



BOLLINGTON

Number Sixty Three

Spring 2015

Live!

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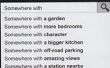
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Bollington Live! is published three times a year on a non-profit-making basis, with free distribution to households in the town. Under the editorial banner of **"Bollington Live!"** - A voice for everyone - we aim to promote local concerns. Contributions are welcome to: The Editor, c/o Bollington Printshop, The Old Stables, Queen St., Bollington SK10 5PS

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Cover: 'WHITE NANCY' - Photograph from the Discovery Centre archive. Hand tinted by Matt Wray

Editor	Steven Hurst (01625 574774) liveditor@happy-valley.org.uk
Design & Layout	Steven Hurst, Simon Nottage
Editorial Team	Tim Neale, Sandy Midson, Annette Hurst, Janet Beech, Carol Barnes, Simon Nottage, Mark Steadman, Ken Edwards, Kate Gooding, Anthony Holland
Advertising	Mark Steadman (01625 575227) Michelle Leigh (01625 572953) livedverts@happy-valley.org.uk
Distribution	Janet Beech (01625 574618) livedistribution@happy-valley.org.uk
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Illustrations by	Matthew Wray
Events	Vicki Cooper

WISE COUNCIL...

WHY NOT BECOME A BOLLINGTON TOWN COUNCILLOR?

This year, four and possibly five of our town councillors will be standing down after many years of excellent service but all 12 seats, 4 in each of our 3 wards, are up for election.

Being a town councillor has never been more important as we see Cheshire East Council pulling back from the delivery or management of assets and services and offering them to local bodies such as ourselves. Since taking on the Civic Hall the Town Council has doubled the income from bookings and slashed the operating costs. The role is also more important as we move to secure local control of future development within our town up until 2030 with a neighbourhood plan.

It won't be an easy life and you won't get paid but it will be very rewarding. You will be supported by a small team of professional officers. You will be local, accountable and very much in the know about almost everything that happens in our community. There will be frustrations but Bollington has a very strong community spirit and a loud voice - add your voice to that.

The Town Council is holding an open evening for prospective councillors 6pm - 8pm on 26 February at Bollington Town Hall. Come along to meet the staff and existing councillors to see what is involved. You can also access the Town Council's website www.bollington-tc.gov.uk where you will find more information about the role.

QUALIFICATION CRITERIA

To be nominated you must be:

- 18 years or over on the day of your nomination
- A British, Commonwealth, or Irish Citizen, or a citizen of another Member State of the EU.

AND at least one of the following:

- Registered as a voter in Bollington, OR for 12 months prior to election day an Owner or Tenant of any land/premises in Bollington, OR your principal place of work during those 12 months has been Bollington, OR you have lived in the Town or within 4.6 kilometres (3 miles) during the last 12 months.

THE NOMINATION PROCESS

If you qualify you may be nominated after the Notice of Election published on 20 March; the deadline for nomination is 9 April. To be nominated you must be proposed and seconded and the proposer and seconder must live in the ward you intend to stand in. Nomination papers will be available from the Town Council Offices or Website. Please note that there is a strict timetable that candidates must adhere to and further details can be obtained from Bollington or Cheshire East Council. Only the Returning Officer (Tel: 0300 123 55 00), based at Cheshire East Council (www.cheshireeast.gov.uk), can accept/approve nominations.

David Naylor



Stephen Hurst - Editor

Get involved in our magazine!
E-mail: liveditor@happy-valley.org.uk
or send a message through facebook (just look for Bollington Lives).

Why not become a councillor yourself? If you are interested in standing for election on 7th May 2015 please contact David Naylor.

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Date for next copy:
20th May 2015

EDITORIAL

Welcome to issue 63 of **Bollington Live!**

After what is the shortest editorship in the history of the magazine I will be leaving after this issue. I have been very fortunate to be able to take advantage of an unexpected opportunity over the festive period and have a new job based in Manchester. I will therefore be leaving my position as manager of Bollington Health & Leisure as well. Initially I had planned to stay with the magazine as long as it would have me; but unfortunately, these changes mean my connections with Bollington are all but gone.

It'll be sad to say goodbye to the village and **Bollington Live!** but I know the magazine will be in good hands in the form of the new editor, Annette Hurst, who coincidentally shares my name along with an interest in driving the magazine forwards. You may know Annette from her involvement in the Bollington Festival.

We would still like to encourage new writers and after a call to arms last issue we do have a few different contributors this issue, which is great to see. So if you feel you would like to get in touch and help the new editor please do so via the email address on the left.

As with all issues, issue 63 is a mixed bag, so read on to find out about growing your own veg, news on the Bollington Initiative Trust, an introduction to some of the newest residents of the village, lots of articles on local people and of course, news on the celebration of White Nancy turning 200.

I hope you enjoy the issue.

Steven

THE BOLLINGTON GOOD LIFE



Many of us have the ambition to live the 'Good Life', but just how realistic is it in Bollington? We are blessed with a number of allotment sites, but with 'Growing Your Own' becoming more and more popular, they are in great demand.

The average UK family spends over £5k every year on fresh fruit and veg so it's never been more important to look at how we source our food and how we can get more from our gardens and allotments.

Crowing your own food invariably sees an increase during hard times. The price of vegetables has soared in recent years, family budgets are squeezed and now over 30% of the UK population grows at least some of their food. Recent food scandals also mean there is a wish for consumers to know where their food is coming from. The upshot of all this is there is a high demand on allotments and, particularly in a village such as Bollington, many people are finding it difficult to find the space to start their own veg patch.

