

# Sunday at the Palace

2.30-5pm, Sunday 10 April

Join us for afternoon tea and music at the Palace Hotel, Buxton on Sunday 10 April.

A wide variety of performers, ranging from the nationally acclaimed Tideswell Male Voice Choir to the talented young Flute Salad Ensemble, will ensure there is music for every taste.

Afternoon tea will be provided and, best of all, the event is free to BCA members and friends or relatives who may be interested in joining us! Directors and committee members will also be on hand to talk about the work of the Association.

We hope to attract new members, and encourage more members to become actively involved, to increase our effectiveness in Buxton.

**Your complimentary ticket enclosed guarantees free admission.**

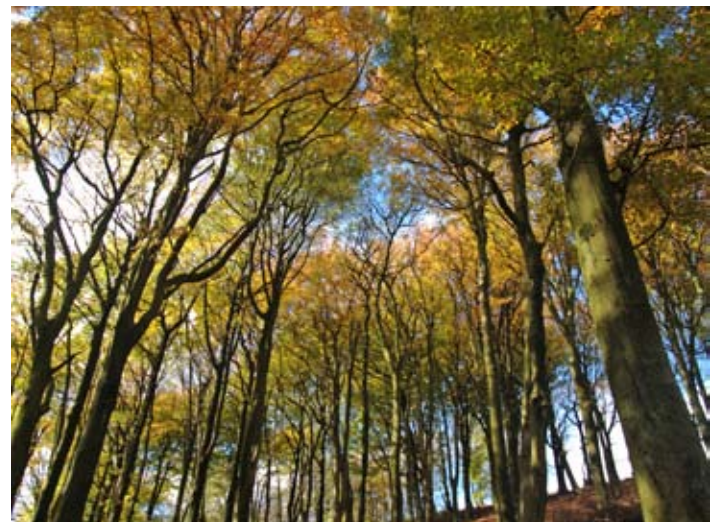
**It would be appreciated if members who wish to attend could phone the Visitor Centre Office in advance on 01298 26978 between 28 February and 28 March to assist our catering estimates.**

## BCA Photography Competition: Worthy Winners

A total of 44 photographs from 11 senior and three junior entrants were judged by Jason Chadwick, Buxton Advertiser photographer, and Arthur Packham, BCA photographer, in early January.

Subjects were varied, covering landscape, flora and fauna to be found in BCA woodlands, and it was good to find that members (and some non-members) find BCA sites worthy of recording with their cameras.

The £50 prize for the overall Senior Section was won by Richard Knisely-Marpole with his picture of a juvenile dunnock, taken in Grin Wood (pictured below).



The Junior Section prize of £25 was awarded to Winnie Spence with a woodland scene in Corbar Wood (pictured above).

We hope prizes will be presented at the social event at the Palace Hotel on 10 April. We also plan to exhibit as many of the competition pictures as possible in the reception area at Poole's Cavern over the Easter holiday period. The display will show at least one picture from each entrant.

Arthur Packham

## A New Path for Corbar Wood

We are delighted to announce that the path linking the entrance near Corbar Road and the bottom of the steps up to the Cross has recently been resurfaced. No longer will people have to struggle through slippery mud, which made this a difficult route during wet weather.

We were fortunate that Tarmac Lime and Cement at Tunstead Quarry generously donated and delivered the stone needed for the resurfacing. The labour costs were supported by a £5,000 grant from the Derbyshire Dales and High Peak Accessibility Partnership.

Expert advice was given by Phil Beh-Mycock, who was responsible for many of the paths in the National Park. The work was carried out by Oak Tree Landscapes, a local firm who have done a number of schemes for BCA. Our thanks to all these for their help and advice.

We plan to continue work to improve our paths without destroying the essential character of our woodlands: our next project is on the main path in Grin Wood.

Mike Monaghan, Project Leader



*Mike Monaghan, Martin Wragg & Patrick Higgins on the new path.*

## Calling All Helpers!

We have two volunteer working groups based at Poole's Cavern.

The **Woodland Working Group** meets at Poole's Cavern at 9.30am on the last Monday of the month (except bank holidays).

The group usually works in Grin Wood, clearing saplings, tidying steps etc.

We always welcome new volunteers, so join us if you can. Contact Paula on 01298 71035 for more information.

The **Gardening Group** meets on some Friday mornings to look after the gardens around the Visitor Centre. If this appeals to you, please contact Joan on 01298 23978, May on 01298 23791 or Paula on 01298 71035.

We are also looking for a new **Editor of the Newsletter** and more members of the **Community Group** who plan events and try to increase membership.

If you are interested in helping BCA in either of these and would like more information, please contact Trevor on 01298 27946, or Pat on 01298 70706.

## Invasive Plants and What to do with Them

Peter Burgess-Allen, a member of BCA Woodlands group and a professional landscape gardener, has written a detailed guide to invasive plants and their eradication. Our thanks to Peter for this initiative.

The introduction is published here and the full article, with useful links, can be found on the BCA website.

