

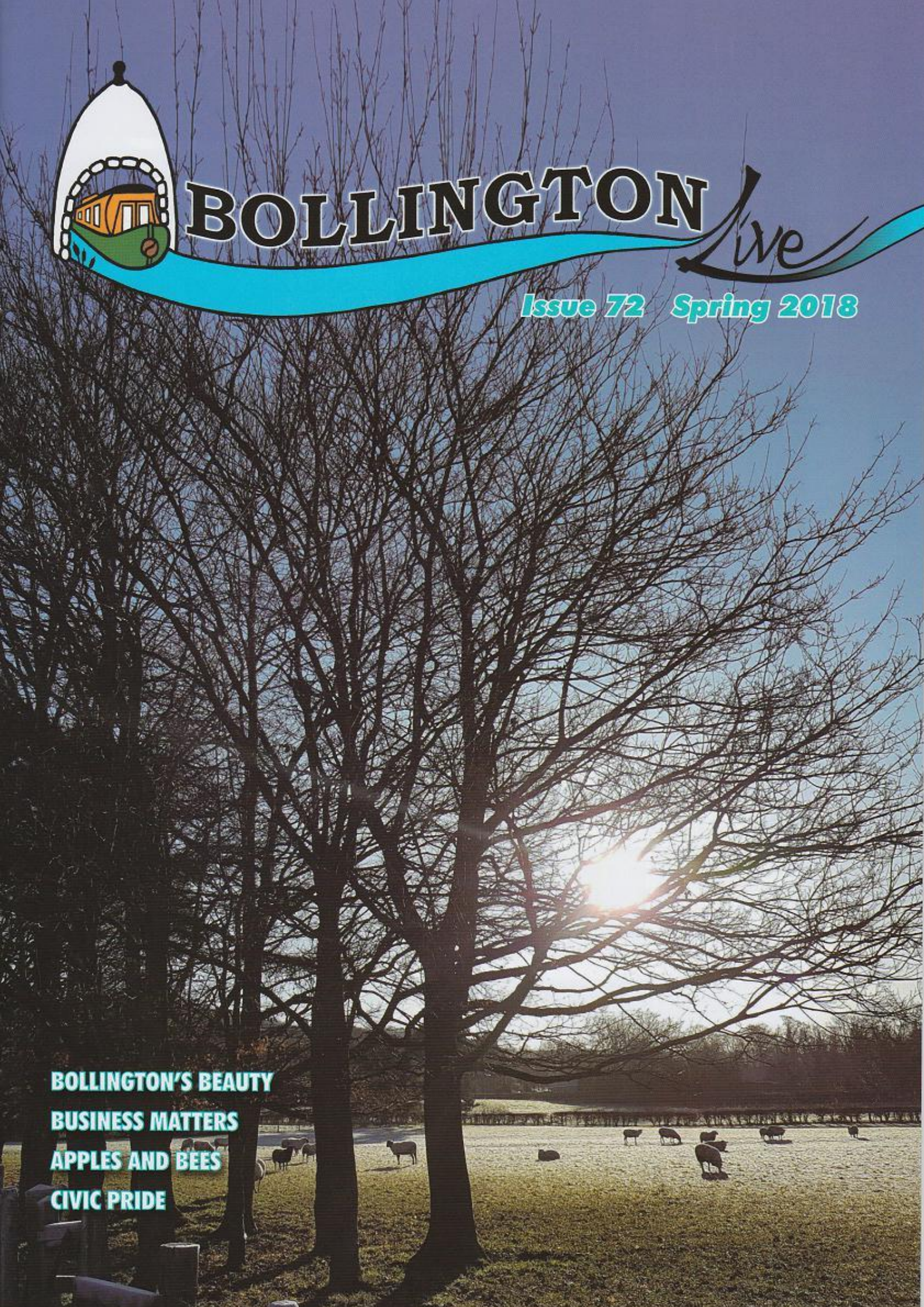


BOLLINGTON

Live

Issue 72 Spring 2018

**BOLLINGTON'S BEAUTY
BUSINESS MATTERS
APPLES AND BEES
CIVIC PRIDE**



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25 years have passed since I set up Holmes Naden Estate Agents and I've hardly noticed the time, except it's obvious when I look in the mirror!

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WEAVING OUR WEB

The new Happy Valley website is now up and running. It has a new Webmaster, Neville Bester, and uses new technology to simplify maintenance.



Neville, with the support of his wife Linda, has spent almost six months converting the old site to the new.

The site also has a new name – www.happyvalley.org.uk – but the old name still works, and you'll be redirected.

The retiring webmaster, Tim Boddington, has not disappeared altogether and Neville, Linda and Tim have reviewed every page and made hundreds of changes, updating and enhancing the whole site.

Do please let the Webmaster know if you find errors or omissions – there is a contact link on every page.

A website is only as good as the quality of its information, and the Happy Valley website is very reliant on up-to-date information from the community.

Tim will continue to work on the history pages, in particular. This work is related to a new digitally-based project for Destination Bollington which we hope to tell you about in the next issue of Bollington Live!

Tim Boddington



LETTER FROM THE EDITOR



In the depths of winter when there is nothing to do in the garden and it is too cold (for me at least!) to go for a walk, then what better than to take my time reading and editing the latest crop of Bollington Live articles. And what a treat we have for you!

So I advise putting your feet up and enjoying fabulous articles and photos from our youngest Bollington residents; our usual selection of Bollington issues, including threatened library closure and on a lighter note learning about bees.

If you have a story you would like to share with us, please do get in touch - we'd love to hear from you, please email me at liveditor@happy-valley.org.uk.

Annette

Photos far left:
Neville Bester and
Tim Boddington

Bottom left:
Screenshot of the
new happyvalley
homepage



Date for
next copy:
**14 May
2018**

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

DEAN VALLEY OUT AND ABOUT

On a cold, crisp November morning, class 6 set out into the countryside around Bollington to explore the beauty of their hometown through its physical and human features.



Using a map, the children navigated through Tinkers Clough and the canal where they stopped to capture spectacular images of the scenery around them.

Inspired by American artist, Ansel Adams, the children were able to capture creative photographs of Adelphi Mill reflected upon the canal in the winter sunlight. Then it was onwards and upwards to the iconic White Nancy, where children enjoyed a hot chocolate. As they sat and admired the view from above, they made notes on what it was that made Bollington so truly beautiful and considered how lucky they were to call it home.

Returning to school along Wellington Road, the children were able to explore buildings and businesses which make the town so appealing.

Photo below:
Koray Alkaya



Stopping off at 'The Rec' for a game of football and a play on the park was also an essential part of the trip carefully planned by the children. Once back at school, children spent time creatively writing a piece entitled 'The Beauty of Bollington' choosing their own format and ideas. They also used their photographs (see front cover) which truly captured both the spirit and beauty of Bollington and also the spirit of the photographer they were imitating to create abstract art.

