

CIVIC SUNDAY

with the Mayoral Procession

starting at 10 am on Sunday, May 21st from the Town Hall, Wellington Road, arriving by 10.30 at the Parish Church of St. John the Baptist in Church Street

In this important event in the civic calendar, the newly-elected Mayor of Bollington, Councillor Mark Stedman, with other members of the Council, leads the procession from the Town Hall in Wellington Road to the Parish Church at the upper end of the town. There the service will be conducted by the Reverend Michael Whetter.

JUNIOR CRICKET

on the Recreation Ground, Bollington, Sunday, May 21st starting at 10 am

Can Bollington provide the next Botham? The Quick Cricket competition on the Rec could salve England's pride. For primary schools, 8-a-side. Organised by Martin Jackson, Tel 01625 574729.

5-A-SIDE FOOTBALL

on the Atax Ground, Bollington Cross, on Sunday, May 21st, starting at 10.30 am

This rumbustious knockout competition with mini-leagues and games of short duration allows mixed teams of men and women, with a handicap system of extra goals awarded according to gender distribution! Details for entry are from Andy Atkinson, 11 Cedarway, Bollington SK10 5NR, Tel 01625 573485.

THE ALTERNATIVE BOLLINGTON WALK

starting from outside the Late Shop, on the corner of Albert Road and Wellington Road, Bollington on Sunday, May 21st from 2-4pm.

Led by Borough Councillor Sylvia Roberts, Deputy Mayor of Bollington from May this year, the course of this walk down local roads - and then through the fields - is around Lowerhouse, that characterful part of Bollington near the mill of 1818. The accompanying terrace of fifty houses had allotments added by Samuel Greg, who also built a bath house and a school, as part of the factory-related community.

Albert Road, when constructed, was intended to connect with the main highway from Macclesfield to

Stockport, and had this taken place, Lowerhouse would be markedly different today.



Lowerhouse, before the days of motor traffic

Controversy now surrounds this area, for industrial development has been proposed. After being turned down, largely on the grounds of extra traffic, the plan now goes to Appeal. Councillor Roberts, in addition to leading walkers onward into the meadowland beyond, will explain the details of these proposals - and the opposition to them.

A fee of £1 per person is requested, as a contribution towards the Dean Valley Environmental Project, which aims to make this an Amenity Area.

ARCHERY

with the New Century Bowmen

at Holehouse Lane, Whiteley Green, between the Macclesfield Canal and The Windmill, on Sunday, May 21st from 2 to 4 pm. Price £1 for 6 practice shots (under supervision)

Deriving their title from the "Macclesfield Hundred", referring to an area of land, the New Century Bowmen, after 20 years at Adlington Hall and a period of uncertainty afterwards, purchased their own ground in Holehouse Lane in 1995, building a clubhouse with a lottery grant. With membership currently standing at seventy, the club aims to encourage many more. Visitors are welcome for this open afternoon.

PROM-PRAISE

in the Big Top on Sunday, May 21st at 7.30 pm. Tickets £3 (Concessions £1)

In this celebratory evening, the churches of Bollington have invited local singers and musicians to join them in a festive performance for the year 2000. With the theme of the influence of Christianity upon music, children from local schools will also be joining in the festivities, while there is scope also for audience participation.

Amongst those contributing will be Glyn and Carol Taylor, noted local singers, whose reputation today spreads well beyond Bollington. In the following note, **EW** enlarges on their family background and the strong local tradition this represents:

If the Trentabank reservoir at Langley had not been built in the 1920s the Taylor family - Glyn, his wife Carol, and their daughters Rachel and Charlotte - might not be living in Bollington today. Glyn's grandfather was the site engineer and his great aunt later settled here. His mother Mabel grew up in the town and went as a kitchen maid and then as cook to the mill-owning Olivers at the Waterhouse in Wellington Road.

Glyn's father Wilfred was born in Rainow, but migrated to Adlington Road. He was a fine cotton spinner, which was how he and Mabel met. They joined in the theatre side of the Methodist Church, run by Herbert Collis, who put on a series of farces like 'The Ghost

Train', while they also took part in pantomimes at the old Sunday School.

Lewis Tute and Wilfred alternated as choir masters there and, as Glyn says, "they would fall out, but they were the best of friends." Lewis and his wife Lily joined the Taylors in a group known as "The T Quartet", which also split into duets: the men's repertoire including the Gendarmes Song, while the ladies sang "I would that my love."

The Taylors joined the J L Riley Festival Choir in the early days and Wilfred was there when, in 1951, they won at the Festival of Britain. Of his parents, Glyn says "there was never a moment when I didn't hear them singing, and after tea my dad would say 'I'll have an hour on the piano with the hymn book (or The Messiah)'. At any social evening in the pub or at a dance at the drop of a hat he would sing; but it always went down well." Wilfred had a powerful tenor voice, and Glyn remembers being on the Adlington Road swings "hearing my dad singing clear as a bell - and he was inside the Conservative Club."

Glyn sang in the Methodist choir: "When our voices broke they gave us a year and then summoned us to sing: 'you're a tenor, you're a bass; practice is on Thursday' - and we all dutifully arrived." Carol sang in the Cheshire Youth Choir, and both then joined the J L Riley Choir, now the Oriana, and the Macclesfield Majestic Theatre Group, while they were founder members of Bollington Light Opera Group. Glyn again: "This opened our eyes to singing opera, all over the place, in chorus and in principal roles." Glyn has just sung in "Eugene Onegin" in Stowe Gardens with Stowe Opera, a professional job, and both are taking part in "Dido & Aeneas" in Manchester.