My Allotment

My husband, Craig, and I have had our own allotment for 18 months. We are lucky as we waited nearly 12 years and I have spoken to other allotmenters who waited much longer than that! There are currently 22 people on the council waiting list and with no new allotments planned in the near future, it really is a waiting game – so if you are interested, best get your name on the list now!

Photographs:
Sarah Hodgkinson

Above: Surveying
the plot

Right: freshly
harvested
vegetables

Btm: Homegrown
carrots.

Find out more
about the
Food 4 Macc
scheme at:

www.food4macc.org

This year has been a real challenge for us – our allotment was an overgrown bramble patch with a rich vein of clay which caused flooding last February – we were wallowing knee deep in mud! But with a lot of effort we have had a bumper harvest for our first year.

Our potatoes, cabbages, garlic and squash fared particularly well – sadly all our strawberries were eaten by the squirrels and the fennel bolted! But that's allotmenting for you – lots of high points with a few low points to stop you getting too big headed!

Allotmenting used to be the pastime of our Granddads – but all that has changed and now 'growing your own' is considered to be seriously cool! Fellow allotmenter and Bollington resident, Kate Coyne, is getting her children involved right from the start:



"Having our young children around the allotment has been a fantastic experience. My boys have learnt how to grow vegetables from seed and how to nurture them. They have also learnt that home grown vegetables come in funny shapes and sizes, covered in soil, but it is great fun eating your own produce after you have picked it. My youngest was surprised to learn that you can actually eat pumpkin rather than just using them for Halloween decorations. We have of course had our disappointments with cabbages eaten by bugs and leaks that won't grow, but this is the way of Mother Nature, and when all is said and done there is little more appealing in life to young boys than playing around with horse muck."

Not got an allotment?

You can grow a lot in a small space with a few pots or windowbox in your yard. Two or three 20" pots can produce fresh beans and peas from May to September. I've grown shallots, potatoes and carrots well in tubs.

But if your ambitions are bigger then Food 4 Macc have got a brilliant Garden Share scheme. Interested allotmenters are put in touch with local people who have a garden they are happy to share. The payback is the allotmenter gives an agreed small percentage of the harvest to the garden owner – so everyone wins! Bill Pettipiece from Food 4 Macc can put you in touch with local garden owners who are registered for the scheme.

Some Top Tips on getting started:

- Get your name on the Council list for an allotment or Food 4 Macc list for a garden share
- Pop a raised bed in your garden – use reclaimed timber, or a couple of lengths of decking from the DIY centre
- Make friends with a local horse owner and top up your beds during winter
- Swap seeds and young plants with other growers so you have a good variety of produce without spending too much
- Get cracking now with a few early varieties of beans and peas.

Sarah Hodgkinson



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A BIT OF SUCCESS

After 6 years of hard work, the future of Water Street School has been secured through a transfer of ownership from Cheshire East Council to Bollington Initiative Trust (BIT). BIT is a community development trust and registered charity, established in 2002 to assist in the social, economic and environmental development of Bollington.

Discussions for the transfer originally took place with the former Cheshire County Council back in 2006. This was a "flagship" asset transfer project which, it was believed, would take "about 6 months" to complete. The wheels of asset transfers, however, seem to grind very slowly and the transfer was finally completed at the end of October, 2014.

Shirley Sugden, Chair of Bollington Pre-School, who are one of the beneficiaries of the transfer, is delighted with the move. "In 2012/13 Bollington Pre-School faced an uncertain future, as the Methodist Church where we had been located was facing closure. It was at this time the Pre-School first sought assistance from Bollington Initiative Trust and with their help and advice we moved into Water Street in that summer, without this, it would have undoubtedly closed.

Bollington Pre-School has given this amazing old school building a purpose and with approximately 70 families from our local community sending their children to the Pre-

School each year. It is a vital resource for those families living in Bollington with young children. I know BIT has worked tirelessly over the last few years to secure this building for community use and in doing so have secured our Pre-School's future which we are absolutely delighted about."

The transfer is also supported by Bollington Town Council:

"We warmly welcome the full transfer of the property in the Water Street School to the Bollington Initiative Trust so the Trust can develop the building for use by the local community. The Bollington Initiative Trust has had management responsibilities for many years and is now free to energetically pursue a policy which will retain this historic building for community use in our town. We thank the Trust for the work they have done to date; their patient and now successful negotiation with Cheshire East and their continuing commitment to improving historic buildings for our community."

The process of completing the transfer has been long and technically difficult. It could not have happened without the dedication and perseverance of a number of people including one of BIT's Trustees, Lester Humphreys as well as timely interventions from Bollington Town Council and Councillors Ken Edwards and Bill Livesey from Cheshire East.



If you want to know more about B.I.T. or simply share memories of Water Street School, please visit: <http://bollingtontrust.org/>

However, whilst the transfer is now complete, this is just the beginning. A campaign will now need to raise over £300k to do necessary maintenance and return the whole building, including the upstairs, to sustainable use. This will involve seeking grant funding from a number of national and local organisations. To support these funding applications BIT will be undertaking further research on the building and would be delighted to receive anecdotes and reminiscences from anyone who attended Water Street School.

