



# BOLLINGTON

# Live!

Number Sixty Four

Summer 2015



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**THUMBS UP!**

Rob and Helen Ellwood of The Poachers Inn, Ingersley Road in Bollington are proud to reveal the arrival of a new Community Access Defibrillator which is situated (and very visible) on the front wall of The Poachers Inn.



Funds for the defibrillator were given by The Bollington Beer Festival Community Fund from the 2014 Festival and additional funds from The Poachers via their monthly quiz and donations from customers.

Rob and Helen would like to thank everyone for the donations and also thank The Bollington First Responders for the help in getting the defib sourced and initiated.

The defibrillator is supported by North West Ambulance Service, and in the case of it being required the cabinet access code will be revealed when 999 is called.

## LETTER FROM THE <sup>new</sup> EDITOR

After 21 years and 63 issues I feel honoured (and a little nervous!) to be the first female editor of *Bollington Live!*

Over the past 2 decades the design of the magazine has changed substantially, the advertising has evolved to reflect changing interests and the articles have become more diverse. The past recent editors have introduced a splash of colour, the 'sports page' on the back cover and the Bollington by interview with a young person in the village, to name but a few things, as well as encouraging wider participation in terms of article-writing. Unchanging however through the life of *Bollington Live!* has been Simon at Bollington Printshop. His great enthusiasm and affection for the magazine have undoubtedly contributed to the longevity and continued success of *Bollington Live!*

Many other people are involved in the production of *Bollington Live!*, as I have learnt quickly over the last few weeks, and all deserve a special mention but unfortunately space does not allow it! Local businesses, through their advertising and sponsorship, make all this possible so I guess my first words should have been "Thank you to all!"

"I've got no room for more articles" is what I have had to say to a couple of people - for others I've used my best judgement to edit what they sent in so as to maximise the variety of articles in this issue. It was a delight to see



the author Nik Perring at the junior writing club he runs at Bollington library; to marvel at the scale of the art work of Barbara Nicholls and to learn about the 'Talking newspaper' (for the blind) in Macclesfield which regularly include articles from *Bollington Live!* Learning about our local history and our links to Waterloo as well as seeing the magnificent artwork on White Nancy are all features in this issue. I hope you enjoy reading them as much as I did!

Editing *Bollington Live!* has taken away the excitement of picking up my new copy of the magazine from the door mat and reading what is going on in our town, but this has been balanced with the pleasure of putting this issue together. If you would like to get involved with *Bollington Live!* - writing articles, proof reading, taking photos, interviewing people, delivering, etc - please get in touch with us by email ([liveditor@happy-valley.org.uk](mailto:liveditor@happy-valley.org.uk)) or come to our next meeting on 29 June at 8pm at the Poachers.

I aim to look after *Bollington Live!* as well as it's been cherished in the past. I hope you like this issue.



*If you have a photo of someone/thing that deserves a 'thumbs up' or a thumbs down' please email the editor*

Annette

Date for next copy:  
**9 Sept 2015**

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Cover photograph: 'WHITE NANCY 2015' - Photograph by Simon Nottage

*Bollington Live!* is published three times a year on a non-profitmaking basis, with free distribution to households in the town. Under the editorial banner of *Bollington Live!* - A voice for everyone" we aim to promote local concerns. The Editor cannot be held responsible for the opinion of contributors, the accuracy of the events listings, or the content of external websites referred to within this magazine.

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Back Issues: [www.happy-valley.org.uk/live](http://www.happy-valley.org.uk/live)

# HOUSING CRISIS

There is general acceptance that there is a serious housing shortage in this country. We presently build approximately 120,000 per year – we need around 250,000. They have to go somewhere and it has been determined that every community will share the burden. It's no longer a case of 'don't want', but of 'where?'

## Major developments status

We have several development sites in Bollington, most with planning permission but in very different states of progress:

- **Ingersley Vale Mill** – actually in Rainow! but should count towards Bollington. Presently derelict with planning permission. Owned by the government's Homes & Communities Agency. Once a developer can be found to take it on a new application would be expected proposing around 45 units. The remaining mill will be demolished.
- **Ingersley Vale bowling green** Rainow; one application withdrawn, revision expected to propose smaller development. \*
- **Lord Street** – consent for 13 units; development seems doubtful for technical reasons.
- **St John's Church** – consent for 13 units; development delayed by technical problems and bureaucracy; now out for tender.
- **Clarence Mill** – consent for 19 units. \*
- **Hurst Lane Wharf** – 6 units, development imminent. \*
- **Adlington Road** – no agreement yet regarding redeveloping the industrial units.
- **Waterhouse Mill** – construction of 91 units well under way. Completion due in 2016. \*
- **Old Co-op site** – site cleared, consent for 4 units. \*
- **Lowerhouse** – 15/3844M consent given for 33 units on small industrial site subject to agreement on improvements to flood management. \*
- **Lowerhouse** – 15/1683M application for 38 houses submitted for the larger industrial site. No one is happy about this

and no doubt it will be strongly challenged. \*

- **Ovenhouse Farm** – consent given for 6 units. \*
- **Hall Hill** – scheduled as lower grade Green Belt; owned by two developers; no application yet made.

\* These sites amount to around 265 units and should hopefully count towards our 2030 requirement but the inspector could re-set the base date from 2010.

**"WE ARE AT RISK OF DEVELOPERS APPLYING FOR DEVELOPMENT CONSENT ALMOST ANYWHERE, AND THERE IS VERY LITTLE TO PROTECT US."**

## Neighbourhood plan

How many houses do we have to plan for?

So long as we, and Cheshire East Council (CEC), don't have a housing plan, under the present planning rules we are at risk of developers applying for development consent almost anywhere, and there is very little to protect us.

CEC's first attempt at a plan was rejected by the inspector, they have prepared another attempt. Bollington is preparing its Neighbourhood Plan during this year.

CEC, in its latest plan, will provide land for 36,000 units for the period 2010-30. CEC have apportioned

this out across the communities and Bollington's share is expected to be 250-300. We cannot avoid this requirement and our new Neighbourhood Plan must account for it if the plan is to be accepted by CEC. Then it becomes binding both ways – no more, no less, subject only to development applications (and changes to government or CEC policy?).

So 300 less the c.265 already consented leaves us looking for room for about 35 units. That can't be too difficult.

## Where could we put them?

- **Infill** – not many infill sites left, and many would be better left as green space to avoid turning the town into a solid urban area.
- **Brown field / industrial sites** – as they become available they have been converted from industrial to housing; many are not happy about the loss of some small business industrial sites but it's not a strong argument in planning terms. Larger industry is not interested in the kind of sites that we have to offer in the town.
- **Green field** – Bollington is completely surrounded by Green Belt which could make it very difficult to find new space for housing. In most places the higher grade Green Belt is between 200m and 400m wide. In other places with a similar layout there are ideas to move the Green Belt out to provide development land within a new belt. It wouldn't be popular but we may have to consider this post 2030.

## Community constraints

- A need to maintain green space between Bollington and Tytherington, Bollington, A Place in its Own Right!.
- We need to keep employment land in the town, particularly for small businesses.
- Need to avoid adding to traffic; loading on the medical centre, schools and other services.