Daughters Rachel and Charlotte certainly had pre-natal experience of music and Glyn and Carol sang to them every bed-time: "nursery rhymes, 'The Grand Old Duke of York' and 'Ten Green Bottles' with an accelerando and a surprise ending." The girls began in local festivals and benefited from the music at All Hallows School, in the choir of which they went on to sing in Germany and America as well as both the Albert and the Festival Hall. Subsequently, Rachel went to the Royal Northern College of Music in 1994, remaining there as a post-graduate - and appearing last summer at Glyndebourne - while Charlotte is studying at Bretton Hall, Wakefield.



BOLLINGTON VOICES: on the left, Carol Taylor; below, husband Glyn; right, Glyn's mother, Mabel. Mabel is seen again far right, with husband Wilfred and granddaughter Rachel.



PRESENT-DAY BOLLINGTON

A display by Art Group members

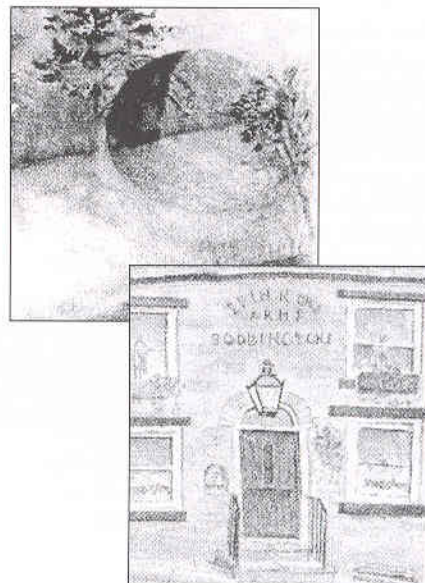
in the entrance to the Big Top, from Monday, May 22nd to Monday, May 29th

Aiming to convey an impression of Bollington as it really is, with floods and roadworks as eligible for inclusion as stone-built housing and the hillsides, this ambitious display features a large collection of painted panels. Executed by members of Bollington's Art Group, this collage of impressions will greet all visitors to the Big Top shows - and perhaps entice them to join the Group itself.

Also on display will be a tribute to the late Keith Godwin, noted sculptor, latterly Head of Fine Arts at Manchester Polytechnic, and a prime mover of the Art Group in Bollington, whose work is also commemorated in a bas-relief

outside the Civic Hall in Palmerston Street nearby. Examples of his sculpture will be on display in the Big Top throughout the remainder of the Festival.

Bollington Art Group sprang from the very first Festival of 1964 - one of the several organisations that did so - and has thrived ever since. For membership information, and details of the forthcoming exhibition in the Civic Hall, contact Jill Wright of 70 Southwest Avenue, Bollington SK10 5DS. Telephone 01625 - 573643.



AN ANGLO-FRENCH EVENING

in the Big Top, the Recreation Ground, at 7.30 pm, on Monday, May 22nd. Tickets £3 (Children £1)

The four closest secondary schools in our area combine to provide a varied entertainment with a Gallic slant. With music from Fallibroome, Poynton and Tytherington schools ranging from a wind ensemble to a swing band, the evening is complemented by a 30 minute performance from students of the King's School, Macclesfield of 'Les Maries de la Tour Eiffel' - 'The Wedding on the Eiffel Tower' - written in 1921 as a ballet by Jean Cocteau.

This event is sponsored by Macclesfield Rotary Club

POETRY & MUSIC

with Michael Symmons Roberts & Claire Parkin (violin)

in the Big Top, the Recreation Ground, on Tuesday, May 23rd from 1 to 2 pm. Tickets £2

The Shortest Day

*In spite of ice, pulse is everywhere
this morning in the dead of December*

*crows that walk the high wires,
old trees dragging at the soil,
our baby's gentle fontanel.*

*And as I'm holding him, the sun
- contracted to a burning coin -
starts dancing in the room for us.
Caught by my watch-face, it spells
the baby's name across the wall.*

*We splash in pools of sun like puddles.
Dark forms dive and surface
as we pair with shadows.
This is play for the incarnate,
even angels are denied it.*

Michael Symmons Roberts, from
'Raising Sparks', published by Jonathan Cape.



Michael Symmons Roberts has been writing poetry since primary school, and his work has been

published and broadcast widely. As a librettist, his collaboration with composer James MacMillan has led to the song cycle 'Raising Sparks', premiered at the Royal Festival Hall, which won the South Bank Show 'Music Event of the Year' Award. Currently a producer of the BBC documentary series 'Everyman', he moved to Bollington from London with his wife Ruth seven years ago, and their two sons Joseph and Patrick were born here.

In this reading, Michael's work will be complemented by violin pieces from fellow-Bollingtonian Claire Parkin, who has worked with the BBC National Orchestra of Wales, and the BBC Philharmonic.



FLAMENCO

Jaleo

in the Big Top, the Recreation Ground, on Tuesday May 23rd at 8pm. Tickets £6

This vibrant Spanish group returns to Bollington to demonstrate its artistry in a passionate combination of song and dance from southern Spain. Flamenco can be traced back several centuries, although the exact point at which it began to evolve is unknown. The background, though, is diverse and influences include Indian, Jewish, Byzantine, Arabic and South American forms.

"Superb singing, mercurial guitar and feisty dancing - Jaleo have it all..."