BIT is also responsible for other projects at Tinkers Clough Wood and Turners Eco-Lodge, both in Bollington. Turners Eco-Lodge has been highly commended by English Heritage as a case study for similar conversions. **Will Spinks**



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A CUT ABOVE

Bollington has a wealth of interesting personalities among its residents and none are more interesting than John Hargreaves, the barber of the 'Guys and Dolls' partnership in Wellington Road. While Kathy Turnock, his business partner, mainly focuses on the female clients, John deals with the male of the species!

'Johnny Blue Rinse' as he is often called is not only an excellent barber according to his many clients but he is also a well-informed and entertaining guy. Once you sit in his chair, the conversation can range from every sport played to world politics to dog breeding!

Johnny was bought up in Bramhall and trained as a barber as soon as he left school. After working for three different employers in Bramhall and Wilmslow, he set up his own business, choosing Bollington after a night in May 1993, when he spent an evening drinking in one of Bollington's local pubs.



During these 22 years, he has cut the hair of the very young and the very old (his eldest client is currently 97 years old). Professional footballers, eminent business people and local celebrities are or have been among his clients.

With his partner Lisa, Johnny keeps active in his leisure time... He walks his two dogs; enjoys fishing and camping and is an avid golfer. He also likes watching science fiction films.

'Guys and Dolls' is a successful business that offers not only a hairdressing service but also provides a social occasion that informs and entertains!

Kate Gooding

Photograph
provided by
Christine Brear
"The Historic
Ghost Walk"

WALKERS ARE WELCOME



Walkers are Welcome is a national accreditation scheme to encourage and support towns and villages to be attractive destinations for walkers. Bollington's successful accreditation in 2013 as a Walkers are Welcome town recognises the contribution it makes to promoting and encouraging walking, not least through its annual Walking Festival.

The Walking Festival is now an established annual event and last October attracted a record-breaking 600 walkers. Organised by a team of local volunteers, Walkers are Welcome were happy to join other local organisations including the Bridgend Centre, East Cheshire Ramblers, and other walking groups to provide a varied programme of walks and social activities. Walks ranged from 2 to 19 miles, some taking in local history and heritage, and included a photography walk, an art walk and a beer celebration walk.

We were delighted to welcome walkers from the local area, and some from as far afield as Brighton, Trowbridge and Leeds who spent a few days exploring our beautiful countryside and bringing business to local hotels and restaurants.

New for this year, the exciting evening Ghost Walk was enjoyed by 67 people young and old. It toured historic Bollington, with the Ghost recounting tales of the supernatural. The Bollington Belles sang beautifully eerily and a ghostly apparition was seen at an upstairs window. Blood was found

on the towpath steps! The walkers returned to the Bridgend Centre for a warm welcome with hot dogs and hot chocolate provided by Walkers are Welcome.

One of the aims of Walkers are Welcome is for towns to network together for support, advice and ideas. We took the opportunity to do this during the Festival by inviting representatives from Disley, our nearest neighbour in the network to join us on a varied walk, exploring the Middlewood Way and the Canal on our way up to Bakestonedale Moor, before warming up with tea and cakes and a good chat about local footpath matters at the Bridgend Centre.

Walkers are Welcome is planning to improve information on local walks by contributing walks to Bollington Live!, and has commissioned a postcard design to answer one of the most frequently asked questions at the Discovery Centre: 'How do I get to White Nancy from here?'

Christine Brear

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MINE'S A PINT!

The Bollington Beer Festival has always been a community event and in the past, has made donations to the Bollington Arts Centre and the Bollington Festival.

As the next Bollington Festival isn't taking place until at least 2018, the Beer Festival committee decided that in the interim, additional local groups should be given financial support.

On Sunday 16th November, presentations were made to four local groups who had been among twenty organisations to bid for funds. Allsorts Nursery received money which would allow them to provide a safe-under cover play area for the children.



Photo: Janet Beech.

From L to R: Roland Edwards, Helen Ellwood, Matthew Jackson, Alison Kenyon, Geoff Atkin, Andrea Patterson, Lee Wainwright

Bollington and Pott Shrigley Cricket Clubs received grants allowing them to improve their playing facilities and encourage more children to learn to play cricket. Finally Helen and Rob Ellwood from the Poachers in Bollington received monies that will be used to purchase a defibrillator which will form part of an emergency first aid treatment facility.

It is intended that monies from the 2015 Beer Festival will also be distributed to local groups. Keep an eye on *Bollington Live!* and the Bollington Beer Festival Facebook page for details of how to apply.

Roland Edwards

BRIDGEND CHANGES

Cath Hockney retired at Christmas after working for 14 years at the Bridgend Centre in Palmerston Street.

Cath will be sorely missed for her commitment to the Centre and the support she has given to many individual people.

Ann Mayer, co-founder of the Centre said, "It has been wonderful working with Cath over these years. We have had a lot of fun along the way. However, we don't see this as a final goodbye as we expect she will be calling in frequently to see us. We, therefore, welcome our new Centre Manager, Rebecca Lea".

Rebecca was born in Altrincham, but moved to Macclesfield with her parents and two older brothers at quite a young age when her father began working at ICI. After leaving school, Rebecca obtained a post graduate diploma in Human Resources from Salford University. She then worked for six years in the Human Resources department at Astra Zeneca, before undertaking the post of Manager at the Macclesfield branch of the Manchester Disability Information Bureau in Pierce Street.



Photographs by
Ian Walker

Above:
Centre Manager
Rebecca Lea

Right: The
Bridgend Centre

For further
information on
the Bridgend
Centre, including
opening times,
please see www.bridgendcentre.org.uk

Her hobbies are playing the guitar and banjo, reading and watching films. She is also a passionate walker and is now Chair of the Under 40's Manchester and District Walkers.

