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Number Fifty Winter 2010

Live!

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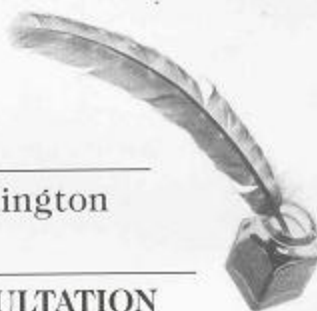
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SMOKE STACKS

Mills mean chimneys – except that they seem to be getting fewer in number and shorter in stature!

When they were built, Bollington's water-powered mills, such as Ingersley, Rainow, Higher, Lower, Oak Bank, Waterhouse and Lowerhouse mills, had waterwheels and no chimneys. When they needed more power they added boilers and steam engines plus a fine tall chimney. Clarence and Adelphi were built with these from the outset.

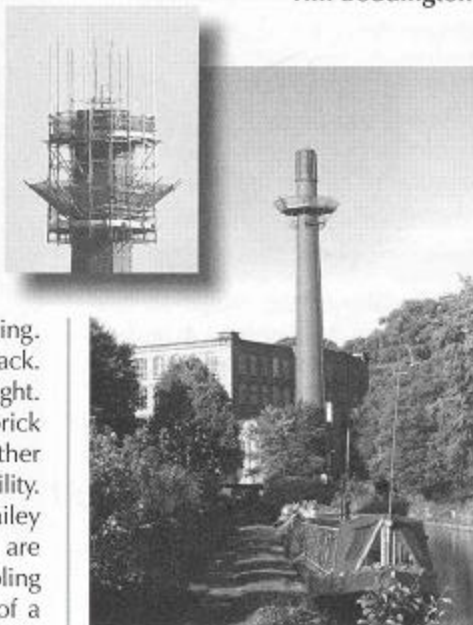
Alas, over the years the chimneys have been disappearing. Adelphi lost its very beautiful stack. Lower Mills has lost some height. Lowerhouse is losing its brick chimney metre by metre as weather and age diminish its stability. Bollington steeplejacks Bailey International Steeplejacks, are removing three metres of crumbling brickwork to leave something of a large stump held together by metal straps.

Clarence lost its two original chimneys decades ago. Its present stack was built in 1914 by H. Cumberbirch & Sons and it is sound and upright. However, plant life took hold in the higher elevations and has damaged some of the brickwork. Three metres, the most beautiful bit on the top, were taken off in 1977. Options are being discussed as to what should be done now – repair the damaged section (favoured by Bollington Civic Society), remove five metres off the top, or even demolish the whole stack. It is a 'listed' building so the first option should really be adopted.

Of course, don't forget the two little chimneys that stand on Beeston

Hill and above Ingersley Vale. These were connected to their boilers by tunnels built up the hillsides. As things are going they could become the last reminders of our happy valley full of smoky chimney stacks!

Tim Boddington



Photographs: Clarence Mill by Anthony Holland; inset: Lowerhouse Mill by Simon Nottage

50TH ISSUE COMPETITION

Win a hamper worth £50 for our 50th issue kindly donated by the new Livesey's Delicatessen on High Street.

Simply tell us the issue numbers of the back issues of **Bollington Live!** scattered throughout this issue.

Answers to the Editor by e-mail or by post to Bollington Printshop.

Closing date 30th November 2010

happy-valley.org.uk/history/mill-clarence_chimney.htm



EDITORIAL

Reaching our fiftieth issue is something of a milestone. This is a time for both looking back - as well as looking ahead into the future.

John Liley, the magazine's first editor, remembers in his article - and thanks many of those involved at the beginning. I would like to extend those thanks to everyone who has contributed in whatever way over fifty issues, from writing articles, providing photographs, to illustrating with cartoons, not to mention delivering to every household and business in our town. Our committee members and I are all proud to be associated with Bollington's magazine. Regular feedback also tells us that Bollington looks forward to receiving their copy through the door.

Our advertisers are a crucial part of this success. Again, thanks are due to them. Many have been with us for almost every issue - a special thanks to M. Chadwick, Michael Hart, J.J.J. Heathcote, Marie Anne Holmes Naden, Stylers, J.A. McNulty and Bollington Printshop amongst others. The Printshop deserves extra thanks for continually helping us improve our magazine and for being our printer of choice since the beginning.

Sponsors were also introduced after a couple of years, several of which have been a continual source of support, again, helping enormously. Tullis Russell, Bollington Town Council and Bollington Civic Society have sponsored every issue. Slater Harrison, Bailey Business Park and The Adelphi Group are not far behind.

I hope our readers, advertisers and sponsors, old and new continue to support **Bollington Live!** for many more years. Thank you, once again.

Here's to the future!

Anthony Holland

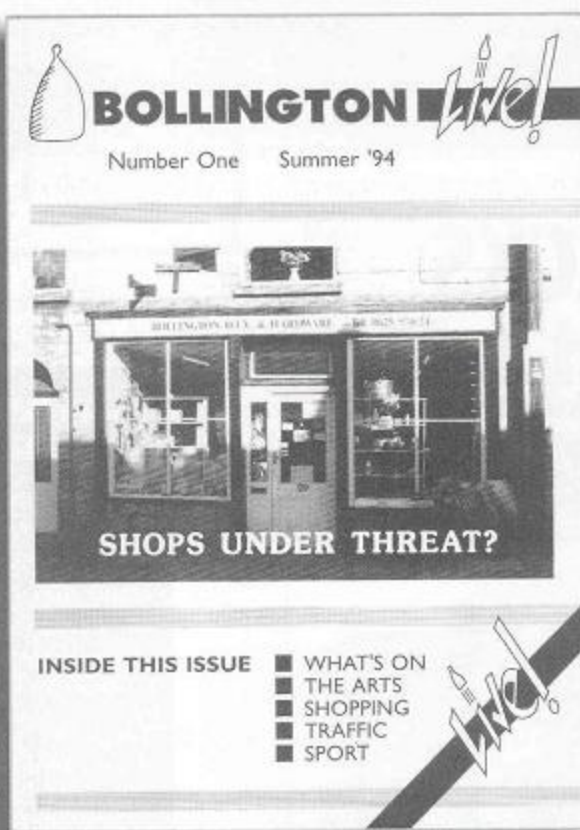
IN THE BEGINNING...

In the very first issue, published in 1994, my name is listed as Editor of *Bollington Live!* So ... it must be true. In practice, I was away in France on business at the time Number One was produced and it was Linda West, Walter Menzies and Graham Barrow who put it together. Some of the sentences were mine, under the heading of 'Terrible Traffic', but the rest was other people's work.

In the issues to follow I had to do the job more closely, having in a moment of light-headedness volunteered within the hearing of the late Dr. John Coope. John, the begetter of the Bollington Festivals and the driving force behind so many of the offshoots that the Festival produced, announced one day that after eight years as Editor of the magazine for the Arts Centre and Civic Society that he had had quite enough. It was only a little magazine, but it had to be written, and distributed, which seemed to consist of John hiking round the town to put it through the members' letter-boxes. On top of all this, he was a busy GP - and a very good one. He sorted out the asthma that plagued me for 14 years by observing, three minutes into our consultation, that I had a broken nose, a fact overlooked by a lengthy roster of previous doctors (not, I hasten to add, in Bollington). So I owed him something.