Casey McDermott / Caroline Batson

The Beauty of Bollington! by Koray Alkaya (age 10)

Bollington, the child-friendly place that is a must see little village, which welcomes every one young or old. Even though it's small, its attractive landmarks make it seem like paradise.

On Thursday 30 November 2017, Year 6 pupils from Dean Valley set off on a quest to walk around the Happy Valley. During their walk, they passed local residents and landmarks taking in the natural beauty of Bollington.

Walking down Albert road, the children stared in amazement at the frost and snow that covered the buildings. There it was; a beautiful winter wonderland. The amazing woodland that is Tinkers Clough was a stunning location to visit.

As the sun shone its rays amongst the trees, the sights were incredible to witness. The group simply had to take photographs there. The trickle of the stream that flowed from one side to another brought relaxation to all. A cup of hot chocolate made us feel warm inside and ready to venture to the canal.

Upon the bridge, we looked along the icy canal. The Adelphi Mill reflected in the water. This gave the pupils another good photo opportunity while they stood there and appreciated what they had. The mills

provide many jobs for our community and are significant to Bollington's true beauty.

Upon a hill is White Nancy, a local landmark that attracts everyone from Rainow to Hurdsfield. At the top of the hill you can look over the beautiful village or sit down and take a break from walking whilst your child runs around - beware though it's cold in the winter. Many of the children took photos of the stunning views. Excitement came to all as they slid down the hill from White Nancy. Walkers need to be really careful when walking up to and down from White Nancy in the winter, it can be really slippery.

The recreation ground is enclosed by trees and has wild life from squirrels to birds. This is a perfect place for your child and another must-see destination.

It is used for all the local sports such as football, cricket and rugby.

Popular with residents both young and old, it is locally known as the Rec. You will always see someone walking their dog and they are sure to stop and say 'Hello,' to you. Across from this is the Rec's Park and a few ramps to skate on. It is another popular hangout for teenagers. One student quoted, 'This is the perfect place to bring your child to play if they're bored.'

So whether you're looking for a place to visit, or even stay, Bollington is the place for you! This beautiful village is both welcoming and friendly to all with a vibrant, warm community spirit.

Not only is it situated in a natural, wonderful landscape, but this beauty is enhanced by the people living there.



GUIDING OUR GIRLS

After girls crashed the first Boy Scout Rally in 1909 and asked Lord Robert Baden Powell to 'Do something for the girls!', one of the earliest Guide companies was opened in Bollington.

Since those early days national Guiding has grown to be the leading organisation for girls and young women, with some half a million members supported by 100,000 volunteers.

In Bollington we cater for all the sections: two Rainbow units for girls aged 5 to 7, two Brownie units for girls aged 7 to 10, two Guide units for girls aged 10 to 14 and a Senior Section unit which caters for the 14- to 18-year-olds.

Our thanks go to Bollington Initiative Trust (BIT), which, every week, enables 150 girls to enjoy all the activities on offer and learn skills for life amongst their friends at the Water Street Centre.



The programme is still based on the Guide Promise and Law, but has developed to keep up with changing times. Over the years outdoor activities have always been the most enjoyed, with camp being the favourite. We are fortunate to have qualified climbing instructors who take guides climbing and abseiling, and we also have a dedicated water team who provide canoeing and sailing experiences for Brownies and Guides. One Guide enjoyed a week on the Tall Ships challenge.

Being part of an international movement means that we have the opportunity to take part in events and camps in foreign countries. Girls from Bollington have helped refurbish schools in the Gambia, helped in orphanages in Ghana and done volunteer work in Sri Lanka. They have experienced camping in



*To learn more
about Girlguiding
in Bollington,
contact
Heather Cann*

**Tel: 01625 574489,
Mob: 07801
751516**

**heathercann0104
@gmail.com**

California, Germany, Ireland and Tasmania. To achieve their goals on these trips the girls have to raise the necessary funds to take part, and this again helps them grow in confidence as they tackle different ways to raise funds.

Closer to home, Brownies have slept overnight on the ballroom floor at Blackpool Tower and enjoyed the entertainments provided. Guides have camped on the lawn at Alton Towers and, after an early breakfast, were able to go on the rides before the park opened to the public.

Girlguiding UK puts on a Big Gig each year in large arenas around the country where acts such as Ed Sheeran, The Wanted, Louisa Johnson, Labyrinth and The Vamps have performed. Places like Wembley Arena are filled twice over at the two shows put on especially for Guides. When we have taken girls it gives them a real sense of how large Guiding is when they see girls like them from all over the country. Even the leaders have been spotted jumping up and down to the music amongst 10,000 screaming girls.

We take part in the Bollington Festival parades and were filmed in the Bollington movie. We made scarecrows depicting scientific advances during the last festival. We support the Civic and Remembrance services, the Bikefest and the Christmas Lights Switch-On.

There are still girls on the waiting list to join and we would welcome volunteers to come along and



join in the fun. No experience is necessary – comprehensive training is provided – all you need is enthusiasm and a desire to work with the girls and young women.

If you can't commit to regular meetings, maybe you have a skill which you could share. The programme caters for a huge range of subjects for which the girls can achieve badges. **Heather Cann**



"THINGS I LOVE"

I love my Mum because she is always happy and she uses things as a microphone when we are cooking.

I love hot chocolate because it tastes really nice, and I like warm things. I love running because I always play races with my best friend at school.

I love Glastonbury because it is really fun. I love my school because I have a really funny friend and a nice teacher. I love my Wii because it is special – our friends gave it to me. I love my Dad because he won a boxing match.

Emerson Hall (age 6)





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BOLLINGTON PRE-SCHOOL

Bollington Pre-school was established over 30 years ago, initially based in the Methodist Church. In 2012 we moved into the Water Street Centre under a tenancy at will with Cheshire East.

Over the following years we worked with Bollington Initiative Trust (BIT) to secure the asset transfer of the building. In 2015 this transfer was secured, and a long-term lease was granted, giving us much needed stability.

As a registered charity our aim is to ensure that families in Bollington can access government-funded childcare for children aged 2–5, with no additional charges. The Pre-school has a Trustee Board of 8 people and employs 17 staff from the local area. The staff team



– many of whom are parents themselves – are passionate about delivering high-quality childcare, and the majority of staff have achieved childcare qualifications or are training to do so.

‘The setting is fully inclusive and children who have special educational needs and disabilities are particularly well supported. Key persons are very dedicated to helping families. They work very well with other professionals to make sure children receive the care and support they need.’

OFSTED, JANUARY 2017

Over the last few years, the Pre-school has been very grateful to receive grant funding from Cheshire East Community Grant Scheme, the Bollington Beer Festival fund and the Co-op Community Grant Fund. These funds, along with money raised from various fundraising events hosted by Pre-school members, have allowed us to create a fantastic multi-sensory room at the Centre.

