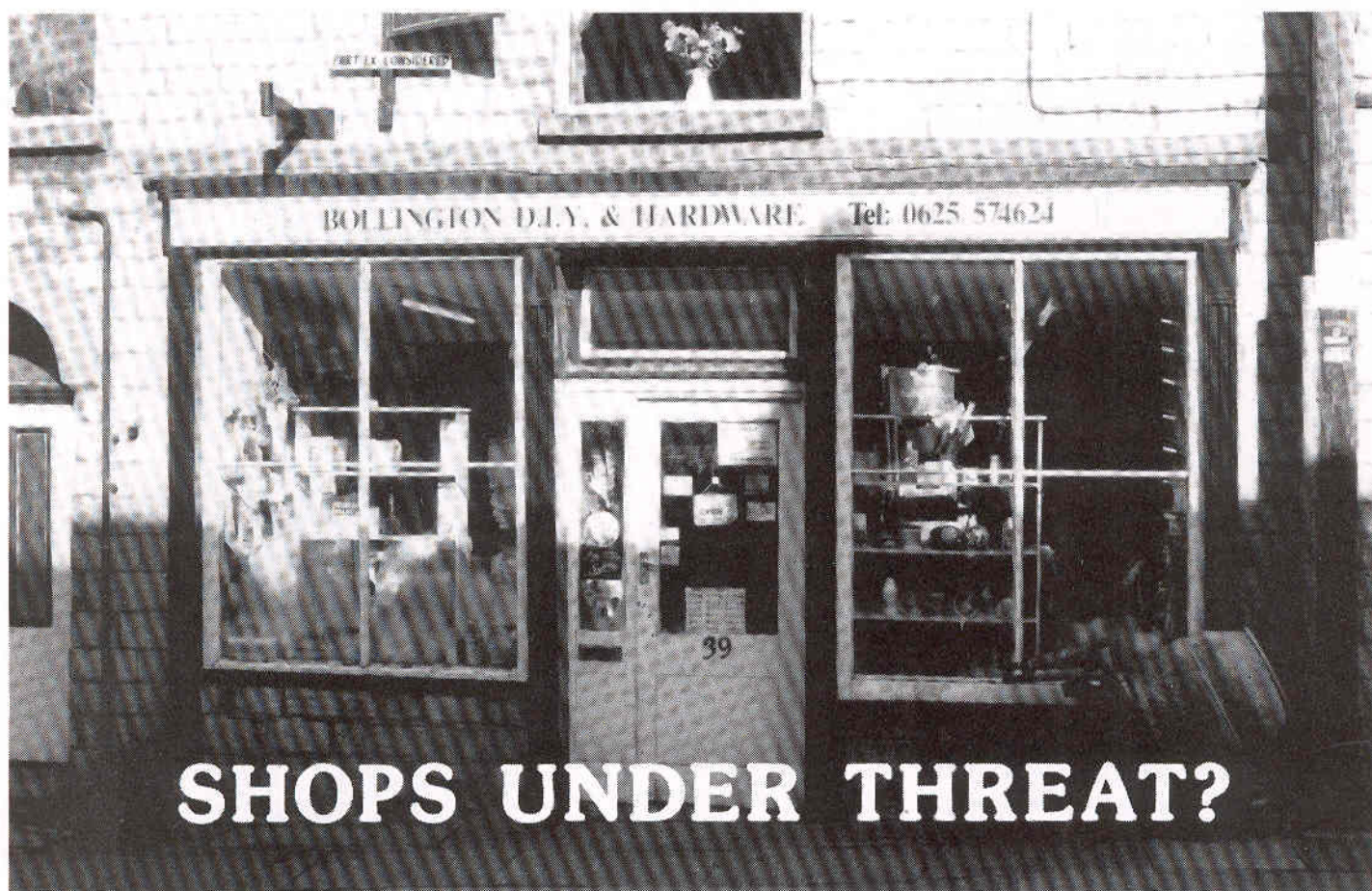


BOLLINGTON

Live!

Number One

Summer '94



SHOPS UNDER THREAT?

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- THE ARTS
- SHOPPING
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- SPORT

Live!

ZENECA

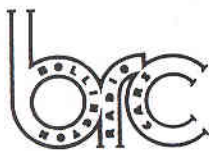
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BOLLINGTON



Welcome to *Bollington Live!* - a new publication for the people of the town. Appearing three times a year, the magazine aims to become the voice of Bollington, reflecting the interests and concerns of its citizens.

Run on non - profit making lines, *Bollington Live!* will be delivered free to every home. It will be supported by advertising and sponsorship.

It's an exciting project, stemming from the success of the Bollington Festival in 1993. Produced by an enthusiastic team of local people, *Bollington Live!* will feature news of forthcoming events while providing a platform for ideas and opinions. Contributions are invited by 31 July 1994 for further issues and details of events for our "What's On" feature.