Why did Rebecca apply for the post at the Bridgend Centre? She wanted a new challenge and felt ready for a wider leadership role. She knew very little about Bollington prior to her appointment. However, she has found people to be extremely friendly and has been very pleasantly surprised how welcome she has been made to feel. She already finds "Bollington to be a beautiful, special place".

Rebecca has lots of ideas to develop what is already a very successful community resource. However, she acknowledges she cannot do this alone and will working alongside other staff members, Ann, Irish and Nic (who is covering Anna's maternity leave) and the loyal band of volunteers and Trustees.

She aims to make the shop more profitable by streamlining the various systems. She also wants to encourage younger members of the community into the Centre not only as volunteers but also as paying

customers. She plans to do this by more widely advertising the shabby chic and vintage nature of many of the donated goods. Increased access to the Internet café, the workshop and improvements to the cafe and entrance are also planned.

Rebecca is eager to make further use of social media and has also already added to the current website with a facebook page, a Gumtree and an eBay charity account.

The Bridgend Centre, established in 1990, aims to "encourage all ages, social backgrounds, abilities and medical conditions to enhance their lives through interaction with others". Rebecca is very much looking forward to continuing this aim through her work as the new Centre Manager. I am sure we all wish her well in this endeavour.

Kate Gooding



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Saturday 28th - from 9.30am
Brahms Requiem

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Tel: 0161 225 4680

Saturday 28th - 8pm

Jazz at the Arts centre - "Spats" Langham's Hot Fingers Combo with Emily Campbell. Tickets £9 from 574410

March

Monday 2nd, 9th, 16th & 23rd
10am-12noon

Music Appreciation Classes
Arts Centre. Diane Rosenthal continues another 8 lectures. Tel: 572648

Friday 6th - 8pm

Bolly Comedy Club

Arts Centre. The biggest laugh in Happy Valley. £9.50 online.

Monday 9th - 6.30pm

Scibar: the Compatibility Gene

Vale Inn. Prof. Daniel Davis looks at transplant and immunology history. Free

Saturday 14th - 7.30pm

Naked Confessions of a Recovering Catholic
Arts Centre. Terry Christian's hilarious romp through his childhood. Age 18+. Tickets £15 on line / T: 07717 896222

Saturday March 21st - 8pm

Bollington Chamber Concerts- The Wu Quartet
Arts Centre. Mendelssohn Janacek Beethoven. Tickets available online or 576402

Sunday 22nd - 2.30 and 5pm
BFMT present-Turaida Rose and What's your Poison Mr Hitler?

Arts Centre. Double bill for the Music theatres' wartime heroine series. Tickets: £7, u18: £3.50. T: 0161 225 4680

Saturday 28th - 8pm

Amy Roberts / Richard Exhall Jazz Quintet
Arts Centre. Tickets: £9
Tel. 574410

April

Friday 3rd - 8pm

Bolly Comedy Club

Arts Centre. Tickets online

April 6th-10th and 13th-17th

Great Shakes

Arts Centre. Two, five day Shakespeare courses for children 8 upwards. Course: £110, (2nd child £90) booking essential: www.greatshakes.org

Saturday 25th - 8pm

Jazz at the Arts Centre- Brownfield Byrne Hot Six
Tickets £9 tel 574410

May

Friday 1st - 8pm

Bolly Comedy Club

Arts Centre. Tickets £9.50 online

Saturday 9th - 7.30pm

Bollington Brass Band- Charity Concert
Arts Centre. Tickets £8, u18 £2. (Proceeds to the Arts Centre) Tel 613851

Monday 11th - 6.30pm

Scibar- Dr Tomaz Garcez
Vale Inn. A consultant immunologist at Central Manchester University hospitals NHS Foundation Trust. Free

Tuesday 12-16th 7.30pm
(matinee 2pm on Sat, 16th)

Bollington Light Opera Group present Oliver
Civic Hall, Bollington. Tickets: 431038 / email blogbookings@aol.com.

Sunday 17th May - 2.30pm
Letters Through Your Door

by David Gibb

Arts Centre. A fun family show from the BBC2 Folk Award nominated musician. Tickets £4 under 16 £6 adults £18 family of 4 online or 07717896222

June

Monday 8th - 6.30pm

Scibar - Megan Argo

Vale Inn. Jodrell Bank astrophysicist talking about her work. Free.

Wed 10th, Mon 15th & Wed.

17th - 7.30pm

James and the Giant Peach

Arts Centre. Bollington Junior Festival Players present Roald Dahl's classic. Adults £9, Conc. £8 Family £32. From hlptickets@hotmail.com or Tel: 07776 239 613

Friday 19th - 7.30pm

Ceilidh with local band

Maplewood

Arts Centre. Celebrate the start of the White Nancy weekend. £10 online or 07717 896 222.

Saturday 20th - 7pm

Waterloo Supper Evening

with Joyce Ellis MBE
Arts Centre. An evening of song and supper singing led by Joyce Ellis £15 online or tel: 572052 or 07946 424 106

Sunday 21st - from noon

Bollington Brass Band and Festival Choir

White Nancy. Celebrate Waterloo with a picnic! Free.

Saturday 27th - 7.30pm

Gravity Percussion

Arts Centre. An energetic percussion duo. Tickets £10 conc. £8; available online.