Editorially, I had come to his attention, I suppose, by writing the copy for the 1993 Festival Brochure (a tricky commission, given the several major acts remaining unconfirmed by the supposed publication date). Graham contributed too, with Walter getting it to press. That they- and others, had been plotting *Bollington Live!* was unknown to me then. Free newspapers were booming at the time, but the closest came from Macclesfield - with little concerning us. Ought not Bollington to assert itself? Hence the masthead slogan of *Bollington Live!* "A town in its own right."

So, there was a theme. Walter already had the logo designed, but some major decisions had to be



Covers: Two early issues and the issue featuring Dr. John Coope MBE.



made. Should the magazine have a price on it, or should it be free? Should it be decently produced, or done in the traditional manner of society journals, with smudgy type and a staple in the corner?

In any event, how could it be paid for? By its advertisements, theoretically, but who, if anyone, would obtain them? John who, in the gathering of sponsorship for the Festivals, had no qualms about marching into the chairman's office of any company in the area and coming out with the boodle, since the last time they had faced one another they were at the respective ends of a stethoscope - was too preoccupied to do this now. Anyway, he had been trying to give the magazine up.

One of the best things we ever did was to place a notice in the

Macclesfield Express, asking for help. This drew the attention of Dennis Caulfield and Mark Stedman, a newcomer to the area who became a town councillor and later our Town Mayor. Without Dennis and Mark, *Bollington Live!* would never have left the ground.

Although I was, professionally, an editor once, it was in the days of laying out the pages using scissors and paste. *Bollington Live!* on the other hand, was stretching into the computer age, a difficult concept for me, though Simon Nottage of Bollington Printshop smoothed the way and we ironed out the text together.

There were doubts, when we began, as to how long *Live!* might last. Magazines run by volunteers have a tendency to peter out. We felt we were doing well when the second year of publication came upon us, but sufficient volunteers kept turning up - and the squad doing the deliveries round the houses became a uniting strength. None of us, though, foresaw such a run. Fifty issues, by golly! I only edited nineteen. Well, eighteen, really- and it was thinner then! Looking at the magazine today, I am full of admiration for the input it represents. Wholeheartedly, I salute all involved: Tim Neale, who took over from me and Anthony Holland, his successor, who has put so much into it, with an effect that I envy. Plus, of course, the many others who pitch in. John Coope would have been delighted, too.

John Liley



THE WACKY WOODS

It is the school holidays and the rain is coming down fast and heavy. Few people are out walking in Tinkers Clough, yet a group of children, supervised by a small number of adults, are having an amazing time exploring in this muddy but magical outdoor environment.

Among the many activities they are doing is the designing and making of jewellery and bows and arrows. A small 'village' for the tiny 'tinker-creatures' that live in these woods, has also appeared from the twigs discarded by the trees.



In April 2009, Pott Shrigley School were in the top five nationally for the quality of their school dinners. (Awarded by the Times Educational Supplement.) Subsequently, Head teacher Phil Mellen, cook Sarah Boustead and Chair of Governors Alex Douglas-Kane were invited to London to an award ceremony, where they met staff from Thomas Bennett Community School in Crawley. The staff from Crawley were talking in great excitement about their innovative curriculum project, in which children were spending regular sessions in the outdoors. This 'Forest School' initiative was having positive effects on children's well being and intellectual development.

Alex was particularly inspired and followed this meeting up with some extensive research. She was able to confirm her belief that current adult fears about children's safety - higher

levels of traffic and the perceived threats of child abduction, have caused parents to keep their children close and restrict the use of the outdoors. Also there is concern that the growing interest in media equipment, such as television and computer games has also contributed to many children living sedentary lives with few, if any, opportunities to experience the benefits from playing outside.

Alex has extensive expertise and experience through her guiding and scouting background and decided to develop something that would enable local children to have the opportunity to experience the outdoors. This resulted in her completing a nationally recognised training course and becoming an accredited Forest School leader. This qualification aims for holders 'to motivate and inspire groups and individuals to enjoy the outdoors in a safe and nurturing environment whilst providing a unique learning experience'. Exactly what she wished to achieve!

Initially, Alex led sessions in the winter months with some children from Pott Shrigley School on the village green and the cricket field. One of the exciting activities involved children producing 'snow circles'.

Following on the success of this, 'Wacky Woods' was born. With grateful thanks to Bollington Initiative Trust (BIT) and its sub group 'Friends of Tinkers Clough', taster sessions were held in Tinkers Clough during a half term holiday. This was followed by drop-in sessions in the Easter holidays for 6-11 year olds, 12 children each time. All sessions were heavily oversubscribed.

"My children both thoroughly enjoyed their session ... and came back full of enthusiasm for the activities they had participated in. As well as getting them away from the various screens that seem to take up the majority of time and giving them the kind of fun outdoor activity that we always intend to do with them but very rarely get round to..."

...my boys thoroughly enjoyed their sessions in the woods at Easter, especially the mud! ...

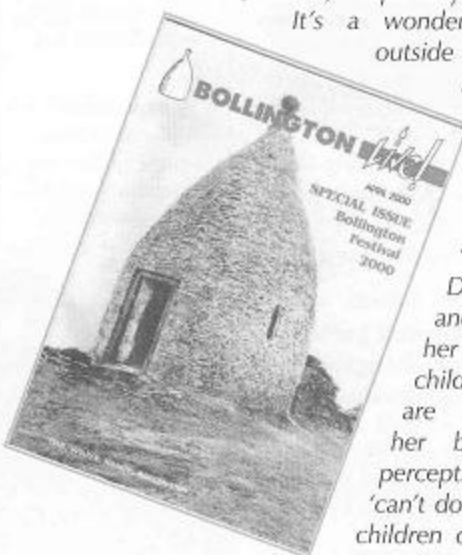
It's a wonderful idea, being outside enjoying your surroundings, meeting people and learning new skills...

"My daughter has Downs Syndrome and because of her disability many children's activities are not open to her because of the perception that she 'can't do' the things other children can or that extra supervision is required for her to attend. This was not the case at all with the Wacky Woods session."

Alex has now formed a limited company 'Schola Foris' and is leasing private woodland in Adlington at Styperson Woods. This is now a woodland area enjoyed not only by children and young people but also their families in a number of outdoor activities including birthday parties!

Alex enthused, saying "I am so chuffed to be able to start realising a dream, based on my beliefs, values and experience. I know what 'Schola Foris' can already offer, I know what I need to learn and I know that this can offer the most fun self-actualisation experience for not just children, but also families. Please wish me well! "

Kate Gooding



Photographs by Anthony Holland.

Left: Alex in Tinkers Clough; Below: Children from Pott Shrigley School.

For further details contact Alex www.wackywoods.co.uk



FOOD FOR THOUGHT

MYSTERY DINERS HIT THE STREETS!

As most of our regular readers will know Bollington is fast becoming the place to eat in East Cheshire! ... so do all our eateries stand up to closer inspection?

Over the past 8 weeks mystery diners have been eating their way around Bollington and writing about their experiences. We are pleased to report that all the places visited passed the 'mystery diner test' with flying colours!

We've compiled the first half of the reviews in this issue – watch out for the next reviews in the new year.

Our first mystery diner went to Maggoty Johnson, named after The Court Jester at Gawsworth Hall.

MAGGOTY JOHNSON



"Exceptional: would definitely return and recommend to a friend."

I'm a good-service fanatic and I found the staff to be helpful and friendly from the first phone call to the last wave goodbye. The quality of the food was good as was the range from fish and chips to scallops with chilli to ox cheek (a lot yummier than it sounds!) If I have a criticism it would be that all the things I wanted to eat were on the "after 6pm" menu, identified with an asterisk. However, because we booked the table rather than just turning up, they were very accommodating."

