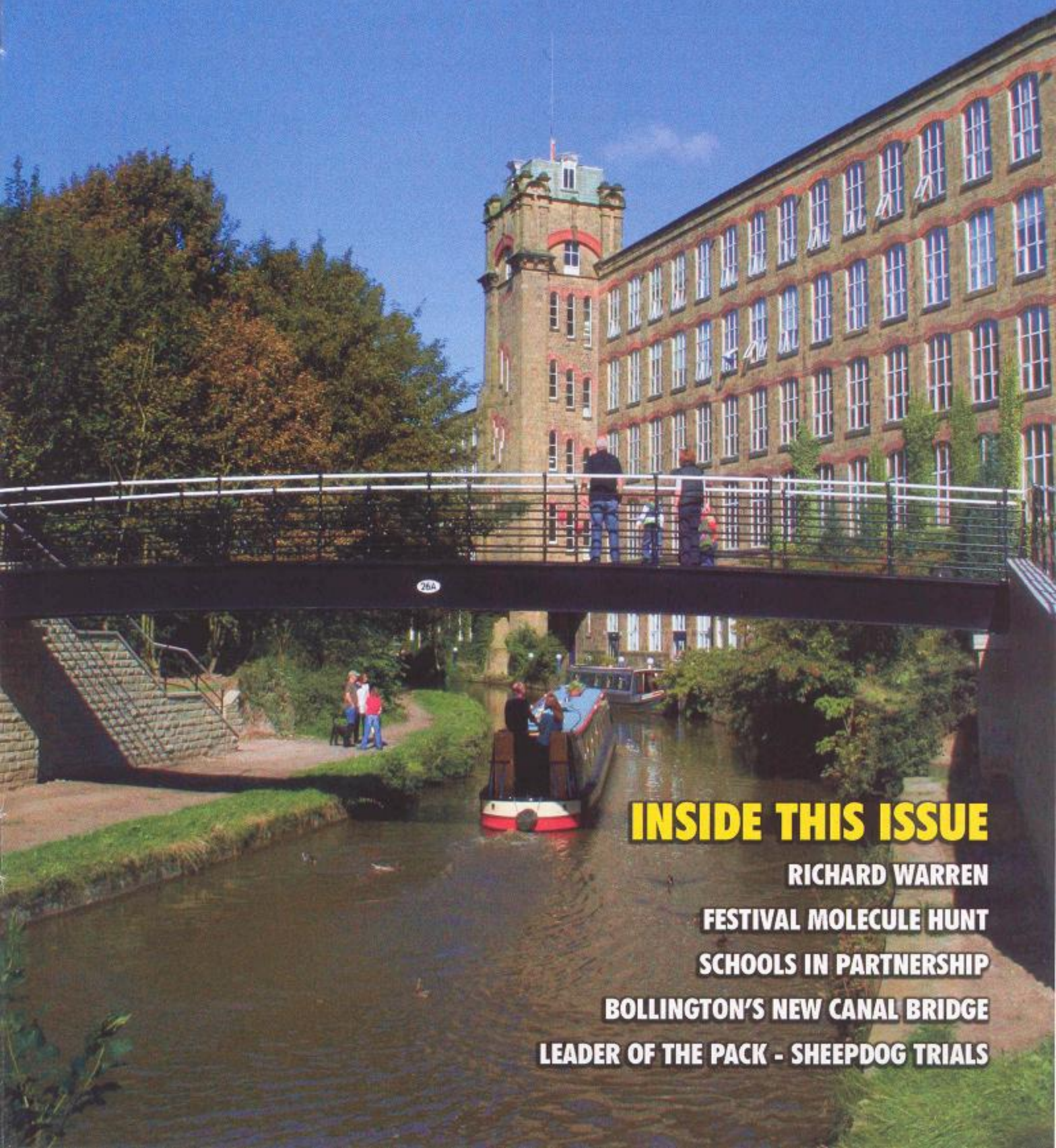




# BOLLINGTON

# Live!

**Number Forty Seven Autumn 2009**



## **INSIDE THIS ISSUE**

**RICHARD WARREN**

**FESTIVAL MOLECULE HUNT**

**SCHOOLS IN PARTNERSHIP**

**BOLLINGTON'S NEW CANAL BRIDGE**

**LEADER OF THE PACK - SHEEPDOG TRIALS**



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**Bollington Live!** is published three times a year on a non-profitmaking basis, with free distribution to households in the town. Under the editorial banner of "**Bollington Live!** - A voice for everyone" we aim to promote local concerns. Contributions are welcome to:

The Editor, c/o Bollington Printshop, The Old Stables, Queen St., Bollington SK10 5PS

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Cover: The new canal bridge - 26A at Clarence Mill. Photograph: Anthony Holland

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## BOLLYHENGE?



Take a walk or bike ride along the Middlewood way and you will see the Bollington Festival Labyrinth. It can be found just off Grimshaw Lane on the site of the old railway station and has already attracted a lot of positive comments from all who pass by that way.

Planned over a year ago, it was hoped to begin and finish the project during the Festival itself, but planning issues delayed matters, however tons of gritstone have come from Endon Quarry to make the drawing a three-dimensional reality.

Designed by Artist-in-Education Jeff Teasdale, the labyrinth is being made in collaboration with artist Lorna Green and local drystone waller, Robert Sharpley.

The labyrinth has been produced in conjunction with 'The Big Draw', a National drawing event that takes place across the UK and all the local primary schools have had their chance to draw their own labyrinth, under the guidance of Jeff and Lorna. Funding is from The National Lottery.

This labyrinth is not now just a drawing on paper, it is a work of art made up of lines that you can be physically part of, not just a work of art that you are only able to look at. Labyrinth designs go back 3000 years, and all seemed to have emerged on the planet at about the

same time, from Arizona, Sweden, West Africa and the Pacific Islands. I even found two earlier this month carved on a cliff in a deep valley near Tintagel in Cornwall that are also thought to go back this far in time. They are a very complex mathematical design and unlike a 'maze' there are no 'dead-ends'. You just travel through a series of interlocking circles to the centre, and then out again. Maybe this one will last into the next 3000 years

Left: Rocks being delivered from Endon Quarry.