The law concerning invasive non-native plants in England & Wales has been updated recently to include over 50 species. Previously only Japanese Knotweed, Giant

Hogweed and some seaweeds were included.

From April 2010 a number of commonly grown garden and pond plants are now listed in 'Schedule 9' of the Wildlife and Countryside Act – meaning that it's an offence to plant or 'otherwise cause them to grow' in the wild.

Confusingly, it is still legal to grow them in our gardens, and the law is unclear how natural seed dispersal will be interpreted. The best ploy, then, may be to avoid growing those species known to be a risk to native ecosys-

tems and to be meticulous when composting plant material that could propagate i.e. seeds, corms, roots, stems.

The charity Plantlife has produced a guide to 'Gardening without harmful invasive plants', which suggests alternatives (tel: 01722 342755 for a copy).

BCA members might also be particularly vigilant in monitoring those Civic Association boundary zones close to residential properties.

[www.buxtoncivicassociation.org.uk](http://www.buxtoncivicassociation.org.uk)

## Cavern News

### Cavern Cafe

The cafe at the cavern is open every day from 9.30. BCA members' discounts, daily specials, free Wi-Fi, children's activities, dogs welcome, and a bird feeding viewing area. It is also available for private hire, birthday parties etc. Please contact Paula or Denny on 01298 26978 for details.

The cavern is also open every day with regular tours from the Visitor Centre.

## New for Spring 2011

Improved pathways throughout and a unique new LED lighting system: see the beautiful chambers and stalactites as never before. Free entry for BCA members on production of your membership card.

### Go Ape

Go Ape reopens this year on Saturday 9 April until Sunday 30 October (some Wednesdays and Fridays closed – please check on 0870 428 5326) then weekends throughout November.



## Members' Events

### Make Friends with your Digital Camera

**2-4pm, Saturday 26 March & Saturday 16 April  
Education Room, Poole's Cavern**

Following your expressions of interest in the recent survey, Arthur Packham, a member of our Community group, has kindly agreed to run at least two sessions, each of two hours, to help members get better use from their digital cameras.

Photography has been Arthur's main hobby for a very long time and he has been totally digital since 1995. He would like to help fellow BCA members obtain more pleasing results. We are very grateful to Arthur for offering this course.

Members only - maximum 20 places  
No charge but prior booking essential on: 26978  
Please bring your own camera and instruction book



*Arthur Packham with a display of his photographs.*

### Sunday at the Palace

**2.30-5pm, Sunday 10 April**

Full details overleaf

### News from the Westminster Village

**7pm, Friday 15 April  
Poole's Cavern**

Our new MP for the High Peak, Andrew Bingham, has kindly agreed to tell us about his first year in the House of Commons, 'My Life as a New MP'. This is strictly not a party political address but a chance for us to hear first-hand what life is really like behind the scenes at Westminster.

Members only  
No charge but prior booking is essential as seating is limited: 01298 26978

If you would like tea/coffee after Andrew's talk please mention this when you book.

**Please note the earlier time for this meeting**

### AGM

**7.30pm, Monday 13 June  
Poole's Cavern Visitor Centre**

You will receive full details of the AGM in advance. Our membership is now approximately 400, but about 80 members have not yet renewed their subscriptions. The more members we have the more effective we can be in protecting our Buxton heritage. If you pay by standing order please check you have increased your payment to the new figures: £12.50 adult, £25.00 two adults and children up to 18.





## Who's Who at BCA

### Alistair Rogerson

Meeting Alistair for the first time is a refreshing experience: his cheerfulness and enthusiasm is immediately infectious.

Alistair, a Business Studies graduate, and his wife Melissa, who works at the University and writes children's stories, moved from London to Buxton in 2007.

Alistair is the Business and Systems Manager at the Buxton Volunteer Bureau and, among his many voluntary activities, is Chair of the BCA Community and Membership group. He is also a Trustee for Homestart High Peak.

He is passionate about the countryside and architecture, so is very supportive of the aims of the Civic Association.

## Our Thanks to Olive Middleton

For the past five years Olive has edited our newsletter, along with Rosie Hughes.

Olive was a founder member of the Civic Association way back in 1968, and has served Buxton and its people loyally and in many organizations, particularly U3A and BCA.

We thank her for everything she has done and are glad to report that Olive will continue to be our publicity officer.

She will keep the Civic Association in public view with her inimitable style of journalism, always courteous and with a good humour that wins attention for the good causes she supports.



## Buxton Civic Association

General Manager: Alan Walker at Poole's Cavern, 01298 26978

### Board Members

Chair: Paul Dinsdale

Vice chair &

Planning: Hilary Lawrence

Secretary: Martin Wragg

Treasurer: Brian Shawcross

Woodlands: Peter Phillipson

Community &

Membership: Alistair Rogerson

Development: Bill Preece

Environment: Mike Monaghan

Vision Liaison: Mike Bryant

John Boardman

Stephen Robinson

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Production: Charlotte Tangye Design Photographs: Arthur Packham

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Web: [www.buxtoncivicassociation.org.uk](http://www.buxtoncivicassociation.org.uk)

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