Tim Boddington

[www.happy-valley.org.uk/thetown/plan.htm](http://www.happy-valley.org.uk/thetown/plan.htm)

Photograph:  
Simon Nottage



# A LOOK TO THE FUTURE

## Don't squander your opportunity to influence the future development of Bollington

How should we plan our development over the next 15 years? How do we want the Town to look in 2030? All residents and businesses will be asked for their views over a 6-week period in May and June.

This important opportunity for community input comes via a special questionnaire being sent to every home and business in the Bollington area. On-line completion is also possible through the Bollington Town Council website.

The collated evidence from this questionnaire will form a vital first step in the development of the Bollington Neighbourhood Plan. Like the questionnaire, the plan will be produced by volunteers from the local community. When completed, the plan will incorporate strategies and policies covering the types of new development and infrastructure



needed to make Bollington an even better place to live and work.

Not only will local people have the chance to help shape the plan, they will also decide whether it is approved via a local referendum. If approved, the plan will then be adopted by Cheshire East Council. It will carry statutory powers and will have to be taken into account in relation to future planning applications affecting the Bollington area.

Photos: James Nicholas



Delivery of the questionnaires will start on 18 May with respondents asked to complete and return them by 30 June. Additional copies will be available throughout Bollington, including the Town Hall, Library and Post Office.

Emphasizing the importance of the questionnaire, the Deputy Chair of the Bollington Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group, Amanda Stott, commented: "The views of all our residents, community groups and businesses will matter. With their help, our aim is to develop a Neighbourhood Plan that truly reflects local knowledge and evidence, and defines how we can achieve a bright future for Bollington." **Steve Roxborough**



# IT'S ONLY A CONVENIENCE

I read your article "Walkers are Welcome" in the Spring issue, with great interest. It was an informative and entertaining read, but also very pertinent, as I had just written a letter to our Town Council complaining about the closure of the public toilet on Pool Bank car park.

I have always thought that the promotion of Bollington as a walking destination was a great idea and admired the efforts of those who initiated the Walking Festival. This initiative brings new people to the area and, in turn, benefits local businesses, so how could the closure of the one facility required by these visitors be beneficial? It was modern, clean, located in a place people expect to find a public toilet and as a benefit, available 24 hours.

I first saw the small notice advising of the closure approximately 10 days

before the toilet actually closed on the 31 March. It stated that Cheshire East Council was closing the facility as it was no longer a viable proposition because of lack of use. Surely even Cheshire East could not be so naïve as to think that such a technical piece of equipment would be self-supporting, given the maintenance costs. It was a convenience, encouraging visitors to use Bollington as a base for visiting the area, and thus spending their money here.

The extensive Government White Paper (2008) on public toilets, advises that: "When a Council has provided such a facility, it should not then close the toilet without prior consultation with the public. If the public are not happy and provide an appropriate petition, then a full debate must follow." I am unaware that any of these guidelines were



followed, but none of which are of much use now, since the convenience was removed within 14 days of its closure. It's amazing how quickly the Council can move when it suits them!

However, complaining now will not help the situation, we need sensible thought and discussion to rectify the problem before the hard work of a number of caring people, and the benefits they promoted, are lost.

Are you a small local business, a walking group, or just interested in the welfare of our town? Then let's hear your opinions - my voice alone will not make a difference.

We cannot promote our town and this beautiful area, and reap the benefits of such activity, without providing some conveniences!

Carole Selby

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## A GOOD READ...

In February Bollington Library began its second Junior Writing Group - an eight week course run by author and Bollington resident Nik Perring.

The aim of the course is to teach children, aged 7 upwards, the art of good storytelling by creating their own tale including illustrations. The emphasis though is on having fun while writing.

Nik is an ideal mentor being an acclaimed writer of captivating and much loved short story collections as well as the highly entertaining children's book: 'I met a Roman Last Night, What Did You Do?'.  
*prickles sharper than razors; four arms; one colossal leg and two eyes on top of an immense antennae. They were very strange looking indeed!"*

For eight consecutive Tuesdays, for an hour after school, the kids worked with Nik on their plots, settings, and characters learning the use of description and dialogue to set the right tone for their stories.

Bollington Live managed to snag a copy of each of the kid's tales, all of which are interesting with a mixture of charm, simplicity, nonsense and a big dollop of fun. The influence of Nik's tuition in encouraging the children to use their imagination is obvious and you get a real sense of how much the children have enjoyed the group.



Connie Matthews, the youngest junior, wrote about Daisy, the enchanted talking rabbit. Connie's tale is simply written and all the more endearing for it. Her little book expresses a spectrum of feelings and the result is an engaging read.

Ella Wharton's tale 'Steve on the Moon' has great illustrations and a level of narrative that shows a wonderful eye for detail.

A personal favourite is Ella's description of the aliens - 'slimy green skin; vibrant pink spots; yellow

Best front cover illustration has to go to Laila Hollands with 'Drago Bloodfist and the Stolen Smore' - a tale of fearsome pirates on high seas and an encounter with a very, hungry parrot.

The action packed story of 'Blocky and the Siege of the Circles' by Tom Hallows has a very amusing intro.

"Hey!" called bully Blocky to Blocky. "Give me your lunch money".

"Show me your bully licence then!" called Blocky. The bully fished out his licence. "Ok then, everything seems to be in order. Off you go!"

(This was all part of Block government's latest hair-brained scheme for Blocks to be less fat).

Last but by no means least, Jacob Martin's story 'The Adventures of Lemon Corn' is charming, not just because he elected to include the main characters from his peer's stories. It is set on Planet Sweets with candy corn moors, chocolate soup, biting jelly squirrels and sprinkle pulses (that's electricity in our world don't you know...), a delightful page turner.

Proud mums and dads attended a presentation on Tuesday 28 April where each child received a copy

of their professionally printed story, with the option to purchase more - making an ideal present for family and friends.

As this group glowed with the sense of their achievements Nik was busy getting ready for the next group to start on their 8-week adventure.

Vicki Cooper



## NIK PERRING

Above: Nik Perring

Left: Nik with the Junior writing group and their first novels

Photo by Vicki Cooper

For information on future courses please contact Bollington Library 01625 378266

Nik Perring is a short story writer and author from the UK. His stories have been published in both the UK and abroad, in print and online.

They've been used on High School distance learning courses in the US along with Pulitzer Prize nominees, printed on fliers, and recorded for radio. Nik is the author of the children's book, I Met a Roman Last Night, What Did You Do? (EPS, 2006); the short story collection, Not So Perfect (Roastbooks 2010); he's the co-author of Freaks! (The Friday Project/HarperCollins, 2012) and his latest, Beautiful Words (Roastbooks) is out now. His online home, where you can find out more about his teaching and editing, is [www.nikperring.com](http://www.nikperring.com) and he's on Twitter as @nikperring.



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# A FAMILY CALLED GASKELL

Many people climb White Nancy or walk through Ingersley Vale. On their rambles they might catch sight of a mansion in the trees, but they probably give little thought to the family who built this house nearly 250 years ago.

This family was called Gaskell, and in the sixteenth century its members lived in Lyme Handley as tenants and servants of the Leghs of Lyme Hall. They became yeoman farmers and tanners but were also shrewd investors in land.



Photos Right and below: Civic Society

William, the forebear of the Ingersley Gaskells, moved to Adlington in the late seventeenth century. One of his eight children, Peter, became a tanner in Bollington Cross, another, Thomas, bought land at Sowcar and in Hedgerow off Spuley Lane, but it was William's eldest son John who some years before his death in 1758 first acquired the land around Ingersley with its two farms and fulling (or 'wauk') mill.