Below: The team before Labyrinth construction.

Photographs by John Appleyard.



to be 'catalogued' by a human being in the distant future.

Jeff Teasdale



Left: The Labyrinth on final construction day.

Photograph by Anthony Holland.

[happy-valley.org.uk/arts/labyrinth](http://happy-valley.org.uk/arts/labyrinth)

## EDITORIAL

This has been a difficult year for many of our advertisers and sponsors, so my first thanks in this issue of **Bollington Live!** must go to those who have been able to continue their support, enabling us to produce another year of our community magazine.

I also sympathise with those who have found themselves unable to advertise or provide sponsorship in these more challenging economic times. I hope that they will soon feel able to support us once again.

As the current editor, I feel that I need to try to include 'something for everyone' in **Bollington Live!** It is not always possible, as of course we rely on articles being sent in from anyone who feels they have something to contribute. If you have a Bollington article, bursting to get out and into print - send it in!

There is much more besides, hopefully 'something for everyone'. All of the **Bollington Live!** team of volunteers hope you find something of interest.

Finally, some people have asked how environmentally friendly **Bollington Live!** is. Consequently, I feel it is important to mention our 'green credentials'. **Bollington Live!** is printed using vegetable based inks, on paper which is manufactured from sustainable sources, containing a proportion of post-consumer waste. Additionally, from this issue forward, **Bollington Live!** is pleased to support a tree planting project in Ethiopia thus offsetting our carbon footprint by about twenty tons of CO<sub>2</sub> per issue.

We'll be back next year!

Date for next copy:

Friday 29th January 2010



# BRIDGE OVER MUDDIED WATER

The Clarence Mill in Bollington was built in four stages, beside the new Macclesfield Canal; the first stage of construction was in 1830.

The mill was constructed by Martin Swindells of Macclesfield to initially manufacture cotton, but by the 1930s the mill made a mixture of silk and rayon for ladies' stockings. During the Second World War it became famous for its silk parachutes.

The mill finally closed in 1970 and the two swing bridges across the canal were removed. One had carried cinders and ashes away from the mill steam engines and the other enabled workers to cross the canal from the towpath. Older residents in Bollington remember these bridges with affection.

In the mid 1970's landscape architecture students from the then Manchester Polytechnic carried out a group design project in Bollington and one of their suggestions was for a new bridge across the canal at Clarence Mill. Then in 1997 Bollington Town Council's Millennium Committee agreed that a new canal bridge was desirable, to provide easy access from the towpath to the shops and the café which was located inside the Mill at that time, but raising the finance proved too difficult and the project was not progressed. For a few years little progress was made until the mill changed hands and the new developers obtained planning permission to convert the upper floors to luxury flats and the ground floor for retail.

A new footbridge across the canal was part of the scheme, which obtained planning permission in 2000. Unfortunately the cost of a bridge again caused problems and much to many people's disappointment the final solution was for the developers to lodge £30,000 with Macclesfield Borough Council as part of a "Section 106" payment. Sadly the bridge was going to cost a lot more than this and it was not constructed...

By this time a number of retail business had been attracted to the ground floor of the mill on the



Above: Print used on certificates by the Fine Cotton Spinners & Doublers Association of Clarence Mill in 1920, showing the two former swing bridges.

Engraving: Discovery Centre Collection.

understanding that a footbridge would be built. Bollington Civic Society had been offered free space for a new Discovery Centre. But the bridge was not built and one after another, businesses came and went as the footfall was insufficient to make them viable.

At this point the Civic Society decided to take a lead and Graham Barrow, who had been instrumental in raising the money for the Discovery Centre, set about getting the bridge project off the ground. There was great support from all quarters for this, including the Mill owners, the Bollington Town Council and the remaining two retail companies in the mill; Café Waterside and Kellico furniture restorers. Macclesfield Borough Council and Cheshire County Council proved to be willing partners and Richard Doran at MBC was particularly active in getting the support of both his Council and the County Council.

So to cut a rather long story short, the bridge was designed by a consultant to the County Council's bridge engineers department and

the Civic Society approved one design from a choice of four and agreed its location with British Waterways and the Borough Council. The bridge was going to now cost in the region of £150,000, as it had to both have long ramps to be disability access compliant and had to provide clearance over both the canal and the towpath, so had to have some height - possibly more than we would have chosen without these stipulations from British Waterways. The Clarence Mill Company had signed a lease with BW for the land on which the footings of the bridge would be constructed and the Civic Society and Macclesfield Borough set about raising the money. After two failed applications, some £50,000 was granted by landfill tax distributor WREN (Waste Recycling Environmental Ltd.) and the County and Borough Councils had agreed in principle to make up the rest. The Civic Society had allocated an initial £1,000 from its reserves to kick the funding process off.

So the story concludes with the official opening ceremony that took place at 10.00am on Saturday 29th August with various speeches from assorted dignitaries. Some fifty invited guests and a further fifty or so local Bollington people attended the ceremony and many then went in to the Café Waterside for refreshments. We now all wait to see if the bridge triggers the opening of more retail units on the ground floor of the mill and whether the whole area becomes a focus for visitors and leisure shopping.

**Graham Barrow**

Right: The new Canal Bridge on its opening day.

Photograph by Tim Boddington.

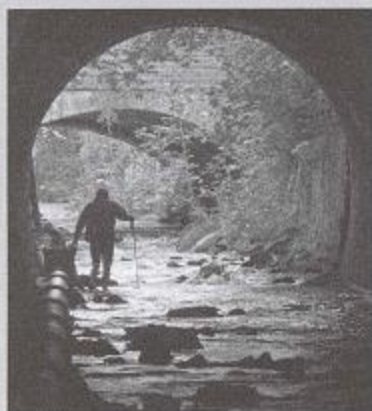
happy-valley.org.uk/civicsociety/bridge26a





# SHOOT ON SIGHT!

Perhaps you have seen more people with cameras around Bollington lately. Are they tourists? Unlikely. You could well have seen members of the Bollington Festival Photography Group laughing, joking, drinking... but most importantly, making a record of Bollington in photographs, picking out the beauty in our town, recording it for posterity.