Sunday June 28th - 7.30pm

Gloria Italia
Arts Centre. Bollington's Festival Choir performs Puccini's *Messa di Gloria*. Tickets £10 under 18s £3. Call 0161 225 4680

THE BRIDGEND CENTRE

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Charity Shop open:

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Saturday 10am-1pm

Regular activities:

Monday: 10am-4.30pm

Internet cafe, computer class

Tuesday:

10.15am-12.15 **Craft Club**

includes jewellery making, card making, textile craft, all those interested in craft are welcome to share skills and ideas.

2-4pm **Reading Group**

(2nd Tuesday in the month)

Wednesday:

10.15am **Guided walks**

A list of walks is available from the centre. Most are around 4-6 miles and cost £2.50 to include tea and biscuits.

2-3.30pm **Creative Writing Group**

All are welcome to join this friendly group and have a go at writing creatively.

2-4pm **Mah Jong**

Thursday:

10.30-12noon **Yoga**

11am-12.30pm **Reading Circle**

These groups are meeting at the moment but the Bridgend would like to run more activities. If anyone would like to suggest an activity or, better still, run one themselves, they would love to hear from you.

TO CONTACT THE BRIDGEND CENTRE, TEL 01625 576311

Dates for your Diary

TO INCLUDE YOUR FUTURE EVENTS, CONTACT VICKI COOPER E-MAIL: LIVEDATES@HAPPY-VALLEY.ORG.UK

BREATHE EASY

Do you have asthma or any other breathing problem? Sally Gething who has taught over five hundred people to breathe is giving talks and running workshops at the Community Centre in February and March.



Sally has written a book called "How to Breathe: The Symptoms if You Get it Wrong, and How to Fix it." Sally started teaching people to breathe correctly in the year 2000, and has taught people with conditions such as asthma, emphysema, COPD, panic attacks, being unable to breathe through the nose, cold hands and feet, difficulty in taking a deep breath, breathlessness on exercising, snoring, sleep apnoea, allergies, eczema, repeated chest and throat infections, nasal voice, and losing one's voice.

Sally says, "With the help of Bollington Library Writers Group, and its leader Nik Perring, I wrote a book that is easy to read, and not too technical. I am used to teaching people sitting in front of me, where I can observe their breathing minute by minute, so it was an interesting challenge to write breathing exercises that covered all the readers."

If anyone has any of the above symptoms and would like to find out if their day-to-day breathing is to blame, they can come to any one of a series of talks and workshops run by Sally at The Community Centre on Ovenhouse Lane. If you are unable to get to the workshops, Sally will be giving free breathing assessments at The Waterside Café in Clarence Mill. Her books are also for sale in Heathcotes Butchers on Wellington Rd.

Sally can be contacted on 01625 575743 or you can go to her website www.buteykonorthwest.co.uk **Sally Gething**

FEBRUARY

Tues. 17th & 24th: 2pm
Breathing talk, book signing,
and workshop
Community Ctr, Ovenhouse
Lane

Sat. 21st & 28th: 11am
Free Breathing Assessments
and book signing
Waterside Café, Clarence
Mill

MARCH

Tues 3rd, 10th & 17th: 2pm
Breathing talk, book signing,
and workshop
Community Centre,
Ovenhouse Lane

Sat. 7th and 14th: 11am
Free Breathing assessments
and book signing
Waterside café, Clarence
Mill



Bollington

TOWN COUNCIL
Bollington Town Assembly

Your chance
to have
your say!

Tuesday 17th March in the Civic Hall at 7.30pm

BOLLINGTON BY...

Hi my name is Tom Brier and I am 15 years old. I have lived in Bollington all my life and I really like it here! I like living in Bollington because it has things to do, like going to the rec, or the leisure centre, or walking (and sometimes hiking) around the hills on walks with my family.

My favourite hobbies are drawing and making electronic music on my computer. I was also in the local panto. I also really like camping and doing stuff outdoors.

If you had a magic wand what would you wish for Bollington?

I would wish there was a beach nearby so I could go surfing!

What is your favourite X-box game?

At the moment, FIFA.

What music do you listen to?

I really like listening to Deadmau5, Knife Party, Xilent, and sometimes Avicii or The Police.

What person(s) do you admire most and why?

I admire my Mum and Dad the most because they started a small business from home when I was little and now they have a warehouse and some products are appearing in magazines! It inspires me to maybe start my own business when I am older, as it shows if you start from the bottom, with some hard work you can climb your way to the top!

If you had a magical power what would it be and why?

To teleport, because then I could visit any place in the world that I've ever wanted to visit, without having to pay to get there!

What is your favourite book and why?

Tom Brier



Photograph: Nicky Brier

Anything written by Anthony Horowitz I really enjoy, but my favourite book by him has to be Russian Roulette, as I thought it was exciting, detailed but also not a bore to read.

What is the silliest thing you have ever done?

We'll recently I woke up at half 5 in the morning, and as I was trying to turn my alarm off, I accidentally spilled a full glass of water over my face.

What's your favourite place?

My favourite place(s) are Cornwall as I really like the beaches and surfing, or Shell Island because you can have an open fire and toast marshmallows! I also really like Morzine in France, as there are lots of really cool downhill mountain bike routes, as well as places to go swimming and lots of shops too!

Cat or dog?

Dog all the way. We have a five year old labrador called Tess, and she is awesome! I sometimes take her on walks either by myself or with the rest of my family.

What's your favourite takeout?