The Pre-school is dedicated to providing a space for all families within the local community to



meet, socialise and join in activities together. We are again working with Bollington Initiative Trust to raise funds to help secure the long-term future of the Centre as a vital community facility.

We are currently looking for volunteers so we can open at weekends for family stay-and-play sessions, and would also like volunteers to join the family hub working group.

If you are interested in enhancing facilities for families in Bollington and can help in any way, please call 01625 400128 or email info@bollingtonpreschool.org.uk. The Pre-school is dedicated to the safeguarding of all children, and any volunteers would be subject to relevant DBS checks. Full training will be provided. **Shirley Sugden**

CIVIC PRIDE

Bollington Civic Society is the strongest independent voice in Bollington speaking on key elements in local and national government policy that affect the town.

The Society is here for everybody, and all residents who appreciate our town's unique industrial heritage and care for its rural surroundings should become members. So, if you love Bollington and want to preserve the best aspects of our town and enhance it for the future, please give serious consideration to joining.

Annual membership costs £7 and we meet every third Monday at the Bollington Community Centre, Ovenhouse Lane, from September to May, and in June this year we

NEXT MEETING

19th March,
7.30pm

Bollington
Community
Centre

are considering reviving the Wakes Week custom of a jolly day out in Blackpool, courtesy of the Blackpool Heritage Society, who promise to give us a good time.

Bollington Live! is an excellent community publication and the Civic Society is delighted and proud to be asked to contribute a regular column to the magazine.

There are two key issues for Bollington's future at the moment, in the hands of Cheshire East.

The first issue is the number of houses they will want to be built in Bollington between 2010 and 2030. Will it be 300? Will it be 400? Will it be 450? We have to take our ‘fair share’ of the 3,500

houses the Local Plan allocates to ‘Local Service Centres’. Bollington is the biggest of 13.

Secondly, how much, if any, of our surrounding rural countryside so valued by residents will Cheshire East demand to be removed from the Green Belt? Bollington Civic Society supports the strong policies in the Neighbourhood Plan to protect our town from overdevelopment.

By joining us you can help in that great endeavour. Come to our next meeting, at Bollington Community Centre to hear more about plans for Bollington. **Ken Edwards**

BOLLINGTON 4 BUSINESS

A cold town in north-east Scotland known only for a declining jute industry, marmalade and publishing the Beano became the gaming app centre of the world. Yes – Dundee is where 'Grand Theft Auto' and 'Minecraft' were born.

Why is Shoreditch in London the centre of digital creation in the UK? Why not Bollington? After all, the climate is warmer than Dundee and beautiful countryside is pretty scarce in Shoreditch.

It seems that the answer is people and, in this fast-moving digital age, the exchange of ideas.

I doubt that we would want Bollington to expand massively owing to the influx of new technical industries, but Bollington needs enterprise and space to avoid becoming a dormitory town – well, perhaps not that much space – but the exchange of ideas definitely helps creativity, to the mutual benefit of all.

In fact, Bollington actually has a forum for this. The very enterprising Susan Coen has set up Busi-Bollies (www.facebook.com/Busi.Bollies), a group which meets to exchange ideas, which could easily become

a platform for more focused programmes of achievement. However, good meeting places are needed for ideas to be transformed into reality. How does all this happen elsewhere?

Start-up businesses are always very exciting, and it has never been as cheap to start up a business as now. A website and good WiFi to create and distribute the ideas and do the marketing are basic requirements, together with legal and accounting expertise.

Many of these things can be carried out by working at home, but for a really good exchange of ideas people need to meet outside the domestic environment.

In larger towns and cities, there has been an increase in 'co-working' spaces – these provide central resources such as photocopying and meeting rooms, without the need to commit to a long, expensive lease, yet with the ability to expand, together with communal refreshment areas to make informal networking easy.

Space and enterprising entrepreneurs and/or benefactors are required – are there any ideas out there?

What we do have in Bollington are numerous cafés with free WiFi, all ideal meeting places. After all, the biggest insurance market in the world began in a coffee house called Lloyd's in London. I bet they did not have the variety or quality of coffee that we can indulge in at Café Waterside, No. 74, Greens or The Lime Tree, and these have suitable spaces to meet, drink, eat and have fun in as well. They are ready to be used.

There are moves afoot to provide practical help to start-up businesses and ways of providing funding for new and existing ones, as well as getting the message across that 'Bollington is good for business'; so watch this space! **Andrew Roberts**

THE SKYZACK'S THE LIMIT

In line with the article above on encouraging local business in Bollington, it seemed fitting to speak with local resident Jim Tyzack, who runs a not-for-profit digital marketing business support club called Skyzack.

www.skyzack.uk



This venture is to help local people who are setting up a business and those who already run one with all things digital; from websites to creative content to email marketing to social media and more.

Their flyers represent the community support team perfectly – they are unique (I was very taken by the curved edges!), friendly and they keep it clear and simple.

I was lucky to meet the team; who are clearly really sharp on their expertise and also brimming with a love for the job they do. It's a really welcoming office, not least because they allowed me to rock up with

a hungry 6 year old and made him feel at home whilst I asked questions and scribbled away.

So for anyone who wants to become digital, who wants to go paperless or is looking for creative content design, there is a fellow Bollingtonian with his team to support you to learn the ropes and manage these things confidently by yourself or on your behalf.

Hannah Atkin

ART AT THE CLARENCE

In the last edition of Bollington Live! we introduced new businesses that had opened at the Clarence Mill. In this magazine it is a pleasure to welcome another one. On December 2nd Jason and Jessica Oakes opened a new studio in the Mill.

I met Jason at their beautiful shop. They had been looking to open an extension of their Manchester Studio and, as the couple are Bollington residents and a suitable space became available in the Mill, Bollington was a perfect choice of location.

'Britain has a long history of producing beautiful things,' says



Jason, 'things that pass down the generations.' The studio will focus on artists and artisans working in the north. It is called Northern Makes, and Jason and Jessica's wonderful space contains the work of several artists producing interesting and artistic objects.

They have developed the studio into a lovely spacious and light



Photo above:
Jason and Jessica Oakes

room ideal for displaying art. In the centre of the room is a stunning dining table made from concrete, and in the window a coffee table, polished concrete that looks like marble.

The studio exhibits and sells the work of many up and coming artists, like Dave Goodwin who

won the Manchester Art Battle, Champion of Champions.

There is also a range of skilfully crafted items:- beautiful leather bags by Katherine Edwards, hand-cut and stitched; lovely copper bowls by Stephanie Hopkins; and some stunning pottery by Sally Sarah Titterton. On the walls are paintings by Lily Greenwood, a 'Saatchi on line artist', billed as one to watch. Jessica's own paintings are also for sale.

All the art work on display is for sale, including a lovingly restored workbench.

Jason and Jessica are on Facebook and have an on-line shop at www.northernmakes.com, but it is such a pleasure to visit and look at many interesting things in the studio. This is a new retail outlet for Bollington and we wish them well.

