



Sheffield from Brown Edge.  
Photo: Dave Parry.

# PEAK AREA NEWSLETTER



January 2018  
peakarea@gmail.com

## Rocking Chair

Rob Greenwood



**First and foremost, Happy New Year to you all! I hope 2018 has got off to a good start.**

2017 was undoubtedly a year to remember as far as the BMC was concerned, with an unprecedented number of hot topics: the AGM to end all AGMs, Aldery-gate, commercial partnerships, the rebolting of Horseshoe, and a whole lot more. Why do I recount this now? Simply to show how much goes on within the space of a single year and the major role that the area meetings play: we are the focal point for discussion within the organisation.

On the topic of ‘the organisation’, something we are likely to hear a lot more about throughout the year ahead is the Organisational Review. In relation to area meetings, I have no doubt their importance within the fabric of the BMC is set to continue, but I am interested to hear plans on how greater membership engagement can be achieved – both in and out of area meetings. Alongside your traditional climbers, there are now a great many hill walkers in attendance, which is absolutely fantastic, but a lot of work still needs to be done (something I constantly repeat to both myself and our hill walking reps!). *Cont ...*

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Next meeting: Wednesday 31 January, 7.30 p.m.  
The Maynard, Grindleford, S32 2HE



Kinder Southern Edges.  
Photo: John Coe field.

By contrast, very few – if any – competition climbers attend the meeting, so are we letting them down? Part of the appeal for the BMC for me is that it is a fantastically broad church, but it's difficult to cater for everyone within the current framework.

So taking this into consideration, might I suggest we all keep an open mind, listen to the opinions of others, and express our own when the time comes – the organisation is stronger for it.

P.S. Our next meeting on 31 January will feature two exciting features: first up, a raffle to raise money for **Mend Our Mountains**, with prizes donated by **Cotswold Outdoor** and **Montane**. And, second, Cumbria's premier after-dinner speaker, **James McHaffie**, will entertain us following the usual chips and butties.

## Access News

Henry Folkard



### Happy New Year

On the climbing front things have been pretty quiet since the last newsletter, apart from some concerns regarding **Millers Dale's** Squirrel and Ravenfoot buttresses. The sensitivity here is about damage to vegetation, disturbance to wildlife and dislike of anyone being there by one to whom aficionados of **Water cum Jolly** will be all too familiar. If you do visit these crags – and not many climbers do – it's as well to be aware familiar gripes have had another airing.

There is more to report from the **Dark Peak moors**. Though no leases have been formally signed yet, National Trust will be letting the shooting rights on three of their four moorlands – but letting them with a difference. The difference is that while **grouse shooting** will be permitted, driven grouse shooting will not. Driven grouse shooting involves keepers driving birds

towards butts where the wealthy lie in wait to blast them to pieces – having probably been driven there in 4x4 vehicles. Plain grouse shooting is really rough shooting, but you have to do something called ‘walking’, which the chauffeured elite perhaps don’t know too much about. On the fourth moor no shooting at all is permitted.

Also, the National Trust, through their preferred tenants on these moors, will actively encourage increased numbers of raptors, in stark contrast to the disappearance of nearly all such birds from adjoining moors. In a statement, the Trust said: *‘The tenants will have the opportunity over the next five years to work in partnership with the Trust to demonstrate that less intensive forms of grouse shooting can be compatible with the charity’s High Peak Moors Vision.’*

Contrast that with a report in the news and comment section of the January edition of *British Birds* magazine: *‘Multiple sources present at the November 2017 meeting of Defra’s Raptor Persecution Delivery Group have informed the Raptor Persecution blog that the Moorland Association is seeking licences from Natural England to kill Marsh Harriers.’*

And the next news item in the magazine? Reports of the disappearance of yet two more tagged Hen Harriers.

I will know more about developments – sadly I can’t say progress – on five **moorland tracks** after a meeting which is set for a couple of days after the newsletter print deadline [stop press: now postponed – Ed]. The plastic matting which crosses Cut Gate where it becomes Midhope Moor has yet to be removed, and is now the subject of a retrospective planning application. The BMC has written to object to this unwelcome intrusion on an open landscape before, and will do so again.

The other tracks are Cut Throat, Foulstone Delf, the track in between the two where a new track to grouse butts just

after the stream has been started, and the track behind Crow Chin. If there is time at the meeting to say more on each of these I will, but if not, feel free to ask over butties. The good news here is that Terra Firma have done a first-rate job on Foulstone Delf, so well done them, and thanks a lot!