John continued to live at Adlington, and his eldest son, also John, moved to Sowcar Farm which he inherited from his uncle Thomas. This John married Elizabeth Brocklehurst, related to the Brocklehursts of silk manufacturing fame, and it was their son, another John, who in 1775 decided to build for his family what was initially known as Ingersley House.

John married Betty Shaw, related to the Claytons of Endon in Kerridge, but tragedy struck as four of their five children died as young adults.

More than any other member of the family, it was Thomas' son John Upton who had the ambition to live the life of the landed gentry. He

was educated at Dr Davies' School in Macclesfield (later the King's School), and then at Magdalen College, Oxford.

John constantly asked his parents for money, since keeping respectable company required tailoring, fine wines, livery for his horse, hunting with the Duke of Beaufort, and a three month tour of the continent. Amongst other places, he visited the site of Waterloo, 12 years after the defining battle of 1815 in the company of an Italian Count

Thirty years later, by a quirk of destiny, his life touched on that of Napoleon. He bought several paintings that had been acquired in Rome by the Earl of Shrewsbury from Napoleon's mother, Maria Letizia Buonaparte.

John Upton married Margaret Elizabeth Grimshawe, daughter of Samuel of Erwood Hall, and for a while lived at Endon House in Kerridge. Shortly before his mother's death he moved back to Ingersley, upgrading its status from House to Hall, vastly extending it, and building elaborate new stable blocks for the horses he bred. He was a respected figure, supporting local interests (including the Macclesfield, Bollington, Marple Railway) and acting as a JP for 47 years. His two children were Anne Theodora and John Francis, and it was Anne Theodora who in 1883 succeeded to Ingersley Hall.

Photo below: Bridget Franklin



Anne never married but lived with two female companions. She was extremely generous in supporting good causes, not only in Bollington and Rainow but further afield. She had wanted the house to stay in the family, but it and all its contents, together with its surrounding land and six farms were sold in 1933.



Today the Hall is known as Savio House and is a retreat centre for the Catholic order of Salesians.

The Gaskells were not entrepreneurs, but they exploited the opportunities the land provided. They built new farms and cottages, a reservoir by Ingersley Road and developed the mill at Ingersley Vale. They planted trees, and supported the other mills on the land they owned.

Perhaps their most visible memorial is that of the commemorative summerhouse nowadays referred to as White Nancy. It was built on the site of a former warning beacon on the prominence already known as Northern Nancy (an abbreviation of ordnance), which marked the boundary of the Gaskell land. Here the family could picnic at the stone interior table or, looking eastwards, admire the full sweep of their estate: from the ridge and North End Farm (at one time called Nancy Farm), across to the cottages at Billinge Hill on the horizon, and from the fringes of Bollington and Poet Shrigley almost to the village of Rainow.

Like the magnificent view, the monument remains, testament to a family and to an event. Anne Theodora, last Gaskell resident of Ingersley Hall, wrote: 'My grandfather caused the Sugar Loaf on White Nancy to be built in remembrance of the Battle of Waterloo'.

Myths abound, but to her, as to many of today's long-term local residents, it was the hill itself that was White Nancy.

*Bridget J Franklin*

# NANCY'S WATERLOO LOOK

Amy Needham won Bollington's competition to design a unique look for White Nancy to commemorate 200 years since the Battle of Waterloo of 1815.

Paintbrushes in hand, Amy and a team of helpers, have braved windswept hours on Kerridge Ridge to give our Lady of Bollington her fine new coat of many colours – in readiness for the Waterloo/White Nancy weekend of events on 19-21 June.

Amy, 19 years, has lived all her life in Bollington and is currently studying at the Manchester School of Art. Appropriately enough, for her first year portfolio she chose to



submit a project on the buildings of Bollington and has now crowned this with her prizewinning design for Bollington's famous folly. The models, Amy's concept on a grand scale, are a finely-judged reminder of the soldiers of all nations engaged in this major European war

In early May, helped by her mum and dad, Amy drew her design



onto Nancy's freshly-painted white plaster, encircling the whole folly with attentive soldiers. Finishing touches, added later – around Amy's exam revision – complete an ambitious and idiosyncratic Waterloo tribute that can be enjoyed from all directions for miles around.



Her idea has transcribed well on to the folly and Amy is excited by an immediate wave of approval on social media. Many are climbing the hill to take a closer look and, importantly, Nancy's transformation

Photos:  
James Nicholas

is recorded by local photographers for Bollington's archive at the Discovery Centre.

White Nancy will be right at the heart of her 200th birthday celebrations on Sunday 21 June, which is also both the Summer Solstice and Father's Day. From noon until 3pm that day Bollington families are invited to bring their own picnics to the top of the hill, where various musical performances will enliven



the party. Ice cream, cupcakes and pizza will be on sale, plus assorted White Nancy-related crafts. The event is free. Families will only be asked to keep any dogs on leads and to take home their own rubbish.

Jose Spinks

# WELLINGTON'S RELATIONS...

Local resident Oonagh Wilkinson reveals her Wellington secret...

*"Father took the trouble to have his family tree drawn up about 30 years ago. He knew he was related to the Duke of Wellington.*

*He had many fine pictures, proudly adorning his Pott Shingley farmhouse walls, and as kids, there was a lot of joking and frivolous talk that took place as a result of such knowledge, as I am sure you can imagine!! "Do you realise WHO I am!?"*

*Sadly the actual family bloodline runs not from the Duke himself, but from his brother, Richard Wellesley, Marquess, and 1st Viceroy of India.*

*One missed becoming a 'Lady' by a mere whisper!! How devastating a disappointment was that, to try and come to terms with.*

*Mother's side of the family (who also have an interesting family background, being related to Luke Howard, the meteorologist who named the clouds), jealously poured*

*Do you realise who I am!??*  
Roger Geoffrey Wellesley Wilkinson

Photo:  
Oonagh Wilkinson



*scorn on the Richard Wellington bloodline....."He was nothing but an Irish horse thief!!" Poor chap - I'm sure that can't have been true!*

*My younger brother proudly carries the Wellesley name on! It had to be done!!*

Oonagh Wilkinson

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JNR CONSTRUCTION

# GEOLOGY MEETS ART

Inspired by Tegg's Nose, the Saddle of Kerridge and the Peak District's geology and landscape, artist Barbara Nicholls exhibited large new water colours in her latest exhibition at Clarence Mill, Bollington on 10 and 17 May.

Barbara who was born in Cheshire but now lives and works in London said, "After visiting Bollington and the surrounding hills in summer 2013, I realised it would provide a rich source of material for new work. Establishing my studio in Adelphi Mill in 2014 helped me to immerse myself in the landscape and the community of Bollington. I use walking the many ancient footpaths as a way of getting a sense of the geology. It seeps into me and then out into the work."

These new works of Barbara Nicholls, funded by Arts Council Award, continue her established themes of geology, mapping and topography. They are in part investigations into the scientific properties of watercolour whilst also being instinctive reactions to the process of using watercolour. The paintings are poured, cajoled, blown and left alone to become



Barbara Nicholls and her work

Photo: Matt Hale

records of colourful events reflecting the relationship between the artist and the materials.