"A dazzling fusion of dance, song, guitar..."

"Fire, colour, passion and the pulsating encouragement ever-present within flamenco, made last night's performance one of the most sensational..."

"Even the most dispassionate could scarcely fail to catch the throbbing excitement..."

"From beginning to end the performance was truly electric..."

Jaleo began touring outside Spain in 1988 and since then have found themselves ever more in demand. With a new company of award-winning artistes from Seville, Jaleo return to the stage this year to recreate the magic and colour of Andalusian life in a compelling programme packed with infectious rhythms, fiery emotions and passionate drama.

Included in the programme will be *Sigüiriya* and *Guajira*, dance pieces by Jaleo star Ana Ma Blanco.

"Flamenco embraces freedom of movement, individual spontaneity and depth of expression, all memorably conveyed by Jaleo in this thrilling experience..."



Illustrating the diverse and developing influences of the Flamenco form, *Guajira* originated in Cuba, while *Sigüiriya* traces its roots to the beating of the anvil in the blacksmith's forge. Also in the programme will be guitar solos by

the redoubtable El Ingles, *Solea* and *Alegria*, dance pieces featuring Carlos Cabello ("one of Spain's most exciting dancers this decade"), while 18 year-old singer-dancer Anabel Rivero presents the pulsating *Tangos*.

Norman Davies in his inspirational work of history, 'Europe', devotes a full, crowded page to Flamenco, pointing out that the word simply meant 'Flemish'. One theory, he says, is that Jewish songs banned by the Inquisition found their way back to Spain from exiled Jews in Flanders. Davies also refers to the strong musical tradition of Europe's gypsies and the input in Andalusia of oriental singers such as Zoriab who arrived from Baghdad around 840 AD. As Davies says, Flamenco's history turns on the name, the gypsies, and the music, and 'No scholarly consensus exists about any of them.'

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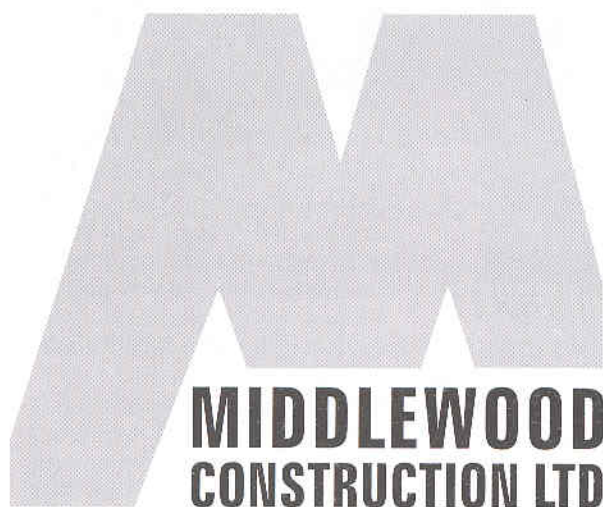
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"THE WEDDING PHOTO" - WORLD PREMIERE!

A new operetta by John Coope and Winston Barracrough

at the Arts Centre, Wellington Road, Bollington

on Tuesday, May 23rd to Friday, May 26th at 8 pm. Tickets £5 (Concessions £3)



*'Bollington's a drinking town
I think you must agree
We like to feel the beer go down
And set the spirit free.*

*The Spinners and the Church House
Redway and the Bull
Waggon, Holly Bush and Dog
Are nearly always full.*

*Masonic or the Cotton Tree
With Turners at its side
You may even go straight up to
heaven*

By the Vale or with Lord Clyde

*Or when you've tried the Cock and
supped*

*At Crown, Red Lion and Oak
Then come with haste to Queens
and taste*

*The Beer for Bollington folk.**

- Introduction to Act 2 of 'The Wedding Picture'

The starting point for this original and exciting work was an old sepia photograph, faded in the background, cracked around the edges, yet still retaining much detail. Discovered by Ken Mosley of the Greenhouse Gallery in Wellington Road, Bollington, it had been used as packing in the frame for another picture. Enquiry by Dr. John Coope amongst older residents of the town revealed the names of many of the participants in what proved to be a group photograph at the wedding of Horace Ankers and Lilian Reade in Bollington on October 8, 1919.

Based upon the events of that day, and set to the music of Winston Barracrough, John Coope's libretto records the mood of that period and the many personalities involved.

Taking the lead parts in this production are members of the Festival Players. Based at the Arts Centre in Wellington Road, Bollington, the Players trace their origins to the very first Festival of 1964. Their production then of 'The Two Bouquets', a Victorian musical, was to be followed by many more, from 'Macbeth' to 'The Entertainer' and, memorably, 'The Railway Children', in which the elaborate effects included a train emerging from a tunnel. Traditionally, and most successfully, a pantomime is also produced each Christmas holiday: Dick Turpin was a central figure in the last.

New members of The Players are always welcome, meetings taking place on Monday and Wednesday evenings at the Arts Centre in Wellington Road, Bollington (Secretary Doreen Young, Tel 01625 - 572527).



Outside the 'Lord Clyde', c. 1920

AROUND THE WORLD

With Bollington Primary Schools

in the Big Top on Wednesday, May 24th from 2.30 to 3.30 pm. Tickets £2

There's an Aberdeen in Eastern Cape, South Africa, a Newcastle, New South Wales, and the City of Rome in Georgia, USA; but is there a Bollington anywhere else - anywhere at all? We must be unique! In this celebratory concert, our children take us to the world outside, an exploratory voyage in song.