On **public rights of way** and access issues generally don’t forget the Peak Local Access Forum has a ‘wish list’ of improvements you would like to see (and a fund you can donate to, to help deliver the wish).

Someone phoned to ask if it was OK to climb over a wall on access land – assuming there was no convenient gate or stile. While remembering one should always act responsibly, reasonably and respectfully, this is what chapter 1 paragraph 2 (1) of the CROW Act (2000) says:

*‘Any person is entitled by virtue of this subsection to enter and remain on any access land for the purpose of open air recreation, if and so long as – (a) he [or she?] does so without breaking or damaging any wall, fence, hedge, stile or gate, and (b) he observes general restrictions in Schedule 2 and any other restrictions imposed in relation to the land under Chapter II.’*

Behind the scenes the BMC has been busy locally making representation on the Peak District National Park Authority’s draft Transport Design Guidance and draft Planning Guidance, and nationally on important speeches by Michael Gove and Theresa May regarding post-Brexit agricultural policy, including access, and environmental vision for the next 25 years. The BMC was party to a press release issued by the Wildlife and Countryside Link. I can’t pretend to have got my head round all this yet, but hope to have done so by the time of the meeting.

One thing I have flagged (again) though, in relation to the announcement about the



Fairbrook Naze, Kinder Northern Edges.  
Photo: John Coe field.

new northern forest along the M62, for which £5.7m has been pledged, is the need to retain land that is currently open access as open access even if it becomes wooded. As things stand the definition of open access land does not include woodland, so there could be very substantial losses when (and if) the new mapping exercise happens.

The **Sheffield Lakeland Project**, 'a more connected and resilient landscape for people and wildlife,' progresses. This covers the land between the national park and Sheffield, roughly the Derwent Edges watershed to Oughtibridge and Langsett to Redmires. It's perhaps not prime BMC territory, but is nonetheless a thoroughly worthwhile project, and will, amongst other things, improve facilities for water sports significantly.

We said goodbye to **Bill Gordon** in grand style at the end of November, with lots of climbers popping in. Sad to see him go, but what a terrific contribution he made – Bill has left a legacy which will endure.

A date for your diary: the **Spirit of Kinder** event this year is being hosted by the Manchester Ramblers (how appropriate) at the Friends' Meeting House in Manchester on 21 April.

Finally, I do not usually quote poetry in Access Notes, but how do you like these few lines from the Scottish poet Norman MacCaig in his poem *A man in Assynt*:

*Who possesses this landscape? –  
The man who bought it or  
I who am possessed by it?*

*False questions, for  
this landscape is  
masterless  
and intractable in any terms  
that are human.*

# Hill Walking Notes

Peter Judd

## Winy Weather on the Hills

There's already been some good snowy conditions on the Peak District hills this winter and there is every prospect of more to come. I hope you managed to get out and enjoy the white hills while they lasted. Should you take any good wintry photos then do please consider sending them in for our next newsletter, or for the Peak Area Facebook page.

## Mend Our Mountains Make a Million Campaign

The second BMC Mend Our Mountains campaign got off to a grand start with a packed reception at the Houses of Parliament back in November (Peak Area volunteers formed part of the BMC's presence, encouraging attendees to look favourably upon our own area's projects).

I'm sure you'll already know that the Peak District National Park Authority chose to feature parts of the path along Great Ridge (its various eroded, boggy and multi-tracked sections between Hollins Cross and Lose Hill in particular) and a section of the Cut Gate bridleway (the so-called 'Bog of Doom' on the section near Featherbed Moss). The latter is a particularly interesting project being a very welcome collaboration with the local mountain biking community, who have already built up a tremendous head of steam in support of that particular project. I was delighted to hear that this reception, aimed at corporate and larger donors, led to some substantial donations, giving the campaign an excellent start, so I have every confidence that this early momentum will be sustained right through. You'll find our two projects listed on this page: [mendmountains.thebmc.co.uk](http://mendmountains.thebmc.co.uk)

The public donation phase of the campaign will be launched and heavily promoted at this year's Sheffield Adventure Film Festival in March. The PDNPA already has a range of profile raising and fundraising activities planned, however, I am really keen that we, BMC Peak Area hill walkers, get actively involved in supporting our own two projects in as many imaginative and compelling ways as we can this summer. So: could you help? Do you have ideas for things we could do that would direct attention towards the scheme, or to help raise money to add to the total? Would you join a headtorch night walk along Great Ridge perhaps? Or a day walk along Cut Gate from Langsett to Slippery Stones? If either of these is of interest or you have other event/promotion ideas then do please get in touch (my email address is in the contact list on page 16). Please pop your thinking caps on, get your boots ready and let's make it abundantly clear for all to see that we care deeply about our own damaged paths and wholeheartedly back this tremendous campaign!