Indian takeaway, we get one from the Bayleaf almost every Saturday! **Tom Brier**

WHITE NANCY WATERLOO 200

The weekend of 19th to 21st June 2015 will be the 200th anniversary of the Battle of Waterloo and there will be events held nationally to celebrate the date. Bollington will be celebrating both this anniversary and also the 200th birthday of White Nancy.

Whilst there is considerable debate over the year that the Gaskell family had White Nancy built, it is generally accepted that it was built to commemorate the Battle of Waterloo. As to the origin of the name "White Nancy", there are several theories but none has any firm evidence to support them. It may have been named after one of the Gaskell daughters, Nancy. Then again, maybe it was called after the horse that was used to haul material up the hill. Whatever, why not come and celebrate our proud lady of Bollington and Rainow.

The White Nancy Waterloo 200 (WNW200) celebrations are being independently organised by Deborah Roberts and a small team of volunteers. White Nancy will be decorated for the event with Debra Tracey - Carney organising a competition open to all age groups to design a suitable motif. Entries close on 30th March and should be returned to Debra at the Creative Space Studio, Clarence Mill. The winning design will be chosen by a panel of experts led by Debra and Nola McCaul. All entries will be displayed in the gallery space in the Bollington Arts Centre and the Bollington Library during the celebration weekend.

Other artistic events will include a children's "Decorate a Welly Boot" workshop and Welly throwing to be run by Debra on the Saturday afternoon and a display of photographs of White Nancy from the early days of photography to now which is being coordinated by Janet Beech. There will also be

themed walks run by Cate Wallace and Ken Edwards. Details of these events may be found at the Happy Valley website, the Town Hall, Library and various other sites around Rainow and Bollington.

Two major events feature at the Bollington Arts Centre. On Friday 19th June at 7.30pm we will be running a ceilidh with live music from Maplewood, while the event will also see the launch of the special celebration beer being brewed by the Bollington Brewing Company. Tickets for the event cost £10 and are available on line from the Arts Centre or by calling 07766 020 612.

Saturday evening will see Joyce Ellis MBE, the founder of the Kinder Choir leading a super Waterloo Supper evening at the Arts Centre starting at 7.00 pm. Tickets are £15 each and are available on line from the Arts Centre or by calling 01625 572052 or 07946424 106.

The main event on Sunday 21st will be a family picnic around White Nancy starting at 12.00 noon with music from Bollington Brass Band, the Festival Choir and the Music Theatre.

There is no charge but you will need to bring your own food. The picnic is Bollington's contribution to Music Day 2015, a series of interlinking free public music events taking place each year on the 21st June in more than 726 cities and 108 countries around the world.

The original event, Fête de la Musique, was first held in France 33 years ago and

always takes place on 21st June, which besides being the 3 days after the Battle of Waterloo is also the midsummer solstice. In France this is a national holiday with each town hosting a lively festival. Here in the UK we are just getting started. In 2014 there were 25 events across the British Isles, this year the organisers are hoping for a bigger participation.

The WNW200 picnic will be advertised through the organisers of Music Day 2015 and we also have a profile page on their website where we are advertising the event. We hope you will be able to join us in saying "Happy Birthday, White Nancy."

*Deborah Roberts and
Roland Edwards*

*If there are any
music groups who
would like to play
acoustic music on
White Nancy on
the 21st, or local
pubs wishing to
host special live
music as part of
WNW200 or the
Music Day 2015
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SERVICE WITH A SMILE :)

Pam Walters has worked at Chadwick's newsagents on Palmerston Street for 40 years and needs no introduction to many of our readers due to her warm welcome for everyone who calls in for their daily newspaper. However, many of these customers may know little of her early life or her life away from the shop.

Pam was born in the red rose County of Lancashire. However, after living and working in Bollington for most of her 72 years her heart is now in firmly in the town and she "can't imagine living anywhere else".

Pam first came to Bollington at the age of 5 with her Mum and her sister. Her dad was already working here in Henry and Leigh Slater's paper mill (now Tullis Russell). As an infant she attended St John's Primary School, but when she was 7 years old Pam had to go into hospital to have her tonsils out. After the operation she needed to convalesce and as her mum was now working at the mill full time, Pam was sent back to Mossley in Lancashire to live with her Grandma. It was not until her Grandma died when she was 13 years of age she returned to Bollington.

On her return Pam attended Water Street Secondary School before leaving at the age of 15 to go to work in Clarence Mill. Her first job was as a permwinder and she later became a conewinder. Pam recalls it as a very noisy working environment but she worked there for several years until the mill closed. She then worked at Adelphi Mill on the evening shift before coming to work at Chadwick's in 1975.



Photographs by
Jan Walker

Top: Pam at work

Bottom: Chadwick's
on Palmerston
Street

At Chadwick's Pam would do the early morning shift with Neville Chadwick (the current owner's father). She would put the papers up ready for delivery by the paper boys and then serve on the counter until finishing at 8.30am.

PAM WAS DELIGHTED TO BE PRESENTED WITH THE SILK FM 'EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR' AWARD

During this time, aged 21, Pam married Geoff Mayers and they had two girls, Beverley and Linda. Sadly, her husband became very ill and although it was a very stressful time, Pam quickly learnt about the caring nature of her friends. Several of them rallied around and ensured that one of them would stay at the house every night so Pam could get a few hours sleep. In 1984 her husband sadly died.

Pam remarried, and with her second husband Mick, with whom she will celebrate 25 years of marriage next year, enjoys an active social life.