Briscola and The Plaiçe also received mystery diners on a Friday night and a rainy Saturday lunch time.

BRISCOLA

"I'll have to admit that I have been to Briscola's on countless occasions and I have never had a poor meal. The food is excellent, the service is great

Food article
photographs by
Tim Boddington.

Deli article
photograph by
Tim Boddington;
inset of Jo and
Dave by Anthony
Holland.



and the atmosphere is conducive to drinking far too much wine!! The pizza are very reasonably priced, the pastas and specials are always inventive and even the fussiest diner is accommodated on request!"

THE PLAICE



"Two cod, chips and mushy peas and one cheese pie and chips were delivered within minutes of ordering along with hot mugs of steaming tea – just the ticket after a strenuous climb up White Nancy and march over to Rainow and back! The food was excellent, service was brisk, cost was reasonable and washing up at home was zero! A small request: adding peppermint tea to the hot drinks list would be fantastic!"

Bollington is not short of Indian restaurants. Both the Viceroy and the Bayleaf Lounge welcomed more of our mystery diners.

VICEROY

"Upon reflection of my visit to the Viceroy I am unsure of how relevant a review is as it seems that most of Bollington was there, so they surely know the food is great. For those



who like Indian food there is the usual staples plus some interesting signature dishes – the garlic tuna steak was particularly spicy yet tasty. A great evening out with plenty of familiar faces."

BAYLEAF LOUNGE

"The Bayleaf is a stylish Indian Restaurant on Henshall Road opposite Grimshaw Lane. Since it opened in 2006 it has become



very popular for those who enjoy Indian cuisine. The service is always friendly and helpful, and wide choices of flavours are on offer from the extensive menu."

One mystery diner sampled the delights of Beasdales bistro on the High Street.

BEASDALES

"Beasdales is a very popular restaurant and bistro in the High Street and so booking a table is recommended. They open for evening meals of high quality from Wednesday to Saturday. They can also be booked for parties on other evenings. Great care is taken with the cooking and presentation of each dish, and an enjoyable evening there is guaranteed."



Discounted prices are available on weekday evenings, offering exceptional value for money."

If a Café is more to your taste – you can cross the canal at Clarence Mill for Café Waterside, or call in at Brassington's on Wellington Road.

CAFÉ WATERSIDE

"What a treat to have lunch out at the Waterside. The menu isn't huge but all the food is fresh and most is cooked before your eyes."



The green eggs and ham is delicious – yes green eggs – scrambled eggs with pesto; the sandwiches looked great and the soup is hearty and healthy. The service was swift with the added advantage of a smile and a chat at the table. I hope more people venture across the new canal bridge to support the café."

BRASSINGTON'S

"They have a fine reputation for the quality and variety of their bread and cakes, all fresh baked every day at their own Macclesfield bakery – the lemon buns are legendary! Now they have utilised space in the shop to serve coffee, tea, light lunches and afternoon teas based on their own fresh baked bread and cakes."



Most of the mystery diners are now in need of a trip or two to Bollington Health & Leisure to work off the excess pounds put on in researching this article!

Food article compiled by Annette Hurst - with thanks to all her contributors

Watch out for next time when we will be visiting some of our pubs which focus on food.



CHANGE IS GOOD

Does anyone else seem to be wishing their life away? Phrases like 'It'll soon be Christmas' don't really help, but along with that realisation comes the fact that another New Year is approaching and with it a new round of resolutions will be upon us!

At the Leisure Centre we say, why wait until January 1st? There is no time like the present to make small changes to daily routines that can have untold benefits. We're all aware of the stock advice to make changes such as taking the stairs, not the lift, but what about this – if you have a favourite circuit when you go for a walk or a run, try going the opposite way for a fresh view on the scenery! Speaking from recent experience we can confirm that change is good!

Throughout August we have not only had a lick of paint but have also changed our name to become Bollington Health & Leisure. This reflects changes in the industry, but also represents the facilities on offer. With exercise on GP referral, physiotherapy rehab through the Regency Hospital and on site remedial massage, healing therapy and nutritional advice, we strive to offer the community the best opportunity to maintain health and spend leisure time. If you've not been for a while make another small change and drop by for a visit – Bollington Health & Leisure, you'll find us where the Leisure Centre used to be!

Steven Hurst

DELIGHTFUL & DELICIOUS

Livesey's is a new Deli which opened its doors for the first time on Sunday 3rd October. *Bollington Live!* wanted to know more, so we asked proprietors Jo Weselby and Dave Freel some searching questions!

Why do you want to open a Deli in Bollington?

"We grew up in Bollington, both left for 15 years and were then drawn back by the Bolly Magnetism – we love it here – it's definitely home. We believe there are lots of people like us, whose tastes are not fully catered for, and so we hope our deli will give Bollington folk more choice."

Why would I shop at Livesey's?

"Our aim is to promote artisan producers who source the best possible ingredients and top them up with love! We will bring Bollington the very best in speciality food and drink from around the world and from around the corner."

Jo and Dave are passionate about food and want to share their enthusiasm with you.

"We're offering a warm welcome, respect for your choices and a sense of satisfaction that we have done all we can for you."

What are your opening times?

"Normal open hours are Monday to Friday: 8am until 6pm (until 7pm on Thursday), Saturday: 9am until 5pm and Sunday: 12 noon until 4pm."

Annette Hurst



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COTTON & FOAM

Waterhouse Mill in Wellington Road, or 'Olivers' Mill as it is known to those who worked there, was one of the first big mills in Bollington, perhaps only the second cotton mill.

The original mill had been built by 1791 by Peter Lomas who had previously operated a 'tanyard' (tannery) where Brook House is today. This first mill was burnt down in 1800 and rebuilt. Both these mills were water powered, the water coming from the river Dean down a leat from the weir in the Recreation Ground to fill a pond between the mill and the later railway viaduct. The wheel was claimed to be second in size only to that in Ingersley Vale.

Peter Lomas married Mary Creswick of the Sheffield family that pioneered the silver plating industry. Their daughter married Thomas Oliver who bought the mill into the already existing business of Thomas Oliver & Sons, which name it kept until it became part of The Fine Spinners & Doublers Association Ltd. in 1899.

Another of the Creswicks, James, married Thomas and Mary's daughter Pheobe Ann - and is said to have caught trout in the river Dean for the wedding breakfast on the morning of their marriage!

Olivers specialised in spinning very fine thread which was in demand from lace makers. The lace trade grew into a large industry, and this

led to the firm specializing in ever finer counts - and a large trade chiefly with Nottingham, but also with Brussels, Calais, St. Quentin's and other places on the Continent. By 1860, the counts spun were from 140s to 220s, in two and even three different qualities X, XX, and XXX.

Much of our information on Thomas Oliver and Waterhouse Mill comes from an unpublished history written in 1940 by the Revd. A. C. Oliver.

"In 1862", A. C. Oliver wrote, "... at the time of the American Civil War, such foresight was shown, that enough cotton was bought and stored to carry on work during that time, which brought such trouble and suffering to most of the Lancashire cotton trade. This helped considerably to bring the village of Bollington through this very difficult crisis.

In the Great War 1914-1918, a great deal of the thread for the material for making the wings of the aeroplanes then used, was spun at the Waterhouse Mills. This was used both in England and France, and Mr E. L. Oliver had several journeys to the Continent during the War, to ensure that the thread was up to the standard of strengths required for this purpose."