The watercolour paint settles onto the thick sheets of paper creating a geological terrain. Water soaking into the fibers causes natural tensions across the surface of the paper un-restricted by the usual glued tape and pre-shrinking. These undulations become a 'landscape' of 'rolling hills' with the paint acting like river sediment flowing

info@bnicholls.co.uk

www.barbaranicholls.co.uk

gently along valleys, creating swirl pools and flowing out into broad reservoirs. Through the long process of evaporation, sometimes with the assistance of a breeze from an electric fan, this systematised use of colour mixed with a chance element merges colours to create a soft blending of geographies.

The paintings of Barbara Nicholls have the visual appearance of both an aerial 'map' and at the same time a magnified, almost 'microscopic detail' appearance. They are painted on the floor horizontally with the artist both over-seeing the entirety of the process but also, at the same time, closely scrutinising each droplet, mineral grain and movement.

"We were enthralled by Barbara's exhibition in Bollington and loved her geological interpretation of the landscape around the village" said a local resident visiting the exhibition.

If you want to see the work Barbara exhibited here in Bollington you will have to travel to Arcadia, Museum Kurhaus Kleve, Germany in July!

Matt Hale

# AN INDIAN THANK YOU

**Mr F (Mr Syed Mohammed Foyso) as he is affectionately known to the regulars at the Bay Leaf Lounge, took time out of a busy service to tell *Bollington Live!* about his week of 'on the house meals'.**

For one week each year (Monday to Friday) Mr F and his business partner and chef Mr Dilu Miah invite regular diners along with civic dignitaries into their restaurant to dine 'on the house'.

Mr F explained that over 75% of their customers are regulars and each year he likes to say thank you for their custom and thank you for the support they receive in our community. So for five days in March, Mr F opened the Bayleaf

Lounge to 800 people who dined 'on the house'. Judging by the murmurs of approval from the diners, a good time was had by all as wonderful starters and curries flew out of the kitchen with both meat eaters and vegetarians amply catered for.

Mr F and Mr Miah are originally from Bangladesh, but moved to Hyde in 2000 before going into business together running the Bayleaf Lounge in 2006.

Their hard work has been recognised - for two years running (2013 and 2014) they have won the 'BCA Caterers of the Year' award. The BCA or Bangladesh Caterers Association was established in



'Mr. F.' Photo: Simon Nottage

1960 and is run as a not-for-profit umbrella organisation representing approximately 12,000 British-Bangladeshi restaurants in the UK. As a national trade association their primary role is to lobby government ensuring a good deal for the curry industry, which employs over 90,000 people and contributes approximately £3.5 billion to the British economy. **Annette Hurst**



# BOLLINGTON

# Live!

## July

Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> - 7.30pm

### Edwina Hayes

International singer songwriter  
Arts Centre. Adults £10  
Conc. £8 online

### Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> to Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> Well Dressing Festival 2015

Opening ceremony 11.30am  
Greg Fountain, Flash Lane  
Theme is 'Anniversaries' Trail  
leaflet of all 6 displays available  
from post office, town hall &  
local shops 574208

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

### Spuley Cottage Open Garden

In aid of the Children's Society  
Jenny & Tim Kendal open their  
garden on Spuley Lane £3.50  
inc refreshments 574615

Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> - 2pm

### St Gregory's Summer Fair

Pirates, princesses & mermaids  
Admission donation only PTA  
07596 175947

Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> - 2.30pm

### Talbot House

A feel good drama set in WW1  
Arts Centre. £8 online

Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> - 11am

### Bollington Nostalgia Hill Race

7.11mile run age 18 and over  
Bridgend Centre. £6 advance  
or £8 on the day 576311

Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> - time tbc

### Cheshire Cobras Visually Impaired CC v BCC select XI

Friendly cricket match on the  
Rec

Monday 13<sup>th</sup> - 6.30pm

### Scibar - Flood Forecasting

Speaker Lindsay Ness,  
Vale Inn. Free

Friday 24<sup>th</sup> - 6pm & Saturday  
25<sup>th</sup> all day

### Bollington Beer Festival

Arts Centre £6 online at  
bollingtonbeerfestival.co.uk

Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> - 8.15pm

### Charity Pub Quiz

Poachers Inn, in aid of the  
Bridgend Centre

## August

Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> - 10am

### Bollington Summer Arts & Craft Fayre

Broadheads car park  
07790 386577

### Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> - time tbc Bridgend Centre 25 Years

All day garden party  
Bridgend Centre 576311

Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> - 7.30pm

### BDH&FC - Bollington District

### Horticultural & Flower Club

Tips on how to grow better  
dahlias by Stuart Clensy  
Community Centre. Member  
£1.50 Non member £3

Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> - 10am

### Bollington 10K

Leisure Centre  
Member £12.31 non member  
£14.43 online at bollingtonrun.  
co.uk

Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> - time tbc

### BCC Presidents Day

The Rec, in aid of Cystic  
Fibrosis Trust including  
President's XI vs Chairmen's XI  
match

## September

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

### BDH&FC - 51<sup>st</sup> Annual Show

For entry forms call 572668  
Civic Hall. Member £1.50  
Non member £3

Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> - 8pm

### Jazz at the Arts Centre - Jeff

### Barnhart

£9 574410

Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> - 2pm

### Festival Music Theatre

Free taster session for 7-13  
year olds at the Arts Centre  
573863

Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> - 7.30pm

### BDH&FC - Lillies

Community Centre. Member  
£1.50 Non member £3

Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> - 8pm

### The Piatti Quartet

Classical music at the Arts  
Centre £15 conc £7.50 online

Friday 25<sup>th</sup> - 2.30pm

### Gothic for Girls

A dark drama  
Arts Centre £10 online

Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> - Sunday 4<sup>th</sup>

### Bollington Walking Festival

Programme of local walks  
Bridgend Centre 576311

Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> - 8.15pm

### Charity Pub Quiz

Poachers Inn, in aid of the  
Bridgend Centre

## October

Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> - 8pm

### Jazz at the Arts Centre -

### Kevin Grenfell & Richard

### Leach

£9 574410

Monday 12<sup>th</sup> - 6.30pm

### Scibar - Frog Conservation

Speaker Matthew O'Donnell  
Vale Inn. Free



## Every Month

### Artisan Market

1<sup>st</sup> Sunday 10am to 3pm  
Clarence Mill

### White Nancy Breakfast Club

Last Sunday of the month  
From 7am, see Facebook page

### Car Wash

Alternate Wednesdays  
10am - 1.45pm The Rec  
£2.50 per car

### Sip & Knit

2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday 8pm  
Vale Inn Free 575147

### Knit and Natter

2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday 2pm  
Community Centre  
Free 575557



## Edwina Hayes

Bollington Arts Centre is  
delighted to welcome Edwina  
Hayes on Friday 3 July. Edwina  
is thought of as a gentle folk  
Americana, vocalist and guitar  
player, sitting somewhere  
between Joni Mitchell and  
Suzanne Vega. Playing stages  
everywhere from Glastonbury  
Festival to The Royal Albert  
Hall, she has opened shows for  
Joels Holland, Van Morrison,  
Ralph McTell and Boo  
Hewerdine. Edwina supported  
Fairport Convention last  
year and her cover of Randy  
Newman's 'Feels Like Home,'  
was included in the film 'My  
Sister's Keeper', receiving over  
six million plays on YouTube.

Her clear singing voice has  
been described by Nanci  
Griffith as 'the sweetest voice  
in England,' and Edwina as 'a  
wonderful young woman, so  
gifted and full of song' whilst  
The Guardian has described  
her as a 'haunting honeyed solo  
songwriter.'