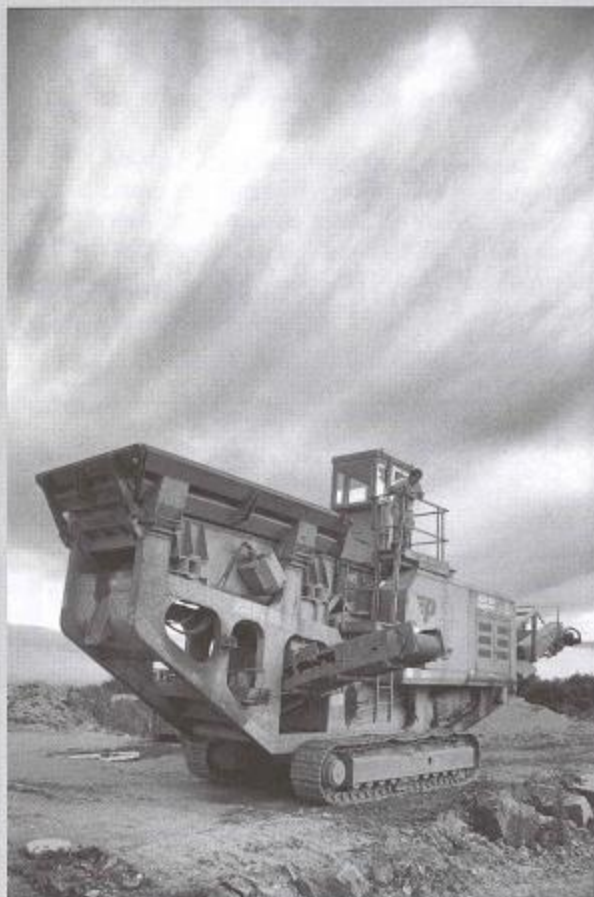


Throughout the summer, we undertook a series of 'photo walks', taking in all parts of Bollington, ranging from a delightful evening stroll through the lower fields of Kerridge, to a mooch around Bollington's two atmospheric graveyards. Much fun was had on the long-delayed river walk. This was dreamt up after one of our monthly meetings,

(probably after a few pints in the Vale Inn) to walk up the River Dean from the Recreation Ground as far as physically possible. IN the river, NOT beside it! Consequently there was a long wait for a dry spell this summer... It took a while, but it was accomplished, as we walked through the various tunnels, hacking through undergrowth, scaling waterfalls and trying not to fall over, before emerging in Ingersley Vale!

The group currently has about fifty members and we keep in contact with a monthly meeting, along with email, the 'Flickr' photographic website and our 'Bollington In Photos' website.

Maybe you have seen some of our photographs. During the Festival, we held a very successful exhibition at the Methodist Church. More photographs are currently exhibited at the Vale Inn, from our Group tour of the Bollington Brewery.



*Many of the photographs in recent editions of Bollington Live! are taken by members of the Bollington Festival Photography Group.*



Photographs:  
'Background Sheep'  
and 'River Tunnel' by  
Janet Beech.

'Rock Crusher at  
Endon Quarry' by  
Tom Lewis.

'Adlington Road at  
Ground Level' by  
Katherine Lewis.

We are actually a very informal bunch and we would welcome more members to help record Bollington for the future. Please get in touch, you will be made welcome. Bollington Photographers may take their photography seriously, but we are just as much about having fun! **Janet Beech**

View more pictures at:  
[bollingtonphotos.com](http://bollingtonphotos.com) and [flickr.com](http://flickr.com)

Contact Janet on  
[janetgbeech@btinternet.com](mailto:janetgbeech@btinternet.com) or  
telephone 574618

Do you want us to photograph your event? Please get in touch.



# SCOUT AND ABOUT

This summer a coach full of Bollington and Macclesfield Explorer Scouts went camping for a week in Holland, to the International Scout Centre in Rotterdam.

Whilst there, this bunch of teenage boys and girls went cycling, built rafts and visited the local adventure parks and the picturesque village of Delf, as well as practising their camping skills. Last year it was a cold wet field in North Wales. Planning is now taking place for a possible visit to Uganda in 2011.

Beavers, Rainbows, Cubs, Brownies, Scouts and Guides are all represented within Bollington and since 2007 we have a successful Explorer Scout Group, with nearly thirty members. The scouting age boundaries have changed slightly over the years and Explorers are aged from 14 - 18. This is a very intense period for kids; education and social lives can become very demanding. Explorer Scouts gives teenagers a chance to have new experiences and learn new skills in a relaxed yet structured way. Many of the members have come through the ranks of the Scouts or Guides, but Explorers is open to any youngster once they reach the age of 14. The 'Spartans' meet weekly on Wednesdays at the 2<sup>nd</sup> Bollington HQ at the bottom of Albert Rd, when they are not out on external activities.

They share the Scout Hut with 2<sup>nd</sup>

Top: Pioneering project to traverse an algae covered Dutch Canal!

Below: Explorers at the fair in Rotterdam.

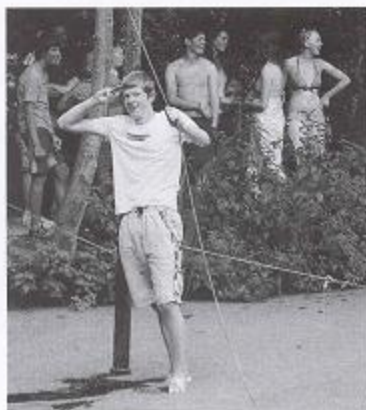
Photographs by 'Tigger'.

[mcsouts.org.uk](http://mcsouts.org.uk)

Bollington Scout Group, but are actually affiliated to the Macclesfield and Congleton District Scout Association. Activities with other Explorer Groups are common and give an opportunity to make new friends and take part in larger scale events. The other local Explorers are the Trojans at Poynton, the Vikings and Zulus in Macclesfield, the Titans and Gladiators in Congleton and the Maoris at Sutton.