Sandy Milsom

CLEANER WINDOWS



Luke Stevenson
07847 452552

When asked for ideas for this edition of Bollington Live, I couldn't neglect the fact that my window cleaner Luke not only hires himself out as a wedding singer but also has a remarkable story involving his self-crafted bespoke limousine - come - mobility - scooter...

After an unfortunate event that saw him car-less, Luke was determined not to be defeated in keeping his local window cleaning business going. He set to work on how he could transport several barrels of water around and came up with the design of the 'stretch mobility scooter'; which allowed him to continue working, whilst also rocking a unique style of vehicle.

It fitted 6 barrels nicely but the downside was the battery life... it was a mere 4 miles before it conked out - a risk that led to the daily

fear of potentially being stranded alongside the dual carriageway, with the only realistic option of him getting back home involving a tow truck, or crane.

Luke is now safely reunited with a car and back on the main roads, free from high viz jackets and head torches. His value for money is equally as amazing as his tales of survival; he does a superb job of cleaning the windows, and if you ask him nicely he will belt out an excellent version of Dean Martin. In fact, he was so good that I hired him for a friend's birthday as a singing telegram and she was delighted (we got Bruno Mars too - much to the joy of my son).

Thank you for a great service, Luke - here's to hoping to get to entertain more of the Happy Valley residents as you make their windows sparkly clean.

Hannah Atkin

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DON'T SWAT THAT WASP!

I am a beekeeper! I love bees. Observing them. Studying how they react. Seeing which flowers they are working links me with the natural world. They are fascinating. And when you understand how important they are to our eco-structure, then learning how to care for them is so much more important.

Honey bees are the responsibility of the beekeeper, who knows what to do to help them thrive. Colonies are headed by a queen who is tended by workers. And, all being well, queens can live for several years. So that means the colony survives too.

When the queen eventually starts to fail, the bees make a new queen who stays in the hive. The old queen will then leave, with half the workers, to find somewhere else to live. This is called a swarm and sometimes you will see them clustered together on a branch, resting before they find somewhere more appropriate. If you see a swarm, contact the beekeeper. They will know what to do. The local vets can put you in touch with one.

Bumble bees and wasps have a slightly different lifestyle.

Queens are produced in the summer. They mate and are ready to produce young, but usually not until the next year. They find places to hibernate until the weather warms up in early spring and then find somewhere to make their nest. Queens lay the first eggs and care for them until they emerge as adult workers. From then onwards the queens stay in the nest, laying eggs and leaving the workers to forage for food. This allows the colony to grow in size.



Depending on the species, at the height of the summer, bumble bee colonies will have between 50 and

400 individuals. The average wasp nest holds between 3,000 and 6,000. Honey bee colonies can have as many as 75,000!

No one usually notices bumble-bee and wasp nests until they are stumbled upon. Tidying up the garden means that they are found under sheds, or in compost heaps. People start to panic and reach for methods of extermination.

BUT THINK!

They sting, yes. It hurts, I know – but unless you are allergic, it is not life-threatening. And they will only sting you if you threaten them. So think. Why would they sting you?

Honey bees and bumble bees are only interested in food from flowers. You don't taste good to them. So if you are 'buzzed' they are soon going to realise that they have made a mistake and will move on.



Wasps are omnivorous. They pollinate flowers but they also eat caterpillars, greenfly, weevils, etc. They are an all-natural pesticide!

In late summer wasps can become a nuisance if you are enjoying a picnic. Worker wasps are at their highest numbers at this time of year and they adore eating anything sugary, particularly jam and beer! When they start to pester, the worst thing you can do is to wave your arms about and try to scare them away, as this seems to attract more wasps and makes it more likely that they will sting you. The best thing to do is place a plate of jam or glass of beer a short distance away from you. The wasps will quickly discover this and should soon stop pestering you.

Please recognise that bees and wasps are a vital part of our world. They do not have their own keeper



Photos by
Janet Beech:

Bottom left: A
Queen wasp

Left: Bumble bee
on a dandelion

Above:
Honey bees on a
honey comb

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BUMBLE
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TASTE GOOD
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between a wasp and a bee?
And could you tell a bumble
bee from a honey bee?**

Wasps

Mainly hairless. Slim. They have yellow and black bands on their abdomen.

Honey bees

Small, brown, striped with darker brown. Look for them on flowers in your garden, collecting large pollen loads on their legs. About the same size as wasp but a little fatter.

Bumble bees

Large and covered in hair. Rather rounded in shape. Often have mainly dark bands of colours. Each species have different colours on their rumps, such as white, orange, yellow, etc. They have a distinct buzz when they fly past.

like honey bees. We need to allow them safe habitats to survive. If they choose to live under the eaves of your house over your door, remember that they have probably been there since early spring without you noticing. They did not bother you before you became aware of their proximity!

And bumble-bee and wasp colonies will die with the first frost. Then everything starts again with new queens next year.

So, please, don't swat that wasp.

