

Hello again Buxton Town Team members.

The first month of the year has rushed by incredibly fast. There's been a flurry of new projects approved (more below), and more, we hope, in the pipeline, so lots of activity for you to join in with. Our first Ideas & Action Meeting of the year was very well attended, we had a good discussion of the housekeeping problems faced by the town and came up with some ideas of how to address them - collaboration between the different groups and HPBC is key to this and there's a joint meeting at the Town Hall this Monday to take the ideas forward.

Dates coming up imminently:

**SATURDAY 4th FEBRUARY, 10am-12pm**  
**THE SLOPES CARE TEAM**

The team have been doing a fantastic job cleaning the moss off the perimeter walls, the before and after pictures of Terrace Road generated a flood of rave reviews on Facebook! Everyone is welcome to join in. If you can't make this Saturday, other dates in February are: **Thursday 9th February, Saturday 18th February, Thursday 23rd February, all 10am-12pm**. We do have some tools, but if you have a favourite barrow, scraper or wire brush, please bring it along. Jim has also arranged a meeting with HPBC officers to talk about other work there, such as refurbishing benches and minor masonry repairs. For more information, or if you have relevant building skills, please get in touch with Jim - [jim.lowe54@yahoo.com](mailto:jim.lowe54@yahoo.com)

**SUNDAY 5th FEBRUARY, 11am-1pm**  
**LITTER PICKING WALK**

Our regular monthly outing to tidy up whichever area of the town most needs it. The plan for February is to meet at the bottom of Nunsfield Road and do some tidying up around there, up Fairfield Road and onto the Common. Dress up warmly and wear gloves and stout footwear; litter-pickers, bags and hi viz jackets are provided, a wheelbarrow is always useful if you have one. We're always on the lookout for places in need of attention, if you've a suggestion let Karen know - [stoop.farm@btinternet.com](mailto:stoop.farm@btinternet.com) - or ask her to add you to the circulation list so she can let you know where to meet up each time.

**WEDNESDAY 15th FEBRUARY, 7:30pm, UNIVERSITY DOME**  
**IDEAS & ACTION MEETING**

Our main monthly get together, which everyone is welcome to attend. As previously advertised, the main topic this time will be disability issues and how Buxton could be more user friendly, for those with hidden disabilities as well as the visible ones. We're inviting people who are experts in this to guide our discussions. There'll also be the usual updates on projects and town matters, please come along, maybe even volunteer to help out with something. Don't forget, if you aren't already on the circulation list for the agenda and notes, let us know and we'll add you - [townteam@buxtontownteam.org](mailto:townteam@buxtontownteam.org)

Now, about those newly approved projects we mentioned:

**BUXTON RAILINGS CLEAN (TUESDAY 25TH APRIL)**

This will be the third year we've had teams out cleaning the winter algae off the Pavilion Gardens railings. The first year we had over 100 schoolchildren, last year it was over 500, this year ... who knows? As well as involving all the local schools, we have students from Buxton & Leek College and the University helping with the planning and organising. If you could help either with the advance planning or on the day, Suzanne would love to hear from you - [suzannepearson.art@googlemail.com](mailto:suzannepearson.art@googlemail.com)

**BUXTON SPRING FAIR (MONDAY 1ST MAY)**

Yes, the fifth Buxton Spring Fair will go ahead, the save the date emails have gone out to everyone we have contact details for and we've already had a good response - last year's torrential rain doesn't seem to have put people off. Please make sure you spread the word to all your contacts - clubs, charities, traders, community groups etc are all welcome to take stall space and we're always on the lookout for musicians, dance groups and other performers. The project team could do with a couple of extra people to help with the planning and organising, and of course we will need a big team of volunteers on the day. For more information or to get involved please contact Richard or Linda - [richard.lower2@gmail.com](mailto:richard.lower2@gmail.com) or [springfair@buxtontownteam.org](mailto:springfair@buxtontownteam.org)

### **BUXTON GARDEN TRAIL 2017 (WEEKEND 10TH & 11TH JUNE)**

Last year's Open Gardens trail was hugely successful, and it was just a trial run! This year it will coincide with the new RHS Show at Chatsworth, so will be a great opportunity to show off Buxton's horticultural splendour to visitors from all over the country. If you've a garden you're proud of and would like to be included, or for more information generally, get in touch with Jo - [joanddaveholdway@gmail.com](mailto:joanddaveholdway@gmail.com)

### **PEAK DISTRICT BOUNDARY WALK LAUNCH EVENT (SATURDAY 17th JUNE)**

A new long distance footpath, the only one that forms a complete circle around a National Park boundary, and its official start point is on Buxton's Market Place! Where better?! It's the brainchild of Friends of the Peak District, but they asked us to organise the launch event - which will be massive! We're thinking a special outdoor activities market (working with Buxton Markets), VIP visitors and speechifying, unveiling of a plaque, a 'live' board to record the progress of the first walkers to officially complete each stage, food and drink, music and dancing. To do all that though we will need help, with admin, organising and creative stuff. All offers welcome, get in touch with Tina - [heathcote.foxlow@btinternet.com](mailto:heathcote.foxlow@btinternet.com)