Mend Our Mountains Make One Million is about more than just raising money. It's also about drawing attention to the importance of our upland paths, the need for all users (plus businesses and other organisations that benefit financially from people going out on to our hills) to share some responsibility for the impact we all have on these places we love. But it doesn't end there, the campaign also aims to show the powers that be just how much people care about our uplands and by so doing that we expect them to show better support for our national parks and in other ways take more seriously our concerns about our upland landscapes. That's why its success matters so much.



*Profit of Rolls, Curbar.  
Photo: Mark Rankine.*

# Climbing News & Gossip

Dave Parry

**So 2018 is here and we welcome in January's largely abysmal weather with the same degree of resignation that you would experience opening your front door to a bailiff intent on repossessing your telly. But still as the arbitrary calendar threshold passes we are forced to mull over the prospects of the year ahead.**

Will trad limestone in the Peak undergo a renaissance? (Spoiler: probably not.) Will the price of rock shoes creep ever higher relative to hardware and other gear? (Spoiler: yes.) Will the Cornice be dry? (Spoiler: possibly.) Will you get parked at Burbage on a sunny bank holiday? (Spoiler: only if you're early.) Will Simon Lee finally do the *Oak* this year? (Spoiler: unlikely.)

But looking back at recent big numbers first, Dan Turner has eventually succeeded in his long running quest to repeat *Voyager Sit Start* at Burbage. This is a good effort especially considering Dan isn't local so nabbing this problem ain't trivial, the difficulty of the climbing aside. You've got to juggle finding it in good nick, decent weather and being in good enough physical shape to climb Font 8b+ on a problem with holds so sharp you can't have many quality attempts. Probably logistically easier to fly to Rocklands for your fill of 8b+s rather than project this one. Dan does a 'vlog', which millennials assure me is some variety of moving picture that you get on one of those interweb netsites they have now. It's worth surfing over to download Dan's Ceefax page on Myspace or Askjeeves or something to get an idea of the grief he's gone through to do this problem. I take my hat off to him.

At the diametrically opposed end of the crimp-sloper spectrum, Ned Feehally has done a new line on the back highball side of

the Flat Cap boulder. That's the big one that almost hangs over Mother Cap Quarry. This problem bears all the usual Ned hallmarks – high, necky, slopey, heels above your head, mantel finish. Graded vaguely at 8a-ish, Ned did this before unfortunately making a solid attempt at entering the Tommy Caldwell nine-finger club (see his Instagram photo for grim detail). We would like to wish Ned a speedy recovery and return to his recent good form.

As you might expect in the dead of winter, news from the limestone is thin on the ground, but it seems that steely next-generation firebrands Will Bosi and Jim Pope both repeated *Make it Funky* (F8c) at the Tor in December. This hard classic Zippy testpiece famously features a horror-show mono move which sees most suitors scuttling back to the car faster than you can say 'tendon pulley rupture'. Might even have been done in a session by Will, which is trebly impressive. Also on the fast-limestone-repeat-by-young-climbers front, Molly Thompson-Smith repeated *Mecca* in November, clearly going well having done it in three sessions, and also repeating *Tsunami* at Rubicon (Font 8a) a couple of weeks before. Kids today, showing no respect for the previous generations' ideas of what hard climbing – which is, of course, exactly how it should be.

While the recent weather has been dank and uninspiring, a few hardy and psyched souls have kept the first ascent fires burning over winter. James Jacobs and associates lugged a few pads up to Curbar to knock off what was apparently an unclimbed prow beneath *Profit of Doom*. Dropping off at the break, the landing looks a little stepped so some care required. Latterly a vague presumptive retroclaim came to the surface

(known in the trade as a 'Pat King') via Countryfile regular and Cadfael tribute abseiler Adam Long, who attributes the likely first ascent to Ben Bransby. Seems plausible. But anyway, graded 7a and rebranded *Profit Of Rolls* it looks to be the cream of the crop, no doubt climbed when the crag was otherwise deserted. Uses a knee at the start although you'll still need a decent pair of rock-choux. Sorry.