It is also interesting to note that Olivers registered the Trade Mark 'The Happy Valley', a name which was originally given to Lowerhouse by Samuel Greg, and is today used by us all to refer to the whole town!

You can read the full history at happy-valley.org.uk/history/mill-waterhouse.htm

If you have views on the future of the Waterhouse mill site look at happy-valley.org.uk/waterhouse

During the coming months it is intended to collect public views and establish a clear picture of what Bollington wants out of this site for the benefit of the town so that the community can strongly influence the future of this historic mill site.

Photograph below of Kay Metzeler factory by John Appleyard. Inset: Waterhouse Mill from the Discovery Centre Collection.

Despite great optimism for the future, even during the war in 1940, the cotton industry went into sharp decline and the mill closed for the last time on 5th April 1960. Within two years the entire historic mill had been demolished and a new era for the site had begun.

Kay Metzeler manufacture foam plastic which is used in a very wide variety of products including aircraft and car seats, domestic furniture and packaging. They built and developed this large site with what was then a modern manufacturing establishment.

Over time it was expanded across the land behind the Waterhouse almost as far as Garden Street. This first extension was destroyed by fire in the mid 1980s - plastic can burn ferociously and an enormous pal of black smoke lingered over the town while it was extinguished. It was then re-built.

After 48 years, Kays have announced the closure of the mill at the end of 2010. So what now?

The site is owned by an American property company who will want to maximise their investment. Demolition of the present factory is a given. It is time for Bollington to consider what it would like to replace it.

Tim Boddington



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BOLLINGTON

Live!

GENERAL EVENTS

OCTOBER

Friday 29th, 8.00pm

Roger Redfern, Country Diarist

Arts Centre: Roger, one of the Guardian's Country Diarists talks about our local terrain, flora and fauna. Admission £5/ £3; pay at door.

Saturday 30th, 11.00am - 4.00pm

Craft Fair

Arts Centre: Genuine hand-made articles for sale by local craftspeople. Textiles, toys, jewellery, pottery & cosmetics plus refreshments. Admission FREE.

Saturday 30th, 8.00pm

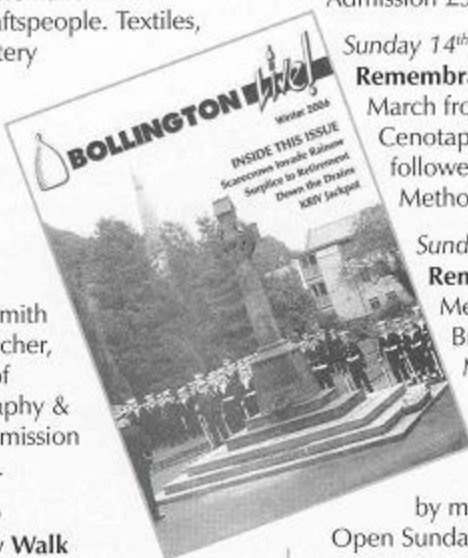
"A Guide to Walking"

Arts Centre: Roly Smith discusses W.A. Poucher, the great pioneer of mountain photography & walking guides. Admission £5/£3; pay at door.

Sunday 31st, 10am

Mayor's Boundary Walk

Bollington Town Hall: Join the Mayor and other civic bigwigs as they circumnavigate Bollington, closely following the parish boundary along public rights of way.



NOVEMBER

Wednesday 3rd, 10am

Bridgend Centre Walk

Bridgend Centre: Guided walk to Styperston Pool & Windmill Pub along the Canal & Middlewood Way. Tel. 576311.

Friday 5th 8.00pm

Bolly Comedy Club

Arts Centre: Visit www.bollingtonartscentre.org.uk to book your place

Saturday 6th, 8.00pm

Jazz at the Arts Centre

Arts Centre: Mike Lovell's Six in a Bar with Rosie. New to Bollington. £8; ring 574410

Wednesday 10th, 10am

Bridgend Centre Walk

Bridgend Centre: Guided walk. "Water & Steam via Adlington" Tel. 576311.

Friday 12th, 8.00pm

An Indian Adventure;

Arts Centre: Dr. Brenda King visited India this year following in the steps of 19C textile entrepreneur Sir Thomas Wardle. He collected Indian textiles to display in London and Manchester, and reinvigorated the silk industry. Dr. King will contrast Wardle's journeys with her own experiences of small textile villages where age-old traditions are a way of life. Admission £5/£3; pay at door.

Sunday 14th, 10.30am

Remembrance Sunday Parade

March from the Viaduct to the Cenotaph at the Memorial Gardens followed by a service at the Methodist Church.

Sunday 14th, 7.30pm

Remembrance Sunday Concert

Methodist Church: Bollington Brass Band & Macclefield Male Voice Choir.

Sunday 14th - Dec. 19th,

A Touch of Silk

Arts Centre: An exhibition by members of Silk-n-Threads
Open Sundays 2 - 4 & during other events.

Saturday 20th, 12noon - 4pm

"Step into the Labyrinth"

Adelphi Mill: The Boll. Labyrinth is a year old. Find out about the history and power of labyrinths at this special workshop. £15, Contact Deborah Roberts on 572052 or deborahjrob@btinternet.com

Friday 26th, 8.00pm

Whose History?

Arts Centre: A talk by Tristram Besterman. Whose voice do we hear in the museum, and what happens when the museum stands accused of stealing the object and its story? Admission £5/£3; pay at door.

Saturday 27th, 8.00pm

Bollington Chamber Concerts

Arts Centre: The exciting young Finzi Quartet play music by Haydn, Frank Bridge and Beethoven. Tickets £14/£7 (conc) from 560355 or 575287



DECEMBER

Friday 3rd, 8.00pm

Bolly Comedy Club

Arts Centre: Go to www.bollingtonartscentre.org.uk to book your place.



Saturday 4th, 2-4pm

St. John's School Christmas Fair

St. John's School, Grimshaw Lane. Cakes and stalls. I wonder if Santa will be there too?

Saturday 4th, 8.00pm

Jazz at the Arts Centre

Arts Centre: Amy Roberts' All Star Jazz Band A great favourite returns! Admission £8; 574410

Sunday 5th, 2.30 & 5.00pm

Bollington Festival Music Theatre

Arts Centre: Labyrinth! - another new piece by Donald Judge. Children playing at Bollington's Labyrinth on a cold day suddenly find themselves in a hot climate - and hot water - as they face the Minotaur, the terrifying inhabitant of the original labyrinth in Crete. For info call 0161 427 2870 or visit www.fun.to/bfamt

Tuesday 14th, 7.30pm

Messiah for All

Arts Centre: Join our impromptu choir to sing through Handel's miraculous music.

Admission by ticket only from 261933. You are advised to book early! All proceeds to The Bridgend Centre.

(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

Friday 24th, 6pm

Carols around the Tree

Town Hall: Bollington Brass Band lead us in this annual festive get-together.

Saturday 25th. Christmas Day, 12.00 noon

Bollington Brass by Nancy

Join the band and celebrate Christmas around White Nancy!