She is an enthusiastic member of the Bollington Crown Green Bowling ladies team and plays in the Alderley and District division. She also plays alongside Mick in the Macclesfield league. This involves

them frequently travelling to compete in matches, sharing a drink and chatting with other members of the team after the game!

In 2002 Pam was delighted to be presented with the Silk FM 'Employee of the Year' Award.

She has obviously seen many changes during her years of living and working in Bollington. The development of new buildings and the inevitable influx of new customers is something that has changed quite considerably but as Pam says, "What hasn't changed is the warmth of the people". Pam still knows most of the customers by their first names and many who came in to the shop as children now come in with their children.

Pam now counts many of her customers as friends, and not just the two-legged ones... "Every dog gets a biscuit when they come in here." (Pam keeps a ready supply of dog biscuits behind the counter).

Chadwick's newsagents is a well loved family-run business. It has been in the family's hands for over 100 years - (111 to be precise.) Originally situated in High Street, it moved to its present position on the corner of High Street and Palmerston Street almost 50 years ago. Pam finds Michael, her boss "is really good to work for", and the "staff" of 5 local women are "a great group of colleagues". They are not only very supportive of each other but also of the community they serve and long may this continue!

Kate Gooding



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A MOVING STORY

The eagle-eyed amongst us will have noticed that the first house on the Bellway estate is occupied. In fact the new Bollington residents moved in on 4th November.

Originally from Poynton where they lived for nearly 40 years, Mr & Mrs Hatton first came across Bellway homes eighteen months ago when they saw a new development in Holmes Chapel. They wanted to move to a new house, liked the style of the houses and heard that Bellway were building in Bollington so they took the plunge and bought off plan. With a new granddaughter in Bollington it seemed the ideal location – not too far from old friends but closer for babysitting!

After so many years in the same house, looking for furniture, light fittings and all the things that come with a new house was a big job. But the moving process was made a lot easier by help from both our local removal company, Argo and Bellway Homes, particularly from Elaine in the sales office, and Simon the site manager.

Now they are settling into 'proper village life,' frequenting the friendly shops and eateries we have on our doorstep and apart from waiting for odd bits of furniture to be delivered they plan on creating a vegetable garden, making new friends and seeing their new granddaughter!

Annette Hurst



Photograph: Rod Goulsbra
www.argoremovals.co.uk

GO WITH ARGO...

The Hatton's may be the first of many moving to the new development with the help of Argo.

So where does the name Argo come from? Well, it's from the man who set up the company over 40 years ago in 1973 – Rod Goulsbra – ARGO – his initials in the middle and the letter A added at the beginning because, in those days, having a business name beginning with A was an advantage in the phone bookhow things change!

Rod left university with a degree in mechanical engineering. He couldn't immediately find a job in his field so he bought a small transit van and started doing furniture deliveries and collections for Brocklehurst Auction rooms in Macclesfield. People then asked him to move odd bits of furniture – everyone with a van knows what that is like – and the removal business was officially born.

Rod started the business from his parents' house, then moved to Eaton and rented a yard in Macclesfield for his growing collection of vans. Then he moved to the premises he has today in Bollington by the canal,

where he has been for the last 38 years!

Rod says, 'It's definitely not a 9 to 5 job and it's hard work. It's not really a job – it's a 'way of life'.



He says he has spent many hours of his life waiting outside houses with full vans of furniture until the banks and solicitors have agreed monies have been transferred and people can move in. "Being given access at 5pm means unloading goes on late into the night – we always make sure people have a bed to sleep on!" says Rod.

"Our reputation speaks for itself," says Rod. "Every day is different and we meet some lovely people and take pride in giving excellent service."

Annette Hurst

Can you Help?

In preparing to extend the Bollington War Memorial and reviewing the list of names to be added, we have five names with local connections about which we have very little information.

Two names appear on the War Memorial for the former Kerridge Methodist Sunday School: J SHAW (WW1) and F MILLWARD (WW2). These names do not appear on other memorials in Bollington or Kerridge and we do not know the first names or any other details about either man.

J Shaw was a very common name and there are over 300 casualties sharing it in the Commonwealth War Graves database for WW1.

The database has four WW2 casualties named F Millward, but there is a possibility that the initial may be incorrect.

Three other names appear on the Adelphi Mill Roll of Honour. We can identify these men in the database, but do not know anything else about their possible connection with Bollington, although we do know that they were not Bollingtonians by birth. They must have been employees of the company, but did they work in Bollington? Did they live locally? Are they commemorated on another War Memorial nearby? These men are:

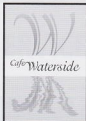
Pilot Officer JOHN NORMAN STEPHEN ASHTON
RAF VR 419 Squadron Service No. 172209.

Gunner JOHN WILLIAM MINSHULL Royal Artillery
9 Coast Regiment Service No. 1786689.

Private JACK WHITTAKER Cheshire Regt 8th (HD) Battalion.

If you can help solve these mysteries, please contact Dave Williams at stoswaldbollington@gmail.com

Dave Williams



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HOLLYWOOD IN BOLLINGTON

PART 2...



If the last issue whetted your appetite for more action from Bollington's own movie, **"Two Plans, Two Sisters and a Parade"**, read on for part two...

"I could throttle you, Suzie!" Candy said as she pretended to strangle her friend who was trying (and failing) to stop laughing. "You said it was a fat club and it was a flipping Belly Dancing Class - I was in so much shock I couldn't move and that gave them the chance to help me into a spare set of dancing gear and..."

