

You will no doubt remember the original 'Beast from the East' which clobbered us in that March, with drifts of snow, followed by a sudden thaw and then the sight of hundreds of toads crawling around the miniature 'icebergs' on the grass...and getting squashed on the roads. Which is when we realised that Monyash needed a 'toad crossing' of some kind. As I write this, we are into the few hundreds already rescued from the traffic, along with many newts and frogs, but thoughts and preparations are turning to the many celebrations we shall be enjoying during April and May, just around the corner. Further details are overleaf. More and more events coming in – not bad for a small village!

EVENTS this month of APRIL:-

Sunday 2nd − *Palm Sunday Services*: 9am at Chelmorton and 11am at Hartington.

(And, remember, St. Leonard's Church, Monyash, is open daily, 10am – 3pm – roughly!)

- Derbyshire Open Day, the Donkey Sanctuary, <u>cancelled</u> due to the weather, but look out for May Open Day.

Monday 3^{rd} – *IVENGAR YOGA*. 5.30 - 6.45 pm, in the Village Hall. £9. Beginners welcome. To book a slot, email Dave: djs.abbotside@gmail.com. Looks like this is a regular Monday class, but Dave is having the bank holiday Monday *off*.

- Parish Council Meeting, 7pm, Village Hall. Anyone is welcome to attend the public part of the meeting.

Tuesday 4^{th} — Monyash Quilters Group, Village Hall, 2 to 4 pm. (And weekly, Tuesdays) A friendly group of ladies with a wide range of creative talent who love making beautiful quilts and anything crafty. Drop into one of our weekly meetings to see what we do and if we can temp you to join.

- *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.**

Wednesday 5th - Mobile Library 11.15 – 11.45am in The Square.

- Monyash WI - 7.30 - 10.00 pm. Regular monthly meetings in the Village Hall, on the first Wednesday of each month (except August), with guest Speaker and competition. A small, friendly group and new members always welcome.

Thursday 6th – **Maundy Thursday** church service 7.30pm at Middleton by Youlgreave.

- Quiz Night - The Bull's Head. (And every Thursday). I think the actual quiz starts around 9pm.

— 'Wander and Wonder' — exhibition opens, to Sunday 9th, Methodist Chapel.

looking at a local artist's paintings of women in Holy Week, (see village notice board for opening times).

Friday 7th — Good Friday: 12.30pm Hartington Walk of Witness; 2pm Hour at the Cross. (Hartington).

- Messy Church; Methodist Chapel. [Time?] £1.50 per child. Children must be accompanied by an adult.

Saturday 8th - Birdsong Walk with Simon 9.30am. Free with a copy of this Newsletter and children free anyway. See below.

Sunday 9th — Easter Sunday: Services at 9am Biggin & Hartington; 10am Chelmorton; 11am Earl Sterndale & Taddington. If you are wondering why Monyash doesn't get a look in, I am told it's because we had our share of services through Lent.

Tuesday 11th – *Monyash Quilters Group,* Village Hall, 2 to 4 pm (as above).

- Your Space 4pm - 5:30pm Methodist Chapel. Youth group for year 7 and above. Hang out with friends,

listen to music, play board games, learn relaxation techniques, have fun. Free entry and cheap snacks and drinks.

- *Pilates*, 6pm – 7pm in the Village Hall, as above.

Thursday 13th – Quiz Night – The Bull's Head. As above.

Friday 14th – *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... [I have just added 'Crafternoon' to my computer's dictionary. Wonder how long before the OED?]

Saturday 15th - Birdsong Walk with Simon 9.30am. Free with a copy of this Newsletter and children free anyway. See below.

Monday 17th - Schools start Summer Term (barring a possible 'insect day' at Monyash?)

- IVENGAR YOGA. 5.30 – 6.45pm, in the Village Hall. £9. Beginners welcome. As above.

Tuesday 18th — *Your Space* 4pm – 5:30pm Methodist Chapel. Youth group for year 7 +. As above.

- Monyash Quilters Group, Village Hall, 2 to 4 pm. As above.

- Pilates. Class with Caroline Webster. 6pm – 7pm in the Village Hall. As above.

Thursday 20th – Quiz Night – The Bull's Head. As above.