The next issue will appear in September.

Editor: John Liley

Editorial Team: John Coope
 Graham Barrow, Penny Liley
 Alan Maguire, Walter Menzies
 Chris Southern, Linda West

Advertising:

Dennis Caulfield (0625 572538)
 Mark Stedman (0625 575227)

Printed by: ... Bollington Printshop

The Editor cannot be held responsible for the opinion of contributors or the accuracy of events listings.

Shopkeepers Struggle to Survive

Bollington's shops are under threat and the steady spiral of decline demands some action now. Some traders have experienced a 50% drop in their takings in the last 2 years. Green grocers and hardware shops have been the hardest hit.

A short survey of shop owners in the town shows a number of factors making life difficult. Changes in the business rate and VAT levels, the new council tax imposed on those living above their premises, together with recession, have all combined to hit Bollington shopkeepers. But the critical development has been the opening of the Silk Road to Macclesfield shops there. Sunday opening in Macclesfield is also damaging trade in Bollington.

What can be done to arrest the decline? The young, the elderly, those without access to a car, women looking after children, workers arriving home late from work; they all need shops in Bollington but unless we start to use them regularly, or at least make a point of doing at least some of our shopping locally, there will be very few left!

15 years ago the Bollington Traders' Association used to meet to discuss common problems and opportunities. *Bollington Live!* suggests it may be time to revive the town's Shopkeeper's Association. Some of the ideas worthy of discussion are:-

- ◆ late-night shopping on at least one evening a week.
- ◆ weekend shopping hours
- ◆ joint marketing to Bollington residents by the shops as a group
- ◆ to the door delivery services
- ◆ special shops for specific groups of residents and visitors
- ◆ street parking arrangements

Bollington is no longer a mill town and its population is steadily changing. To survive, our shopkeepers will have to innovate and try new ideas- relying only on the older customers who have always shopped in the town will in the long run not work. Attracting new residents to make their purchases locally must be part of the answer

Specialise?

Some shops have been concentrating on home-made produce: bread and cakes, locally prepared meat, combined with excellent personal service. Those doing this are maintaining their markets, but it's getting tougher. One sector showing growth is the specialist shop serving visitors. Antiques and craft shops are increasing their trade and, through them, more visitors are being attracted to the town.

Shoppers' Views

Mrs Lucy Bennett (81 years) of Hawthorn Road, life-long resident of Bollington, can remember the time when there were 105 shops. She is happy she can still walk to the remaining local shops. "I know a lot of people like myself would like them to stay open. We are very dependent on them," she says.

Mrs Hunt of Palmerston street says, "I'm disabled and rely on the few shops we have left now."

Mrs Barrett of Garden Street does most of her shopping in Macclesfield "But I would miss the Bollington shops if they had to close," she says. "I use them for the odd things but there are items like a certain size nappy I need for my daughter that I can't get locally."

Mrs Higginbotham of Grimshaw Lane says, I go into Macclesfield anyway as I work there. I do my main shopping there. I need a wider range of goods but I wouldn't like any of the local shops to close as it's so handy."

When asked what she would suggest to make local shopping more attractive she said, "They need to open unsocial hours to get the shoppers."

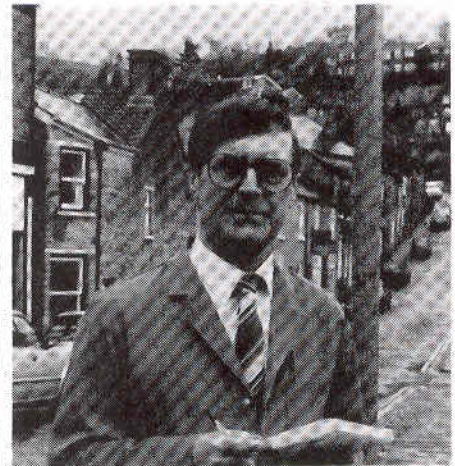


Mrs Bungard of Ward Avenue, like many others shops both locally and in Macclesfield.

"The trouble with Bollington, especially further up in Palmerston Street is that you can't pull up in the car to

collect the groceries. And all the shopping is very heavy to carry."

Another shopper, a single mum, said, "I only shop locally when the milk and bread run out as it's more expensive here so we tend to do a weekly shop in Macclesfield. As a single parent I have to be careful how I budget."



Local shopkeeper

Mr Mellor, a local store owner for 17 years, challenges the view that things are more expensive in Bollington. He says many of his prices do compare favourably with those of the superstores. "I also offer a free delivery service to house-bound people" he says.

"I lost 20% as soon as the superstore opened. My prices are competitive if people really looked to see. As for unsocial hours I work all week and Sunday mornings to keep the business going. It is a struggle."