Lynn Hindley

## TICKETS!

The new Programming  
Team at the Arts Centre has  
introduced on-line ticketing  
thanks to the successful trial  
carried out by Bollington  
Chamber Concerts last year.

All tickets for Arts Centre  
produced events can now  
be bought online from:  
[www.bollingtonartscentre.org.uk](http://www.bollingtonartscentre.org.uk)

# Dates for your Diary

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

## THE BRIDGEND CENTRE

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Saturday 10am-1pm

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### Monday

10am-4.30 Internet cafe  
10.30am-12 Bosom buddies  
2pm-3 Reminiscence

### Tuesday

10am-4.30 Internet cafe  
10.15am-12.30 Crafts  
1.30pm-4 Art  
2pm-4 Reading group

### Wednesday

10am-4.30 Internet cafe  
10.15am-1 Guided walk  
2pm-4 Mah jong  
2.15pm-4.15 Creative writing

### Thursday

10am-4.30 Internet cafe  
10.30am-12 Yoga  
11am-12.30 Reading circle  
3pm-4 English conversation

### Saturday

10am-1 Internet cafe



## BOLLINGTON 10K

On Sunday 30 August 2015, there will be a new addition to the Cheshire race diary.

Starting and finishing at Bollington Health & Leisure, Bollington 10k hopes to bring serious runners and fun runners to this year's event.

Facilitating a range of ages and abilities and catering for over 500 people you can sprint, run or jog through the heart of the village on what will hopefully be a sunny summer's day.

See opposite page to enter.

## BOLLINGTON FESTIVAL - IT'S A DATE!

Rumours have been floating around but the Bollington Festival committee can now announce that the next festival will be held in May 2019.

The 2014 festival was a great success with over 100 events held in 17 venues over 17 days. It's difficult to put accurate numbers on how many people enjoyed the festival as thousands turned up to the picnic, parade and numerous other free events. However, for ticketed events we sold well over 10,000 tickets and, as the ticket sales map shows, we welcomed visitors from Northumberland to Cornwall to our village.

The 'old' committee will be meeting in the next few weeks to start thinking about 2019 and we'll be holding open meetings in coming weeks and months to shape the format, content and leadership for the next festival. Perhaps you want



to get involved? Look out for communication by e-mail, posters, radio and social media where more details of these meetings will be provided.

Although the 2014 festival generated a healthy surplus that will go towards the 2019 festival we still have a considerable financial mountain to climb to make the Festival a reality. With this in mind we will be re-starting the 100+ Club in the next few weeks. As before, for a monthly cost of only £1 there will be a chance each month to win a cash prize.

We will also be inviting people to become Friends of the Bollington Festival to support the cause and enjoy a variety of festival-related benefits.

Jon Beck

Please e-mail: [jonbeck@bollingtonfestival.org.uk](mailto:jonbeck@bollingtonfestival.org.uk) if you would like to participate.

## BOLLINGTON Arts CENTRE NEWS

Life at Bollington Arts Centre (BAC) has been a little different of late; of most note is the completion of the Pat Penney Room which has enabled BAC to offer Bollington Brass Band a new home after the closure of their previous rehearsal venue.

Not only is it a delight to have one of the founding groups back at BAC but the band have already kindly held a fund raising concert with all proceeds going back to the BAC.



There are some new faces on the Management / Programming teams which has injected some new vigour

into the running of BAC. The Spring/Summer programme has already seen successful new events such as Terry Christian's stand-up gig and David Gibb's family show. These new genres of show have happily encouraged some new audience members too.

But don't take a breath yet, there is much more to come. Take a look at the upcoming programme with highlights such as James & the Giant Peach, Ceilidh and Waterloo 200 Celebrations, Gravity Percussion, Edwina Hayes, Talbot House, The Bollington Beer Festival and JB Barrington the performance poet.

Together with BAC's high quality Comedy, Jazz and Chamber evenings, panto, talks, classes and the Art Gallery; there is something for everyone at Bollington Arts Centre.

Simon Hardy

Photo: Bruce Kendrick

## FLYING HIGH

Are YOU aged 12-17 years old and ready for all the opportunities and benefits that the air cadets can offer you?

Aside from flying, sports, target shooting, adventure training and lots of fun, you'll soon find that being an air cadet has its own rewards – you'll constantly see the benefits of your own efforts, building on your achievements and earning Business and Technology Education Council awards (BTECs) and Duke of Edinburgh awards.

Don't take my word for it, this is what Cadet Corporal Toby Mayne says about his experience with 236 (Bollington) Squadron:

*"The Squadron parades twice a week in the evening. On a Monday we usually do training for our cadet qualifications, learning about navigation, aviation, teamwork and leadership. On a Thursday we do more practical things, which can range from learning CPR to practising with the Squadron band.*



[www.236atc.co.uk](http://www.236atc.co.uk)

Facebook: 236 Sqn A.T.C  
Twitter: @236ATC  
Meeting place Slaughter House Shrigley Road SK10 5RD  
01625 576956

Cadet Corporal Toby Mayne and Cadet Flight Sergeant Bethell meeting Air Marshal Sir Dusty Miller from the Royal Air Forces Association.

Photo: Emily Bethell

*Last summer I was lucky enough to go on three camps. I spent a week honing my skills on the drums, 10 days in Cyprus on an activity camp that included scuba diving and banana boating and a week at Royal Air Force Brize Norton seeing how a Royal Air Force base works, meeting the Royal Air Force police dogs, learning how to parachute, having a flying lesson and being treated to a flight in a C17. And meeting an Air Marshal was pretty amazing too!"*



236 (Bollington) Squadron is proud to offer young people from all walks of life a chance to get active,

learn new skills and make new friends in an inspirational and safe environment. Being a cadet won't interfere with school, and air cadets take an invaluable set of skills and strong personal ethics with them when they leave. These they can put to good use at university or in the career of their choosing.

Personal development as confident and spirited young people is the primary aim of our Squadron.

236 (Bollington) Squadron welcomes visits by potential cadets (ideally accompanied by a parent or guardian) during one of our Parade Nights – these are held twice a week on a Monday or Thursday evening 7-9pm. Just come along and see if you like it - you don't have to join, but at least check out what you might be missing!

Don't be shy about taking that first step - it may be the best thing you've ever done.

**Nicky Loveday**

## DOGS WELCOME TOO

With mile upon mile of beautiful countryside walks, the Middlewood Way on our doorstep and the Peak District just a stones throw away, it comes as no surprise that Bollington is home to so many dog owners and their four-legged companions.

Hundreds of dogs in all shapes and sizes, from Poodles to Great Danes, Labradors to Cockerpoos, all call Bollington home.

Since moving to the village in 2012 with Monty, our Cavalier King Charles Spaniel, my husband and I have discovered many places in the town where dogs are welcomed with open arms.

During one of our first visits to our local pub, The Poachers Inn on Ingersley Vale, we were pleasantly surprised to be told that dogs were

welcome in both the pub and beer garden. Not only that but they also sell 'Pooch Pouches' for £1 filled with doggie treats. Since that day The Poachers has become one of our favourite spots for a drink after a long walk or a meal in the evening and Monty doesn't have to stay home alone.

At the weekend we love to stop for lunch at Livesey's Deli on High Street where you'll usually find at least one or two dogs relaxing under tables whilst their owners tuck into something delicious.