In more timely Bransby news, inching ever closer to ticking the entirety of Stanage, Ben has given us a fantastic and hard looking 8a up at the north end of the crag, left of *Good Clean Fun*. The new line takes a sinuous line of flared vertical cracks and looks top quality. The problem was named *Requiem for Klem* after Ben's recently departed canine companion, thus ensuring his immortality in climbing folklore. This is a lot better problem name than most of Ben's new problems (*My Passing Acquaintance the Passion Fruit* etc.) but given Ben's new problem productivity this naming ploy could exact a terrible rate of attrition on any future pets Ben might have, so I can understand if this is a one-off.

Also at Stanage, the crag that keeps on giving, Mark Rankine played safe with the name of his new problem *Wall End Dad*, being right of *Wall End Grab*. It's a 6c slab/wall, the general location of which should be evident from the name. There's also a similarly imaginatively named 6a on the right side of the upper slab of *Wall End Slab*. Slab devotees may also enjoy *Nine Pebble Slab* at Froggatt which has been cleaned recently. It weighs in at a highball 7a although pedants should note it now sports fewer than the advertised number of pebbles. If that trend continues it'll eventually be called 'Nein Pebble Slab'. Mark also reports a new 7b+ problem at Jackson Tor by Neil 'Old Cheese' Amos. Named *Full Time Sit Start* it takes the left side of the classic 6a arete. Apparently good rock but

with a 'dog turd and glass landing'. Perhaps one for the Lancashire crew? Actually no, he said GOOD rock.

A Peak news report wouldn't be complete without a paragraph unnecessarily padded out with superficial words to fill some space, in the time-honoured fashion. This is a self-enforced tradition I intend to maintain even though it takes considerable effort and is of no tangible benefit to neither reader nor author, and in fact is likely detrimental to the overall quality of the article. This time said time-wasting passage is dedicated to committed esoterist and new problem supremo Jon Fullwood, so here is that aforementioned paragraph which you are reading now, currently. Jon has done a couple of new things at Wharnccliffe, north Sheffield's premier coal measure sandstone crag and one that it's fair to say is not on many boulderers' radar. Most of the existing bouldering at Wharnccliffe is down to Jon in some way, and now he's unearthed a couple of new ones, including a 7b called *Up to a Point* at the main Hell's Gate bit of the crag, and also another 7b sit start on a free-standing block downhill from the route *Mad as a Mad Thing* (Belle Vue area). Named *My Condition*, it looks dynamic and technical.

Jon's also added a couple of trad/highball/solo lines (delete as applicable), including an E2 direct start to the aforementioned *Mad as a Mad Thing* and another E2, an alternative proper start to the E1 *Moment Of Madness*. Search out Jon's Instagram video for beta on all of the above. I would give you a link, but it doesn't work in print and I would rather you experience the thrill of the chase. What am I, your slave?

### Get in touch

Send your Peak area news, gossip or article ideas to me at: [peakarea@gmail.com](mailto:peakarea@gmail.com)



*Nine Pebble Slab, Froggatt.  
Photo: Chris Taylor.*



Beeston Tor back in 2009.  
Photo: John Coefield.

# Clean Climbing on Staffordshire Limestone

Gary Gibson

**Over the past couple of months a major clean-up operation has been undertaken in line with an agreement made between the National Trust, Natural England and the BMC. This programme of effort was signed off at the June 2017 Peak Area meeting.**

It is worth noting that both the National Trust and Natural England have been very supportive of this request, although it was agreed that any work undertaken would have to be done prior to the end of January 2018 in order that any nesting birds or wildlife would not be affected.

At **Beeston Tor** a major cleaning operation to the lower sections of *Midnight Mass*, *Central Wall*, *Catharsis*, *Black Grub*, *Cleo's Mood* and *The Fly* has enabled removal of large areas of grass and ivy. These routes have also had all of their thread runners re-assessed and replaced where necessary. On the right-hand side of the crag *Solution Pollution*, *Majolica*, *Faience* and *Go Budgie Go* have had their lower section of ivy removed, all threads re-assessed and replaced and bolt belays added replacing the old rotting and unsightly thread lower-offs. *Beeston Eliminate* has been cleaned up and the large rose bush adorning the second pitch removed. *The Thorn* has had its in-situ gear re-assessed and checked.