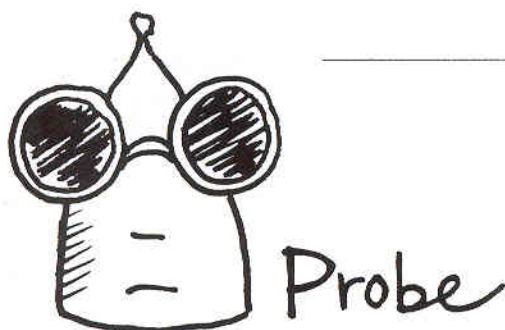
Mr Mellor must speak for many local shopkeepers when he says; "Use us or lose us. Who wants to live in a ghost-town?"

Readers' views

Bollington Live! would like to hear the views of readers on these issues. Please write to the editor with your ideas. Do we need a larger supermarket, the introduction of late-night shopping, or the redesign of parking in the main street? How do we change people's habits and encourage them to shop locally?

Unless we take action now, there will be few shops left in the future. And, surely we will be the poorer for that.

GB. LW.



Anyone who lives in Bollington does not have to be told that speeding traffic and too much of it is a BIG problem for everyone.

Danger spots include the corners at Henshall Road and Ashbrook Road, and at the foot of Grimshaw Lane where large lorries turn. There is also the junction of Wellington Road and Garden Street near the Post Office and newsagents. Here, people stop to go to the shops; car doors fly open and vehicles nose, unsighted, into a rapid stream of traffic.

Pedestrians are second-class citizens indeed. Dangers such as these would get a factory closed down. There is talk of 'traffic calming' but apparently little hope of a 20 mph limit which would surely help.

A police survey carried out last July near West Bollington Post Office found:

60% of motorists were driving at 30-35 mph

40% of motorists were driving at more than 35 mph

3,000-4,000 cars pass through Bollington in the course of the day - the highest number, not surprisingly on a Friday. Traffic travelled the fastest at night.

Slow Down!

Bollington Town Council, concerned at the situation, invited the County's highways man to see them. "Traffic calming" might help, he said, - that is to say the narrowing of the roadway and the introduction of humps or ramps - but of course, there are insufficient funds. Were there a fatality, however, then something might be done. An accident resulting in death attracts expenditure of up to £250,000 in preventive measures!

TERRIBLE TRAFFIC!

The Lollipop Lady, now withdrawn, once guided children across the main road at the foot of Grimshaw Lane. By scrapping her employment, some money was saved - unless, of course, there proves to be a fatality, in

There are other County Councils apparently where the safety and comfort of the pedestrian is rated higher. Devon has a different emphasis entirely. In the reorganisation of authorities that is coming, Cheshire



Lollipop Lady, Mrs Eva Hartley, helps children outside Bollington Cross School.

which case, of course, a further quarter of a million might be spent! Something should be done now, and not after the event.

Bollington Town Councillor Claire Crosby, who has campaigned long and hard on these issues informs us that now the Lollipop Lady has gone, fewer children are wanting to cross. Their parents are driving them to school instead, adding to congestion on the road - and weakening the case for the Lollipop Lady's return.

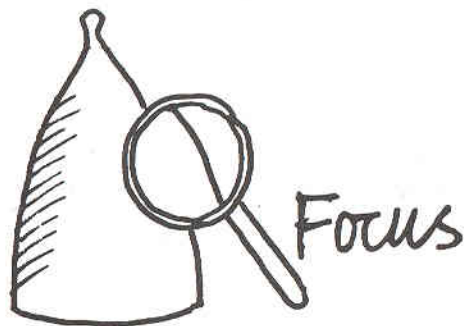
It is a question of priorities. The County Council, in planning its budget spends a considerable sum on road development, and what is left on road safety. In the eyes of local people, it's too much on roads and too little on road safety. *Bollington Live!* feels prevention is better than cure.

County Council could well be scrapped. Power would then devolve to a new District based on Macclesfield. Possibly on road safety matters, Bollington might get more attention.

In the meantime, should not Bollington commit itself to looking at definite traffic calming measures, parking needs and design solutions to put before the new controlling body when it emerges? Local police say that Radar Guns will shortly be employed to monitor traffic going into Flash Lane. Is this enough? What do you suggest?

JL .LW

Write your views to: -
The Editor,
Bollington Live!
c/o The Waterhouse, Bollington
Macclesfield,
Cheshire.



Clarence Mill

CLARENCE MILL

A new era of prosperity

One hundred and eighty feet of brick chimney once blackened Bollington with industrial smog.

But it was smoke that also signalled a way of life for villagers who worked within the imposing stone walls of Clarence Mill.

The end of the cotton era also sounded the death knell of the building as a mill- but its century old walls are

set to ring once more with the sounds of economic recovery.

The building has been taken over by H. M. F. Property Company who are working hard to breathe new life into the extensive mill buildings. A number of companies have already taken industrial space here, and many more are interested in a business centre which offers a wide choice of offices and units, economical running costs and a spectacular location beside the canal.