Members of
Bollington Brass
Band - Christmas
Day 2009

Photograph by
Simon Nottage

JANUARY 2011

Friday 7th, till Saturday 15th 7.30pm

Alladin

Arts Centre: Traditional seasonal fun from Bollington Festival Players! Don't miss it. Tickets £7, £5(conc), £26(family) from Val. Postance on 875326

Saturday 29th, 8.00pm

Jazz at the Arts Centre

Arts Centre: Dave Mott's Jazz Classics with Suzanne celebrate greats like Ellington, Gershwin and Jobime. £8 Ring 574410

FEBRUARY

Friday February 4th 8.00pm

Bolly Comedy Club

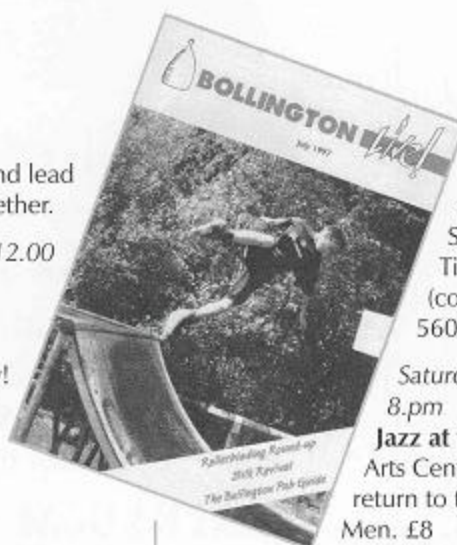
Arts Centre: Bookings at www.bollingtonartscentre.org.uk



Saturday 5th, 7.30pm

Bollington Chamber Concerts

Arts Centre: The Danish Quartet, winners of the London International Quartet



Competition play works by Nielson, Schubert and Shostakovich.

Tickets £14/£7 (conc) from 01625 560355 or 575287

Saturday February 26th, 8pm

Jazz at the Arts Centre

Arts Centre: A welcome return to the Wabash Jazz Men. £8 Ring 574410

MARCH

Saturday 5th, 7.30pm

Bollington Chamber Concerts

Arts Centre: Expatrio Trio. Pianist Fiona Corston, joined by Anna Zweck & Adrian Calef on flute & cello play Trios by Mendelssohn & Francaix Tickets £14/£7 (conc) from 560355 or 575287

POTT SHRIGLEY CHURCH

Christmas Dates:

Here are the times for services over the Christmas period.

Sun. 5th, Christingle 10:45am

Sun. 12th, Carols by Candlelight 6:30pm

Sunday 19th, Carols by Candlelight 4pm and 7pm. (no service at 10:45am)

Christmas Eve: Holy Communion 11pm

Christmas Day: Family Communion 10am

Sunday 26th no service at 8:30am

WHAT IS THE BRIDGEND CENTRE?

Many events in Bollington are organised by the fantastic Bridgend Centre. Based on Palmerston St. the Bridgend Centre is a community cooperative, where everyone works together to create a positive change in people's lives. The primary aim is to improve the quality of life, especially for those feeling isolated. The centre is open Mon - Thurs, 10am - 4.30pm and Sat. 10am - 3pm. Find more by just 'dropping in' or at www.bridgendcentre.org.uk. If you are interested in meeting new friends, learning skills for a new hobby or just contributing to the community the Bridgend Centre will give you a very warm welcome.

Competition Rules

The winner will be selected by a random draw from all correct entries. **Bollington Live!** will make the final decision and the winner must be prepared to be photographed for publication in **Bollington Live!** Only one entry permitted per household. **Bollington Live!** committee members and their immediate family are ineligible for this competition. There is no cash alternative and items included in the prize hamper are decided by Livesey's Delicatessen.

ARTS CENTRE CONTACTS

Secretary: Catherine Hoe, 575001

Art Exhibitions: David Ransley, 575287

Art Group (Wed): Graham Ritchie, 820685

Art Group (Tues): Sheila Ratcliffe, 877844

Festival Choir & Children's Music Theatre: Donald Judge, 0161 427 2870

Chamber Concerts: Sally Smith, 560355

Bridge Club: June Cash, 575508

Comedy Club: Caroline Leadsom, 560774

Festival Players & Jnr. Players:

Val Postance, 875326

Light Opera group: Peggy Russel, 610983

Jazz: Bernard Selby, 574410

Creative Embroidery & Textile Art Classes: Ann Ford, 560459

Italian Class: Audrey Parnell, 572130

Spanish Class: Kate Barraclough, 583897

Dance Classes: Sue Lane, 574176

For details of daytime classes at the Arts Centre, ring 576810

COST OF NEW PHONE NUMBER FOR BOLLINGTON MEDICAL CENTRE

The practice has changed its number to an 0844 number (the new number is 08443 878481). Please be aware that the cost of these calls includes a connection charge, plus a cost per minute which includes waiting time. Depending on your provider this could amount to 50p or more for a five minute call. If you have a package which offers free local calls, 0844 numbers are not free. If you use a mobile the cost will be much more.

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BOOKENDS

INTERVIEW WITH ALISON WHITBREAD, LIBRARIAN



Bollington Library is a welcoming place these days. Hushed whispers are a thing of the past and there are many interesting activities going on within its walls. Alison Whitbread is the Senior Library Assistant at Bollington. She moved to Cheshire from Cumbria in 1995, moving to Bollington Library in 2005.

Alison started working in libraries when she was fifteen, beginning with a Saturday job, and made it her career. It is a job she loves. Alison lives in Poynton with husband Martin and her two daughters. She was keen to talk about her work and the changes she has seen over the years.

What changes have you seen since you first began a Saturday job in the Library?

"The biggest change has been the introduction of computers both for staff use and the public. Libraries have also ceased to be merely book lenders and now DVDs, CDs and video games are just as likely to be borrowed."

How do you encourage children to use the Library?

"We hold weekly rhyme time sessions for pre-school children and craft sessions during the school holidays. We welcome class visits and hold a reading challenge each summer holiday. The children's section of the library has been

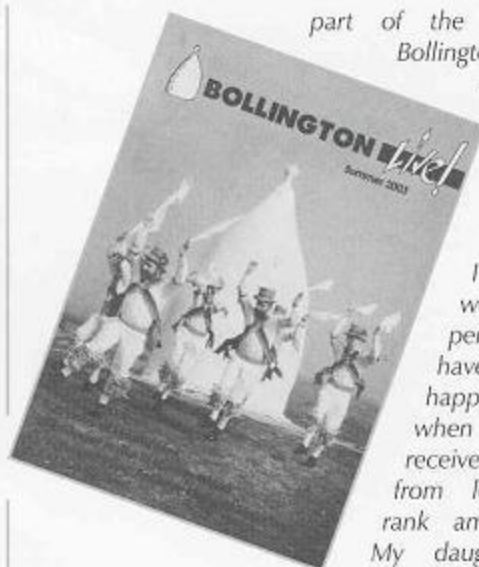
extended with colourful examples of children's work on display. The teenage section has also been expanded."

There seems to be a lot of activity on a Tuesday evening, what's going on?

"On Tuesdays, which is our late night opening, each week we have a writers' group meeting. This came out of an adult learning week held in the library and it is led by local writer, Nik Perrin. The group has so far produced two anthologies of their writing. All would-be writers are welcome to come along at 5.30pm each Tuesday evening. Also once a month a reading group meets to discuss a book. This is a lively session and encourages people to read books that they may not have chosen from the shelves."

Do you think that the library service is as well used in our computer age as it once was?

"Yes, but it is now used for different purposes, for reading a newspaper, logging onto the net, borrowing DVDs and games. It is very much



part of the community in Bollington and a hub of activity.

What has been your happiest moment?

"I do enjoy my work, but on a personal level there have been many happy moments but when my daughter received the 'all clear' from leukaemia must rank among the best. My daughter Hannah's graduation was also pretty special."

Photograph of the team at Bollington Library by Sandy Milsom.

What kind of books do you like to read? Do you have a favourite author?