KEN DODD

**in the Big Top, the Recreation Ground, Adlington Road, Bollington ,
Wednesday, May 24th at 7.30pm Tickets £14 (Advance Booking Only)**

Scarcely needing an introduction, Ken Dodd, OBE will undoubtedly be filling the Bollington marquee with his irrepressible Happiness Show. Known to millions, he began his career at the Nottingham Empire in 1954 under the characteristically anarchic billing of Professor Yaffle Chucklebutty, Operatic Tenor and Sausage Knotter. Prior to this, Ken supplemented his earnings as a semi-pro entertainer by working in the family coal business (he still lives in the same house, a Georgian farm, in the Liverpool suburb of Knotty Ash). His famous protruding teeth, incidentally, were the result of a childhood accident on a bike.

*"You can tell a joke they'll *
laugh their heads off at in
Manchester, but they won't
laugh at all in Glasgow."*

"Why's that?"

"They can't hear you."

Ken Dodd, discussing humour
on Radio 4.



In a hectic career, he achieved prominence as a pop star in the 1960s with hits like 'Happiness' and 'Love is like a Violin', and in 1965 displaced the Beatles from the Number One spot with his record of 'Tears'. He has played Malvolio in 'Twelfth Night' (at the Royal Court Theatre in Liverpool), popped up as Mr. Mouse in the Hollywood version of 'Alice in Wonderland' alongside Gene Wilder, Whoopi Goldberg, Sir Peter Ustinov and Ben Kingsley, and entered the Guinness Book of Records for telling 1,500 jokes non-stop in three-and-a-half hours.

Early in his career, Ken created the famous Diddymen, featuring Dicky Mint, Mick the Marmaliser and The Hon Nigel Ponsonby Smallpiece, who work in the legendary Knotty Ash snuff quarries, black pudding plantations and broken biscuit repair works.

Show business successes have featured hit series on radio and TV, and sell-out performances in Europe's biggest theatres, including the London Palladium, where his triumphant seasons still hold box-office records.

An undisputed comedy legend, singer, raconteur and impresario, Ken Dodd is a passionate crusader on behalf of live theatre - and a splendid representative of it, at once in the tradition and yet unique.

*"... a master audience
manipulator, perhaps the
greatest 'front cloth' comic
since Max Miller..."*

Roy Hudd

BADGERS, BATS, HARVEST MICE (AND OTHERS)

An exhibition in the Big Top on Thursday, May 25th from 2 to 4 pm.

With displays and information on the protection of numerous species, this is a show for all ages and for all who care about our countryside. Conservation units and project officers will be present - with news on such schemes as Chester Zoo's harvest mouse captive breeding programme. Butterfly Conservation, the Junior RSPB and Cheshire Bee Keepers will also be represented - and entrance is free.

ART EXHIBITION

Bollington Art Group

Timed to coincide with the Festival, the annual display by Bollington Art Group will be staged in the Civic Hall, Palmerston Street. From Thursday, May 25th to Monday, May 29th, the exhibition will be open from 10 am to 6 pm each day, except for the final Monday, when it closes at 4 pm

FOCUS ON OUR HERITAGE - MUSIC BY AFRICAN-AMERICAN COMPOSERS

Concert Choir of South Carolina State University

in the Big Top, on Thursday, May 25th at 8 pm. Tickets: £6

"The theme for our concerts will be traditional sacred and secular choral music works with a strong emphasis on negro spirituals" - Dr Arthur L Evans, Director, Concert Choir, South Carolina State University.

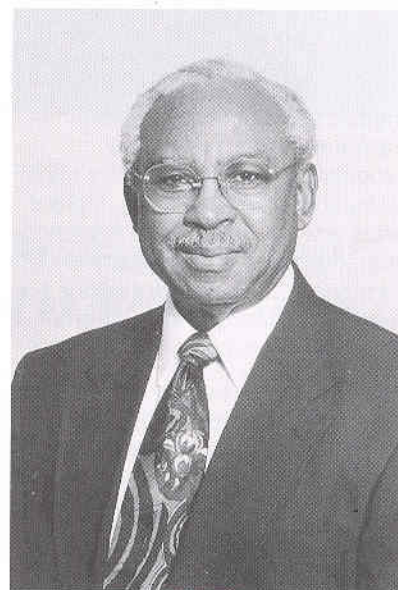
South Carolina comes to Bollington! The visit of this splendid and moving North American choir marks a new departure for Bollington Festivals - and for its members themselves, many of whom will be making their first-ever visit to Britain. For several decades, however, from its base on the campus at Orangeburg SC, this notable ensemble has been in demand as a performing group throughout the USA.

The choir's membership consists of voices from all schools and departments of the University, built around a nucleus formed from

music majors. Their repertoire is wide, spanning musical history from the 16th Century to the present, including the gamut of European choral works. For this concert, special emphasis will be placed, however, on the choral music of the Black Heritage.

Directed by Dr Arthur L Evans, the choir has, as its accompanist Lameriel R Ridges, a member of the University music faculty, who, as an undergraduate was granted scholarships to the University of Limoges, the Paris Conservatory and the Vienna International Music Centre. Dr Evans himself is Professor of Music and Director of Choral Activities, also serving as Chairman of the Department of Visual and Performing Arts.

This event is sponsored by Plan Invest Group p.l.c.



Dr Arthur L Evans, Director, Concert Choir, South Carolina State University.