The mill is being sensitively developed to take advantage of its attractive location. As a result a mill shop and cafe are already popular, attracting visitors from a wide area. Another retail shop will open soon, and a ca-

nalside wine bar which will retain original architectural features is scheduled for an August launch.

It is ironic that the canal, which first attracted the building of Clarence Mill in this site, should again be the prime mover for the mill's re-generation. A cotton spinning mill, with weaving sheds behind, was built by Martin Swindells to take advantage of the cheaper transport of coal and cotton along the canal, which was opened in 1831.

A second mill (the present middle section) was built in 1841 and a third mill (the Adlington end) was built in 1854/55. The final stage was achieved in 1877 when the original mill was replaced by the present "splendid modern structure erected by Messrs A. H. Stott and Son of Oldham, upon their patent plan of fireproof buildings with asphalt tank roof."

The tank roof provided excellent skating for parties in freezing weather- but the directors were also skating on thin ice in the business sense. The new building did not pay and bankruptcy was followed by years of closure or only partial use. Temporary prosperity came in the 1930s through the manufacture of stockings, but after a post war return to cotton and then artificial fibres, the Clarence closed as a textile mill in 1970.

It's heartening that now, almost a quarter of a century later, the Clarence is rising like Phoenix from the ashes to provide a new era of prosperity for Bollington.

C.S



In Vino Veritas

How many pubs are there in Bollington? Some say 18, some say 21. It depends, perhaps, on where you consider our boundaries to be. Many of these places are proud of their beer but do not serve a decent glass of wine- wine that is neither plonk nor cheapo German, wine that is opened on the day?

A blackboard for the wine of the day could draw attention to what's on offer. Just a suggestion, an idea for one of the 18 (or 21) to take up.



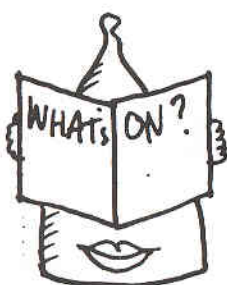
Food & Drink

Contributions to

The Editor

Bollington Live!

c/o The Bollington Medical Centre,
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Bollington,
Macclesfield
Cheshire



BOLLINGTON



Saturday 14 May BOLLINGTON 94

Carnival Parade

Fun Fair and Morris Dancing

at Bollington Cross

The Dubliners 8 pm The Marquee

£ 10.00 0625 575717

Sunday 15 May BOLLINGTON 94

Sports Day Recreation Ground 12 pm

Interdenominational Service 6.30 pm

Bollington Parish Party 8 pm

Wednesday 18th May-21 May

Measure for Measure by Shakespeare

The Festival Players

Bollington Arts Centre 7.30 pm

£2.00 £4.00 tel: 572527

Wednesday 18 May

Craft evening Water St. School 7.30-9.00 pm

proceeds to Heyday Play Group tel 575507

Wednesday 18 May

W I Coffee Evening

Mrs J Orme 26 Hurst Lane 7.30 pm

Thursday 19 May

Bollington Horticultural Society

Seed Germination Mr Stuart Coutts

Dog and Partridge 8 pm

Saturday 21 May

Macclesfield Greenpeace

Sponsored bike ride along Middlewood Way

10.30 am- 3.30 pm Details tel 573945

Saturday 21 May

The East Cheshire Hospice

Coffee morning at Town Hall 10.30-12.00

Saturday 28 May-4 June

Bollington Art Group

Annual Exhibition The Methodist Hall

Sunday 12 June

Macclesfield Greenpeace

Sponsored Whale Walk on Middlewood Way

11 am Details tel 573945

Monday 13 June

W I Meeting

The Methodist Hall 7.30 pm

Everest Mrs Hugo

Thursday 16 June

Bollington Horticultural Society

Dog and Partridge 8 pm *Shrub Roses*

Andrew de Ruiter

Saturday 25 June

Heyday Play Group

Children's sponsored bike ride 11 am - 1 pm

Car park Water St. School Details tel 573895

Sunday 26 June

The East Cheshire Hospice

Garden afternoon at 1, Hill View

Saturday 2 July

Bollington Festival Choir

Knutsford Parish Church 8pm

£5.00 Proceeds to Age Concern tel 573494

Saturday 9 July

Bollington Cross School

PTA Summer fete and Barbecue from 12 o'clock

Monday 11 July

W I meeting

The Methodist Hall 7.30 pm

Clocks G Belfield

Thursday 21 July

Bollington Horticultural Society

Visit to mushroom farm in Buxton

Details from J. Woodward tel 422371

Monday 25 July - Friday 12 August

Janus Summer School

Bollington Arts Centre

Monday 8 August

W I Members Evening with Dutch Supper

Methodist Hall 7.30 pm

Thursday 18 August

Bollington Horticultural Society

Yates Seeds of Macclesfield

Visit to test beds at Lyme Green

Details from J Woodward tel 422372

Saturday 3 September

The East Cheshire Hospice

Garden Party

Saturday 3 September

Bollington Horticultural Society Annual Show

Bollington Civic Hall

Sunday 11 September

The East Cheshire Hospice

Car Boot Sale St John's School

Saturday 12 November

The East Cheshire Hospice

Autumn Fair

Bollington Cross School 2pm



Bollington '94

Following the successful Festival held last May, a week end of festivities has been arranged for May 14 and 15. Any proceeds from these events will go towards the next festival due to be held in 1999.

