



### Happy New Year!

Once again, the *Carol Service* (22<sup>nd</sup> December) was very well attended with some great contributions from Monyash School. *The Tractor Run*, however, did not, in the end, visit Monyash at all, heading off towards Tideswell instead, so apologies for raising your hopes on that one. There is not very much real news this month, as might be expected for the start of the year and that is also why you are not receiving your Newsletter before the first of the month, though I now see (from the village website) that I am missing out on announcing :- ‘One hour’s Restorative Yoga, followed by 30 minutes Yoga Nidra relaxation’ at 6:30pm on New Year’s Day, in the village hall. Sounds like a good hangover cure... (And a good reminder that our website, [monyash.info](http://monyash.info), is always worth checking for latest events, etc...)



This does leave room, however, for a big ‘thank you’ to Gary Mycock for supplying this year’s Christmas tree on the green, (with new lights courtesy of Monyash Parish Council). And also to all those who helped put tree and lights in place, of course; no matter what the ‘named storms’ of December had to throw at it, the tree stood firm (unless I missed something dramatic?)

### ‘Road Markings and Traffic Calming’ – A Public Consultation

At the last meeting, **Monyash Parish Council** “resolved to hold a public meeting...The meeting is to take place in January” to quote from the minutes, under “401/2024 ROAD MARKINGS AND TRAFFIC CALMING”. This followed a discussion on the wording of a proposed ‘one-question’ questionnaire to be put to all households on the subject. However: “Queries were raised regarding some of the wording on the questionnaire.” At which point it was agreed that a public meeting might be a better way of starting the consultation. We do not yet have a date for the public meeting, (or meetings); this will have to be decided at the regular PC meeting on Jan. 6<sup>th</sup>. So, I think we can assume that the public meeting(s) will be towards the end of month, in order to give residents sufficient notice of what will be a highly important consultation process, with potentially long-term consequences. To be transparent, by ‘road markings’ we are talking about the introduction of *lines*, whether white or yellow, which will *restrict parking* around key areas of the village and the consultation is about the idea *in principle*, at this stage. There have as yet been no proposals or discussions around any of the possible details.

### Donation Boxes Taking More

Some good news: The PC’s donation boxes at the toilets and car parks have taken 30% more this year than last. They are doing so well that the PC is once again not looking to increase the precept, which is a very small part of your council tax.

### EVENTS this month of January:-

- Monday 6<sup>th</sup>**
- *IYENGAR YOGA*. 5.30 – 6.45pm, in the Village Hall. To book a slot, email Dave: [djs.abbotside@gmail.com](mailto:djs.abbotside@gmail.com).
  - *Parish Council Meeting* 7pm. Village Hall. Anyone is welcome to attend the public meeting, but please note that this meeting is not part of the ‘consultation’ advertised above, though the item on ‘Road Markings and Traffic Calming’ will almost certainly be discussed by the parish councillors.
- There is 10 minutes for ‘Public Speaking’ at the start. See village website and noticeboard for the full agenda.
- Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup>**
- *Monyash Quilters Group*, Village Hall, 2 to 4 pm, 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 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](mailto:carolinewebster2@gmail.com)
- Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup>**
- *Mobile Library* – 11.15 to 11.45, The Square.
  - *Hatha Yoga* 5.30 – 6.45pm, In the Village Hall, with Yoga Nidra meditation. £10. Other details see *Pilates*.
  - *Monyash WI* - 7.30 - 10.00 pm, in the Village Hall, the first Weds of each month, with guest Speaker and competition. A small, friendly group and new members always welcome.