The Explorers help plan their own programme and are encouraged to contribute ideas and discuss them with the leaders who do their best to see how they can be fulfilled. In the two years since the Explorers started in Bollington, the leaders have blended traditional Scouting skills such as camp fire cooking, map-reading and rock-climbing, with skiing, ice-skating, and even a 'graffiti' night. Some of the future plans include canoeing, a survival weekend and a thing called 'Zorbing'? (Google it if you need to know). Activities are tailored to let the Explorers work towards special Scouting achievement awards. Several Explorers have already got their Chief Scout's Platinum Awards and are now striving for their Diamond awards. Although the emphasis is always on having a good time, the Explorers are required to show commitment and often a bit of courage to meet their goals.

The Spartans take part in activities organised at the County and Country level. Several Explorers took part in the Chiltern



Challenge, where teams compete against an eclectic set of challenges like night navigation, emergency first aid simulations and giant Jenga. Last year at Easter some of them took part in the Cheshire Scout Hike, a 30k two-day expedition (in the snow!) carrying all their camping gear. The Explorers also took their theory driving test in AstraZeneca's computer training room.

Much of the credit for the success of the Explorers has to go to the leadership. John 'Tigger' Eaton, who, a Scout leader for 17 yrs, set up the unit in 2007. The other leaders are Tony Martin, Sarah Parnicot, Alan Milburn and Alex Douglas-Kane, who used to be a Guide leader. Additional help is always welcome and if you have any time or skills to offer then it's well worth giving John a ring on 07971 026870. For information on the Scouts, Cubs or Beavers contact Steve Jackson on 01625 573327.

I still have my Dad's old wide brimmed Boy Scout hat. It is nearly eighty years old now but still keeps the rain off while I light an old brass primus stove outside my little canvas tent. No wonder my daughters frequently find the need to disown their aged parent. Scouting gave me the opportunity to camp, climb mountains, canoe and sail. Modern Scouting has had to adapt to retain an appeal to today's 'interweb' savvy teenagers, but it embraces the same values of teamwork, camaraderie and love of the great outdoors. Will this make them better members of society? Who knows; but I think they will be. We should be proud of them.

Tim Neale





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# BOLLINGTON



## NOVEMBER

Sunday 1<sup>st</sup>, 2.00pm

### The Tin Cup

Arts Centre: "That Hat! But how can I ever afford that?" Kristin Hurst has been blending her own style of movement, masks, puppets and music on the stage since 1994. Ages 5 to 105. Tickets £8/£5/ Families of four £22. Ring 573413.

Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup>, 10.00am

### Bridgend Centre Long Walk.

Bridge End Centre. 5 to 6 miles. Cover some hilly terrain. Takes about 3 hours.

Friday 6<sup>th</sup>, 8.00pm

### Bolly Comedy Club

Arts Centre: Doors & Bar Open at 7.30pm (over 18s only) Online tickets £8 (plus booking fee) Book early - always a sell out! [www.bollingtonartscentre.org.uk](http://www.bollingtonartscentre.org.uk)

Saturday 7<sup>th</sup>, 9.30am - 4.00pm

### Eco-refurbishment Course.

Arts Centre: Led by Nick Parsons of the South Yorkshire Energy Centre. Save money and learn practical tips on how to save energy. Tickets: Sonia Mysko [myskos@ntlworld.com](mailto:myskos@ntlworld.com) or call 266018.

Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> 8.00pm

### Jazz at the Arts Centre

The Harlem Hot Stompers: £8; ring 574410 to reserve your place.

Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup>, 10.15am - 12noon

### Bollington Probus Club

Civic Hall: A club for retired men to discuss topics of general interest. Moira Fumage presents "The Himalayas". Tel John Tinder on 575197.

Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup>, 10.30am

### Bridgend Centre Easy Walk.

Bridgend Centre: About two miles. In conjunction with Age concern.

Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup>, 10am - 2.30pm

### Bridgend Centre Car Wash.

Recreation Ground: Get your car washed for £2.50 and help the Bridgend Centre.

Friday 13<sup>th</sup>, 6.00-8.00 pm

### Family Games Night!

St. John's School, Grimshaw Lane Tel 01625 262467 or 560336 for details

Sunday 8<sup>th</sup>, 10.30a.m.-(Service 10.55)

### Remembrance Sunday

Procession starts from Kay Metzeler on Wellington Road to the Cenotaph at the Memorial Gardens.

Monday 9<sup>th</sup>, 6.30 pm

### Bollington SciBar

Vale Inn: Emulating biology to make thin film Solar cells by Paul O'Brien, Professor of Inorganic Materials, Mcr. Uni. Free.

Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> 2.00 - 4.00pm

### Food And Homes For Winter Wildlife

Arts Centre: RSPB Activities. Discover how to help wildlife survive the winter. Free.

Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> - Sunday Dec. 13<sup>th</sup>

Sun. 2-4pm and during other events

### Brushes With Wildlife

Arts Centre: An exhibition by the RSPB.

Monday 16<sup>th</sup>, 8.00pm

### Civic Society AGM

Ovenhouse Lane Community Centre: AGM followed by a talk on the summer visit to Shetland.

Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup>, 10.30am

### Bridgend Centre Moderate Walk.

Led by Macclesfield Rangers. Approx 3 miles and takes about 2 hours.

Thursday 19<sup>th</sup>, 7.30pm

### Vegetables for every Taste

Bollington Community Centre: The Horticultural Society host Margaret Robinson of Robinsons Mammoth Vegetable Seed Fame who gives a talk on how to grow vegetables for the pot and show bench. £1:50 (Non members £3:00).

Friday 20<sup>th</sup>, 7.30 pm

### An Evening With The RSPB

Enjoy an awards and film evening. Tickets £3.50 and £1.50 (children) from Tina Hanak on 503572 or [wex@macclesfieldrspb.org.uk](mailto:wex@macclesfieldrspb.org.uk)

Friday 20<sup>th</sup>, 8.00pm:

### Rainow Pre-School's 'Gifts Galore'

Rainow Institute, Stocks Lane: Tickets £3.50 (incl glass of wine). Tickets from Katherine Beswick 573809.

Saturday 21<sup>st</sup>, 8.00pm

### The Solstice Quartet

Arts Centre: Highly recommended quartet. Programme inc. Haydn, Dutilleux and Beethoven. Tickets £12 and £6 (students and claimants) from 560355 or 575287

Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup>, 10am - 2.30pm

### Bridgend Centre Car Wash.

Recreation Ground: Get your car washed for £2.50 and help the Bridgend Centre.

Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> 10.00am - 3.00pm

### Creative Sparks 2

Arts Centre: When you are gone, who will say my name? Writing workshop with Gail Ashton. Bring a packed lunch and sharpen your writing skills. £5. Enrol on 877804.

Sunday 29<sup>th</sup>, 7.30pm

### Fishing In Hot Waters

Arts Centre: For 40 years Keith Meecham was a Fisheries Officer for the Colonial Service, the UN and a volunteer in tropical countries. In this illustrated talk he tells how he coped with life and work in hot, tropical waters. £5/£3 Pay at door.

## DECEMBER

Friday 4<sup>th</sup> 8.00pm

### Bolly Comedy Club

Arts Centre: Doors & Bar Open at 7.30pm (over 18s only) Online tickets £8 (plus booking fee) Book early - always a sell out! [www.bollingtonartscentre.org.uk](http://www.bollingtonartscentre.org.uk)

Saturday 5<sup>th</sup>, 2 - 4pm

### St. John's School Christmas Fair

St. John's School, Grimshaw Lane Tel: 262467 or 560336 for details

Sunday 6<sup>th</sup>, 10.30am

### Middlewood Way Tree Wander

Rangers Office Adlington Road. Come and learn about and identify our native trees on short walk along the Middlewood Way.

Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> 2.30 and 5.00 pm

### Good King Wenceslas

Arts Centre: A new musical from Donald Judge that explores the truth about the real Wenceslas, Vaclav II of Bohemia, the boy who became a good king and inspired the carol. For tickets and details, ring 0161 427 2870 or visit: [www.fun.to/bfmt](http://www.fun.to/bfmt)

Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup>, 10am - 2.30pm

### Bridgend Centre Car Wash.

Recreation Ground: Get your car washed for £2.50 and help the Bridgend Centre.

Saturday 12<sup>th</sup>, 8.00pm

### Jazz at the Arts Centre

James Evans' Incredible String Four. With Special Guest Amy Roberts: £8; ring 574410 to reserve your place

Sunday 13<sup>th</sup>, 7.30pm

### Christmas Pudding

Bollington Methodist Church: A seasonal concert with Bollington Festival Choir, Tickets £8, £4 students 420615.

(Contact numbers are 01625 unless stated)



# Dates for your Diary

TO INCLUDE YOUR FUTURE EVENTS, CONTACT TIM NEALE ON 576397 OR E-MAIL: [LIVEDATES@HAPPY-VALLEY.ORG.UK](mailto:LIVEDATES@HAPPY-VALLEY.ORG.UK)

Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> 7.30pm

## Messiah For All

Arts Centre: Proceeds to East Cheshire Hospice. Come and sing (music can be provided) Tickets £5, call 269133.

Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup>, 10am - 2.30pm

## Bridgend Centre Car Wash.

Recreation Ground: Get your car washed for £2.50 and help the Bridgend Centre.

Thursday 24<sup>th</sup>, 6pm

## Carols Around the Tree

Bollington Town Hall: Seasonal get-together with Bollington Brass Band.

## JANUARY

Fri. 8<sup>th</sup> - Sun 10<sup>th</sup> and Wed 13<sup>th</sup> - Sat 16<sup>th</sup>

## Robinson Crusoe

Arts Centre: The Festival Players' annual pantomime. Based on Daniel Defoe's classic tale reworked for laughs by Paul Reakes. Ring 875326 for details.

Friday 29<sup>th</sup>, 08:00pm

## Bolly Comedy Club

Arts Centre: Doors & Bar Open at 7.30pm (over 18s only) Online Tickets £8 (plus booking fee) Book early - always a sell out! [www.bollingtonartscentre.org.uk](http://www.bollingtonartscentre.org.uk)

Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> 08:00pm

## Jazz at the Arts Centre

Band to be confirmed. 574410 for details.

## FEBRUARY

Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> 07:30pm

## Bollington Chamber Concerts.

The Albion Quartet - a young quartet from the RNCM making their debut in Bollington Tickets £12 and £6 (students and claimants) from 560355 or 575287.

Friday 26<sup>th</sup> 08:00pm

## Bolly Comedy Club

Arts Centre: Doors & Bar Open at 7.30pm (over 18s only) Online Tickets £8 (plus booking fee) Book early - always a sell out! [www.bollingtonartscentre.org.uk](http://www.bollingtonartscentre.org.uk)

## BRIDGEND CENTRE

**New Saturday Opening:** For a trial period on Saturdays until Christmas, the Bridgend Centre Charity Shop and Internet Café will be open 10am-4pm.

## ARTS CENTRE CONTACTS

**Secretary:** Catherine Hoe, 575001

**Art Exhibitions:** Faith Walker, 574640

**Art Group (Wed):** Graham Ritchie, 820685

**Art Group (Tues):** Sheila Ratcliffe, 877844

**Festival Choir/Childrens Music Theatre:**

Donald Judge, 0161 427 2870

[www.marple55.freemove.co.uk](http://www.marple55.freemove.co.uk)