"I like contemporary literature, books about craft and my favourite author is Penny Vincenzi."

When not surrounded by books, how do you relax?

"I make beaded jewellery, run a Brownie pack and socialise with friends. Although the Brownie pack may not be strictly relaxing, I enjoy it very much and have recently taken some Brownies to London to celebrate the Centenary of Guiding."

What is your favourite place?

"At home with my family, I grew up in Cumbria and did not appreciate the beautiful surroundings then, but I do now I have moved away. We are members of the National Trust, which gives us many special moments as a family and takes us to some lovely places."

Do you look forward to coming to work?

"I love my work. We have a brilliant team of four here. Two are on duty at a time."

If you have not yet discovered what Bollington library has to offer call in and visit Alison and her team from Tuesday to Saturday each week. We are lucky here in Bollington to have a good library on our doorstep.

Sandy Milsom



GO WITH THE FLOW

Ken Edwards continues his look back at the early years of Bollington Urban District Council. This is the third part in his ongoing historical series.

August 1896 was a difficult month for Thomas Turner, Chairman of the Water Committee and for the Reverend Frederic Richardson, Vicar of St. John's, and Chairman of the Council, had authorised the borrowing of £1250 to drill two boreholes near Gin Clough in Rainow. They were jubilant when the water flowed at the rate of over 100,000 gallons per 24 hours in July 1896.

Then the flow slowed to 25,000 gallons a day, less than one-third of the estimated 80,000 gallons a day that the people of Bollington were thought to require. What was to be done? Francis Greg, a JP and County Councillor, offered a piece of land in Water Street to get a supplementary borehole drilled. This would go through the coal seams and the water would be less pure and be hard as well. The water would also need pumping around the village which would present the Council with continuous expense.

On Monday August 24th 1896 the Council held a Special Meeting. Mr. Norman Radford the Consulting Engineer attended. He was closely questioned by all the Councillors. He had no explanation for the flow of water lessening. He was intensely disappointed but all the engineering works had been properly carried out. He could only think that there was not as much water as at first thought. His only recommendation was to take off the water that was coming out to pipe down to Bollington and supplement with another borehole at Whiteley Green.

The Councillors were very, very unhappy. At the end of a long and acrimonious meeting they agreed to pipe what water there was and decided on another Special Meeting. This time they called on the advice of their geologist, Professor Boyd-Dawkins. The Professor had originally advised

drilling in the hills above Bollington as it would reduce charges over the years as no pumping was required. Besides, he said, the Whiteley Green water would be very hard. Water from the hills would be soft. The Professor was very circumspect. He knew little of engineering, he said, but it was unusual for water to suddenly stop flowing. Had

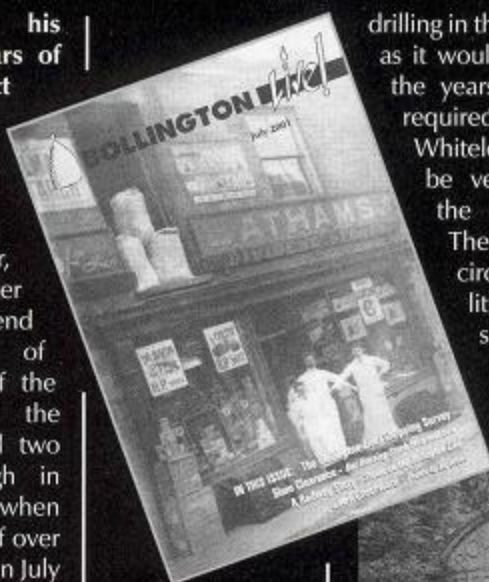
of water. When a plumb line was dropped in the second borehole it would only go down about 15 feet. A heavy pipe was then lowered and that failed to go beyond 30 feet. The boreholes were blocked!

Councillor Turner's Water Committee met and proposed that Mr. Radford be required to clear the boreholes. The Council on Thursday 10th September confirmed that decision. The boreholes were cleared and over 100,000 gallons of water flowed again.

The Reverend Frederic Richardson, Chairman of the Council was greatly relieved that the large sum of money borrowed on his watch had, at last, borne fruit. He did not live to see the water reach Bollington. On Sunday November 8th 1896 while supervising children entering the upper gallery of St. John's Church he suffered a heart attack, collapsed and died. He had served as Vicar for nearly 40 years

The Council, meeting in December, regretted the sudden death of their Chairman but felt a great relief that for the first time for many months they had no Special meetings organised over the water supply. In a burst of self confidence they elected Mr. A. J. King, an energetic young Liberal businessman with a big bleach works in Ingersley Vale, as Chairman. A new era had begun. Mr. King worked hard to transform the town and became a Liberal Member of Parliament in the great landslide of 1906 that marked the beginning of what the historians call Liberal England. That huge shift of public opinion was presaged in Bollington 10 years earlier.

Ken Edwards



Photograph of Bollington UDC Water Works in Rainow by Janet Beech.



Photograph below of Mr. A.J.King. Discovery Centre Collection.

explosives been used? Oliver Kenyon was the Head of Bollington Church of England School and a leading light in the Cricket Club as well as being a District Councillor. He had a good memory.

On the 20th July, he said, there was a flow of 100,000 gallons of water. Then dynamite was used to blast the tunnels to increase the flow of water. Two days later the supply suddenly ceased. The Professor smiled at Oliver. 'Cause and effect' he said.

A site visit with the Councillors and Professor Boyd-Dawkins was organised. Seepage of water prevented the first borehole being tested as it was under several feet



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A GUIDING LIGHT

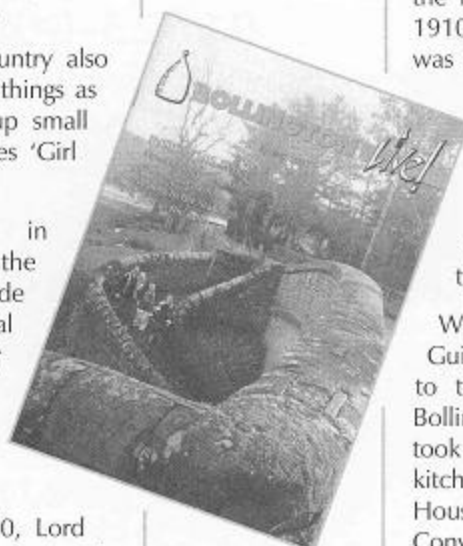
When Robert Baden Powell decided in 1907 to organise camping and outdoor pursuits for boys it was immediately very successful, and thus the Boy Scout movement was created.

Girls throughout the country also wanted to do the same things as the boys, so they set up small groups, calling themselves 'Girl Scouts'.

This included girls in Bollington, who, led by the pioneering Miss Gertrude Holland Owen, a local businessman's daughter of Bleak House, Hurst lane, formed the 1st Bollington Girl Scout Troop in 1909.

The following year, 1910, Lord Baden Powell agreed that girls would benefit from such activities.

Photograph of Bollington Guides in 1910 provided by Christine Gosling.



He suggested that they be called GIRL GUIDES and asked his sister Agnes to be leader.

Bollington immediately adopted the new name, and on 25th July 1910 Miss Owen, just 22 years old, was commissioned as the Captain and her elder sister Winifred became Lieutenant. The troop had at least 28 members and though most were teenagers, several were in their late twenties, such was the appeal of the movement.

When war broke out in 1914, Guides everywhere contributed to the War Effort and here in Bollington Miss Owen and the girls took over all the housekeeping and kitchen duties when Rock Bank House, Clarence Road became a Convalescent Home for wounded soldiers.