"All dogs are welcome here"

says owner Dave "They all get strokes and tiddits"

With the idyllic backdrop of Clarence Mill and the canal, The Café Waterside is another dog walkers paradise with dogs welcome both on the decking outside and inside the cosy family-friendly café.

It's a common misconception that it is against health and safety regulations to allow dogs into a place where food is served. According to the regulations, dogs can enter any pub, café or restaurant with the owner's permission. They just cannot enter the areas where food is prepared.

Do you know of any other eateries in Bollington where dogs are welcome?

**Holly Baron-Morgan**



# BOLLINGTON BY..

Ruth Wallace goes to Tytherington High School and is in year 11. She is a very active person and enjoys being outdoors. She is regularly seen making a 7am ascent of White Nancy before school. I managed a few words with her as she strode on.

## How do you fill your spare time?

I like to read and sometimes go climbing and I like to go walking occasionally too. I also like to fit in a walk up White Nancy.

## What do you like about Bollington?

I like Bollington because although it is a bit quiet sometimes, there's always something to do if you know where to look.

## What don't you like?

I don't like the fact that the main roads takes so long to cross, because there's so much traffic.

## What music do you listen to?

I listen to a variety of music, from Les Mis to The Beatles and the 1975.

## What person do you most admire?

I most admire my friends at school



because even when they're stressed they still know how to have fun at lunchtime! A great thing at the moment with exams looming.

## What is your biggest achievement?

My biggest achievement is probably surviving our second silver Duke of Edinburgh expedition because we got ridiculously lost but still finished!

## If you had a superpower, what would it be?

If I had a super power, I would be able to fly, so I could see all the sights from a bird's eye view!

## What, for you, would make the world a better place?

I think if everyone was open minded and fair, then the world would be a better place.

## What book are you reading?

The Dream Merchant by Isabel Hoving.

## What don't you like about yourself?

I don't like the fact that when I am tired, I get angry really easily.

## What is your favourite place?

My favourite place is Laugharne in Wales because it's really calm there.

## Messy or tidy?

Depends on how I'm feeling – sometimes I'm messy, sometimes tidy!

## Favourite colour?

Blue

Sandy Milsom

# CRAFTS AT CLARENCE

On the first Sunday of each month outside Clarence Mill a group of local artists hold an artisans' market. The stalls display a wide range of artefacts from paintings to soap and all are handcrafted, original and made locally.

Suzanne Gill is the inspiration behind the market. She is the organiser who works hard to ensure the market happens each month and with blogs and Facebook and posters makes sure it is advertised. Suzanne is a keen crafter and makes jewellery and paints glassware. She is a passionate recycler and collects sea glass to produce pictures.

Anna Barker makes use of natural materials in her work and her stall is full of hand-carved wood, painted driftwood and painted stones. She also makes jewellery and beautiful

beaded birds. Anna spends hours beachcombing and her skill and imagination turn her finds into works of art. She is well known on the Bollington folk scene as one of the Bollington Belles. Anna is a primary school teacher who took up her artistic hobby after being diagnosed with MS.

Jackie Risley is a textile artist who specialises in needle felt pictures and cards but also makes gifts in silk. She shares a stall with Sandy Milsom who paints silk scarves, cards and pictures. Both, having retired, now find time to develop their love of textiles and art.

Christine Sheehan is an artist, working mainly in acrylics. Her paintings are lively and full of atmosphere and evoke the wonderful landscape around



Suzanne Gill



Anna Barker

Photos:  
Sandy Milsom

Bollington. Chris has some excellent framed and unframed prints of her paintings for sale and also takes commissions. She also sells delightful hand painted cards with quirky animals as the subjects.

Jane Ewington is a potter specialising in White Nancys and quirky bespoke pots. All her pottery is handcrafted and she doesn't use moulds. Her stall has a selection of original and unusual gifts, all with local interest.

Surrounding Val Mealand's stall is a lovely aroma of perfumed soap, candles and bath bombs. All are handmade and wonderfully crafted. The stall is a visual treat as well as stimulating ones sense of smell, some of her soaps and candles are fashioned into cupcakes. Sandy Milsom



## HEAR ALL ABOUT IT!

After 14 years' service, Editor of the Macclesfield & District Talking Newspaper for the Blind, Lynn Hilton, has decided to step down.

She said "I have enjoyed every minute but I need a bit more time to myself, and it is an opportunity to recruit some "new blood" to take the Talking Newspaper forward. The ideal candidate will be keenly interested in current affairs, have excellent literacy skills and possess good local knowledge. It would be perfect for a recently retired person keen to contribute something worthwhile to the local community."

*If you are interested in becoming Editor of the Talking Newspaper for the Blind and would like to know more, please contact Chairman Colin Turner by e-mail at [mactn@vision15.co.uk](mailto:mactn@vision15.co.uk) or phone 01625 435283 (Thursday mornings only).*



impaired people in Macclesfield, Poynton, Bollington, Tytherington, Prestbury and surrounding villages. They also produce an audio general interest magazine "TN Tapestry" which gives the 100+ listeners an extra 90 minutes of information and entertainment. None of the fifty volunteers at this local charity receives payment of any kind.

Lynn who is married with one son, has lived in Bollington for 47 years. She heads up an editorial team of ten who meet every Thursday morning at the Talking Newspaper studio on Queen Victoria Street, Macclesfield. Lynn describes her colleagues as "an extraordinary

group of people who work as a close-knit, mutually supportive team." She says "We work hard but have a lot of fun. The office is full of laughter - and chocolate biscuits!"

When asked what she is most proud of during her time as Editor, Lynn says "I am most proud of the fact that the Talking Newspaper has expanded and progressed during my tenure, whilst maintaining its quality. I am always conscious of the responsibility to carry on the good work started by Macclesfield Eye society stalwarts Marjorie Snow and Enid Morley in 1974. It is a happy place to work and I know that like me, all the team look forward to Thursday mornings, and feel that they are doing something worthwhile.

And, if you have a relative or friend who have difficulty in reading small print and would like to receive the Talking Newspaper please contact them at the numbers given above. The service is completely free, a player is supplied free of charge, and a free trial for a fortnight can be arranged. **Lynn Hilton**



The Talking Newspaper records an audio version of the Macclesfield Express each week which is sent free-of-charge to blind and visually

*Above: Editorial team  
Top right: Lynn Hilton*

## SHEEP DOG FACTS!

James Dumbleton - Bollington shepherd and award winning Sheep dog trainer was born into a Bollington farming family where he and his brother Ben both caught the sheepdog training bug from their grandfather at a very early age.

James farms locally and keeps sheep in the area, but spends much of his time as a shepherding contractor in 4 counties. His busy period is in January and over the recent winter he scanned around 50,000 ewes with his mobile scanning equipment. He also travels around shearing sheep - up to 6000 in a year. He has been working full time at this business for over 3 years since before he was 30 years old.

Training dogs is his passion and he had his first dog as soon as he could walk and started training



seriously at 13. His first trial dog was called Nan, but he sold her when he decided she wasn't good enough and swapped her for a better dog and won a trophy at the Macclesfield trials aged 14.

James loves competing and has travelled widely in England and also to Ireland, Scotland, Wales and the Isle of Man. In 2013 he travelled along with Richard Hutchinson, the English National Champion, to Pisa in Italy where they were judges in the national championships.

Earlier this year, he was Captain of the Cheshire, Derbyshire and Staffordshire team with his bitch Sally at the national winter championships in Slindon, Staffs.