"Oh shut up complaining," Suzie wiped a laughter tear from her eyes. "You loved every minute of it and by the sounds of it you'll be going back for more."

"I might be. AND I might just be organising a full-on pre-festival procession down Palmeston Street".

"Never! Well, good for you. Of course, I take full credit for getting the serendipity." Suzie stuck her pinkie out as she slurped from her mug.

"Cheek!" Candy flicked her friend with a tea towel before picking up the telephone and dialling. "Hi can I speak to the person who deals with shutting roads off, please?"

The bell dinged as Adam opened the door to Livesey's Deli. He ordered his usual double espresso and looked around for a seat. "Bit busy today Adam... oh, there's a seat in the window if you don't mind sharing..."

"Thanks Jo." Adam turned, as he did so, his heart sank. Looking

Photographs:
James Nicholas

Top: Setting up the scene in Livesey's

Bottom: Lights... Camera... Action!

"EVERYONE LOOKS AT ME LIKE I'M THE EVIL WITCH WHO BROKE YOUR HEART BUT YOU BROKE MINE TOO."



around he realised it was too late to change his mind and leave without it being obvious.

"It's okay - I won't bite," Helen looked at him and nodded to the only vacant seat in the deli.

Adam smiled, sheepishly, as Jo placed his coffee in front of him.

Helen closed the cover to her Kindle and smiled at him with a genuine welcome. "Look Adam, I am sorry for the way things turned out, it's just that..."

He cupped his hands around his coffee for comfort. "I know, I understand."

"You were always nicer to me than I ever deserved..."

"Don't ever think you don't deserve to be treated well, Helen." Adam sipped from his cup and looked out to the High Street. "So, are you really going to Hollywood, then?"

"So they say," Helen replied.

"Has it made you happy?"

"What?"

"Pursuing your acting career?"

"Yes, yes of course it has. Why wouldn't it?"

"I wish I had been enough to make you happy."

"You did make me happy but I had to follow my dream. You could have come with me!" Helen caught herself as she realised she was speaking too loud. People began to stare.

"I know but I don't need all that glitz and glamour - look around you Helen: fields, space, wonderful people, Bollington has everything you could possibly need."

"No Adam - it has everything YOU need. I needed something else. Everyone looks at me like I'm the evil witch who broke your heart but you broke mine too. You wanted me to give up my dream for you but you wouldn't give anything up for me." Her eyes softened. "I am truly sorry for leaving you that way - it must have been...well, embarrassing. I AM sorry."

Helen's mobile rang. "It's my agent, excuse me." She turned from Adam, flushed with excitement "Henry! I'm so pleased you called, you have news for me!"

Adam turned, trying not to listen but couldn't help overhearing as her agent explained that the younger actress on his books had got the Hollywood job and that he was letting her go, downsizing, you understand.

He paused whilst Helen composed herself. "You alright?"

"I'm fine."

"No, you're not, I heard, Helen, I'm so sorry." He reached across and took her hand.

Helen pushed an imaginary stray hair behind her ear. "I don't suppose I am. I've made a mess of things, haven't I?"

"We could start again."

"No, it wouldn't be fair on you - I couldn't do that to you Adam. You've always been there for me - look how I treated you. I...I...love you too much to treat you badly ever again."

"But Helen..." Adam's words were lost as Helen grabbed her things and fled from the deli.

"I'll put hers on your bill shall I?" Dave called across the room, oblivious to the look of exasperation from Jo.

To be continued... **Debra Tracey**

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FITNESS - WITH A SPLASH!

Aquatone, often called Aquaerobics, Aquafit, or Aqua exercise, has been a feature for many years at Bollington Health & Leisure (BHL). There are three trained instructors, Fiona, Collette and Alex offering three sessions each week

The staff training required is very strict; all three are trained swimming instructors at ASA level 2 with additional Aqua aerobics training, updated regularly.

Aquatone offers toning and cardio-vascular exercise and fitness in the water. The benefits are that water offers low impact yet good resistance, giving quality exercise for the heart, joints and muscles. It is great for all ages but especially helpful for anyone with high blood pressure, or cardiac, joint and muscular problems.

The sessions last for one hour and we always warm up gradually, build up to more strenuous exercises, then cool down.

I was delighted to join the class about 6 years ago when I moved to Bollington. I had enjoyed Aqua aerobics in other areas I had lived and had found it wonderful exercise and a good alternative to rambling in the hills, especially when the rain and windy weather arrives. I have been pleased to see the classes develop with new equipment such as resistance bands and hand paddles being introduced, so the sessions are always fun and a challenge too.

The beauty of Aqua exercise is that everyone can work at their own pace in either shallow or deep water. Some people work very hard but we always have music playing and enjoy singing along but are keeping fit at the same time.

The classes have proved very popular with up to 20 people regularly participating, so prior booking is advisable



L to R: Collette, Fiona & Alex, the 'Aquatone Girls'
Photo: Lynn Knowling

The classes are popular with both men and women although the majority are female. All body shapes, young or old, can enjoy exercising in water.

Pregnant women find it very beneficial and it is suitable for all abilities, provided you check with your GP first. BHL also holds specific sessions for the Parkinson 'Alex' group and Stroke Survivors.

Talking to Alex, Collette and Fiona, it is obvious that they enjoy teaching the classes as much as their participants enjoy taking part. They

have great member loyalty; some people have been coming for many years. New members are always welcome and the instructors are very helpful and attentive to make sure everyone enjoys themselves and of course perform the exercises properly!

Lynn Knowling

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