Arriving in Bollington on May 22nd and returning to South Carolina on the 29th, members of the Choir - 50 people in all - are staying as guests in Bollington homes. While most have been located, there are still, as this programme goes to press, some members to be accommodated. Bollingtonians with space available are invited to contact Bernard Loveday on 01625 - 572438. All offers of hospitality are warmly appreciated.

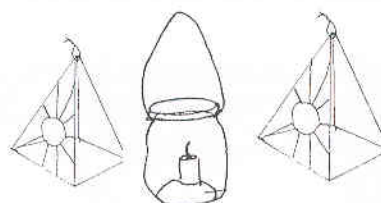
Thursday 25th May

PAPER LANTERN WORKSHOP

in the Big Top, the Recreation Ground on Friday, May 26th from 2 to 4 pm. Tickets £2

Bollington sculptor Nicole Roberts-Morris will demonstrate construction methods for paper and glass jar lanterns - for use in the final procession up White Nancy on May 29th. Facilities will be available for decorating glass jars with special paint. Materials are provided for the paper lanterns - but please bring your own jars!

This event is sponsored by Macclesfield Borough Council



BIG SOUL BAND

The Screaming Beavers

in the Big Top on Friday, May 26th at 8 pm. Tickets £10

Bursting with energy, this dynamic Macclesfield-based band delivers one of the UK's hottest live acts, packed with hits from the Atlantic/Stax and Motown labels of the 60s and onward. A wonderfully tight rhythm section, overlaid with Hammond organ and Steve Cropper guitar licks creates a solid foundation for the punchy 4-piece brass line-up. Three vocalists, each with their own inimitable style, combine with some nifty dance steps and snappy presentation to make this a no-holds-barred show.

Famed for their Beaver Balls, which have attracted crowds of up to 1,500 - and raised immense sums for charity - the group traces its origins to a smaller touring band, travelling to American air bases in Europe, and as far afield as Dubai.

After this came dropping out, of a kind, playing Rhythm and Blues in the Nags Head, Macclesfield, first of all for drinks on the house, then, as popularity began to mount, upstairs with a door charge. Friends came along to join. There were moves to other pubs, and a flow of near-surreal adventures in cabaret - amongst those sharing the stand were a sword-swallower, a fire-eater and an unknown comedian called Steve Coogan. They booked him for Twenty-Five Pounds (Frank Skinner, when he came, cost Fifty).

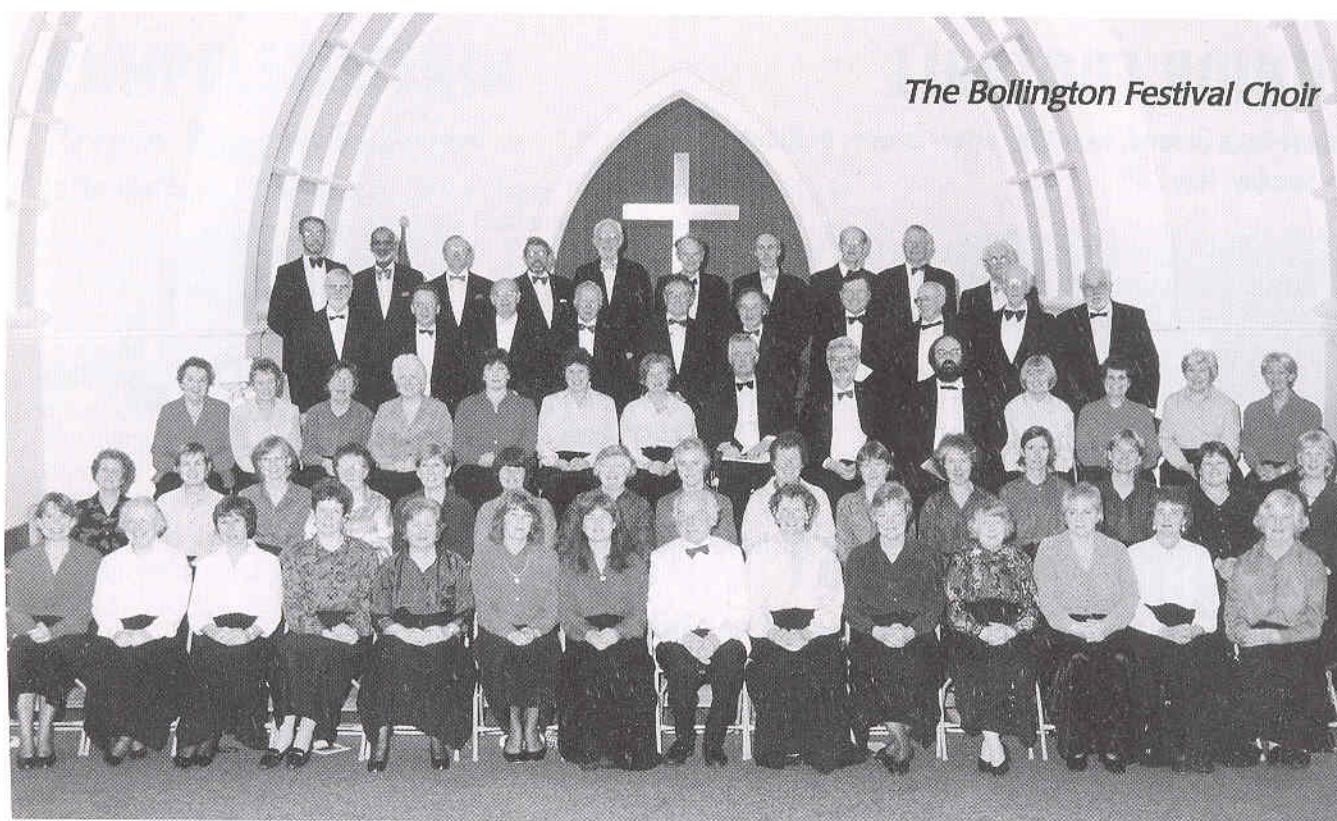
And so, having grown, and moved into Soul Music and Disco, came the celebrated Beaver Balls. So far there have been twenty of these exultant events! One of them, for Macclesfield Town Football Club - who were even more in the doldrums then - put £5,500