**Chamber Concerts:** Sally Smith, 560355

**Bridge Club:** June Cash, 575508

**Comedy Club:** Caroline Leadsom, 560774

**Festival Players and Junior Players:**

Kath Portlock, 574085

**Light Opera group:** Peggy Russell, 610983

**Jazz:** Bernard Selby, 574410

**Sunday Night Talks:** Jean Ransley, 575287

**Creative Embroidery & Textile Art**

**Classes:** Ann Ford, 560459

**Italian Class:** Audrey Parnell, 572130

**Spanish Class:** Kate Barraclough, 583897

**Dance Class:** Sue Lane, 574176

**Bookings Secretary:** Mick Wilkins, 576810

**WI Art Group:** Sheila Ratcliffe, 877844

**Play Readings:** David Beaton, 267545

## REGULAR EVENTS

### Mondays

**Air Training Corps,** Marg. Morris 526576

**Canoe Club,** 01925 756728

**Women's Institute,** 573571 or 574369

**Snr. Sea Cadets,** David Thickett 573821

**1st Bollington Cross Guides,** 574849

**Brass Band Practice,** 01298 814820

**Age Concern Exercise Class** 433375

### Tuesdays

**Snr. Citizens' Luncheon Club,** 575557

**2nd Bollington Brownies,** 269869

**2nd Bollington Beavers,** 573327

**Tea Dance** Civic Hall 0161 428 4650

**Flower Club.** (2nd Wed) 422371

**1st Boll. Rainbows & Brownies,** 574288

**2nd Bollington Cubs,** 573327

**Junior Sea Cadets,** David Thickett 573821

**Bosom Buddies breastfeeding support,**

07917 246434

### Thursdays

**Coffee Morning,** St Oswald's 10-11am.

**Horticultural Society,** (3rd Thurs) 422371

**Senior Sea Cadets,** David Thickett 573821

**Air Training Corps,** see Monday.

**1st Bollington St John's Guides,** 879781.

**Friends of the Rec,** 3rd Thur. Pav. 7.30pm.

### Fridays

**Folk Club** Dog and Partridge 8.30pm

**Live Wires & Fuse Youth Group** Christian

Life Church, 578100

**2nd Bollington Scouts,** 573327



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# THE LOWER MILL STORY PART ONE

**Bollington Live!** congratulates Tullis Russell Coaters on reaching their 200th anniversary this year. They have marked this milestone with their involvement in key community activities including our Festival, the Kerridge Ridge Project and the Bollington Cross Youth Project.

The site presently occupied by TRC is based on two former cotton mills, both known as Lower Mill, and dating from 1790 and 1832. The older one had been rebuilt in 1846 by Peter Gaskell (a plaque can still be seen). In 1875, Mr Leigh Slater relocated his Manchester business, producing coated and gummed papers, to Lower Mill after a brief time at another mill in Sutton, Macclesfield. He and his brother Henry then founded HL Slater.

George Swindells had been the previous tenant and the Slater family rented both premises at £300 per year until 1904, when they were bought from a well-known Bollington family, Thomas and Jane Parrott for £4,221 along with two cottages.

The mills, situated beside the River Dean, used a water wheel and also steam engines producing 55 horsepower. One had its own gasworks supplying both, using coal barged in on the canal from Higher Poynton collieries. The Canal had opened in 1831 after the River Dean had been diverted to allow the aqueduct to carry it over the valley. In 1859, a ton of coal cost 5s3d. Originally,

paper coating was done by hand, before the installation of the first machine coater, made by Mellors of 'The White Shop' in Rainow.

A feature article is published in 'The Stationery World' trade journal in 1905 reporting the developments and noting: no breakdowns in the mill engines, a sprinkler system in place and a fire engine and trained volunteer fire fighters on site. A dining room and library provided on site. The products then were white and tinted enamels, coloured papers and chromo for litho and letterpress printing, as well as tin and gold foil and pasteboards. In future years, highly glazed coloured papers were produced for confectionary wrappers.

In 1910, Mr Leigh Slater, the founder of the firm, died, but his son Harold continued as a director and he was there when my mother started in 1928. A new mill, built in 1910, is on the side next to the churchyard and was then joined to the old mill by a bridge, with the space between being a right of way from Lord Street to Oldham Street. This has long since become part of the factory and after the 2nd World War, the floor of the old mill was raised to align with the newer part.

Outings for all employees became established and one from 1908 was the 15th Annual Picnic, this being a day tour of the Lake District, with generous refreshment along the way!

Mr Robert Tullis opened his paper works in Fife in 1809. Now the group carrying his name has so grown in reputation that they are trusted by governments and postal authorities in over 100 countries worldwide.



Above: Plaque on the wall of Lower Mill.

Photograph courtesy of Tullis Russell Coaters.

[tullis-russell.co.uk/coaters](http://tullis-russell.co.uk/coaters)

Below: Lower Mill in about 1890. Note how few of the buildings remain today!

Photograph: Discovery Centre Collection.

The story concludes in our next issue; new technology arrives and ownership changes hands.

The Associated Paper Mills was formed in 1920 from HL Slater and a Scottish Papermakers, Edward Collins. Two years later, the cardboard side of the business moved to an old silk mill in Macclesfield which became known as the Card Factory. This transferred in 1976 to a purpose-built factory in Poynton and continues as HL Slater, part of the renamed Associated Paper Industries Group (API).

The water supply suffered pollution in 1927 from a bleaching company's sludge disposal upstream; however, the matter was settled amicably, if not the sludge. 1929 was an eventful time as one of the family - Cuthbert Slater - and colleague John Harrison left the company to set up a rival firm, renting premises in Ingersley Vale before moving to Lowerhouse as Slater Harrison in 1937. Sadly, Mr Harrison died two years later.

A dispute occurred in 1929 with the owners of a private road which had a culvert running beneath. This had been the main supply and despatch route since 1875, but it not been maintained by the Slater firm and was in a bad condition. The owners decided to close the road and were threatened with legal action by the company's solicitors. Their action was withdrawn and both sides agreed to share the cost. The name of this road? Oldham Street, later sold to the local Council to maintain at their expense. **Roger Molineux**





# RICHARD WARREN 1915-2009

Richard Warren (or "Dick" as he was almost universally known amongst family and friends), one of Bollington's best known senior citizens, died peacefully on 22<sup>nd</sup> August 2009. He was 94 years old.

A Bollington man from first to last, Richard was born on 8 May 1915 at 2, Nancy View, at the lower end of Church Street. His father Richard and mother Rachel had three older children - Harold, Jack and Elsie. Most of Richard's early life was played out within a few hundred yards of the house in which he was born. He went to the local church school and was a regular attendee at St John's parish church where he sang in the choir and carried the cross in the processional. Richard was a keen member of the church's Boy Scout troop and was the troop's bugler. Even in old age he could recount many happy memories of summer camp at Talacre-in North Wales.

The hardship and poverty endured by ordinary people in the 1920's and 1930's is something few of us can imagine today but Richard was a schoolboy and young man during the great depression and the experience shaped his political thinking throughout his long life. His first duty after school each day was to walk along the local railway line looking for pieces of coal which had fallen from the tenders of the steam locomotives so that there would be something to burn on the fire at home. Richard was given special permission to leave school early to start work at Oak Bank mill in order to bring some money home to support his now widowed mother.