Events will start at 1pm on the Saturday with a carnival parade from the Turners Arms to the Bollington Cross sports field. This event will be judged by members of The Dubliners Folk Group. On the sports field there will be a fun-fair morris dancing, donkey rides and a beer and refreshments tent.

In the evening there will be a concert by The Dubliners in The Big Marquee on the Recreation Ground. Those who went to The Dubliners' concert during last year's Festival will need no reminder to book for this one in good time! Ring 0625 575717 for tickets (£12 each). A licensed bar will be provided.

Events on Sunday kick off at midday with a race from The Cock and Pheasant Inn at Bollington Cross to the recreation ground where sports day will be staged. Events so far scheduled include a 5-a-side football knockout, running races, a three legged race, egg and spoon, the drunken sailor race, a bale-tossing competition and bag carrying. There will be heats for juniors, mums and dads and grandparents.

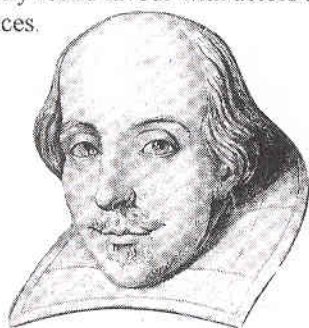
A bumper Bring and Buy sale will also be staged at the Marquee. Space is available for all organisations in Bollington to bring their own side-shows free of charge.

At 6.30 pm an interdenominational service will be held in the Marquee with all our churches contributing to a Bollington "Songs of Praise."

Festivities close with a Bollington Parish Party at 8 pm with songs, music and sketches, a hog roast and a licensed bar. No charge will be made for entry to this event to which all residents are invited.

SHAKESPEARE'S DARK COMEDY - *MEASURE FOR MEASURE*

Shakespeare's "*Measure for Measure*" is a play over which critics love to argue. Is it a tragedy or a comedy? Perhaps something of both. It was written in 1606, after the comedies, and just before the great tragedies. Is it a flawed masterpiece, or a jewel in the crown? Is it serious and moralistic, or urbane and ironic? There seems to be an almost obsessive interest in corruption in high places as well as low. In this way it speaks directly to our own times and our preoccupations. In fact, the play was little regarded in the nineteenth century but has lately found favour with actors and audiences.



Set in Vienna, it tells the tale of a Duke, who, to cleanse the city of abuses, pretends to go on a journey, leaving the government in the hands of a deputy, Angelo, with orders that he brings the full rigour of the law on miscreants, particularly sexual offenders. The red light district and its population of prostitutes, pimps and men-about-town features prominently. One of the latter, Claudio, is brought up on a charge of fornication and sentenced to death. His sister, a nun, pleads with Angelo for his life. Angelo, a man of rigid and puritanical character, finds himself strangely attracted by this eloquent nun, so attracted that he feels compelled to offer her a bargain. What bargain that is, how she reacts, and what the Duke finds when he returns incognito to his city, you will have to find out by seeing the Festival Players' production at the Arts Centre from May 8 to 21. You will also discover why a Jacobean policeman's life was not a happy one. Tickets from Doreen Young, 29 Beechway Tel 0625 572527. £4, £3 (OAPs), £2 (children).



JANUS STUDIOS DRAMA SUMMER SCHOOL

Pat Penney, the founder and director of Janus writes:

The Summer School run at the Bollington Arts Centre was started in 1989 for young people aged 8 - 16 years and ran for one week. Such was its success, the period was extended to two weeks for the next and subsequent years. This year it will run for three weeks. The number of students has increased from eleven to twenty-three, with some attending year after year and coming from as far afield as Tyne and Wear.

The Summer School is run with a staff of three. Christopher and Fiona Penney both professional actors now have been involved in the past and it is hoped that Fiona will be this year's tutor. The students are kept very busy for the full day and put on a production at the end of the school. They learn the importance of working as a team, while at the same time developing their own talents.

The dates for this year's Summer School are Monday 25 July to Friday 12 August. For further details ring Pat Penney on 0625 574583.