Janet Beech



BOLLINGTON *live*

To include your event, please e-mail: livedates@happy-valley.org.uk

March

Friday 9th - 8.30pm

Jinski at Bolly Folk Club

Dog & Partridge online at bollyfolk.com

Saturday 10th - 2pm to 4pm

Bollington Horticultural Society & Flower Club 52nd Spring Show

Civic Hall Mrs J Burton 572668

Saturday 10th - 7.30pm

4Square Folk Music

Arts Centre £10 online

Monday 12th - 6.30pm

Scibar Talk - Clouds & Thunderstorms

Dr Clive Saunders Vale Inn Free

Thursday 15th - 7.30pm

Bollington Horticultural Society Tasty Tomatoes - David Thornton

Community Centre

Member: £1.50 non member: £3

Sunday 18th - 2.30pm

By Bicycle to Bollington - Music Theatre

Arts Centre £7, children £3 online

Friday 23rd - 8.30pm

Rosewood at Bolly Folk Club

Dog & Partridge online at bollyfolk.com

Saturday 24th 10am to 4pm

Spring Fair

Bridgend Centre Free 576311

Saturday 24th - 8pm

The Fitzwilliam Quartet

Arts Centre £17.50, students £2 online

Saturday 31st - 8pm

Slide by Slide

Jazz at the Arts Centre £10 online

April

Friday 6th - 8.15pm

Bolly Comedy Club

Arts Centre £10 online

Monday 9th - 2pm

Make, Do and Bop! - Family Show

Arts Centre £6 Online

Monday 9th - 6.30pm

Scibar Talk - Investigating poisoning

Ian Watson Vale Inn Free

Friday 13th - 8.30pm

Mark Dowding at Bolly Folk Club

Dog & Partridge online at bollyfolk.com

Saturday 14th - 9.30am

Singing Day - Choral Music

Arts Centre £15, students £5 Online

Saturday 14th - 7.30pm

Rock n Roll night

In aid of Marie Curie

Civic Hall £15 from Belfields Bakery

Thursday 19th - 7.30pm

Bollington Horticultural Society -

Agapanthus, tulbagis & clivia

Community Centre

Member: £1.50 non member: £3

Saturday 21st - 10.30am

Arts Centre Open Day

Come and see what activities take place at the Arts Centre Free

Saturday 21st - 7.30pm

Capriccio Choir Concert

In aid of the ALEX project - St Oswald's

Church £10, u18 free on the door

val_vernon@yahoo.co.uk 07882 368167

Saturday 21st - 8pm

The Doric String Quartet

Arts Centre £17.50, students £2 online

Friday 27th - 2pm

Bad Girls and Bonnets

Jane Austen's guide to being brazen

Arts Centre £10 online

Friday 27th - 7.30pm

Climate Change

John King will discuss 'Is it as simple as it seems' Arts Centre £5 online

Saturday 28th - 8pm

Jazz - The Wabash Jazzmen

Arts Centre £10 online

May

Friday 4th - 8.15pm

Bolly Comedy Club

Arts Centre £10 online

3 PEAKS FELL RACE

Saturday 5th MAY - 2pm

Bollington Brewing Co.

9km route

Online registration only -

www.bollingtonbrewing.co.uk

Friday 4th - 8.30pm

Fraser Nimmo at Bolly Folk Club

Dog & Partridge online at bollyfolk.com

Saturday 12th - 7.30pm

Bollington Brass Band Charity Concert

Arts Centre £8 u18 £2 online

Sunday 13th May 10am to 4pm

Plant Hunters' Fair

Adlington Hall £3

Monday 14th - 6.30pm

Scibar Talk - Radiochemistry

Professor Steve Liddle Vale Inn Free

Thursday 17th

Bollington Horticultural Society

Vegetable inspirations - Sally Smith

Community Centre

Member: £1.50 non member: £3

Friday 18th - 7.30pm

Festival Fundraiser - A Literary Quiz

Arts Centre £20 per team inc cake register with Sandy Milsom 573850

Friday 18th - 8.30pm

Maggie Holland at Bolly Folk Club

Dog & Partridge online at bollyfolk.com

Saturday 19th - 8pm

John Burgess and Jamie Brownfield

Jazz at the Arts Centre £10 online

June

Friday 2nd - 7.30pm

Bob Paisley - Quiet Genius

Evening with biographer Ian Herbert

Arts Centre £10 online

Saturday 16th - 7pm

Summer Supper & Music

Fundraiser with bubbly & canapes

Arts Centre £25 online

Friday 15th - 8.30pm

Les Barker at Bolly Folk Club

Dog & Partridge online at bollyfolk.com

Monday 25th to Friday 29th

Well Dressing - Please help us!

Join us to help make the displays ready.

Opening Ceremony by the Mayor elect.

Saturday 30th June at 11.30am

Greg Fountain, Flash Lane

Anne Swindell 575753

Friday 29th - 8.30pm

Doc Harvey & the Philistans at Bolly Folk Club

Dog & Partridge online at bollyfolk.com

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

THE BRIDGEND CENTRE

Community kitchen, IT suite
& charity shop

Mon-Fri 10am-4.30pm
Saturday 10am-1pm

Monday

10.30am Mindfulness
1pm Jewellery making
2pm Talk and Games (TaG)

Tuesday

10.30 Craft club
11.30am Reading group
(once a month)
1.30pm Art club

Wednesday

10.15am Guided walk
2pm Mahjong
2.15pm Creative writing

Thursday

10.15am Yoga
11am Reading group (weekly)

Friday

10.30am Choir
1.30pm Musical tots

MONTHLY EVENTS

Love Bollington Market

2nd Sunday of the month
10am-3pm, see Facebook page

White Nancy Breakfast Club

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

Sip & Knit

2nd Wednesday
8pm Vale Inn Free 575147

Car Wash

Alternate Wednesday
10.00am-1.45pm
Recreation Ground £2.50

Knit and Natter

2nd & 4th Thursday 2-4pm
Mount Hall Nursing home Free



Arts Centre tickets:

www.bollingtonartscentre.org.uk

NAME THAT LAMB

Last year Helen and Stephen Sheldon and Chris and Carolyn Thompson raised well over £5,500 for Prostate Cancer UK, and provided Bollingtonians with some laughs along the way, as their 'Name the Lamb' fundraiser saw little lambs gambolling about the fields with all sorts of names sprayed on them!

This year's lambing season is about to start, and they are doing the 'Name the Lamb' again when lambing starts in February. In return for a minimum donation of £5 via the Just Giving page (<https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/namethelamb>), your lamb will receive your chosen name and a photo of it will be posted on Facebook



Last year's fundraiser was a huge success, and they look forward to you joining in the fun this year as well. Thank you.

Chris Thompson/ Helen Sheldon

Contact Helen Sheldon on 01625 576429

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THE RANDOM APPLE COMPANY

Part of our heritage, cultivated apples are arguably the cornerstone of the English fruit producing industry, and their place in our national history goes back to the arrival in ancient Britain of the Romans. Wild apples can be traced back further, over 5,000 years, and feature heavily in Druidic and Celtic lore.

In Arthurian legend it is said that the meaning of the word Avalon is 'isle of apples'. Our very own Avalon, then, must be Swanscoe, situated at the far end of Kerridge ridge. This beautiful corner of the hill is home to The Random Apple Company, managed by Sarah Simpson. 'Apples originated in Kazakhstan' says Sarah, 'and the view is that their popularity moved along the trading routes at the time, dispersing around the world. We have created our own apple haven at the end of the Silk Road!'

Launched in 2014, the company set its roots down in The Appery at Shrigley Fold in Swanscoe, and by a miracle, daughter Lily arrived on National Apple Day that year.

'The Fold is the family home,' explains Sarah. 'It had a quite cankerous orchard at the top of the drive which had been cut down years ago to make room for livestock. However, a couple of pairs of ancient trees remained. My husband Robert suggested we take on the field and replant the trees. At the time we had got into foraging and had met people with

If you have apple trees and would like to get the juice bottled, Sarah Simpson can be contacted at The Random Apple Company, Shrigley Fold, Swanscoe on 07742 678873

fruit trees. We had a small juicer and invited them to juice and share! It was going to take some years for our apple trees to start fruiting, but by the second year, thanks to word of mouth and door knocking if we noticed apples going to waste, we had processed 7 tonnes, and in 2017 the figure was close to 10 tonnes.'

The company now has over 180 trees and has branched out to include hard and soft fruits alongside the apples. In 3 years' time the Swanscoe trees will be in full production, and Sarah estimates an output of 20 tonnes from them alone. The Simpson's passion for their vocation is not limited to the business and they are now able to provide consultations and help other people plant orchards on what would otherwise be wasted land by making recommendations based on what is working at Swanscoe. Since



last year, six orchards have been set up within a two mile radius, with about eight trees per orchard.