The depression ended with the start of the Second World War and Richard was one of the first to be called up. He served first with the Royal Artillery and later with the King's Own Scottish Borderers. Richard spent several years in Malta on the heavy anti-aircraft guns and also served in North Africa and the Far East.

Thankfully the Second World War ended and Richard returned to his job at Oak Bank. While still in



Above:  
Richard Warren in his  
Mayoral Year,  
1991-1992.

Right: During the  
Second World War,  
when Richard was  
posted to Malta as  
well as North Africa  
and the Far East.

Photographs courtesy  
of the Warren Family.

uniform, one Christmas midnight service he introduced himself to the then Alice Atherton Duxfield. Richard and Alice were married on 7 June 1952. Eleven months later their first son Richard Anthony was born followed five years later by their second child Michael Alistair. Richard became the devoted family man.

As his family grew up Richard had more time to spend on his many and varied interests. Foremost amongst these was gardening. He was particularly interested in growing tomatoes and - the war years apart - did so every summer from his teens to the last year of his life.

Another lifelong interest was crown green bowling. In 1974 Richard won the open summer handicap at Bollington Bowling Club, one of his proudest achievements, and the large silver trophy sat proudly on the sideboard at home for the next twelve months. For several years he was captain of the "B" team who won their league in 1978 and 1981.

Richard was very much a Labour man and a trade unionist. He served on Bollington Town Council for many years. Richard told a

story of how the then Town Mayor visited his school when Richard was a schoolboy and how he had been fascinated by the Mayor's chain of office with its enamelled "White Nancy" motif. Richard was determined that one day he would be mayor and wear the mayoral chain and his ambition came to fruition in 1991. Richard's year as Mayor of Bollington was undoubtedly the most enjoyable year of his life. He revelled in his civic duties, the public functions, speech making and everything associated with being mayor. Richard often used to travel to mayoral functions on his bicycle and quickly became known as "the Mayor on the bike!"

Although Richard was extremely active for at least 90 of his 94 years he became increasingly the victim of ill health in the last few years of his life. He suffered from macular degeneration and became registered blind. This was a particularly cruel blow for someone who was an avid reader of newspapers and all sorts of books especially anything to do with horticulture and current affairs.

Richard is survived by his widow Alice and by his two sons, Richard (a Harley Street Medical Consultant) and Alistair (Professor of Biomedical Science in the University of Sheffield).

**Richard Anthony Warren**





# MOLECULE HUNTING

Could you tell caffeine from paracetamol or distinguish between shampoo and hair dye? That's what participants in the Bollington Molecules Hunt were asked to do. During the run of the Bollington Festival, fifteen different models of molecules were displayed in the windows of shops, pubs and restaurants throughout Bollington.

The challenge was to find and identify all the molecules during the three weeks of the Bollington Festival. With a protein molecule dangling in the window of Heathcote's butchers, the scent of lavender in The Little Apple Tree and a paracetamol molecule in the window of Rowland's pharmacy each molecule was themed to match its location.

"We had many an eager child and adult peeking through the window looking for our molecule" said Helen Ellwood from the Poachers Inn, who hosted a molecule of quinine (the molecule responsible for the bitter taste of tonic water). The Molecules Hunt appears to have been good for business too. "Strangely," Helen continued "many adults dragged their children kicking and screaming into the pub insisting they had to buy a pint before they could look for it!"

The prize winner was ten-year-old Daniel Grout who was presented

with his molecules model kit prize in a school assembly at Bollington Cross Primary School by Bollington scientists Tess Phillips (from Keele University) and Annette Hurst (from the Festival Science Group).

Daniel said, "The Molecules Hunt was extremely fun to do. I had a great time searching and finding each molecule. Some of my friends had a go and they really enjoyed the hunt as well." It took Daniel three evenings to find all the molecules. "I thought the hardest one to find was at The Vale", Daniel explained. "We searched all around the cricket field and then we were about to go and I thought that it might be at The Vale pub and it was! The Molecules Hunt helped make the Bollington Festival really exciting."

Daniel's mum, Helen added "I think the Molecules Hunt played a part in making children feel part of the Bollington Festival and it also introduced children to another part of science they didn't really know much about, in a fun way."

Well done to all those who completed the Bollington Molecules Hunt and big thank you to all of the businesses in Bollington who hosted a molecule during the Festival.

The Bollington Molecules Hunt was brought to you by Keele University's 'makeitmolecular' project. We aim to run activities and events that make learning about molecules fun.

Right: Molecule Model in the window of one of Bollington's shops.

keele.ac.uk/  
makeitmolecular



The molecule locations were:  
Briscola,  
The Village Florist,  
Head Office,  
The White Gallery,  
The Plaice,  
J.J.J. Heathcote,  
The Little Apple Tree,  
Threshers,  
The Late Shop,  
Men's Den,  
The Vale,  
The Poachers,  
Rowlands Pharmacy  
and Kellico Interiors.

We hope that this will help people to appreciate and understand more about the molecular world we all live in.

Tess Phillips

## SCIBAR

The Vale Inn was packed on Monday 14th September for the launch of the monthly Bollington Scibar. Professor Roger Barlow of Manchester University led an animated discussion about antimatter. "Antimatter and matter," he explained "were both formed at the start of the universe. Almost at once, the matter and antimatter destroyed each other, producing a huge amount of energy. But, as there was a slight excess of matter over antimatter, what we see today - from stars to people - is the 'left over' matter."

The meeting was chaired by David Whalley, one of the SciBar organizers. In thanking Professor Barlow, he said, "It is obvious from this brilliant talk, that scientists have left a lot more for the next generation of scientists to discover."

Annette Hurst

Left: Prizewinner Daniel Grout presented with his molecules model kit prize at Bollington Cross Primary School.

Photographs by  
Tess Phillips and  
Annette Hurst.





# WORKING TOGETHER

This September, two local schools, St. John's Church of England Aided Primary School and Pott Shrigley Church School, began a Federation with one Headteacher and governing body. Each school will retain its own special identity and manage its own budget.



