



It's Election Day on Thursday 2nd

You will have received the booklet announcing the candidates for **Mayor** (but why is the Lib-Dem candidate missing?! – I found the Nottingham Post website good for *everyone's* statement). What isn't clear is that we are also voting for the **Derbyshire Police and Crime Commissioner**. I found www.itv.com/news/central/2024-04-02/who-is-standing-for-election-in-the-midlands-in-2024 useful for this. There are only four candidates for the post. All candidates for both posts are listed on the village notice board. **It's May**, so the other business to commandeer the village hall is the dressing of the Wells (see diary below). I got involved with the *puddling* for the first time last year – it was good exercise!



Car Park Extension

The Parish Council has put in the official planning application to extend the car park down by the toilets at the start of Lathkill. More news on this soon (and we hope it is positive). Encouraging more people to park down there is going to ease pressures on parking within the village at busy times. Most people parking up in Monyash are generally at the start of a walk involving Lathkill, (from what we observe on Church Street, at least) so shifting more cars in that direction makes a lot of sense.

Potholes!!!

None of you can have failed to notice the horrendous potholes at the start of The Rake, just past Manor House Farm (**TAKE CARE!**) There is a 'Report a Pothole' link on the Derbyshire County Council website. We can only encourage everyone to use this in order to make it very clear to DCC that these need fixing as a matter of extreme urgency. Think of it like a petition...

EVENTS this month of May:-

Tuesday 30th – **Monyash Quilters Group**, – **Monyash Quilters Group**, Village Hall, 2 to 4 pm, A friendly group of ladies (April) 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 tempt you to join.

– **Pilates**, Class with Caroline Webster. 6pm – 7pm in the Village Hall. £7. Caroline is a fully qualified yoga and Pilates instructor. If you would like to reserve a place or find out more about Pilates or Yoga, contact Caroline on **07831 720810** or email: **carolinewebster2@gmail.com**

Wednesday 1st – **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.

– **Pilates for Men**. Class with Caroline Webster. 7.30 – 8.30 pm Flagg Hall. Other details as above for **Pilates**.

Thursday 2nd – **Local Elections**, Village Hall. 7am to 10pm, (so, the yoga is at Flagg Village Hall)

– **Hatha Yoga** 7.15 – 8.30, with Yoga Nidra meditation. £10. Other details as above for **Pilates**.

– **Quiz Night – The Bull's Head**. Starts around 9pm.

Friday 3rd – **Tea and Tots** – 9 – 11am Village Hall. **Playgroup**, aimed at babies and pre-schoolers, for local families and friends to get together for a cuppa, chat and play! Whilst we are aimed at preschool ages, anyone is welcome to pop in and join us. Tea coffee, snacks and a variety of toys are provided. £2 per family; parents are responsible for their children whilst there.

Sunday 5th – **Birdsong Walk with Simon** 9am. £7.50 per head. Free to Monyash Residents. £7.50 per head. Advance booking needed: **07930 266218**, call/text/WhatsApp/knock on/stop me in the street. Meet on the green. 1½ to 2 hours, in all.

Monday 6th – **IYENGAR YOGA**. 5.30 – 6.45pm, in the Village Hall. £8. Beginners welcome. To book a slot, email Dave: **djs.abbotside@gmail.com**.

Bank Holiday

Tuesday 7th – **Monyash Quilters Group**, Village Hall, 2 to 4 pm. As above.

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

Wednesday 8th – **Birdsong Walk with Simon** 9am. £7.50 per head. Free to Monyash Residents, other details as above.

– **Pilates for Men**. Class with Caroline Webster. 7.30 – 8.30 pm in the Village Hall. Other details as above.

Thursday 9th – **Hatha Yoga** 7.15 – 8.30, Village Hall, with Yoga Nidra meditation. £10. Other details as above for **Pilates**.

– **Quiz Night – The Bull's Head**. As above.

Friday 10th – **Tea and Tots** – 9 – 11am Village Hall. **Playgroup**, other details as above.

– **Crafternoon**. 2pm – 3.30pm, in the Village Hall. Bring along a craft project – or not! Tea and natter is fine!

[There is a Tea and Tots on 17th, but it's not listed overleaf]