towards helping the club survive. That total was sensationally topped at another charity show, where, for Park Lane Special School, a target of £6,000 was aimed at towards the £16,000 needed for a Hydro-Therapy Pool. The Screaming Beavers raised £21,000 and lead

singer Dave Kinsella was invited to open the facility himself.

Twenty years old now, this exultant, pulsating group aim to set the Big Top throbbing. "We don't want to settle down," Dave Kinsella says. Settle down? It's not that kind of music.



The Bollington Festival Choir

IN MEMORIAM

with the South Carolina State University Choir, the Bollington Festival Choir, and the Buxton Musical Society, all conducted by Nicholas Smith.
in the Big Top on May 27th at 8 pm. Tickets £8 (Concessions £6)

John Coope writes: As the finale of the Festival approaches, memories will be stirred by relatives and friends who have passed away during the last 100 years, and the performance of Berlioz's *Grande Messe des Morts* is therefore entitled 'In Memoriam'. Those who come to hear it are invited to bring small photographs which can be displayed on the board in the marquee, and whose images may accompany the performance.

This mass for the dead was commissioned in 1837 by the French Government as a tribute to those soldiers who had died on active service. Berlioz, a young composer in the Conservatoire who was becoming increasingly recognised by the avant garde, created in this work a magnificent sense of numinous space, which reminds one these days of the awesome size of the universe as revealed by astronomy. The large orchestra is supplemented by pounding timpani and four groups of brass at the corners of the hall. These forces are used for 'Tuba

Mirum', where Berlioz's vision of the Last Judgement is released with overwhelming vividness and force.

The composer was careful to contrast the great with the small and also included in his requiem passages of delicate feeling. One movement, 'Querems me', or 'seeking me', is for unaccompanied voices, pitying the vulnerability of man. He also explores the sonorous effects of using instruments in new and strange combinations. He is expressive without being theatrical, solemn without being sanctimonious, and all is subsumed in a vision of humanity in collective obeisance to the presence of God.

Joining the visiting choir for this performance is Bollington's own Festival Choir, first formed in 1964 for the first ever of our Festivals under the guidance and conductorship of Dr. John Coope. Giving two concerts each winter, customarily followed by a short

summer tour, the Choir is always interested in new members. Rehearsals are held on Tuesday evenings in the Arts Centre, Wellington Road, Bollington and details are available from Dr. John Coope, c/o The Bollington Medical Centre, also in Wellington Road.



Bollington-based Nicholas Smith, conductor of this performance, is Artistic Director and Principal Conductor of the Performing Arts Symphony Orchestra, responsible for the programming and scheduling of nearly fifty concerts each year. He will conduct a further thirty opera performances for Newberry Opera in the USA, is Music Director for the South Carolina Philharmonic, and works also in Finland, Germany and France.

JUNIOR FOOTBALL

on the Atax Ground, near the Leisure Centre, Bollington Cross,
on Sunday, May 28th

A knockout competition for 6-a-side teams, open to all under 10 years old. First kick-off is at 10 am. Organiser: John Simons, 12 Lindrick Close, Tytherington SK10 2UG. Tel 01625 - 500698.



BRASS BAND CONTEST

in the Big Top on Sunday, May 28th, from Noon to 6 pm Tickets £3.50

Building on previous successes, this is the fourth competition to be staged here at Festival time. Visiting bands from all Sections are invited to perform a short programme, each of their own choice, to be judged on quality of playing, deportment and - of course - entertainment.

Followed by...

BIG TOP BRASS

Bollington Brass Band, in concert, with Stuart Hall
in the Big Top on Sunday, May 28th at 8 pm. Tickets £5 (Concessions £2)

Compered by TV personality Stuart Hall, the band performs in the Big Top with a wide range of instrumental pieces, from traditional marches and hymn tunes, to arrangements of Jazz and popular classics.

Bollington's Brass Band, originally formed in the 19th Century, resurfaced in reinvigorated form in 1972, as the result of a meeting of enthusiasts at the home of Geoff Wood. Directed first by Dr. John Coope, then Roy Sparkes, the band went on in the 1980s to make spectacular progress under the leadership of Brian Taylor, moving from the 4th to the 2nd Section in the national ranking of brass bands.

From this development, a 'Junior Band' came to be established, to enable young instrumentalists to learn from some of the senior players and offer the opportunity of ensemble playing. This has now grown into the 'Training Band' and includes in its ranks some mature late starters with instruments! The key objective remains the same in providing opportunities for learners, and this is achieved by



Bollington Brass Band getting into its stride in Palmerston Street during the Festival of 1993

Band members volunteering their own time to provide tuition and direction free of charge.