And of course there's our other ongoing project:

### **ASHWOOD PARK REGENERATION**

Huge thanks to the guys on the Community Payback Team who have done a fantastic job grubbing out shrubs and saplings from the railings alongside the river, it really has opened up the park wonderfully. They'll be back at the end of March to paint the railings, and between now and then we need a team of web-footed waterlovers to clear vegetation from the river side; if you could help with this let Richard know - [richard.lower2@gmail.com](mailto:richard.lower2@gmail.com) We're also looking for someone with a metal detector to help locate the drainage covers - we know they're there somewhere, hidden under the grass ...

There's other projects we'd like to see go ahead, we're still looking for someone to step forward and make them happen:

### **PROJECT LEADERS WANTED!!**

**BUXTON IN BLOOM:** We've already put the word out that this year's colours are 'very, very vibrant and hot, hot, hot!' so Buxton should be a riot of colour this summer. There's nothing like a bit of competition to encourage people though - we need a small team to co-ordinate local competitions for best garden, hanging basket, allotment, flowerpot person etc. This includes updating the entry forms, advertising the competition, keeping track of entries, organising the judges and hosting the prize presentation.

**EAST MIDLANDS IN BLOOM:** We've previously included this as part of Buxton in Bloom but we're suggesting it could be run separately. Entering Buxton in the East Midlands in Bloom competition involves organising and hosting the judges' visit in July, and pulling together a portfolio of everything horticultural, community and sustainable that has happened in the town in the last 12 months - lots of town team projects but also initiatives by Buxton Civic Association, Transition Buxton, the Serpentine Community Farm, Fairfield Community Wildlife, University of Derby, churches, gardening groups, schools, businesses etc.

**BUXTON SPRING CLEAN:** We could tie this in with the Great British Spring Clean from 3rd - 5th March, or it could be a bit later, in better weather. We ran two very successful Spring Cleans in 2014 and 2015, then we set up the regular litter picking walks, the phantom sign painter got to work, we had the Ashwood Park and Slopes Care teams taking care of specific bits of the town ... Now though, a lot of the signage and street furniture around town is looking decidedly grim. We need a 'grot-spotting' exercise to identify what needs doing, set a date for the clean, recruit helpers via our huge network of businesses and sister organisations, gather together the cleaning materials and allocate jobs to the hoards who turn up on the day.

**TALKING SIGNPOSTS:** It's hugely popular with visitors to the town, who love having a real person to talk to, who knows the town and can point them to things they might otherwise miss. We need someone to co-ordinate the volunteers over the summer (we use a doodle-poll so it's not onerous) and to keep them motivated, and supplied with town guides, tabards, signs and badges.

If you think any of these sounds like your sort of thing, let us know. They're all projects we've run before, so the templates are there, and there will be lots of help and support. Get in touch and we'll talk you through what's involved - [townteam@buxtontownteam.org](mailto:townteam@buxtontownteam.org)

Last but not least, you may want to have your say on the following:

**COUNTRYFILE PARK OF THE YEAR:** The Peak District is one of five national parks nominated for the award, winning would be a big boost for the area - and especially well-deserved in the year when the new Boundary Walk is launched! Please vote - <http://www.countryfile.com/article/national-park-year> The closing date is 28th February.

**DERBYSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL PARKING PROPOSALS:** These were published in the Buxton Advertiser, and allegedly there's a copy at the Library. They don't seem to be available on the DCC website, though, so we've posted them on ours so you know what is being put forward - <http://buxtownteam.org/working-on/buxton-on-the-move/parking-traffic-order/> We are sending a formal Buxton Town Team response (that will be up on the website very soon), if you want to send your own comments you need to do it by 10th February, you can email them to [netmanadmin@derbyshire.gov.uk](mailto:netmanadmin@derbyshire.gov.uk).

**DERBYSHIRE & DERBY MINERALS LOCAL PLAN:** A joint local plan is in preparation, covering minerals extraction to 2030 for all of the county not within the national park. In the immediate area it includes a planning application for expansion of the Ashwood Dale Quarry. You can see details of both and talk to planning officers at a Drop-In Session on Monday 6th February 2:00-6:30pm, at Buxton Library. Or there's lots of information on the DCC website - <https://consultations.derbyshirepartnership.gov.uk/consult.ti/dccmlp/consultationhome?> That's all for now. As ever there's more information about what the Town Team has been doing on the [website](#) and on our [Facebook page](#).

Hope to see you soon,  
Janet, Tina, Andy, John and Matthew,  
Your Town Team Communications Team