On the rebolting front, *666* and *Honorary Buoux* have been completely rebolted with new belays added. In all cases, any bolts that have been placed are composed of 316 stainless steel, glue-in or otherwise.

On **Drabber Tor** in **Wolfscoate Dale** most of the existing routes have been cleaned up and a number of bolt belays

added to prevent damage to the fence at the top of the crag. On the **Left Celestial Twin**, many of the old threads have been re-assessed and replaced where necessary. Similarly, **Pikes Crag** in **Beresford Dale** has been tidied up, even though it is on private land.

On **Ravens Tor** in **Dovedale**, the belay pegs on *Southern Rib* have been replaced with two bolts, and on the cleaning front *Central Wall*, *Aquarius*, *Raven*, *Gastrocnemius Rex*, *Venery* and *Parrot Face* have had large amounts of ivy removed and the routes cleaned up.

On **Tissington Spires** in **Dovedale**, the belays on *Zulu Dawn*, *John Peel* and *Yew Tree Wall* have all been replaced with new 316 stainless steel belays. There are still the belays on *Brutus* and *Caesar* to replace but as there are no belays at the top of the cliff, these will have to be replaced in the spring when the routes can be climbed and the belays placed.

There is still a bit more work to be done on other areas, such as **Pickering Tor** and **Dove Holes** in **Dovedale**, but this will have to wait until the crags dry out.

These are efforts to get the crags cleaned up as the new *Peak Limestone South* guidebook arrives on the shelves. Please help to keep these crags clean by climbing on them in the near future. If they are lost to the vegetation again, they may be lost forever.

The funding and work done on all of these routes was provided by Gary Gibson with some support from Jim Titt at Bolt Products.

## Full list of routes cleaned and re-equipped

The following work has been done in line with the agreement made between the National Trust, Natural England and the BMC in order to 'renovate' some of the established crags within the dales listed.

### Wolfscoate Dale – Left Celestial Twin

*Fingerdrive, A Man Possessed, The Man They Love To Hate and Strangely Possessed:* all threads replaced with new rope cord where necessary.

### Wolfscoate Dale – Drabber Tor

*War:* thread replaced with new cord and bolt belay added to prevent damage to the fence at the top of the crag.

*Perlusive:* bolt belay added to prevent damage to the fence at the top of the crag.

The crag has generally been cleaned up as agreed.

### Manifold Valley – The Chimney

The crag has been thoroughly cleaned up with the veil of hazel trees covering the front of the crag removed in agreement with the National Trust. The existing routes have been re-cleaned and rebolted except for *Rain Games* which will be done as soon as possible.

### Manifold Valley – Beeston Tor

The crag has had a general tidy up with all of the following routes attended to:

*The Thorn:* peg and in-situ slings checked and top groove tidied up.

*Beeston Eliminate:* large thorn bush blocking entry to the final pitch removed. Final pitch recleaned.

*666:* rebolted with stainless steel bolts and hangers (316) and new belay added.

*Midnight Mass:* recleaned down to the belay ledge and threads replaced.

*Catharsis:* recleaned down to the belay ledge and old threads replaced.

*Central Wall:* completely cleaned down to the peg belay on the ledge.

*Black Grub:* bottom of climb recleaned. Old threads replaced with new cord.

*Cleo's Mood:* completely recleaned and old threads replaced.

*The Fly:* completely recleaned.

*Solution Pollution:* large area of ivy removed. Threads replaced with cord and bolt belay (316 stainless steel glue-ins) added.

*Majolica:* large area of ivy removed.

Threads replaced with cord and bolt belay (316 stainless steel glue-ins) added to replace tatty and unsightly old thread belay.

*Faience:* threads replaced with cord and bolt belay (316 stainless steel glue-ins) added to replace tatty and unsightly old thread belay.

*Go Budgie Go:* all threads replaced.

*Honorary Buoux:* regearred and new belay added (all 316 stainless steel glue-ins) and large elderberry tree cut back.



Dovedale. Photo: John Coefield.

### **Dovedale – Ravens Tor**

*Southern Rib*: new bolt belay added to replace rotting pegs. All 316 stainless steel glue-ins.