Made up from a wide variety of professions, Bollington Brass Band owes its existence and survival to considerable local support, and is extremely conscious of its commitment to the community. When members walk onto the stage, resplendent in their uniforms and collectively carrying

instruments worth in the region of £100,000, the audience can be proud to have enabled this fine local organisation to have flourished through their support and patronage.

The Band is currently led by Tim Power, who has wide experience of many bands as a percussionist and on trombone. Tim, who studied music at University College, Salford, has as his 'day job' the role of Deputy Head Teacher at a primary school in Accrington.

RUMPELSTILTSKIN

Presto Puppet Theatre

in the Big Top on Monday, May 29th at 1 pm. Tickets £4 (Family £15)

Based on the classic Grimm Brothers fairy tale, 'Rumpelstiltskin' is treated to a new interpretation using a Japanese art form, the Bunraku style of puppetry - a combination of the full movement of marionettes and the positive action of rod puppets. The uncanny result is full human movement with half life-sized characters.

Formed in 1973, the Presto Puppet Company entertains almost a quarter

of a million people each year with its live shows.

In the Bollington performance - suitable for 5 year-olds and upwards - the mysterious elf-like Rumpelstiltskin travels from his woodland home to fairytale palaces and dark, eerie dungeons. The beautifully costumed puppets and evocative scenery live up to the high standards of this experienced company.



Following the puppet performance...

A VICTORIAN FAIR

will take place on the Recreation Ground, starting at 2 pm

with swings, roundabouts, racing on the River Dean, a grand helter-skelter, Victorian story-telling, a bouncy castle (for bouncy Victorians), and the following special events:

* Performances by Codman's Punch and Judy Theatre (which is truly Victorian, being founded in 1860). There will be three shows, at 2.30, 3.30 and 4.30 pm.

* Italian cookery demonstrations by renowned Bollington chef Enzo Mauro.

* Competitions for the best Victorian costume in three groups: 7 year-olds and under; 8 to 15 year-olds; and the best family.

Meanwhile, up on the Macclesfield Canal...

A WATER FROLIC

will be staged, from 2 to 5.30 pm, centring on the pool by Adelphi Mill

Vessels dressed in festive style will be on display, with canoe races, music and visits from the restored working craft 'Lindsay', 'Keppel' and 'Ibex'. Best approached from the Recreation Ground by means of the 'hole in the wall' steps beside the aqueduct, the Macclesfield Canal links with the Peak Forest Canal at Marple and the Trent & Mersey at Kidsgrove



The canal today: a restored, steam-powered narrow boat moored opposite the Adelphi Mill in Bollington.

Built by William Crosley, after a survey by Thomas Telford, the canal opened in 1831. As a late arrival amongst English canals, its prosperity was limited - indeed, at a meeting to consider its construction, in 1824, a Mr. Wakefield had 'entreated that due consideration be given to the important question of whether a Rail Way would not be a better answer'. The waterway last saw regular trade (in coal, from the Potteries to Marple) in 1952, and

was threatened with closure in the report of the Board of Survey of the Transport Commission in 1955. Too small, by far, for the heavy freight use found elsewhere in Europe, its fortunes have been restored, together with much else of the British system, by developments in pleasure cruising. Our Festival celebrations, while recalling the canal's Victorian background, will be echoing also this new enthusiasm for waterway cruising - of which that Board of Survey, back in 1955, had not the slightest inkling!

GEORGE MEETS HUMPH

George Melly & Humphrey Lyttelton

in the Big Top, on Monday, May 29th at 8 pm. Tickets £14

Legends of jazz, singer George Melly and trumpet-player Humphrey Lyttelton share this show in a wide-ranging presentation of high good humour - and terrific musicianship. For half a century now, both have been key figures in the development of British jazz, and its portrayal to a wider public.

"I never thought a jazz concert could have such variety" has been a comment often overheard after an evening with the Lyttelton band, while the genial dovetailing of mood and musicianship by George Melly and his inseparable accompanists, John Chilton's Feetwarmers, has delighted audiences throughout the world.

Both leaders, too, are well-known as writers and broadcasters in other fields: Melly as an authority on Surrealism, as a film and TV critic, a cartoonist, and exponent of angling; Lyttelton as food writer, also a cartoonist, and notably, to radio listeners, as the reluctant chairman of 'I'm Sorry I Haven't a Clue.' Both speak with great authority, and broad-mindedness on the music itself. Humphrey Lyttelton's long-running 'Best of Jazz' slot on Radio 2 has been notable for the variety of styles presented, as well as the relaxed

George Melly with John Chilton's Feetwarmers



and informative commentaries, and this same talent enhances his own band's presentations.

Fine musicians adorn both groups: world-ranked tenor saxist Kathy Stobart in Humph's band, with fellow reed-player Jimmy Hastings (look for "circular breathing", that device of sustaining a single note, or piece, ad infinitum), arranger-trombonist Pete Strange and a swinging rhythm section, including Manchester bass-player Paul

Bridge. The Feetwarmers are similarly accomplished and the great contribution of trumpeter John Chilton should be highlighted (together with his own capacity for writing such works as 'Who's Who of Jazz' and several biographies, all meticulously researched, and enhanced by his own keen appreciation of the music). Such are the qualities of these groups, ensuring a great show in the tent at our Festival's end.

This event is sponsored by Mowbrays of Macclesfield



Humphrey Lyttelton

Getting Started (i) ...