The Guides are proud of their history, and are celebrating in 2010 not only the Centenary of Guiding but the Centenary of their own companies.

Christine Gosling

Girlguiding Bollington has been busy celebrating a hundred years of Guiding in the UK and our own Centenary year, as it was in 1910 when the first Bollington Guide unit was formed.

We currently have 1 Rainbow unit (5-7 years), 2 Brownie units (7-10 years), 2 Guide units (10-14 years) and 1 Senior Section unit (14-25 years).

We kicked off the Centenary events last September at 'Starburst', a Cheshire Border County launch party at Congleton Park, where we learned about the traditions of Guiding and had fun in the adventure zone (including bouldering, and abseiling) and celebrated with over 3,000 members from across the county.

The Rainbows have been to a Princess Party (Annie won the competition to design the badge for the event), visited the zoo on the hottest day of the year and went to 'Jungle Drums' in Preston (doing craft, archery and holding snakes!).

The Brownies have 'Taken Over Tatton' (doing craft, painting a huge tile mural, visiting the farm/Tudor hall and enjoying a fantastic fire-eating finale) and put on a recycled

fashion show, strutting their designs on a proper catwalk from London!

The Guides have camped overnight at Alton Towers, taken part in the Great Getaway Gig and have been indoor skydiving! They also

Photograph of Rosie - 'hanging around' by Sally Garnett.



took part in the Centenary Camp in Yorkshire, camping with 5000 Guides and many international groups from as far away as New Zealand, Canada and South Africa.

Rosie, from our Senior Section, has spent 10 days on a Tall Ships voyage around the coast of Wales, helping disabled Guides to work as a team and even climbing up to the crow's nest!

How things have changed, Guiding moves with the times and does the things the girls want to do, just as it always has done! Girlguiding is as relevant to today's young women as it was 100 years ago. I would like to thank all the leaders, past and present, who willingly volunteer their time to provide such fantastic experiences for our girls. Guiding is so popular that we do have waiting lists, which means girls can't always join us straight away. We would welcome any adults who would like to join us, either as a leader or unit helper, so more girls who want to join are able to.

Sally Garnett

For information...please contact Sally Garnett on 01625 574288 or e-mail stewart.garnett@ntlworld.com; support and training would be given, just bring your enthusiasm!

A BLAST FROM THE PAST!



Dear Editor....

I visited Bollington recently for the first time for many years.

Picking up your excellent Summer issue of **Bollington Live!** has resulted in me sending this email.

My first encounter with Bollington was at the age of 16 to start my apprenticeship as a Cabinet

maker to Bannister Brothers at the Owlhurst off Church Street this was in 1950. I came from the town of Newport in Shropshire under a special aptitude scheme through the then Rural Industries Bureau.

My first stop was at the Wagon and Horses until I was found lodgings with a Mrs Edgerton Clark at 7 Albert Road. Being aged 16 away from home amongst seemingly stringers was a bit forbidding. However Mrs Clark, a Methodist, on my first night's stay had arranged for some of the young people who attended High Street Methodist Church Youth Club to come and welcome me. This became a wonderful two years and I was sad to leave.

A Mr Bamford was the youth leader, very dynamic as I recall - and very supportive. Belonging to these youth activities made a good foundation to the lives of all who attended. Some Saturday afternoons we would go to Macclesfield Hospital visiting

Photograph of an unknown couple outside the 'tin chapel' on Grimshaw Lane.

Discovery Centre Collection.

patients and at times taking part in Sunday services. The Youth Club was also famous for its yearly concerts and Pantomimes.

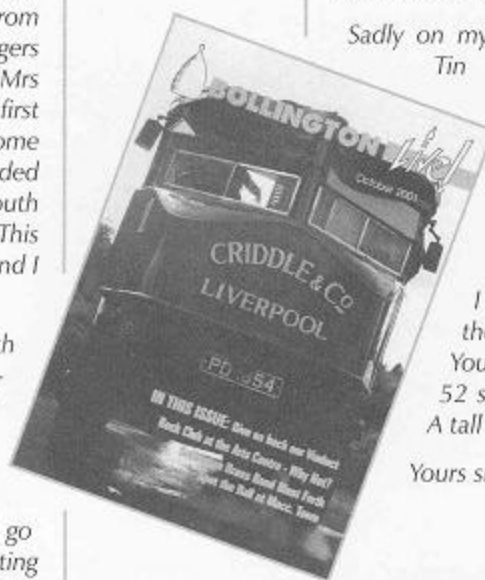
One of the exciting things we did was to go to London for a Youth Congress and the Festival of Britain. We slept in Clapham War shelters - that was an experience!

Sadly on my visit I find that the Tin Chapel and High Street Church are no longer there and the Congregational is now cut in half and used as offices.

I wonder if any of those who attended the Youth Club from 1950-52 still live in Bollington? A tall order I suppose.

Yours sincerely,

Bill Lewis MBE



KINESIOLOGY IN KERRIDGE

Hollin Hall was the venue for a Professional Kinesiology Practitioners (PKP) Conference held in mid-September.

The two day event was organised by Denise Gurney who lives locally and she is a fully qualified practitioner and teacher of PKP. The originators of PKP, Dr Bruce Dewe and his wife Joan, came from New Zealand via Europe to attend the Conference. They have developed an updated and evolving curriculum for teaching PKP, which began in the 1980's and 1990's. There are practitioners and students now all over the world. Delegates also came from Canada, South Africa, Dubai and USA, as well as all corners of the UK.

Professional Kinesiology Practitioners describe it as the

analysis of movement, but movement that is brought about by life. So, in PKP, kinesiology is about how a person moves, or doesn't move, and how they participate in their own life. Balancing sessions with skilled muscle testing helps the person achieve aims and goals and allows them to make the best life-style choices - and feel good about it!

The international speakers and delegates all enjoyed and benefited from the event, which combined with the hospitality found in Kerridge and Bollington and the outstanding countryside, proved to be the very best for all the delegates - and everyone felt good about it!

Rona Holland

Call if you want to know more about PKP: 574514

NEW TOWN CLERK

David Naylor became our new Town Clerk at the beginning of September. His children went to school in Bollington and one plays now in the Bollington Brass Band. Until recently he worked for Macclesfield Borough Council and then Cheshire East Council.



He aims to provide a friendly and approachable service to everyone, and he plans to help Town Councillors to take over and improve the various services that were taken from us in 1974 by the Borough Council. First on the list is the Recreation Ground, which was given to the people of Bollington by the Greg family at the beginning of the last century. He sees his new job as a challenge and he hopes to ensure that any changes we make are real improvements.

His hobbies include cycling, photography, walking and skiing badly. He is learning to play the flugel horn, but he says that so far progress has been slow, and he will not be practising at the Town Hall, but at his home in Tytherington.

Mark Stedman

125 NOT OUT!

Bollington Cricket Club has recently completed its 125th Anniversary season down at the Recreation Ground. The club was formed in about 1885 by bringing together smaller clubs in Shrigley Vale and Bollington Cross.

Francis Greg JP who bequeathed the Recreation Ground at The Gnat Hole (as the ground was then known), to the people of Bollington was the very first Club Chairman and paid £20 for a roller to make sure the cricket wickets were prepared properly - that same roller is still in use to this day! As the club has grown so have the general facilities, the Recreation Ground itself has achieved the prestigious Green Flag status for three years running, practice nets have been refurbished, new covers purchased and the cricket square has improved considerably thanks to hard work by the groundsman Jimmy Yea.