*Central Wall*: ivy stripped back to allow route to be climbed.

*Raven*: ivy stripped back to allow route to be climbed.

*Gastrocnemius Rex*: ivy stripped back to allow route to be climbed.

*Venery/Parrot Face*: ivy on lower section of route stripped back.

### **Dovedale – Tissington Spires**

*Zulu Dawn*: new belay added (316 stainless steel glue-ins).

### **To do:**

Bolt belays at the top of *Caesar*, *Brutus*, *Yew Tree Wall* and *John Peel* could not be placed due to any available belays at the top. This will be done in the spring.

Bolt belay atop *Pickering Tor* could not be placed due to poor weather and difficulty of access. This will be done in the spring.

# National Trust Update: January 2018

Luke Barley, National Trust

**One of the many great things about being a ranger is the fact that on the best days our work takes us a long way from a computer!**

When the news is as depressing as that we've seen in recent months, it can be a great relief to bury ourselves in planting sphagnum or felling trees, and for a few hours just think about the ground beneath our feet and the tools in our hands. It won't be a new idea to BMC members that focusing our minds completely on the task immediately at hand – be it felling or planting, or climbing or walking – centres our minds and improves our mental well-being. There's lots of evidence that engaging in this state of 'flow' in the outdoors has even better effects – which again won't be new to you.

But nature conservation can never really be an escape; it's always political and we can't avoid the connection between our satisfying day on the tools and the wider world of political decision making. On which note (bear with me), as I write, 'our' world has been high on the news agenda with the government's proposals to restructure farm subsidies post-Brexit to ensure that they're only paid in return for 'public goods'. This would mean that farmers and landowners don't get paid just for owning land but for providing benefits that are currently often external to the market, such as improved biodiversity, flood prevention, carbon storage, and recreational access. This is good news for those of us involved with nature conservation, sustainable land management and public access and the ideas outlined are closely aligned with the National Trust's proposals for the future of these schemes (which you can see by following the links below). We can only hope that the bold words of the last

couple of weeks are followed by concrete policies – and this process should be of continuing interest to all of us who care about conservation and access in the Peak District.

Back on those day-to-day tasks, most of our major projects are funded by the government's current, more limited system of grants for providing 'public goods' on the land.

In the White Peak, we've begun our woodland management project in response to ash dieback. This has seen us felling 'coupes' around the size of four tennis courts or occasionally bigger depending on the terrain and the height of trees surrounding them – we always aim for the coupe to be twice as wide as the trees are tall, to ensure enough light gets in. The coupes are located mainly around specimens of trees other than ash, in the hope that they'll be able to seed in to the new clearings and we'll see more field maple, lime, elm and oak in our woods, with the saplings getting a head start on the ash trees dying. In some areas, such as where there's only ash, we'll also plant some trees of other locally native species over the next few years, and we're growing some of these from local seed and cuttings at the National Trust's plant propagation centre in Devon. Getting stuck in to the project has proved a huge learning curve, with the coupes all located on steep dalesides and a good hike in from any vehicle access, but it's great work and gratifying to be taking positive action to improve the health and biodiversity of the woods in the face of what could be a pretty depressing threat.

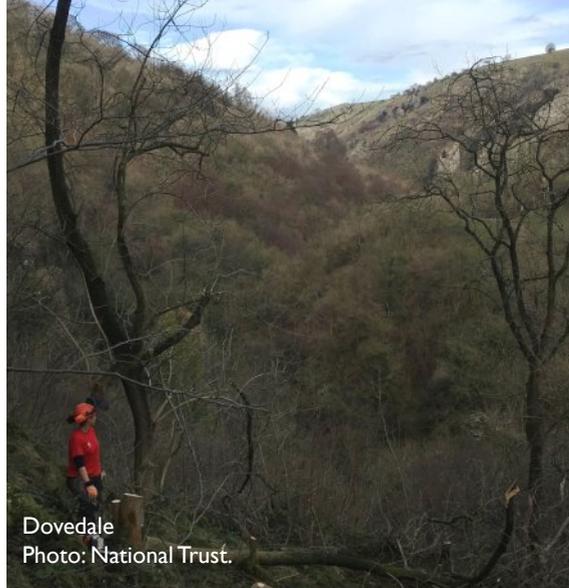
Improvements to the visitor offer at Ilam have begun in earnest with a planning application currently in for the proposed

development of the car park. We've also started planning for improvements to the parkland that will benefit nature, the historic designed landscape, and the remnant historic built features, and for changes to the visitor centre, tea room and shop that will make our facilities more appropriate for visitors, including making them more accessible.