"The band's first job was the Perivale Youth Club. The audience were few in number and very young. There was no microphone, and I tried to amplify my voice by shouting into an empty biscuit tin.

The young lads listened politely. After about half an hour an even smaller boy poked his head around the door of the recreation room and shouted, 'Chocolate biscuits in the canteen.' Points rationing was still in force and the whole room emptied immediately for the rest of the evening."

(From 'Owning Up' by George Melly, published by Wiedenfeld and Nicolson, 1965)

Getting Started (ii) ...

"I did not stay in the Eton Orchestra very long. There's nothing very inspiring to the schoolboy musician in the kettle drums, as I soon discovered. One of my earliest experiences was a performance of the slow movement of Beethoven's First Symphony...

Opposite me across the platform was a trumpet-player whose part corresponded very closely to mine. At rehearsals, the sight of each other desperately counting our silent bars brought on immediate giggles. When I discovered that this was more disastrous for him than

me, I began to exaggerate my counting, mouthing the numbers grotesquely. Even if he managed to avoid my eye, I usually got him in the end. On the night of the concert, in spite of appealing glances across the stage, I put on a special performance for him. He held out long enough to come in on cue. Then, half way through a sustained top G, a great giggle crept up on him, and he exploded. When the orchestra broke up at the end of term I was not persuaded to return."

(From 'I Play As I Please,' by Humphrey Lyttelton, published by MacGibbon & Kee, 1954)

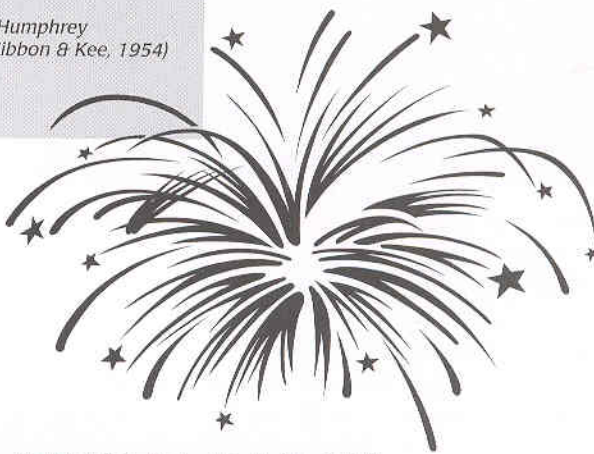
Following the 'George Meets Humph' concert, there will be....

FIREWORKS

on the Recreation Ground, Adlington Road, Bollington,
on Monday, May 29th at 10.30 pm. Then...

A LANTERN PROCESSION TO WHITE NANCY

(for lantern-making instruction, visit the course held by sculptor Nicole Roberts-Morris in the Big Top on the Recreation Ground, from 2 to 4 pm on Thursday, May 25th. Alternatively, ready-made lanterns are available from the Festival Office, price £6, (plus £2 for a carrying stick, if needed), or from the Drop-In Centre, Palmerston Street - adjacent to Clowes and Broadhead's garages)



Just what Bollington can do in the way of fireworks was splendidly demonstrated on Millennium Eve. Richard Taylor explains how it came about:

When my friend Andy Scott and I were asked to set off Bollington's Millennium fireworks it was like asking chocoholics to become tasters for Thorntons. Both of us enjoy pyrotechnics and one (I'm not saying which) is almost a pyromaniac; but the invitation followed a strange route. We staged a bonfire locally, our doctor was there, and when Bollington's Deputy Mayor mentioned the need for someone to run the display, she recommended us. Then, with Town Clerk Barry Price, we put the show together.

There was much to consider. After all, this was the Millennium, with no second chance; while, we were airily informed, there could be 1,000 people watching! Fortunately, the Recreation Ground is an ideal

venue, with plenty of space between the fireworks and where people watch (the recommended minimum, assuming there is no strong wind, is 25 metres).

The fireworks themselves were chosen by an experienced hand doing the Macclesfield display, and they came with a release plan recommended by the manufacturers. Meanwhile a meeting was set with Bollington Council to discuss what we needed. Good weather and divine intervention sprang to mind, but we settled for tape for a barrier, signposts, a generator and a chitty to buy some wood.

We had much to do. There were frames and stages to be made, and holes to be dug. By late afternoon, after hammering in over 50 stakes, digging holes (with our apologies to the groundsman) and marking out in a fine drizzle, things were not so rosy. There were four hours to go, and we could not put out the fireworks yet; so we had to sit and

wait. At 8 o'clock we began setting out over 150 large fireworks and covering them against the damp. At 9 a large crowd gathered. Would it go well? Then we were off.

All nerves disappeared during the next 25 minutes, which were spent rushing about. Our fireworks were lit by means of a Port Fire - a long-burning fuse- but keeping to a plan is by no means easy and any short pauses were by no means intentional. And so, with ears ringing and hair full of ash, we had to ask: how did it go? We hadn't seen the display ourselves; we simply heard it.

This wasn't done alone and we would like to thank everyone who gave support, especially Simon Bagley, who spent all day helping, and Dave Fellows who gave up New Year's Eve. We hope you enjoyed it. A box of ordinary fireworks will never be the same!

Caring for the Community

Each year AstraZeneca will commit substantial funds and resources to a wide variety of community projects. The company has long been part of the community and has played its part in generating a thriving business environment.

In addition it has recognised the needs of less fortunate groups, helping with both funding and human resources.

Those who continue to benefit from this community spirit include schools, charities, the arts, new businesses, the elderly and the sick.



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