Friday 21st – *Crafternoon*. 2pm – 3.30pm, in the Village Hall. As above.

Saturday 22nd – Birdsong Walk with Simon 9.30am. Free with a copy of this Newsletter and children free anyway. See below.

Monday 24th - IVENGAR YOGA. 5.30 – 6.45pm, in the Village Hall. £9. Beginners welcome. As above.

Tuesday 25th — *Your Space* 4pm – 5:30pm Methodist Chapel. Youth group for year 7 +. As above.

- *Monyash Quilters Group*, Village Hall, 2 to 4 pm. As above.

- *Pilates.* Class with Caroline Webster. 6pm – 7pm in the Village Hall. As above.

Thursday 27th – Quiz Night – The Bull's Head. As above.

Saturday 29th - Birdsong Walk with Simon 9.30am. Free with a copy of this Newsletter and children free anyway. See below.

Filming at the Mere.

The wildlife documentary film unit are back for their final days, from 31st March to 4th / 5th April. A small corner of the mere is going to be netted-off from the rest of the water, in order to provide a secure environment to film frogs in action. I am going to be on hand to provide and look after the welfare of some adult frogs, tadpoles and spawn. We want to use our local frogs to avoid any kind of disease being brought in from another part of the country, (there are some nasty ones out there hitting British amphibians). Another team is going to be inside the Methodist Chapel hall, filming tadpoles. We shall let you know of any broadcast release or screening dates; there is a whole lot of editing to be done before then, of course.

Birdsong Walks.

These are aimed at visitors to the area, but *you* are welcome to come along for free, (on production of this newsletter) bearing in mind it will be a maximum of ten people per trip, 'first come first served' – but you can book in advance; simply drop me an email. It's a stroll through the village hot-spots, up the lane and down the dale, to simply listen out for whatever birds are giving their Spring songs. It's more about the experience than learning how to ID, I shall nonetheless be giving a few tips on how to sort your Blackbird from your Blackcap, etc; absolutely no birding experience needed, nor 'bins' — this is very basic stuff and, by the way, I'm no expert, but have led similar walks for tourists on Greek Islands...so I thought, "Why not at home?" We shall be meeting at the Market Cross on the green and it should last for around an hour and a half. Quiet dogs welcome, on a lead.

Award Winners in the Village!

The winners of the 2023 Peak District & Derbyshire Tourism Awards were revealed at Casa Hotel in Chesterfield, on 2nd March, amongst which were, for 'B&B and Guest House of the Year' the Silver Award to... Sheldon House; for 'Experience of the Year' the Silver Award to... Pendragon Project Team Adventures. Many congratulations to Mike and Caroline Jiggins at the former and to Adam and Laura, of Church Lane, who run the latter; worthy winners all.

Pavement Works on Church St.

Barely worth mentioning as they are due to be finished by the start of April, but it's good to see that the pavement surface will get a long-overdue makeover from Derbyshire CC Highways dept. Right outside our front gate, as it happens. 27th March to 5th April. And it's sheer coincidence that I'm now on the Parish Council – honest!

Parish Council: No space to give any highlights this month, (it's mostly routine stuff) but remember that the agenda and minutes are always on the village website: monyash.info and also on the shiny, green notice board, Church Street.

Flags up for MAY:-

Sunday 7th May from 1.30pm in Monyash Village Hall. An invitation to all Monyash Villagers to a Coronation Celebration lunch. Please bring a contribution to the shared buffet table. Any enquiries: ruth.yarwood@btinternet.com

DAMBUSTERS 80TH ANNIVERSARY – Saturday 13th MAY 1900hrs, Bakewell Medway Centre.

We will start the evening with an interview with Charles, a WW2 veteran and Lancaster radio operator from RAF 37 squadron. There will also be video footage of the famous Lancaster. You will have chance to also speak to Albert who is a RN veteran and was on the flower class corvettes in WW2 and escorted the D-day landings, the Mulberry harbour and PLUTO against submarine attack. BAKEWELL SILVER BAND will be playing from 7.30pm during a break. Tickets £10, from Bakewell Pet Supplies, or from Andy Howard in Monyash; (07718 374951) – email biketours@hotmail.com for further information. *Please come along and support this historic and memorable event*.

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