement weather. The Authority is seeking help from Farmers and external contractors to help grit the roads with a one off payment. We are also seeking the views of Parish Councils and indeed their assistance in helping to clear snow and grit roads in their areas.

Last year the Authority spend £4.5 million on gritting and clearing snow, an overspend of £1 million. This was due, of course, to the extreme winter weather last year, but two very severe winters on top of each other means that we need to engage with the public and Parish Councils for their views on this matter to ensure we are as efficient and cost effective as possible.

If you wish to have your say then please visit [www.derbyshire.gov.uk/winterhelp](http://www.derbyshire.gov.uk/winterhelp) or telephone: 08456 058 058 for further details.

## ***A View from the Bath Chair – Cllr Peter Baranek***



In many parts of the country, the onset of autumn is signified by the migration of the swallows. Here in Matlock Bath, it is the valley resonating to the sound of fireworks – and autumn has come early this year!! It has been an extremely busy summer for the Parish Council – even though full council meetings never happen in August. You will remember that in the last newsletter we reported on the issue of parking and asked parishioners to complete a survey so that we could ascertain the views of the village. Either most of the village were away for the summer or most residents do not seem to think parking is an issue as the level of response was very disappointing.

We have analysed the responses we did receive and will be putting together a series of options to present to the open meeting which will be held on 18<sup>th</sup> October. After that meeting, we will be meeting again with the County Council to put forward the wishes of the village. Our lobbying has already brought some improvements to the enforcement of current parking regulations on both the car parks and the streets.

The work on improvements to the Community Centre has also been moving forward – not as fast as we would have hoped, but in the very near future we hope to have an updated heating system ready for what promises to be a cold winter. Further plans hope to be actioned as soon as the heating work is complete including redecoration. We have secured a village hall grant from DDDC for the 'energy efficient' improvements we have made.

We were contacted by the organisers of the Boxing Day raft race as the event was under threat. We are giving them a grant to pay for the production of advertising material so hopefully this year the event can run successfully.

Derbyshire Dales District Council wrote to us regarding the toilets in the Memorial Gardens. Although they have assured us that they have no intention of closing them, the annual running costs are well in excess of £12,000 and they are looking at ways of saving money. The Parish Council has agreed to enter into discussions to see if, by working in partnership, we can cut the running costs and hopefully provide a better service. Part of this plan will include refurbishment work paid for by the District Council.

As part of our on-going commitment to improving the village, the Parish Council will be considering the merits of employing a part time 'village caretaker' in 2012. If this idea is feasible, we will be looking for someone who can help keep the footpaths clear and carry out routine maintenance and odd jobs. It would be really beneficial if this person lived in the village so if there is anyone who may be interested in this sort of role please let us know. It could well be seasonal work, however the County and District Councils are looking at ways of localising some of their services and such a person may be able to help here. If you have any ideas or suggestions, please contact the Clerk.

Speaking of letting us know, we can only carry out the wishes of the village if you do just that - communicate. Not just when things go wrong – although, of course, we need you to tell us when they do. As you know, we have a website and it is planned in the next few weeks to start a 'Bath Chair Blog' where you can commit your thoughts publically and I can respond – and vice versa of course. This is not instead of my quarterly article but as well. For those of you who prefer the written word, we would also like to start a 'letters to the editor' section in this newsletter. You can e-mail it in or pop it in an envelope and post it. The next issue is published at the beginning of December.

And finally on communication, does anyone have anything interesting to share with the village in the form of a newsletter article? In the past Freda Bayles and Charles Berrisford have written articles, but I am sure there are many others in the village who have something interesting to say. We are very open as to the sort of items we include so if you have ideas, do let us know.

## ***Book Fair***



Don't forget Matlock Bath Holy Trinity School will be holding their annual book fair on Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> October (12.00 noon-6.00 pm) and Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> October (11.00 am-3.00 pm) to raise school funds. The Book Fair will be held in the Community Centre (rear of the Pavilion). If you have any unwanted books, CDs, computer games and DVDs (no videos please), please contact Jo Hoon on 581595 or Debbie Hirstwood on 56421 to arrange a collection.

Holy Trinity School would like to say a BIG thank you to local residents who donated their Sainsbury's vouchers. Over 10,000 were collected which has enabled the school to have a new cooker for the children's cookery activities as well as equipment for outdoor learning and sports equipment.

## **District Councillor Report – Cllr Bob Cartwright**

The last month or so has been pretty quiet, which gave me a chance to get my breath back after a couple of hectic months of meetings etc.

There were problems with the toilets and with overflowing bins on the first Saturday of the illuminations which occasioned a number of complaints from visitors. Cllr Garry Purdy and I have both taken up the problems with the Council officers concerned and, thankfully, the second Saturday seems to have passed off without any further problems.

There have been a number of planning applications in Matlock Bath through the summer, most of which have been settled positively. However, when the Parish Council does raise issues District Council are able to take these forward.

## **Relaxation Meditation      Saturday Morning Waste Collection**

Do you need to reduce your stress levels? Why not try relaxation meditation. Heart Jewel Kadampa Buddhist Centre on Holme Road is now running guided, relaxation, lunchtime meditations (12.30-1.00 pm on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays during term time. Everyone welcome including beginners. If you would like further information about the centre and the range of classes and courses available (daytime and evening) telephone 01629 581585 or log on to their website – [www.heartjewel.org.uk](http://www.heartjewel.org.uk)

The Saturday morning waste collection service has sadly been withdrawn. However, a brand new household waste recycling centre opened in August at Harrison Way, Northwood, Darley Dale.

The centre is open 7 days a week – 8.30 am-6.00 pm and can accommodate most types of household waste including furniture and electrical appliances.

For further information on the recycling centres in the area, log on to [www.derbyshire.gov.uk/environment/rubbish\\_waste/recycling\\_centre](http://www.derbyshire.gov.uk/environment/rubbish_waste/recycling_centre) for more information or follow the link from the Parish Council website – [www.matlockbathparishcouncil.gov.uk](http://www.matlockbathparishcouncil.gov.uk)

## **Wapping Nature Reserve – Mike Greenan**

The usual maintenance work on the Nature Reserve has been severely disrupted this season by family commitments affecting the volunteers. However, path clearing has now begun again and we hope to have this complete by the end of the year. You will see from the photographs that we have had a blockage of the main paths caused by just one fallen branch from the large Ash tree in the centre of the reserve. The way was cleared by our volunteers who sawed up several tons of timber. Our thanks go to Jane Linfoot, Phil Cushway and Peter Keeble for their hard work and welcome them to the team.



Thanks must also go to Anne and Michael Wilderspin for their continued dedication to this community project. We are still looking for more volunteers to help – not all the help is hard physical labour. If you think you can help, please contact the Clerk.



## **Advertisements in the Newsletter**

Following the parish survey we distributed to all residents in the Spring, the responses indicated that many of you would like to see advertisements in our Newsletter. If anyone is interested in placing an advertisement in our Newsletter which could be for a local business or service, they should contact the Clerk.

Should there be a demand for advertisements too great for the Newsletter because of space constraints, the Parish Council will look at producing a small booklet to be distributed with the Newsletter. There will be a fee for the advertisements which will help with printing and distribution costs etc.