The existing committee are continuing actively to improve the facilities at the Recreation Ground through their fundraising activities to ensure it remains one of the most picturesque places to play and watch cricket in Cheshire - and importantly as a focal point of the town.

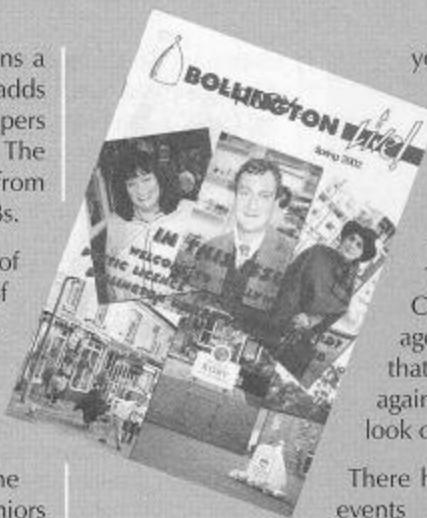
The club currently runs four senior teams. The 1st XI captained by Matt Dawson compete in the ECB accredited Cheshire County League Division One, a standard of cricket that defies the size of the club, and just one league below the highest possible level of amateur cricket

in the land. Gary Wood captains a very young 2nd XI and Tom Ladds the 3rd XI. Tim Kiernan skippers the recently formed Over 40s. The club also runs five junior teams from Under 11s through to Under 18s.

The juniors are the lifeblood of any club and the dedication of some senior players, members and supporters has ensured that many of the club's junior players have moved seamlessly into competitive senior cricket - in fact, the club policy of promoting juniors into senior cricket has been very successful this year with some juniors excelling in third team, second team and even first team cricket.

The season has been a successful one with all senior teams finishing prominently in their respective leagues. There have been some fine individual contributions with 18-year-old Calum Rowe scoring 778 runs for the first team and exciting Australian Overseas player Aaron Hazlewood who thrilled supporters with 687 runs. The evergreen Mo Ali took 65 wickets and was well supported by 16-year-old Stuart Plant who took 27 wickets in his debut season in first team cricket.

In the second XI Gary Wood continued to show his batting prowess in his fiftieth year with 721 runs and was well supported by fellow veteran Rick Paterson along with Sam Cleaver. In the third XI two of the clubs most promising



Further information on the club can be found at www.bollingtoncricketclub.org.uk

youngsters 14-year-old Jake Dickinson and 15-year-old James Heathcote both achieved what many cricketers never do, Jake scoring a maiden century with a sparkling 108 against Mobberley CC and James coming agonisingly close to matching that with an unbeaten 93 against Sale CC. Two names to look out for in the future.

There have been many successful events throughout the 125th anniversary season including The Chairman's Anniversary Ball, The Cricket Week Festival in July and The Bollington Ashes, when The Over 40s entertained an Australian Veterans Touring Team.

Matt Dawson



All new members and players are welcome. Anyone interested in joining the club in any capacity should contact Chairman Colin Rowe on 07789 556937 or Junior Chairman Ilona Wood on 07941 816646.

Photographs

Above: the Over 40's and the Australian Veterans Team

Left: The First XI.

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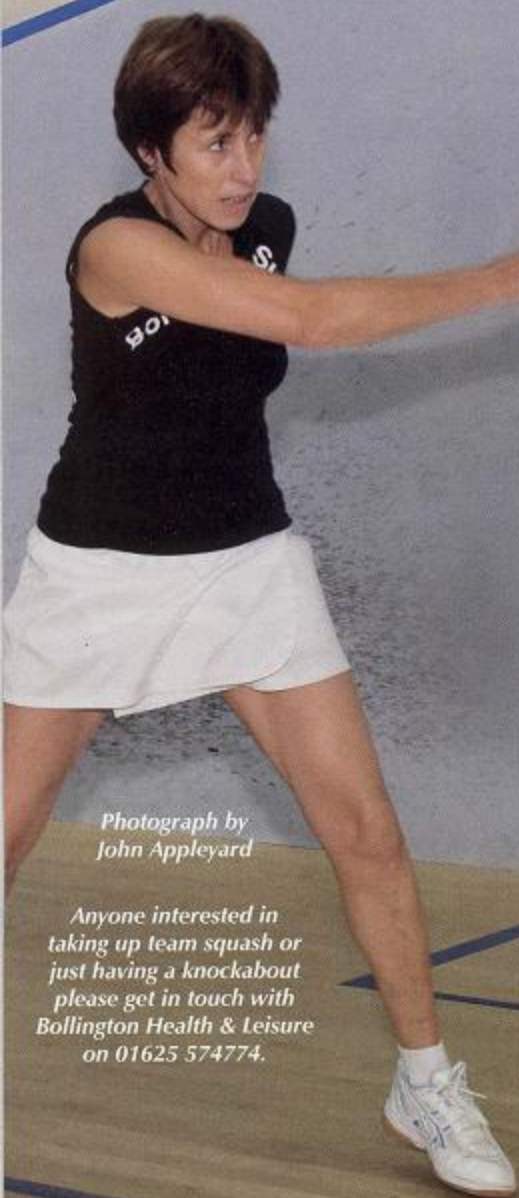


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SQUASHED!



Photograph by
John Appleyard

Anyone interested in taking up team squash or just having a knockabout please get in touch with Bollington Health & Leisure on 01625 574774.

Founded 30 years ago, Bollington Leisure Centre's Squash Club has had an interesting lifespan according to one of its founding members, Geoff Coe, of Clarence Terrace. "It is unbelievable to look back and think we had about 400 members in 1980," said Geoff of the club's inception. "We entered the North West Counties Squash League in 1985 and we were fielding players that were as good as anyone in the area, even professionals, which saw us promoted from division three to division two. A ladies team had also started and we were going from strength to strength."

However, with the closure of the ICI plant, many of the club's members were dispersed around the country and the popularity of squash also waned on a national level. The original number of 400 members was quickly depleted but what remained was a core group of people interested in squash and they helped shape what the club has become today.

Monday is ladies' night with the team playing in the Cheshire Ladies League and Thursday is men's night with two teams playing in their original league. Ladies Captain, Linda Tutton, reflects on these weekly events. "We play against 9 other teams and the furthest we have to go for away matches is Glossop. The men do go a bit further, playing 13 teams, some as far away as Crewe. We have varying success

but it's a fun way of keeping fit and I've made some great friends over the years; the only worrying thing is that if new members do not join we won't be able to carry on. The social element is great and we would welcome new players; there are not many other places where you can play a competitive sport with a fun element all year round."

With numbers potentially dwindling, it might fall back to Geoff to swell the ranks as he launches a three-pronged attack on recruiting new members, the first of which is a coaching circuit. "Get fit for squash could be the first port of call for people interested in taking up the sport," says Geoff, "it mixes fitness with coaching and helps flexibility, endurance and speed around the court. Next is the mixed internal squash league which allows any members or potential members to play against each other at a time to suit them. Finally there is junior coaching, running on a Saturday" - players Nathan Kent from Bollington and Harri Dickenson from Tytherington both agree that squash is fun, challenging and a good way of meeting new friends. When asked about their favourite sport both cite squash next to football, rugby and cricket so it seems that Geoff is having a positive influence. Nathan says, he is "nice, kind and pushes you to get better." Both boys also agree that they would like to continue with squash until they are as old as Geoff!

It seems that the future of Bollington Squash Club could be safe after all.

Steven Hurst

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