- Thursday 9<sup>th</sup>** – *Quiz Night* – The Bull’s Head. I think the actual quiz starts around 9pm.
- Friday 10<sup>th</sup>** – *Crafternoon*. 2pm – 3.30pm, in the Village Hall. Bring along a craft project – or not! Tea and natter is fine!
- Monday 13<sup>th</sup>** – *IYENGAR YOGA*. 5.30 – 6.45pm, in the Village Hall. Other details as above.
- Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup>** – *Monyash Quilters Group*, Village Hall, 2 to 4 pm, other details as above.  
– *Pilates*. Class with Caroline Webster. 6pm – 7pm, Village Hall. Other details as above.
- Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup>** – *Hatha Yoga* 6.30 – 7.45pm, Village Hall, with Yoga Nidra meditation. £10. Other details see above, *Pilates*.
- Thursday 16<sup>th</sup>** – *Quiz Night* – The Bull’s Head. As above.
- Monday 20<sup>th</sup>** – *IYENGAR YOGA*. 5.30 – 6.45pm, in the Village Hall. Other details as above.
- Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup>** – *Monyash Quilters Group*, Village Hall, 2 to 4 pm, other details as above.  
– *Pilates*. Class with Caroline Webster. 6pm – 7pm, Village Hall. Other details as above.
- Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup>** – *Hatha Yoga* 6.30 – 7.45pm, Village Hall, with Yoga Nidra meditation. £10. Other details see above, *Pilates*.
- Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup>** – *Quiz Night* – The Bull’s Head. As above.
- Friday 24<sup>th</sup>** – *Crafternoon*. 2pm – 3.30pm, in the Village Hall. Bring along a craft project – or not! Tea and natter is fine!
- Monday 27<sup>th</sup>** – *IYENGAR YOGA*. 5.30 – 6.45pm, in the Village Hall. Other details as above.
- Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup>** – *Monyash Quilters Group*, Village Hall, 2 to 4 pm, other details as above.  
– *Pilates*. Class with Caroline Webster. 6pm – 7pm, Village Hall. Other details as above.
- Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup>** – *Hatha Yoga* 6.30 – 7.45pm, Village Hall, with Yoga Nidra meditation. £10. Other details see above, *Pilates*.
- Thursday 30<sup>th</sup>** – *Quiz Night* – The Bull’s Head. As above.

### **Monyash CE Primary School showing compassion for others through shoeboxes.**

The children of Monyash CE Primary School have been collecting items for children (such as toothbrushes, toys, notebooks, pens, sweets etc) and the school council have been packing them up to donate to the Rotary Club of Ashbourne as their latest initiative. The Ashbourne Rotary Club, in conjunction with the charity Teams4U have been collecting shoeboxes filled with small gifts, toiletries etc for children in parts of the world where they would otherwise receive nothing at Christmas and the children of Monyash decided they wanted to get involved.

Each term, the school study a value and this term's is Compassion and what better way to show this than by preparing these gifts for children less fortunate than themselves. In total, this small school prepared 12 shoeboxes crammed full with gifts.

The school prides itself on working within the community, having previously supported Jigsaw Food Bank, Matlock and was praised in its recent SIAMS inspection for his ethical and Christian ethos underpinning everything the school does. The report in June of this year stated:

*"Guided by the vision, the school council decides which charities to support. This provides opportunities for pupils to consider the needs of people within, and beyond, their community. They learn that working together with others provides the encouragement needed to begin to overcome adversity".*

If you are interested in visiting the school for your child, please contact the school on 01629 812413 to arrange a visit.

### ***Nature Notes***

If you are still wondering when the TV wildlife documentary featuring Fere Mere is to hit screens, the latest I am told is: In Episode 4 of Season 2 of ‘**A Real Bug’s Life**’. And the season starts to stream on January 15<sup>th</sup>. Our episode is called, according to the Disney+ press release: “**ONCE A POND A TIME (England)** – Water is a cradle of life for all sorts of amazing tiny creatures, but when one is “bug-sized,” its strange shape-shifting properties can have huge consequences. Through the year, the pond undergoes a series of near-magical transformations from ice crystal to water vapor....” [American spelling and they have no concept of what ‘mere’ means, which is why it has to be a ‘pond’ – grin and bear it!]

Elsewhere in the natural world of Monyash, we have noticed a welcome return of **Tawny Owls** to the churchyard and environs this Winter, (or at least one regularly calling female – ‘*tuwhit!*’ – it’s the male who says ‘*tuwoo*’ in reply). We have been donated an owl nest box. Properly, this looks more like a Barn Owl type, but there is no reason why a Tawny might not use it. Barn Owls have been seen regularly all around the village at dusk (and also in the daytime during that snowy spell, as it gets increasingly harder to find their prey the deeper the snow gets). Horse Lane is one of the hotspots. Little Owls continue to do well around the Monyash end of Lathkill; we see and hear them fairly often in the daytime. One even surprised me in our garden, very early one morning, looking at first like a largish thrush as it swooped. The fourth owl to meet at this time of year is the Short-eared Owl, which, like the Little, is often out in broad daylight. Look out for them hunting in that very rough pasture of Lathkill and in Fere/Fern Dale. They are magnificent creatures, with piercing yellow/orange eyes. Though they do breed on our local moorlands, at this time of year many visit from the continent to escape the harsher conditions there.

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