HONEY

One of the key factors in the success of the Swanscoe orchards has been the role that diversity has played in establishing a wildlife habitat wherein the trees provide food for birds and pollinators. Fertilisers are not used and pest control is carried out carefully without the use of chemicals. With Spring comes the apple blossom, and at Shrigley Fold this is the most exciting time of year for some buzzing orchard residents.



Mike Couzens (photo below) of Hillbrook Apiaries manages his set of bee hives within the orchard. In 2016 his parents had asked about bees in the orchard when they brought apples to be juiced, and they put Sarah in touch with their son. As a beekeeper he finds unusual locations, as organic as possible, where there is plenty of pollen. Like Sarah, Mike is also very dedicated to the symbiotic relationship between the trees and the wildlife, and is helping to establish a wildflower meadow to encourage more pollinators and strengthen the biodiversity, creating a food source for the pollinating insects that will last beyond the apple blossom.



HARVEST

During summer the bookings begin to come in from other growers in the area who make use of the juicing and bottling facilities at The Random Apple Company. Across Bollington and the surrounding



MY DAY AT THE APPLERY

Spending a day at The Applery was, for me, like being transported into the pages of an old hardback Enid Blyton novel.

After a ramble along the old streets of Macclesfield and along the canal towpath, the group I was with arrived at Swanscoe mid-morning to the sound of birds singing in the hedgerows. Immediately we were greeted by Sarah and Robert outside The Applery and after an entertaining introduction were put to work in the sunshine at the apple washing and juicing stations. Our mentor at the wash tubs was Robert's father Keith who knew his apples! He showed us what to look for in a good apple, and how to identify insect boreholes and dodgy apples. Any apples that don't make the grade are not wasted – they go for animal feed, so we had to ensure they went into a holding tub.

We each then had a go at juicing the washed apples inside the The Applery on the hand pressing unit; it's not as strenuous a job as it looks – to start off with! The vat soon filled with blended juice, and the smell was incredible; the rich apple scent percolates into your senses, lands on your taste buds and fills your lungs with the gorgeous aroma! We were shown round the orchard and learnt about the different trees, their heritage and care, and the selection process that Sarah and Robert go through to determine what varieties will be best suited to their orchard. By this time we were all ready for a hearty lunch, followed by apple pie and all served with – of course – lashings of fresh apple juice.

H. Wright

area anyone who has an apple tree bearing fruit is welcome to bring their harvest for processing.

Customers taking their apples for juicing include the landowners of Bollington's Community Garden and Savio House. Because the operation is inherently intensive there is a huge incentive for local residents to bring their harvest in for bottling – apples that would otherwise be lost as windfalls or simply left unutilised.

As payment, the company retains 50% of the juice and the customer takes away a good healthy supply of their own bottled juice, fresh or pasteurised, and with no added sugar!

Even the local school has got involved; St Johns C of E Primary



School has four apple trees and the reception children have learnt all about the growing and juicing process, and enjoyed taking part in the selection, squashing and squeezing of the apples. Sarah decided to look at inviting local schools as part of the Farm to Fork initiative – or 'branch to bottle' as it fits the operation.

On select days during the harvest season, the company welcomes visitors and organised groups, and in 2017 The Applery was featured in the Bollington Walking Festival as a stop on one of the Bridgend walks that included a tour and a hands-on experience of the juicing process.



The apples don't fall far from the trees....

All fruit is hand-pressed and bottled fresh or pasteurised with nothing added except vitamin C. The resultant delicious blend is always seasonal, dependent only on the supply of their own and local growers, and is on sale across the area – including Bollington's very own No. 74 Delicatessen.

Manager Jackie has been stocking the apple juice since opening in July



2016. 'I had heard of The Random Apple Company so I approached them when I was sourcing products.

My priority is to sell a great quality product from a local supplier, so we stock their apple juice plus various jams and syrups from 'The Kitchen, Swanscoe' range.'

No.74 customers look for local – and at No.74, local is on the menu, with The Random Apple



Company sharing shelf space with Fruits of the Forage, Happy Valley Honey, Bollypuds, Bollypots and Kickback Coffee – all produced in the Bollington area. **H Wright**





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CELEBRATING LIFE

Once a social taboo, more and more people are now beginning to openly discuss and plan their own end of life experiences, including their funeral. There are also those who want a natural resting place for themselves or their loved ones.

Residents of Bollington and surrounding areas are now very fortunate to have a couple who, through their own personal experience, have developed such a funeral service. This couple is Mark and Tricia Simpkin. Mark and his family moved into the area when he was at primary school age. Tricia was born further afield in Kirby, Liverpool. However, they came to live in the Bollington area in 1999.

Both continue to have successful careers in television and the media and, although they had no previous experience in the field of bereavement, the fairly recent death of Tricia's mum, Sue, prompted them to make a life-changing decision. Sue, who had terminal cancer, was able to describe in great detail her wishes to be laid at rest in a natural burial ground. She very much wanted to be near her family but research showed there was nowhere locally that could fulfil her wishes.

Following some extensive planning, just over a year ago Mark and Tricia opened the Adlington Memorial Park; 26 acres within the Adlington Hall Estate. Here they have developed a private and natural burial ground located within the stunningly beautiful grounds. Individual plots are set amongst wild flowers and bordered by trees and hedges. The Park itself is a place of peace and reflection—simple and serene.

Families can choose a burial, ash interment or to scatter the ashes of a loved one within the peaceful grounds. The flora and fauna on site receive minimal maintenance to encourage naturalisation, thus providing ideal habitats for wildlife.

Trees, wooden memorial benches and bird boxes are allowed to personalize and mark the grave or area where the ashes have been placed. The couple have forged

close links with local church clergy and also with Adlington Hall and Shrigley Hotel and Spa, where bereaved families and relatives can stay and gather before or after the interment.

Only one burial service is held at a time, giving family and friends all the time, space and privacy they need as they come together to remember and celebrate the life of the departed.

Mark and Tricia are aware that the demand for such a site will continue to grow with current pressure on local cemeteries. However, they ensure their prices are competitive and there is no annual charge, and scattering for under 16s is free.

INDIVIDUAL PLOTS ARE SET AMONGST WILD FLOWERS AND BORDERED BY TREES AND HEDGES

There is also no 'out of area' charge as with some other cemeteries.

Most who choose this site are from the local area but people have been interred here from as far afield as Bristol, Rochdale and Bury.

During the relatively short time the memorial park has been open, Mark and Tricia have already identified a need for bereavement counselling and are looking to develop this service in the future. However, Mark and Tricia strongly believe that the only way for people to find out about what the site can offer is to come to meet them personally and to see the Park at first hand.

This sympathetic and warm couple can help people through every aspect of the end of life experience and take away the stresses not only on the families who have been bereaved but also on those who may wish to plan for their own burial.

Kate Gooding

**To enquire, phone 01625 578496 or
email: enquiries@adlingtonmemorialpark.co.uk**

HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY



The new programme for Bollington Horticultural Society is now out.