Left:  
St. John's School.  
Photograph by Jude  
Manse.

Cheshire has been looking at schools via the 'Transforming Learning Communities' process since 2006 as they see a need to rationalise school provision because of surplus school places. Pott Shrigley and St. John's are both small schools and Church of England aided, so a federation was chosen as a way to retain choice within the area and to strengthen both schools.

Phil Mellen, head of the Federation, is looking forward to this academic year and is positive that the new regime will be a great success. "Small schools can learn from each other, sharing expertise, bouncing ideas around and building on the good things each school has to offer." He hopes that the federation will allow both schools to retain the feel of a small school with the added

advantages of a larger one. He will share his time with both schools, which will be a challenge, but, with the backing of a strong senior management team behind him, he is confident that it will work.

Ellen Wallace, a senior teacher and governor at St. John's, is also very upbeat about the future. "I'm looking forward to working with the staff at Pott Shrigley and it will be great to take part in joint activities that were impossible with small numbers."

There are very few Federations like this in the country, so Bollington is at the forefront of current educational innovation. Another new move is the introduction of the International Primary Curriculum, which covers the National Curriculum requirements, but in a thematic way and not in subject areas. The bonus for the children is learning through interesting topics.

The joint Governing Body ensures a unity between the two schools but there will be differences that allow a distinctiveness to be retained. Both schools have, however, a strong Christian ethos and maintain links with their respective Church communities. The incumbents of both St. Christopher's and St. Oswald's are on the governing body of the Federated Schools.

There will be opportunities for development in both schools. At Pott Shrigley it is hoped to provide

a garden classroom in the school grounds so that the youngest children have access to the outside. At St. John's, a surplus classroom is used by the Bollington Sea Cadets and the hall is used by many groups within the community.

The children have been involved in several joint ventures during the summer term, with joint use of a minibus and the sharing of staff expertise. The large hall at St. John's allowed Pott Shrigley children to perform Joseph on a large stage while children from St. John's visited the church at Pott Shrigley and learned about its history. Sporting events, however, incur a more partisan approach and healthy competition replaces unity.

The early days will be crucial to the future of the Federation and the governors are keen to get it right. There is a great deal of goodwill among children, staff, parents, governors and the wider community who all wish the federation well.

**Sandy Milsom**



Right:  
Pott Shrigley School.  
Photograph by Sandy  
Milsom.

# ROARSOME SUPPORT

Lions Club International is a service organisation which raises money to meet requests from charities & other good causes. The majority of funds are distributed locally within the local area.

We have supported the Bridgend Centre, local youth groups such as the Scouts, Beavers, Guides and Brownies, the 2009 Festival and many other good causes in Bollington. We would welcome any application in writing for financial support, with the reasons explained

**Lions Membership**  
Chairman:  
John Williams  
Tel. 573740

E-mail:  
johnwrainow  
@aol.com

macclesfielduk.  
lionwap.org

and we will try to help if we can.

For the last five years we have been responsible for the Transport Extravaganza. At least half of the funds raised go to Bollington good causes. The Lions are very much involved with Bollington and have had generous support from the local community and local businesses. We wish to take this opportunity to thank the Bollingtonians who have volunteered to help us with events and hopefully they will continue to do so.

We meet at the Hollin Hall Hotel twice a month (1st & 3rd Mondays). If you are interested in joining the club you can contact one of the Lions for an invitation to a meeting, or for a chat about our aims, activities and charity work.

For us to continue supporting events and financially supporting local good causes we need to increase our membership. If you are interested either in being a member or as a helper please get in touch.

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## LEADER OF THE PACK



Left: James Dumbleton and Jess at home with a selection of their trophies.

Background: James, Jess and a flock of Sheep in action.

Photographs provided by James Dumbleton.

There are twenty sheep in a corner of a field, perhaps a hundred yards distant. "Jess; away!" James Dumbleton quietly commands his lean black and white border collie.

The eager dog streaks around the edge of the field and slows up behind the sheep. James whistles, Jess advances, and the sheep are driven, in a resigned way, back towards James; Jess weaving right and left, bringing into line the odd independently spirited ewe.

But this is not only a working partnership; for James and Jess are also a highly successful sporting team. Last winter they won four of the five regional sheepdog trial championships at Dovedale, Peak Forest, Ringinglow, and Rainow. Just for good measure James' brother Ben won the fifth, at Hayfield, with his dog, Ted.

In a sheepdog trial, a dog must move a small flock of sheep around a course, directed by their handler, who uses calls and whistles. Points are awarded for different tasks. The basic commands are to run 'right' or 'left', 'go forward', 'stop' and 'go back for more' and it takes hours of highly skilled training. James and Ben train their own and also other people's dogs. Men and dogs have their own personalities and these must be compatible to get a match winning combination. James says that it's about tapping

into and controlling the dog's primeval hunting instincts.

Everything a sheepdog does can also be seen in wolves. Most of us are desperate to keep our dogs from chasing sheep. The same instinct is encouraged, but controlled in a sheepdog.

Some trial sheepdogs are only used for competition, but as a working dog, Jess is always on hand to help out with James and Ben's sixty odd Jacob sheep based at Sowcar Farm, off Ingersley Rd. The demands of a working dog and a competition are a little different; a working dog needs to be able to work on its own and not always be waiting

for a command. In a competition it has to be completely disciplined. A dog that touches a sheep in a trial is instantly disqualified, when working it may need to be more forceful.

Brought up in Bollington, James' grandfather introduced him to trialing and at fourteen he started spending time with Colin Pickford, from Rainow, and the Waller family from Mount Farm. His wife Fay, an intensive care nurse at Macclesfield Hospital, comes from a farming family who have helped and encouraged James.

Fay and James have three children, Oliver (6), Neve (18mth) and Charlie (8mth). Oliver already looks after a small flock of chickens and sells the eggs locally and Jess is as happy to round up chickens as sheep. "Dogs do it for the joy of it, and being part of the pack," says James.

I think James sees himself as, Akela 'the great grey Lone Wolf who led all his pack by strength and cunning' (Kipling). That's what he thinks. I get the impression that Fay is really the 'Leader of the Pack'.

Tim Neale

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