He has always loved training sheepdogs and at present he has three working dogs, two of them

are competition dogs, Milly and Sid, and of course he has some younger dogs in training.

James was 3<sup>rd</sup> in the finals at last year's Sutton trials with Milly, a very good bitch he has since sold to someone in Taiwan.

This year Macclesfield is hosting the English National Sheep Dog Trials 6 - 8 August at Sutton Hall, Macclesfield, Cheshire SK11 7TX. Not only will you see wonderfully trained sheep dogs from all over England but also during the three days there will be the usual beer tent, food stalls, tug-o-war, BBQ, craft fayre and fell race. On the 9<sup>th</sup>, there will be the prize giving, followed by a concert.

**Lynn Knowling**

[www.macclesfield-sheepdog-trials.co.uk](http://www.macclesfield-sheepdog-trials.co.uk)

[www.englishnational-sheepdogtrials.org.uk](http://www.englishnational-sheepdogtrials.org.uk)

Photos: Janet Beech

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# BRIDGEND BASH

The Bridgend Centre is very excited to be celebrating its 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary this Summer.

In 1990 two Bollington residents, Ann Mayer and Anna-Lena Johnson recognised a need in Bollington for a warm and friendly place where people could drop in and feel that they were part of the community. From this idea the Drop-in Centre was born, a meeting-place where everyone would be made to feel welcome, regardless of age, disability, race, or gender.

The venture started with one room at the Town Hall, where people could pop in for a hot drink, a chat or take part in the growing programme of activities.

As its popularity grew, the Drop-in expanded to fill more rooms and even produced woodcraft products in the basement and after ten years on this site, the Drop-in was bursting at the seams.

For more information on the 25th anniversary events, tickets for the concert or volunteering at the Centre, please ring 01625 576311 or email info@bridgendcentre.org.uk.



Ann and Anna-Lena then hunted for new premises and found the current site on Palmerston Street which had been empty for six years.

It was a huge project, as the building, formerly the site of a Ducati racing motor bike shop, was almost derelict. The renovation was done on a shoe-string with windows, furniture, carpets and paint very kindly donated by local businesses.

The Bridgend Centre, as it is now known, is home to a thriving community with a large charity shop, communal kitchen and seating area, IT centre, two meeting rooms used by a wide variety of groups and a

large workshop. There are weekly educational and health related activities, including the very popular guided walks into the surrounding countryside. These facilities and activities attract an average of 74 people each day. The Centre is particularly proud of its fantastic volunteer force, currently numbering 70. Without this wonderful input of time, energy, enthusiasm and creative ideas, the Centre would not have flourished and developed into the vibrant and diverse organisation that it is today.

To mark this great achievement and 25 years of providing a home-from-home in Bollington, the Bridgend Centre will be hosting a celebration on Saturday 15th August, including a garden party and entertainment during the day. Tickets will be on sale for a concert with George Borowski and friends, held at Bridgend Centre that evening.

Kate Gooding



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## AMAZING GRACE

*"To the Glory of God and in loving memory of Grace Wanklyn of Turner Heath entered into rest November 8th 1911 Heaton Butler and Bayne, London"*

This Inscription appears on a brass plaque under St Oswald's Church baptistry windows depicting Christ blessing the little children. For years I have wondered who this lady was and why she was given such a beautiful window made by stained glass makers Heaton, Butler and Bayne.



Grace Wanklyn was born Grace Debenham in 1873 and was brought up with four sisters and a brother at Cheshunt Park House in Hertfordshire, in a household with ten domestic servants.

Her father, Frank, was a land agent and auctioneer who farmed 100 acres.

She married John Alfred Wanklyn in 1898 at Edmonton in north London before moving to Bollington in around 1902. Mr Wanklyn was born in Buenos Aires in 1868, the son of a Salford broker/banker

Whilst living in Bollington he was a manager of Adelphi cotton spinning and doubling mill. In 1911 the family were living in some splendour at Turner Heath House with five servants to look after them and their four young daughters.

They were both involved in the work of the church in Bollington. Mr Wanklyn was mentioned in the 'Sentence of Consecration' as having given some land for the building of St Oswald's in 1908, and was one of the first elected sidesmen of the church. He was also a St Oswald's school benefactor and later a Parish Churchwarden. Mrs Wanklyn was President of the Bollington branch of the Mothers' Union, which presented the large leather-bound Book of Common Prayer to St Oswald's on the day of its consecration.

Grace died aged 38 two weeks after the birth of her fifth child, another daughter.

Public sympathy was shown by flags on buildings of Bollington being flown at half-mast. This is how the Macclesfield Courier reported her funeral:

*"She was buried in a plain English oak coffin, conveyed from Turner Heath to the church. A deputation of over-lookers and office employees from Adelphi Mill, lined each side of the footpath leading to the church. A fully choral service was conducted by Revd Broughton and Revd C Brooke Cwynne, a former Vicar of Bollington."*

A tablet was placed in the Bollington Parish church in her memory by the Mothers' Union, where there was later placed a plaque for her nephew, Lt Edgar Wanklyn Cobbold, killed in action in 1916 in World War One.



Connections with her original home had obviously remained strong. A similar memorial window to that in St Oswald's was installed by the same glass maker in the Parish Church in Cheshunt: 'Dedicated to the Glory of God and in loving memory of Grace Wanklyn including the words 'suffer little children'.

After his wife's death John Wanklyn continued his good works. By 1934 he was living at Cheshunt Park from where he visited Bollington to take part in the St Johns Church Centenary celebrations. He died at Cambridge in 1944 and was buried at Prestbury Church with his wife Grace.

C J Ward

## BEER MONEY

Last year the Bollington Beer Festival Committee set aside a proportion of its surplus funds to provide a pool of money for which local groups could bid.



Far left: Stained glass window in St Oswald's church

Left: Head stone of Grace and John Wanklyn in Prestbury

Following the success of this venture we have decided to repeat the exercise again this year. As previously we will be looking to provide up to £1000 for small, discrete standalone projects which seek to help identifiable groups in the community.

The projects should be short and have a fixed timescale of less than one year, but this would not exclude funding the start-up of a project. For example, last year we provided funds to Allsorts Nursery for the provision of a safe undercover play area for children which was part of a larger programme of refurbishment.

We welcome applications from those groups that applied last year but were not funded, however we will not fund a contribution towards a large project such as a major rebuilding programme or anything connected with political parties.

Applications are now open and will close on 10 July 2015. We make our final decision no later than August 2015.

Roland Edwards

An application form is available from [www.bollingtonbeerfestival.co.uk](http://www.bollingtonbeerfestival.co.uk), the Happy Valley website and Town Council website.





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# SHAKESPEARE AND US

In the Easter holidays a group of young people aged from 9 to 16 were busy rehearsing *Romeo and Juliet*.

In just five days they learn all their lines, are taught something about stage craft, voice projection, and sets and they have fun too. They also have a chance to write a part of the script, a small deviation from Shakespeare brought bang up to date with a bit of reality TV.

This is the Great Shakes workshop run by Fiona Penney, and now in its 10th year in Bollington.

I caught up with the young actors during their lunch break to find out about their experiences. I asked why they were working so hard in their holidays and was met by an outburst of overwhelming enthusiasm for what they were doing. 16 year old Cameron has been coming to Great Shakes for 8 years and said, "It's embedded in me it's like a second family. I feel I have to be here, it completes my year." 12 year old Sophie feels much the same as Cameron. "This is like family to a lot of us here because we all grew up here. It's fun to meet up with friends each time."