- Monday 13th** – *No IYENGAR YOGA.*
– *Parish Council Meeting* 7pm. Village Hall. Anyone is welcome to attend the public meeting. There is 10 minutes for ‘Public Speaking’ at the start. See village website and noticeboard for agenda.
- Tuesday 14th** – *Monyash Quilters Group*, Village Hall, 2 to 4 pm. As above.
– *Pilates*. Class with Caroline Webster. 6pm – 7pm in the Village Hall. Other details as above.
- Wednesday 15th** – *Birdsong Walk with Simon*, 9am - other details as above.
– *Pilates for Men*. Class with Caroline Webster. 7.30 – 8.30 pm in the Village Hall. Other details as above.
- Thursday 16th** – *Hatha Yoga* 7.15 – 8.30, Village Hall, with Yoga Nidra meditation. £10. Other details as above for **Pilates**.
– *Quiz Night* – The Bull’s Head. As above.
- Friday 17th** – *Tea and Tots* – 9 – 11am Village Hall. **Playgroup**, other details as above.
– *Messy Church*. 3.15 – 4.45pm. At the Methodist Chapel & Hall. Messy Church is straight after school, £2 per child. Children must be accompanied by an adult. (Usually the 2nd Friday of each month).
- Sunday 19th** – *Birdsong Walk with Simon* 9am. £7.50 per head. Free to Monyash Residents, other details as above.
– *Puddling the wells...*
- Monday 20th** – *Dressing the wells...*(No IYENGAR YOGA)
- Tuesday 21st** – *No Monyash Quilters Group*, this Tuesday.
– *Pilates*. Class with Caroline Webster. 6pm – 7pm in Flagg Village Hall. Other details as above.
- Wednesday 22nd** – *Birdsong Walk with Simon* 9am. £7.50 per head. Free to Monyash Residents, other details as above.
– *Pilates for Men*. Class with Caroline Webster. 7.30 – 8.30 pm in Flagg Village Hall. Other details as above.
- Thursday 23rd** – *Hatha Yoga* 7.15 – 8.30, Flagg Village Hall with Yoga Nidra meditation. £10. Other details as for **Pilates**.
– *Quiz Night* – The Bull’s Head. As above.
- Friday 24th** – *No Tea and Tots... No Crafternoon*
– *Erecting the Children’s Wells*, after lunch at School.
– *Completing the Adults’ Well*, (No Crafternoon).
- Saturday 25th** – *Erecting the Adults’ Well (morning) and Blessing of all Wells*, from 2pm.
- Sunday 26th** – *Birdsong Walk with Simon* 9am. £7.50 per head. Free to Monyash Residents, other details as above.
- Monday 27th** – *(Bank Holiday) MAY MARKET ON THE VILLAGE GREEN*
– *IYENGAR YOGA*. 5.30 – 6.45pm, in the Village Hall. Details as above for Iyengar Yoga..
- Tuesday 28th** – *Monyash Quilters Group*, Village Hall, 2 to 4 pm. As above.
– *Pilates*. Class with Caroline Webster. 6pm – 7pm in the Village Hall. As above.
- Wednesday 29th** – *Birdsong Walk with Simon* 9am. £7.50 per head. Free to Monyash Residents, other details as above.
– *Mobile Library* 11.15 – 11.45am in The Square.
– *Pilates for Men*. Class with Caroline Webster. 7.30 – 8.30 pm in the Village Hall. Other details as above
- Thursday 30th** – *Hatha Yoga* 7.15 – 8.30, Village Hall, with Yoga Nidra meditation. £10. Other details as above for **Pilates**.
– *Quiz Night* – The Bull’s Head. As above.
- Friday 31st** – *No Tea and Tots* – as it’s a school holiday.

Does your child want to play cricket?

We want to give kids the opportunity to start playing cricket and develop a love for the game. The All Stars and Dynamos programmes are set up to be fun and engaging. Sessions will be run at **Grindleford Cricket Club** on Fridays from the 17th May to the 5th July. **All Stars** are for kids aged 5 to 8, and sessions will run from 18:00 to 18:40. The cost of the programme is £30.00 which includes a personalised t-shirt on sign up as well as opportunities to attend cricket festivals as well as local professional grounds. **Dynamos** are for kids aged 8 to 11 and sessions will run from 19:00 to 20:00. The cost of the programme is £40.00 which includes a personalised t-shirt on sign up as well as opportunities to attend cricket festivals as well as local professional grounds. Parents can sign up their child at www.allstarscricket.co.uk and www.dynamoscricket.co.uk with registrations for this year’s programmes going live the 10th April 2024.

Nature Notes – Early, Purple...the well-named Orchid.

The first of the Early Purple Orchids are blooming in Fern/Fere Dale, like little miracles, forcing their way up through the soil, with that stunning reddish-purple spike. Apart from the seas of Dandelions and swashes of glistening Celandines, both with their varying shades of yellow, no Spring flower has anything like this stab of bold colour in late April/early May. I’m not sure if anyone has done a study as to why so many Spring flowers, especially the early ones, tend to be yellow, while other colours are more apparent in the Summer? When I think of purple, it is the Purple Loosetrife that comes to mind, very much a Summer flower and one of the features of our Fere Mere in June/July. This is the flower mentioned by Gertrude in Shakespeare’s Hamlet, in her famous speech describing the drowning of Ophelia: ‘and Long Purples, /That liberal shepherds give a grosser name, / But our cold maids do Dead-mens-fingers call them.’ Here they end the list of flowers with which Ophelia has made ‘fantastic garlands’ in her madness; and they are waterside flowers, unlike the others in the list, beckoning her towards her tragic fate. ‘Early Purples’ on the other hand seem happy in the dry conditions around the edges of our meadows. They are something to behold, so take a walk to see them in the coming weeks. The path up to Ricklow Dale from Lathkill is also rich in them.

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Masthead drawing by Judy Corble. Printed on 100% recycled paper, at The Byways, Church Street, Monyash.