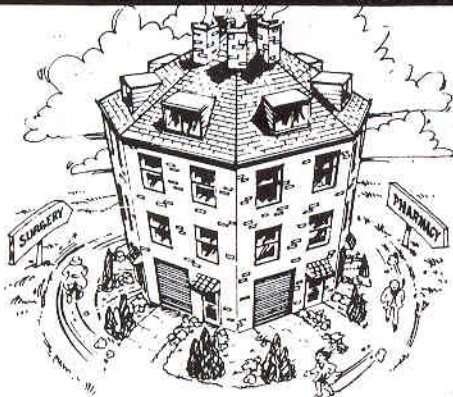
Bridge Club

Bollington Bridge Club meets every Saturday at the Arts Centre. Anyone interested in joining can come along on any Friday at 7pm. Details from Jess Padfield on 0625 574377

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Yesterdays

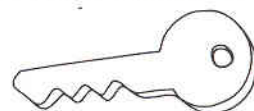
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30!

Bollington Festival Choir's Anniversary

Bollington's Choral Society, the Festival Choir, is 30 years old this year.

It was founded in October 1964 at the time of the first Bollington Festival and since that time has gone from strength to strength under its musical director John Coope. Besides giving regular concerts in the town the choir has competed nine times at the International Eisteddfod at Llangollen where, in 1981, it was placed first among competing British choirs. The choir has also broadcast and made a recording. The Festival Summer Choir has visited many parts of the British Isles, as well as touring to Belgium, Holland and Southern Ireland.

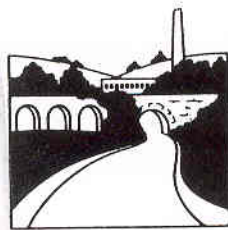
This summer the choir will be going to Salisbury where it will be giving a midday recital in the Cathedral on 9 July and a concert in Wilton Parish Church the same evening with music by Lassus, Bach, Brahms, Howells and Finzi. It will also be giving this programme in Knutsford Parish Church on Saturday 2 June in support of Age Concern. Tickets from Age Concern Macclesfield. 0625 612958.

To mark the choir's 30th. anniversary they will be giving a gala performance of Elgar's "Dream of Gerontius" in Christ Church Macclesfield on Sunday October 16.

Christ Church is one of the finest churches in the area and has been carefully restored with money from the Redundant Churches Fund. It is ideal for musical occasions and profits from this performance- the first major event in the restored building- will go towards the restoration. The part of Gerontius will be sung by the world famous tenor, John Mitchinson. The Festival Choir will be joined by the choir of the Buxton Musical Society.

Tickets, £6, are available at The Waterhouse Medical Centre or from Touch Wood, 73 Pickford St. Macclesfield or they may be reserved on 0625 573494.

The Festival Choir is anxious to recruit any good singers, particularly tenors and basses. Anyone interested in joining should contact the membership secretary June Biggar on 0625 575406



BOLLINGTON CIVIC SOCIETY

River Improvement Project

Anyone walking for the first time alongside the Dean, as it bursts from the culvert into the "rec." would not suspect that until recently it was a dark stagnant corner dominated by a great, ugly sewage pipe appearing above the current.

The Bollington Civic Society had the ideas and the labour but not the money to put that right. Thanks to a grant from the Mersey Basin Trust, with support from ICI, and many Saturday afternoons put in by brawny volunteers, the pipe has disappeared beneath the water, the trees undermining the stonework have now been cleared and so has the debris which used to lurk here.

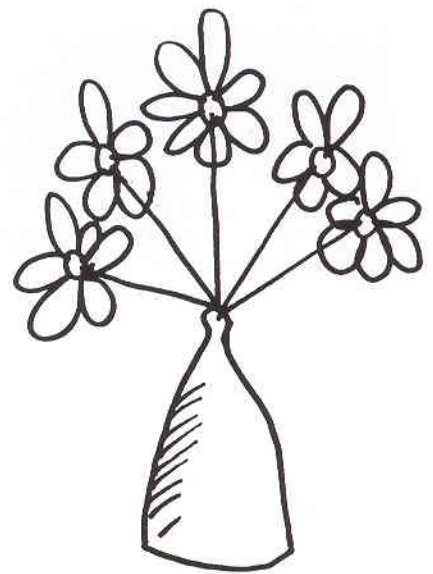
The final act was the planting of numerous young trees and bushes along the bank. Some have been paid for by the Mersey Basin Trust, while others were supplied free by Cheshire Landscape Trust - a true collaborative enterprise.

The next improvement in which the Civic Society would like to be involved is the restoration of the mill-pool and the weir above Waulk Mill, at the top of Ingersley Vale. This area is privately owned, and the consent of the owner is vital to any project. Also, any work attempted would require more funding and physical resources than the Society alone can muster. Promising signs are the interest of the Ingersley Vale residents, the Groundwork Trust and the recently-elected Borough Councillor for Rainow, John Farrand.

Anyone with any ideas on the subject is invited to contact George Penney on 0625 574583.

