



March is the month we start paying very close attention to the weather forecasts, especially for the evening air temperature and whether it is going to be wet or windy; these are the factors that govern the first appearance of toads and other amphibians on our roads. If we can make it to the end of the month with the dusk temperature below eight degrees C, then it means the clocks go forward and the busier, early evening traffic has passed through the village already, making life much easier for the creatures and the toad patrollers alike. Not that I want to wish a cold March on anyone – so how about some sunny days, with the clear sky making for a very cool evening? Whatever, keep an eye out for the first showing of our road signs, but bear in mind that we don't put them out until we know that the migrations have got going in earnest, (not liking to 'cry wolf'). And if anyone wants to help out with the **Toad Patrol**, now is the time to let us know; you can use the details at the end of this newsletter, or follow the links from our wonderful village website (monyash.info) for 'Toad Patrol' – it's under 'Interests'.

Updates from your District Councillor, Laura Mellstrom:-

Free half-an-hour parking in Bakewell

Following last year's consultation, the Council has updated the charges for Council owned car parks, some of which in the town centres will, from 1st April, offer a free half hour. In Bakewell these are Granby Road and Market Place. In Matlock it is Imperial Road, Lido, Olde English, Spa Villas and Town Hall Front car parks. You will still need to get a £0.00 ticket out of the machine though, and it can't be tacked on to a longer parking session. It is just for popping in and out. ***The Residents' freebie permit before 11am and after 3pm will continue to apply.***

Local government reorganisation

The District Council's days remain numbered, but it's a bigger number than we thought as Derbyshire is not in the Devolution Priority Programme. The County Council elections will be going ahead in May after all, and I am sure more details on that will be coming soon to a doormat near you. What our eventual Unitary Authority will look like is still very much up in the air. All Councils in Derbyshire have been invited to submit full proposals by 28th November 2025, and then the Government will decide how things move forward.

EVENTS this month of March:-

- Monday 3rd**
- **IYENGAR YOGA**. 5.30 – 6.45pm, in the Village Hall. To book a slot, email Dave: djs.abbotside@gmail.com.
 - **Parish Council Meeting** 7pm. Village Hall. Anyone is welcome to attend this public meeting, There is 10 minutes for 'Public Speaking' at the start. See village website and noticeboard for the full agenda.
- Tuesday 4th**
- **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
- Wednesday 5th**
- **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 6th**
- **Quiz Night** – The Bull's Head. Starts from around 9.30pm.
- Friday 7th**
- **Crafternoon**. 2pm – 3.30pm, in the Village Hall. Bring along a craft project – or not! Tea and natter is fine!
- Monday 10th**
- **IYENGAR YOGA**. 5.30 – 6.45pm, in the Village Hall. Other details as above.
- Tuesday 11th**
- **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 12th** – **Hatha Yoga** 5.30 – 6.45pm, Village Hall, with Yoga Nidra meditation. £10. Other details see above, **Pilates**.
- Thursday 13th** – **Quiz Night** – The Bull’s Head. As above.
- Friday 14th** – **Messy Church**: 3.15 – 4.45pm. At the Methodist Chapel & Hall. Messy Church is straight after school, and it is £2 per child.
- Monday 17th** – **IYENGAR YOGA**. 5.30 – 6.45pm, in the Village Hall. Other details as above.
- Tuesday 18th** – **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 19th** – **Hatha Yoga** 5.30 – 6.45pm, Village Hall, with Yoga Nidra meditation. £10. Other details see above, **Pilates**.
- Thursday 20th** – **Quiz Night** – The Bull’s Head. As above.
- Friday 21st** – **Crafternoon**. 2pm – 3.30pm, in the Village Hall. Bring along a craft project – or not! Tea and natter is fine!
- Monday 24th** – **IYENGAR YOGA**. 5.30 – 6.45pm, in the Village Hall. Other details as above.
- Tuesday 25th** – **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 26th** – **Hatha Yoga** 5.30 – 6.45pm, Village Hall, with Yoga Nidra meditation. £10. Other details see above, **Pilates**.
- Thursday 27th** – **Quiz Night** – The Bull’s Head. As above.
- Monday 31st** – **IYENGAR YOGA**. 5.30 – 6.45pm, in the Village Hall. Other details as above.

Hartington & District Community First Responder Service

Help us to help you *The areas include Hartington, Biggin, Earl Sterndale, Flagg & Monyash*

After listening to our communities regarding the need for more urgent/emergency response support, we have been working with the East Midlands Ambulance Service to bring more Community First Responders to our rural area.

We are pleased to say that following an advertisement campaign we now have interested applicants awaiting training with EMAS for the new Hartington & District Community First Responder Service which should enhance and compliment the support given by our neighbouring Responder Services.

So Here is how you could help

We have reached a point in which we would like to form a larger working group, to take the service forward. A simple constitution is being developed to ensure we have secure, transparent governance and access to a bank account. We will also be working with the five Parish Councils alongside Hartington Surgery. If anyone would be interested in being involved with any roles or responsibilities and would like to know more, then please get in touch, with Kay Baggley or Liz Broomhead via email at: hartingtonalive@gmail.com or alternatively contact Stephen Trowbridge, Hartington & District Community First Responder Co-ordinator via: hartdistrictCFR@gmail.com

Public Meeting – Parking Restrictions in the village? – Have your say

Monyash Parish Council wants to hear from residents about the idea, *in principle*, of introducing parking restrictions within the village – i.e. lines of whatever colour that would stop vehicles from parking on the road in certain areas, (none of which have been outlined at this stage). To begin this consultation process, it was resolved to hold a public meeting:

STOP PRESS – It is to be on MONDAY at 7.30pm in the Village Hall, after a short PC meeting

Nature Notes – The Great Pretender

The village Song Thrushes have started singing over the past few weeks. Each bird has its own, unique repertoire of phrases, whether inherited from previous generations, borrowed from other bird species, (or even from us – ‘vehicle reversing’ tones are quite popular) or simply made up by the songster. There can be a hundred or so motifs and the bird may go through as many as eighty different ones before having to return to one sung earlier. If in doubt as to whether you are hearing a Song Thrush, Mistle Thrush or Blackbird, (the three most likely to be confused with each other) although the flutey tone is similar in each, the Song Thrush is the one who usually *repeats each phrase*, between two and seven times, before moving on to the next. There are other remarkable features to its song. I was stood at our backdoor listening to a Song Thrush in February 2021, when a Buzzard circled over Church Street. The Thrush dropped its established pattern of phrases and slipped into a series of perfect ‘mews’ – exactly like those that a Buzzard makes. I was so astonished that I stood for some time to make sure I was not imagining things, but the Buzzard was definitely silent and it was all coming from the Thrush. It is only recently that I heard this is a well-recorded behaviour. What better way to warn all your feathered friends of a predator in the neighbourhood?

Monyash Newsletter: Editor, Simon Corble – email corblesimon@gmail.com; text **07930 266218**; tel. (01629) **813083**
Masthead drawing by Judy Corble. Printed on 100% recycled paper, (but not this month) at The Byways, Church St. DE45 1JH.