MoorLIFE 2020 continues in the High Peak, with heather cutting and sphagnum planting ongoing in a really substantial work programme to restore the health of the moors. As mentioned in previous articles, it's now thirty years since the restoration of Kinder kicked off and you can see progress from space! Toggling between old layers and the current layer on Google Earth shows a dramatic change from a black landscape of exposed peat hags – with carbon rich peat washing quickly off the moor during every rain – to a green, revegetated expanse where peat is locked up (and even building again) and the progress of water to the valleys and towns below is slowed.

The restoration of the clough woodlands also continues apace with some work this winter and a lot of planning for the next phase. Some of the existing planting is being affected by sheep getting into the enclosures, so please do close any gates you see open into these areas and let us know about any sheep you see inside by calling 01433 670 368.

You may have seen Longshaw on Countryfile on Christmas Eve – if not, check it out on iPlayer! The rangers have been working alongside volunteers including a working holiday group to restore a public footpath through Hay Wood that had become lost through disuse, and they're also about to create a tree nursery where we can grow trees from seed gathered on site into the next generation of saplings to plant back out as part of our wood pasture and woodland conservation work.



Dovedale  
Photo: National Trust.

You'll have noticed a woodland emphasis in this update and we're also about to launch a Peak-District-wide Woodland Appeal. We'll be using a 'click-to-donate' button on the website to attempt to raise £50,000 this year to fund our woodland management in the White Peak, clough woodland creation in the High Peak and the tree nursery at Longshaw. We're planning a series of launch events including a Coppice Day at Longshaw on Sunday 18 February that will feature a wide range of woodland activities and demos including green woodworking and horse logging. Follow us on Twitter, Facebook and Instagram, or on our pages on the National Trust website, to find out more (search for National Trust Peak District).

For more information about the National Trust's position on farming and payments, have a look at these links:

**[www.nationaltrust.org.uk/news/our-plan-to-restore-nature-at-our-places](http://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/news/our-plan-to-restore-nature-at-our-places)**  
**[www.nationaltrust.org.uk/news/great-test-opportunity-in-a-generation-for-our-countryside-to-thrive](http://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/news/great-test-opportunity-in-a-generation-for-our-countryside-to-thrive)**

For more information about the National Trust's work in the Peak District, please email: [peakdistrict@nationaltrust.org.uk](mailto:peakdistrict@nationaltrust.org.uk)

# Peak Area Meetings

2018

31 January, 7.30 p.m.  
The Maynard, Grindleford

4 April, 7.30 p.m.  
The Maynard, Grindleford

23 May, 7.30 p.m.  
The Maynard, Grindleford

5 September, 7.30 p.m.  
The Maynard, Grindleford

21 November, 7.30 p.m.  
The Maynard, Grindleford

## Forthcoming Events

<http://community.thebmc.co.uk/peak>

**Banff Mountain Film Festival World Tour**  
**6 February, 7.30 p.m.**

**Victoria Hall, Stoke on Trent**  
**17 March, 7.00 p.m.**

**Buxton Opera House**  
Find out more: [www.banff-uk.com](http://www.banff-uk.com)

**Best of ShAFF: Mountain**  
**8 February, 7.00 p.m.**

**Regather Cooperative, Sheffield**  
A unique cinematic and musical collaboration between the Australian Chamber Orchestra and BAFTA-nominated director Jennifer Peedom, *Mountain* is a dazzling exploration of our obsession with mountains.

Find out more: [www.shaff.co.uk](http://www.shaff.co.uk)

**BAF: Alan Hinkes and Terry Abraham**  
**13 February, 7.30 p.m.**

**Buxton Opera House**  
Watch Terry Abraham's new film about Alan Hinkes; both Alan and Terry will be at the event to present the film and hold a Q&A.

Find out more:

[www.buxtonadventurefestival.co.uk](http://www.buxtonadventurefestival.co.uk)

## BMC Peak Area Contacts

Peak Area Chair: Rob Greenwood.  
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Next meeting: Wednesday 31 January, 7.30 p.m.  
The Maynard, Grindleford, S32 2HE