Nathan is a first timer and one of the younger ones in the group, but coping well with the part of Romeo. "It's not just the acting," he said, "but we play games where you have to learn to trust people and that helps you make friends too and it's fun."

Katie is 14. "We learn a lot of things here but it doesn't feel like learning. Fiona really makes it fun. I mean, we have 9 year olds learning half a page of script in a day, they wouldn't do that at school, now that's awesome."



I did wonder how they all managed to understand the language of Shakespeare and was told that they didn't always but Fiona would explain the meaning of their lines.

There was a general consensus that Great Shakes had given them confidence. Cecilia liked the chances she has had to play many different characters sometimes in the same play. She felt that she has gained in confidence over the years she has been involved in Great Shakes.

Justin pointed out that the performing arts were being phased out in many schools and that acting gave people some important life skills, "somewhere like this, even if it's only once or twice a year can help develop those life skills."

Isabelle was the youngest member of the cast but was one of the first to have learnt all her lines as Juliet, no small feat for a 9 year old. Both she and 12 year old Isabel said that they were doing what they really wanted to do in the holidays. Ethan also really likes Shakespeare and said, "this is where I want to be." Acting is something he would like to develop and get better at.

Listening to these articulate and enthusiastic young people it is clear that they get a lot out of these workshops. They are confident, chatty and full of fun. The performance at the end of the week was word perfect, slick and at times funny. The kids were like seasoned actors. The following week Fiona took on another group, who I am sure were equally proficient and would have enjoyed it just as much.

Sandy Nilsson

Photo (above) *Romeo and Juliet* rehearsals

Fiona Penney runs Great Shakes weeks at Easter in the Arts Centre and the last week in July and first week in August at the Civic Hall for children from 8 to 16



Painting (right); 1890 watercolour of Flash Lane painted by Amy Greg, daughter of Samuel Greg. Image supplied by Tim Boddington

# IN A FLASH

Jane Abdo, the manager of Mount Hall Nursing Home on Flash Lane has, for the past year, been trying to raise awareness about the lack of an adequate speed limit on Flash Lane.

In fact, there is no speed limit (national speed limit applies) on this part of Flash Lane so coming out of Mount Hall Drive onto Flash Lane is very dangerous, and when there are high-speed vehicles approaching, it can be very frightening.

In November last year, Bollington Council monitored the speed of vehicles using the road and found that some of them were unacceptably fast. Jane has also been in correspondence with our MP David Rutley, and he has forwarded her concerns to David Naylor, the Town Clerk. They have also been brought to the attention of Mike Suarez, Chief Executive of Cheshire East Council, but to date nothing has happened.

Jane is particularly concerned about the relatives of residents at the home, who are often elderly themselves, who have to sound their horn loudly to indicate their presence at the junction. The road is also very narrow and without a footpath, so pedestrians are also at risk.

For drivers there is very little warning about the drive turning; a small sign stuck up in a tree indicating elderly people does not seem adequate. Mirrors would help but they have not been approved, or speed bumps, again not approved. It does seem important that something should be done or, as Jane worries, "It is an accident waiting to happen".

Sandy Nilsson

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# HOLLYWOOD IN BOLLINGTON

THE STORY CONTINUES  
PART 3

"So all in all," Candy stopped to catch her breath, "he refused to blink," taking a deeper breath, "to let us have a procession down Palmerston Street. Who does he think he is? He's only a guy in a suit," Candy wheezed as she made the last few steps up to White Nancy.



Suzie, still catching her breath, sat and joined her. "I cannot believe you're still angry at him!" She laughed, "he must have made an impression on you to last this long."

"Don't be ridiculous, I'm just cross about the fact he's a jobsworth and won't listen to reason." Candy leaned against the cool stone of White Nancy. "Though he is quite cute." She smiled, the anger gone from her, "and anyway, I've not finished with him yet."

Later that evening, Candy and Helen met at The Vale. "So Adam actually wants you to try again?" Candy was wide-eyed in disbelief, "after leaving him at the Altar?"

Candy took her sister's hand, "I know, hun. He must really love you if he's willing to forgive you for that. So, what are you going to do?" Helen finished her drink, "I don't know. I just don't know...anyway - what's going on with Darren Monks?"



Candy looked at her sister. "Oh, you mean 'The Suit'? He's going to have to say yes when I give him this little lot!" Candy pulled out a large folder, "I've documented everything: Public Liability Insurance, Risk Assessments, Photo Consent Forms, SRB

Certificate AND letters of support from residents and businesses."

Darren glanced at his watch, trying not to look as nervous as he felt. He truly believed that Ms Chapman had accepted his decision the previous week, but here they were at the Open Town Council meeting and there was she, with her supporters.

"Hi, I'm, er, Candy Chapman but please call me Candy. Look, I don't want to be talking out of place here as Mr Monks and I have already met and have discussed the idea I have for a festival procession down Palmerston Street."

Candy tried to avoid eye contact with Darren but didn't quite make it. "Sorry Darren, er Mr Monks, but I strongly believe that this would be good for Bollington. As you can see, I've got various groups signed up and we have managed to get over 1,700 names." Seeing the approving nods from most of the group, she continued, "Look, I do understand that Mr Monks had reservations about my getting this off the ground but we can't wait - the whole point of the procession is to be involved in the festival! I think you can see that although I haven't done anything like this before, I do have the skills, and certainly the support, to deliver a fun activity the whole town can join in with and am confident that it will be a great day for all of us - particularly the shops in Palmerston street, who, by the way, are all for it!"

Darren realised he had underestimated the strength of belief the town had in this young woman. "I can assure you, Miss Chapman, that I have always had the best interests of our community at heart but you cannot just disregard a council official's decision simply because you do not like what you hear."

The Town Clerk looked kindly at Darren, "And you, Mr Monks cannot disregard the wishes of those who pay our wages. Look at the signatures on that petition; most of Palmerston Street businesses have signed it so what right do you have to speak on their behalf? It seems to me, Mr Monks, that you need to

relax a little and join in the party rather than to fight against it."

The noise in the room became unbearable, with everyone wanting to put their two penn'orth in. The Chair raised her hand "Fine, fine, I think we are all clear now on how everybody stands. I think we need to calm down. This is a local Town Council Meeting, not Jeremy Kyle meets Judge Judy."

Someone whispered "Why don't we have a vote on it?" and in the sudden calm, everyone heard and nodded in agreement.

Photos:  
James Nicholas



**I'M JUST  
CROSS  
ABOUT THE  
FACT HE'S A  
JOBSWORTH  
AND WON'T  
LISTEN TO  
REASON**

"Good, that's settled then. I appreciate your desire to look after the community, Mr Monks, but let's see if the community has a voice of their own. Taking into account the petition, Mr Monk's concerns and the information Miss Chapman has shared, can we have a show of hands please?" It took the Chair less than a second to count the two who abstained "OK, I think that makes it clear, I am sorry Mr Monks but I think on this occasion we have to overturn your decision in the interests of the community. Candy, I would start making preparations!"

In the excitement of the moment, everyone cheered and moved towards Candy to congratulate her. She thanked and smiled and shook hands appropriately but only she noticed a subdued Darren slip out of the room....  
**Debra Tracey**