Cleaner River

"It's taken a lot of time trouble and effort from volunteers to improve the quality of the river," says Harry Gaskell of Pricess Drive. Over the years he has put some coarse fish in to see whether the river can support life. **Verdict:** a definite improvement.



Britain in Bloom

For each of the last four years Bollington during the Summer months has been a riot of floral colour. Window boxes, hanging baskets, cottage gardens jostle with one another to attract attention and are well set off against the stone houses. Each year the town has entered for the Britain In Bloom competition and we have always been within the first three places in the small town's section of the North West area. First place has eluded us, although we have achieved the cup for the community effort. This year the Civic Society, with the full support of the Town Council is determined to make an all-out effort for the Small Town Trophy.

Judging will take place at some time during July. Besides the floral decorations, the judges will be looking at the use of trees, shrubs, general landscaping and the removal of litter and graffiti. Marks are awarded for effort by commercial organisations and pubs as well as local authority gardens.

Please make an all-out effort to beautify Bollington before the start of July so that we can win first place!

East Cheshire Hospice

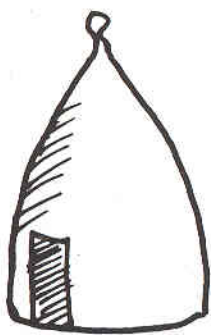
The Bollington Group exists to raise funds and support about 5 times a year. This year's typical programme can be seen in the centre pages What's On.

If you are interested in helping, please contact one of the following:

Richard Taylor 0625 572510

Doreen Senior 0625 72514

Elaine Ward 0625 573892



Bollington as it was

St. John's School 1897 - 1913

An interesting picture of everyday life in the elementary schools 100 years ago can often be found in the log book which the head teacher was required to keep.

Among the old log books of the Bollington National School (later known as St John's School) is that kept from 1897 by Oliver Kenyon. Born in Rainow in 1855, Kenyon had attended the school as a pupil, become a pupil teacher there, and returned from teacher training college in 1877 as Master of the Boys' Department.

Like all church schools, initially the school received no funding from the rates. The Education Act of 1902 controversially provided rate aid for denominational schools, and placed them under a degree of control by the local town or county council. This was done partly because many church schools had been unable to afford adequate staffing or facilities. Cheshire County Council "took over" the National School in 1903.

The subsequent HMI report, copied into the log book by Kenyon, criticised the inadequate lighting and accommodation in the schoolrooms (which were in a two storey building at the northern end of St John's church yard, now demolished). The girls' "closets" were not connected to the sewer. At the Infant School in Lowther Street, the closets were double seated, "contrary to the recognised rule". The Inspector thought that better use could be made of the space in the school if the Boys' and Girls' Departments, which were run separately, were amalgamated. This was done in 1908.

The school leaving age had been raised from 10 to 11 in 1893, and was raised again to 12 in 1899. Older children appear to have been kept away from school when their labour was needed; repeated July log entries note low attendance "owing to the hay harvest". The children might absent themselves for other reasons: "12 October, 1898. Very poor attendance, owing to

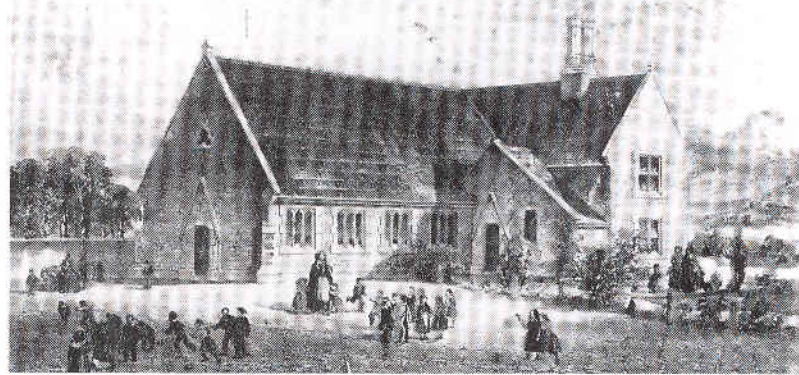
Barnum and Bailey's, show being held at Macclesfield."

It is clear that Kenyon devoted much effort to encouraging full attendance. In 1902, 45 boys never absent for a year were photographed wearing medals. On 12 June 1903 standards 1 and 2 were allowed to leave school early as they had attended so well that week.

Attendance was unavoidably disrupted by illness. Sometimes the cause was mysterious; Kenyon thought absences in September 1904 might be the result of eating unripe apples. At other times the nature of the illness was all too clear. Smallpox outbreaks brought the Medical Officer of Health into school to re-vaccinate the children in

Kenyon responded to the Inspectors' criticisms. The children were taken to Pott Shrigley for "open air lessons in geography"; exhibitions of the children's work were arranged for parents. As the Inspectors recommended, lessons in domestic science and "laundry" were introduced for the girls while the boys were taught elementary science, and cardboard modelling.