Apart from interesting monthly talks, visits are planned to some Cheshire gardens. The highlight of this year's programme is an overnight visit to Holland to see the bulb-fields.

This year, the 52nd Spring Show is to be held on Saturday 10 March from 2-4pm. Anyone can enter the numerous classes, including bulbs, flower-arranging, cookery and wine-making, photography and handicrafts.

Help your children or grandchildren to put an entry in the children's classes. They will have fun creating their entry and be proud to see it exhibited and maybe win a prize certificate or a cup.

Joyce Burton



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We have a dedicated caring and experienced team and also have a full time early years teacher to ensure your child is ready for the next big step of school.

The nursery has lovely spacious rooms and a large secure garden.

The nursery is a family concern, already having an established and very well regarded nursery in Cheadle, Stockport, most of the children starting at Bollington have come via personal recommendation.



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Email: bollington@nurseryrhymesnursery.co.uk

Telephone: 01625 573233

www.nurseryrhymesnursery.co.uk

BOLLINGTON BY...

Steve Barnett has lived in Bollington for most of his life; now retired he has many happy memories of his life in Happy Valley.

Where was your first home?

Water Street, but when I was about two we were allocated a new council house at Bollington Cross. We were there for about fifteen years, then my parents bought a house at Hill View Avenue. They remained there until they died. I lived in Macclesfield for about six years but came back to Bollington.

Where did you go to school?

I went to St Oswald's. The Head Master was Mr Raynor. I still remember many of the teachers there. I then went to Poynton High School and Macclesfield College.

And work?

I spent most of my working life at AstraZeneca, initially at ICI and later AstraZeneca. I took early retirement and a redundancy package in 2008 and am now happily retired.

What changes have you seen in Bollington over the years?

The growth of the town with many new developments springing up, and of course more people and cars making it a lot busier and the closure of many pubs.

What do you like about Bollington?

You can be out in the countryside in minutes, in the fields, along the canal, along the Middlewood Way, up White Nancy and along the ridge to Rainow. There are also lots of social activities for those who seek them out. Bollington also has an excellent Medical Centre, which served my parents well and my family too.

What don't you like?

The increased building of houses anywhere in the town, whether it is suitable or not. I also disapprove of the plan to knock down the Wagon and Horses to replace it with a supermarket and the Bay Leaf restaurant. It is not needed, the site is on a dangerous junction and we would be destroying a fine old Bollington building.

What do you miss about the Bollington of the past?

Everyone has fond memories of what life was like when they were young, the pub crawls with friends, the local night life when the old cricket club was operational on what is now the Vale Pub carpark, where lots of young people used to meet. I remember the disco nights and the Saturday entertainments, when bands used to come. You didn't have to go into Macclesfield for a good night out.

Now you are retired what do you enjoy doing?

I enjoy running quiz nights for various charities when requested, as I have, in the past, done in various Bollington and Rainow pubs. I enjoy walking, taking part in quiz evenings, the cinema, going to shows at Buxton Opera House. My partner and I love to travel, and I particularly enjoy the detailed planning of our worldwide trips. Now I am a Grandad to Sophia I look forward each week to the day we spend together, and weather permitting taking her around Bollington.

Sandy Milsom



THE FINAL CHAPTER?

Bollington Library: vital service or useless drain on the public purse?

Whether it's 'Read, learn, discover!' or 'Preserving yesterday, informing today, inspiring tomorrow!' the values and services of free public libraries should have an enduring place at the centre of our communities. **Everyone in Bollington needs to be alert to the threat that our library, literally at the centre of our community, has been threatened with closure.**

For four and a half days every week that library is the beating heart of our town – literally at the centre of Bollington.

A range of services are provided, all strongly connected with education, enlightenment and enjoyment for residents of all ages.

You will hear statistics bandied about trying to justify closure, but we must remember that we have a legal right to this service and Cheshire East will quite simply be breaking the law if they remove the library from a growing town of well over 8,000 people.

We must ensure our two borough councillors are fully aware of the strength of feeling in the town. Bollington Town Council has taken ownership of the library building and charges Cheshire no rent for the space. We, as ratepayers and owners, already subsidise the service.

To save our library Bollington will fight and Bollington will be proved right!!

Ken Edwards



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MUUUUUUUGAAAAA!!!

Everyone complains that local government is slow, cumbersome, bureaucratic, legalistic and obtuse. A first-class example of this is the bringing to birth in Bollington Cross of what is known as the Bollington Cross Youth Project.

The Project first saw the light of day in the Bollington Town Plan of 2004. Using the Atax field belonging to Macclesfield Borough Council, a Multi-Use Games Area (MUGA) would be constructed and three new football pitches would be created to serve Bollington United Football Club.

The early part of the project was led by Paul Gibbons and David Brown. David was a Town Councillor and Paul was Secretary of the Football Club, with children committed to the game.



Surveys of the land were completed. One survey uncovered an 11,000-volt cable underneath the proposed MUGA site, so the whole plan had to be revised. Paul negotiated with the landowner of a small adjacent field and secured it for a sum of £30,000, with an initial £12,000 provided mainly by Tullis Russell. The Project Group had two years to provide the rest.

What to do? All kinds of solutions were explored. Then Bollington Health and Leisure came to the rescue. They had been associated with the Project from early on, and their Board decided to take a gamble and provided the balance of £18,000 to secure the land. New plans were drawn up and passed in 2013.

Now all that was required was the £250,000 to complete the construction of the MUGA and the new pitches. A Working Party was

formed and a surprising bonus now fell into their lap.

The development of the Kay-Metzler site generated £270,000-worth of S106 grant money. Two very tough-minded Councillors persuaded the Cheshire East planners to allocate all of this to community projects in Bollington, including £45,000 for the MUGA and £55,000 for the three new pitches.

Here was the key to unlocking further funds. The Working Party divided the Project into Stage 1 and Stage 2, Stage 1 being the MUGA. The cost was expected to be in the region of £100,000, so £50,000 was needed. Grants of that kind were available from the Waste Recycling Group, WREN.

Planning permission had been obtained in 2013. It would expire in 2016 and, once expired, it would take ages to reactivate it.

The Project Group analysed the plans to find some work that could be done at minimum expense. A small extension to the car park was decided on, with £5,000 required for that. Bollington Town Council debated the expense. A majority agreed.

With the planning permission assured, the WREN bid was prepared. This time we were very unlucky. The Chancellor, George Osborne, raided the recycling tax and reduced the pot by £20 million. Our project just missed a grant allocation.

The Working Group was devastated but not defeated.

David Naylor and Ken Edwards set about beefing up the bid. The sixth form at Tytherington High School



The Ribbon was cut by Rachel Bailey, the Leader of Cheshire East Council

Also present were Cllr Andrew Langdon The Mayor of Bollington, members of the Project Team and Richard Smith from WREN

generated a petition in favour and every parent of boys in the football teams wrote to support the project. Further small local grants were enlisted.

