



February 2023

### ***Welcome to the First Edition***

The Monyash Newsletter is a Parish Council initiative to bring all the village news and details of forthcoming events into a simple, printed sheet that can appear monthly, with double editions for December/January & July/August. It should nicely complement the village website: [monyash.info](http://monyash.info) – Please do let me have any news by the 15<sup>th</sup> day of the preceding month, (or very soon after). It is intended that the newsletter be free to all residents, funded by the Parish Council and produced at minimal cost. It is edited by me, Simon Corble, and, as I am now on the PC, I should have an ear to the ground of what's afoot...

### ***Distributors***

Many thanks to those of you who have already put yourselves forward to help distribute the newsletter, it turns an hour's job for one person into three or four, twenty-minute strolls, for a handful of people. So, we currently have Mandy Johnson (with back up from Julie Birch) covering Rakes Road and Church Lane; Jon White and The Corble family covering Church Street, The Square and Tagg Lane, (with Shirely Johnson as a back-up); Sally Smith on Chapel Street/Horse and Handley Lanes. We are not able to reach all the out-lying houses and farms, necessarily, but we should be able to leave a few spare copies at The Bull's Head and/or St. Leonard's church. Also, please do let me or a distributor know if you don't want to receive the newsletter.

### ***EVENTS this month:-***

**Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> February** – **HATHA YOGA** Class with Caroline Webster. 6.30pm – 7.54pm in the Methodist Chapel. £7.50. Caroline is a fully qualified yoga and Pilates instructor. If you would like to reserve a place or find out more about yoga, contact Caroline on **07831 720810** or email: **carolinewebster2@gmail.com**

**Friday 3<sup>rd</sup>** – **Crafternoon**. 2pm – 3.30pm in the Village Hall. Bring along a craft project – or not! You are welcome just to natter over a cup of tea...

**Monday 6<sup>th</sup>** – **IVENGAR YOGA**. 5.30 – 6.45pm in the Village Hall. £9. Beginners welcome. To book a slot, email Dave: [djs.abbotside@gmail.com](mailto:djs.abbotside@gmail.com). Looks like this is a regular Monday class,  
– **Parish Council Meeting**, 7pm in the Village Hall. [See also at the foot of this newsletter].

**Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup>** – **Pilates**. Class with Caroline Webster. 6pm – 7pm in the Village Hall. £6.50. Suitable for all ages, levels of fitness and flexibility. Caroline is a fully qualified yoga and Pilates instructor. If you would like to reserve a place or find out more about Pilates, contact Caroline on **07831 720810** or email: **carolinewebster2@gmail.com**.

**Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup>** – **Mobile Library** 11.15 – 11.45am in The Square.

**Thursday 9<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup> & 23<sup>rd</sup> February** – **HATHA YOGA** – as above. Seems like a regular Thursday thing.

**Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup> & 28<sup>th</sup>** – **Pilates**, as above. Seems like a regular Tuesday thing.

**Friday 17<sup>th</sup>** – **Monyash School breaks up** for half-term.  
– **Crafternoon**. 2pm – 3.30pm in the Village Hall. Bring along a craft project – or not! As above...

**Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup>** – A said service of **Holy Communion**, Saint Leonard's church 10.30am (and each Tuesday in Lent) followed by refreshments.

**(And, remember, the church is open daily, 10am – 3pm – roughly!)**

**A note on the yoga classes on offer:** According to a well-placed source, Hatha Yoga is the “gentle cousin” of Ivengar; then there is ‘Power Yoga’ – ‘Don't even go there!’, says my source, through bitter experience...

## *Filming at Fere Mere*

The observant amongst you will have noticed a small film crew turning up at intervals during the Spring and Summer, using the Methodist Chapel as a production base. Plimsoll Productions have been making a documentary about ponds around the world and Fere Mere was selected to feature as the 'typical English village pond'. (We have pointed out that it's a mere, not a pond, but unfortunately, as it's for an international audience, they can't guarantee that it will not be demoted to 'pond' in the narration). They have, however, been very respectful to the wildlife at the mere – for example, only local froglets were used in the sequences of them emerging from the water and finding their way in the world, so as not to introduce any disease from another part of the country. The whole thing is shot from a 'bug's eye' perspective and, from the small clips of footage I have seen, it does look absolutely fascinating and superbly shot. There is a human story in there too, as you will see when it finally airs sometime in the Spring. We can't reveal the channel just yet, but we can tell you that they are paying a daily location fee to the Parish Council, with the idea of the money going to benefit wildlife and the environment in and around Fere Mere. The very last filming session was in that bitterly cold spell in December, when the mere froze over – which they were lucky to get on that side of Christmas.