Kenyon's health began to give way under the strain imposed by the arduous life of an elementary school teacher toward the end of his long reign at the school. The log book entry for November 26 1912 reads: "I had a serious accident in the school this afternoon at 4.30 falling heavily when lighting a gas,



St. John's School
Circa 1900

1902 and 1904. Repeated measles epidemics from 1900-1913 led to the school being closed, often for weeks at a time.

Elementary school children could be rowdy, inside and outside school. Kenyon's log reveals only very occasional discipline problems. In 1906 he had to warn the children not to deface posters or shout in the streets; in 1908 he spoke to the whole school about birds' nesting and trespass.

From 1904, Inspectors' reports begin to express concern about rigid and old-fashioned teaching in the school.

In 1908 the HMI suggested that "the habit of making children stand on the desks for reading lessons and oral instruction should be abandoned", and that "time can easily be saved by reducing or abolishing lessons on formal (and often incorrect) grammar". Formal arithmetic exercises should be replaced with more practical problem solving, and "instead of piling up information about geographical, historical and scientific ideas, a shorter syllabus could be adopted under which the child should be allowed to find out more for himself."

and hurting my forehead, eyes and side. A doctor was sent for, and I was sent home in a cab."

On August 29 1913 Kenyon and his wife, also a teacher, retired after 37 and a half years and 26 years. The Kenyons retired to Birkenhead, though, according to William Broster's *Recollections of Bollington and Keridge life* (1980), Oliver Kenyon returned to Bollington during the first world war "to assist Messrs Oliver and Sons during a period of difficulty in obtaining labour". This, says Broster, brought on a relapse; Kenyon died in 1919.

George Longden

The author would like to thank Mr Barry Ainsworth, head of St John's School, for making the log books available.

St John's Parents Association Forthcoming Events

Sat 11 June Car Boot Sale 1-3 pm

Fri 1 July Sensational sounds of the 70s. Disco £3.00 Tel 0625 575071

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BOLLINGTON

Live!

Bollington Athletic - League Champions?

The 1993/94 season has possibly been Bollington Athletic's most successful ever. Herbert Heald has been supporting the club since its formation in 1947 and at the distinguished age of 84, he's told *Bollington Live!* that "this is the best side we've had in our town for a long time."

Partick Thistle, Leicester, Coventry, Celtic, Manchester City, Charlton and Shrewsbury - it's like a new British super league - but that's the professional career trail of Jim Melrose who is now managing the club, and with his quick-fire Scottish humour, is thoroughly enjoying his role as inspirer and motivator of the team. Jim scored 140 goals in more than 300 league games at the highest level, and is concentrating his share of goals for Bollington this season.

Bollington Athletic are top of the Mid Cheshire League Division 2 and reached the semi-final of the Cheshire Amateur Cup and the final of the Macclesfield and District Cup. Two players in particular have been catching the headlines, and both are called Atkinson. Steve Atkinson is 24 and a tyre-fitter at ATS in Macclesfield. A midfield player, Steve has been watched by Peterborough and Crewe and could be joining the professional ranks before long. Andy Atkinson has already scored 37 goals in the



From left to right: Front Row: Nigel Purslow, Steve Pointon, Darren Morris, Colin Johnson, Derek Druce. Back Row: Ian Jackson, Gary Wood, Andy Atkinson, Ged McKernan, Dave Tomkinson, Steve Atkinson, Steve Foster

Photograph A.M.

Leagues by the end of February. Macclesfield and Congleton Town have shown interest in the 22-year old lorry driver, who is scoring some spectacular strikes from all angles.

Gary Wood is the longest serving -player with the club, and his father, Alan Wood, is the club's sponsor. The "Dog and Partridge" pub is the social base for the team. There's a real buzz around the team; from the kit man, George Penchon, to the Club Captain, Derek Druce, everyone is looking forward to the next season in the First Division of the Mid-Cheshire League. But an ambitious club needs good facilities, and the pitch at the Recreation Ground is not up to standard.

The club is looking to purchase or lease a ground of its own, and rely no longer on Macclesfield Borough Council's less-than-satisfactory pitch.

Jim Melrose sees Bollington Athletic becoming a major focus for sport in the town. "We're playing a Continental style, getting everyone behind the ball when we lose it and breaking quickly and decisively" - a style that had brought 73 goals in 27 League games by mid April.

The club is at a crossroads; having to pay over £500 a year for the use of the pitch, paying referees and covering travelling expenses to away games adds up to quite a bill. Athletic are ambitious and want to go places - sponsors are needed and a decision whether to pay more than travelling expenses to key players will be taxing the committee over the close season. The 94/95 season will see Athletic in division 1 of the Mid Cheshire league - progress beyond there will depend on better facilities and finances.

GB



BOLLINGTON

Live!