The final bid went in and this time was successful.

Now, with a war chest of £100,000, the MUGA was achievable. The Project Group commissioned six companies to provide bids to design



and build a state-of-the-art Multi-Use Games Area. It was officially opened on 12 July 2017, and it is now in regular use.

The Project Group have now turned to achieving the second half of the Project; the three new pitches.

Watch this space! **Ken Edwards**



FESTIVAL NEWS


**10-27
MAY
2019**

January's Open Meeting in the Church House Inn was packed with enthusiastic Bollingtonians eager to deliver our Festival in 2019, and with great ideas for a HALO of community festival events for Bollington Groups. If you have a passion for something not already represented at the Festival, a 'How To Grow A Festival Group' guide is available and a Steering Group is ready to offer support.

We need a Communications Team to promote the Festival and keep public interest bubbling. Working alongside our web designer, this team will develop a house style for promotional material, provide written copy, source images and interviewees for all kinds of media and also design templates for posters and banners for Festival activities. It. Could this include you?

A noisy, fun-filled parade will again bring the streets alive to kick off Festival19. Send in your thoughts for a theme and we'll announce the 'winning' idea later in the year.

This is **your** Festival! Please send any ideas, questions or offers of help to: info@bollingtonfestival.org.uk.

Obviously, a 2-week festival isn't cheap and any financial support helps. By joining our 100 Club, for as little as £1 per month you have the chance to win one of three cash prizes every month and feel supportive of a terrific community event. If you can't access the website (www.bollingtonfestival.org.uk) simply fill out the form below, post it to us and we'll take care of the rest (you must be aged 16 or over to participate). **Jon Beck**



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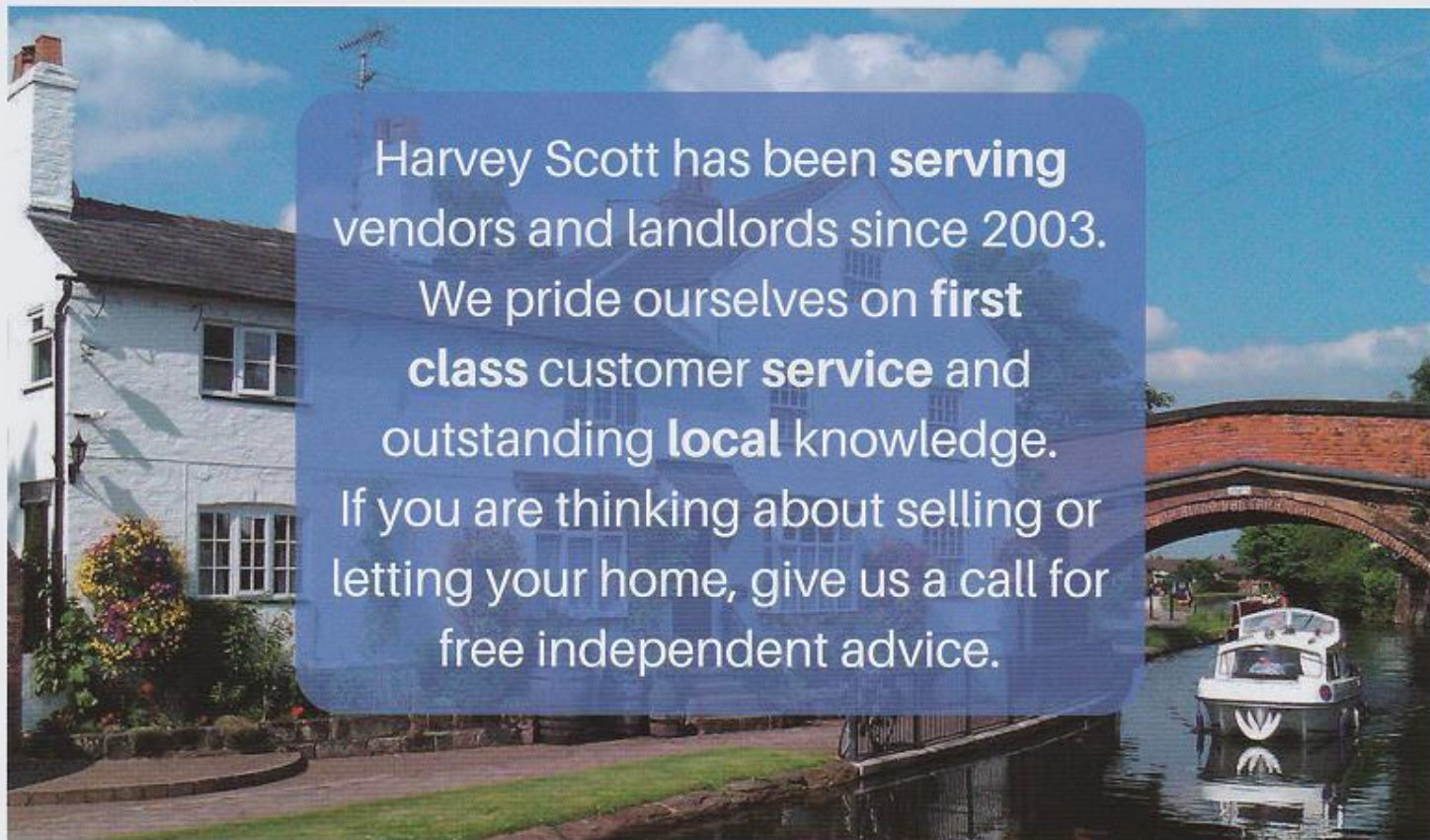
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BORN SURVIVOR



When imagining a summertime trip to the beautiful tranquil setting of Capesthorpe Hall, most people would be dreaming of an idyllic romantic stroll, complete with gingham blanket, brioche, the company of a freshly-washed fluffy dog and a backing track of Ludovico Einaudi.

Not the staff at Bollington Health and Leisure. There is no Gingham to be seen here – as this setting is due to become the location for Born Survivor – a 10km run through cold water pits and mud baths, whilst scrambling up vertical walls, swinging on monkey bars and getting first degree rope burns. We're talking war paint, army boots and a lot of grunting.

This is all in the name of raising money for Bollington Health and Leisure (I reckon we should ask for a lido!). The mission to get the support of the local residents is already starting, and if you are itching to offer more than a financial donation then you are of course welcome to join the team on 12 May – with the promise that they are on hand to help flip people over the wall jumps and search for any missing contact lenses, clothing or wedding rings that become dislodged in the mud pools.

Actually, there's no requirement to do any of the challenges, and you can walk around the course at a leisurely pace if you wish. So Bollingtonians, it's time to channel your inner Wim Hof and get involved in this physical mission – it's going to be emotional.

Hannah Atkin

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Bollington Live! wishes to thank our local sponsors for their essential support. They have enabled our community publication to continue into its **twenty fifth** year.

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