## *White Peak Walk 2022*

As you have probably heard by now, last year's White Peak Walk event was, sadly, the last. 'Retirements and health problems' among the organisers were cited as two of the factors behind the decision to call it quits; Colin, Peter, Al and Steve said, 'A sad day for us all, but we cannot thank you enough for your help over the years' in their announcement. During the history of White Peak Walks, the event has raised at least £75,000 for village causes. I guess we should all be scratching our heads for something to replace it in the Summer months? This year's list of donations made from the 2022 proceeds is as follows:-  
Village Hall - £100; Parish Church - £850; Methodist Chapel - £550; Playing Fields - £600; Village School - £550; Air Ambulance - £300; Helens Trust – £200; Kinder MRT - £450; RAYNET - £350.

## *Macmillan Coffee Morning*

The coffee and cake morning at the Bull's Head in late October did incredibly well in raising around £1,600 for the Macmillan cancer support charity. Sharon and Co. would like to thank everyone for their support.

## *Nature Notes*

*Meanwhile, at Fere Mere*, Mr. and Mrs. Moorhen did exceptionally well with their large brood of chicks over the Summer, most of them making it to maturity. When the big freeze happened in December, I fully expected them to disappear completely, but, very loyally, they stuck around, eventually exploring the village, scavenging bird-food from gardens. All through January they have been more-or-less permanent residents *in our garden*, roosting in the trees or big evergreen hedge. We thought they would make an interesting inclusion on The Big Garden Birdwatch, which we do for the RSPB every year... but they seem survey-shy; they disappeared the day before and have not been seen since. I saw a visiting Sedge Warbler in the Summer (first one I've seen in the village) enjoying itself among the Flag Irises and Willowherb, while our visiting Heron is gradually getting tamer. He or she is busy keeping the alien fish numbers down, but is clearly very young and inexperienced. I watched him or her staring at the ice (and presumably at a few, unreachable fish) in disbelief, for a good while before flying off. *Simon.*

## *Other ways of keeping in touch*

While we are at it, it is worth noting other means of keeping in touch with village events: **Monyash.info**, the village website mentioned above; the **Contact** magazine **facebook** page is still functioning and well-used for all sorts of notices: [facebook.com/groups/whitepeak](https://www.facebook.com/groups/whitepeak) – simply ask to join and you will be let in, if local and there is also another group: **Monyash Past and Present**, easy to join. There are at least two **WhatsApp** groups with a Monyash theme, one called 'Monyash Villagers' and the other something like 'Monyash Old Geezers'!... And, of course, there is the **village notice board**, on Church Street, newly refurbished and well maintained by the Parish Council, as well as the **Church, Chapel and Village Hall** boards.

**The Parish Council:** The agenda and minutes for the PC are always on the village notice board, as well as on a dedicated page on the Monyash.info website. There is not space to go into all that is discussed here, but I can give you some highlights, perhaps: February's meeting has already taken place as this goes to the village website. Chris Woodhouse gave an excellent presentation on the results of the recent **village survey** – remember those questionnaires that went out? This will help us to make better sense of any messages coming through. We briefly discussed the introduction of a '**20 is Plenty**' scheme to help get traffic speeds down and other issues to do with parking and speed reduction. This took so much of the time, (with valuable contributions from interested village residents and Councillor Spencer from DCC) that much of the agenda is carried over to the March meeting. So, it is then we shall be talking about what the village might do on the 8<sup>th</sup> of May – as part of **The Big Help Out**, to celebrate the coronation of our new king. Ideas so far include a litter-pick; a new bench and maybe planting a tree, such as a Cherry, that will bloom every May.

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