



BOLLINGTON

Live

Issue 74 Autumn 2018

FESTIVAL INTENT
DOING HIS DUTY
A MINIATURE WORLD
PLASTIC NOT FANTASTIC

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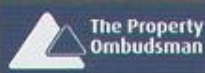
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THREE MEN IN A TENT

So, the Festival Committee finally agreed that the big events for the 2019 Bollington Festival would, once again, be held in a big top. Open air simply wouldn't do. Should we go with the same providers as in 2014? Perhaps not!

One of our team remembered a tent company that he'd come across several years ago that might fit the bill. However it turned out that we'd need to travel to distant lands to check it out. Andy Lea (Festival Treasurer), Chris Bennett

The 4 1/2 hour drive was happily uneventful and we arrived at around midday just in time to be given a tour of the bright blue 32-foot 4 King-Pole Big Top before the audience was about to pour in to see the next circus performance.

The size is right, it doesn't leak, it's pitch black inside and it has a lovely blue design on the outside. With a facility to store pushchairs outside, what's not to like?

Showing off his technical skills, Andy streamed a live video of our visit via the Bollington Festival Facebook page. With 810 views at the time of writing, perhaps the video (which can still be seen on our Facebook page) has only given our community a mild infection rather than having gone fully viral.

The trip back was broken with a detour to Rosslyn Chapel, an ornate 15th-century chapel speculatively linked to the Knights Templar, where some of the Da Vinci Code was filmed. After a round trip of around 12 hours we arrived back in Bollington tired but happy that we had chosen a suitable main venue for the Festival.

Jon Beck



(in charge of Operations on the Rec) and Jon Beck (Festival Chairman) volunteered to undertake this arduous mission. So it was that our three intrepid travellers set out on a drab August morning for Edinburgh where we were assured that we could peruse a suitable tent currently in use at the Festival Fringe at the "Circus Hub".

LETTER FROM THE EDITOR



In this issue we have a few articles that just dropped into my inbox from local people with a story to tell. Reading how the school children learnt all about the Great Fire of London and then setting fire to their models of London houses was very exciting.

Following the historical theme, we follow the story of two great lives that were cut short by the Great War and learn more local history connected with Water St School.

Model trains, reducing our plastic consumption and having a story to tell in business are some of the other fascinating articles. Thank you to all our contributors who make **Bollington Live!** so interesting and varied and a special thanks to the committee who make this all happen!

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

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11 January 2019

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Back Issues: www.happy-valley.org.uk/live

CRAFTY RESIDENTS

Many of our readers will have discovered the monthly, Love Bollington Market, held on the second Sunday of the month. I would like to introduce two Bollington residents who run small craft businesses and have been part of the Bollington Market since the beginning.

Sandy Holtappel's craft venture is Kooky Burrow which offers a quirky, eclectic mix of handcrafted household accessories, gifts, cards and furnishings. Sandy specialises in handmade gifts with a local theme, featuring, Bollington, White Nancy and the Macclesfield area. Sandy's son Christian is an illustrator and



Above:
Anna Barker

film maker who creates fabulous illustrations for Kooky Burrow.

Kooky Burrow originated from Sandy's love of vintage and retro things; she used to have a vintage shop in Macclesfield and when the shop closed she missed the buzz it gave her talking to people and sharing her enthusiasm. She felt that there was a lack of handmade, locally-themed products and set out to fill a gap. 'I try to use a variety of natural materials and recycled materials,' says Sandy.

Another local business which also makes good use of natural materials is Whittle While You Work run by

artist and greenwood carver, Anna Barker, who has been a stallholder for a few years. Anna also enjoys sharing her skills with adults and children.

Anna paints on driftwood she collects from beaches along the Llyn Peninsula where she used to live. Puffins, maritime scenes and portraits of local cottages are her speciality. She also has a passion for greenwood carving, making jewellery, spoons and other things from locally-sourced wood. She has learned her skills from some of the best carvers in the world, including Jogge Sundqvist and Jane Mickelborough. **Sandy Milsom**

TURNING OVER A NEW LEAF!

A library is a place to borrow books using a card you shouldn't lose? NOT NOW! Borrowing physical books is now only a small part of Bollington Library's vast information functions, which are probably little known.

Many frantic mothers, fathers, and carers have found enjoyment for their young wards in Rhyme Time (singing) which happens twice a week, Story Time once a week and Lego Club, monthly.

How to programme computers and make films is available for older children, and being part of a book club can also be a lot of fun. There are also one-off sessions in the summer holidays such as Junk

Modelling, Papier Maché Creations and a 3D Pens Taster session. Potential creativity can start here!

Education at the Library does not stop at 10 year olds, as online there is available help with GCSE subjects, and access to academic papers and political ones as well as dictionaries. Why not put your feet up and access a wealth of fun and interest with magazines, newspapers, books, music and audio books?

At the back a coffee or hot chocolate can be had whilst printing off a document you have found on a computer, which is free to access for the first hour. The very friendly staff can help the process. The Library has



There are also three book clubs for adults, with currently 2 spaces available, and new authors are suggested for both adults and children. Inspired?

The only problem is toilet facilities. There is no toilet available for public use, which has deterred people in the past, but watch this space. As Bollington Town Council now own the building, plans are in place to solve this persistent problem.

Maybe 'Library' is no longer the correct word for what is available at Bollington Library. 'Library, Resource, Educational and Recreation Centre' might be more accurate, but that is clumsy and probably wouldn't fit on the window space. Perhaps some marketing genius in Bollington (of which there are many) can come up with a suitable description! **Andrew Roberts**



access to 'Ancestry' and 'Find My Past', much used by The Bollington Family History Club which meets once a month.

For those fearful of computers there is a 'Buddy System' where for a small charge, novices can be guided through the basics of computer usage and the lingo of mouse, cloud, and frozen, without being made to feel silly!

OPEN GARDENS

Last June (which seems like a long time ago now) we held the Bollington Open Gardens and were delighted with the enthusiastic support we had from Bollington residents and visitors.

There was a lovely community atmosphere and visitors were very complimentary about the gardens. The event was a great success and raised £3,500 towards next year's Festival. Visitors liked the idea of using their tickets over both days to visit the 16 gardens.

We would like to thank all the garden openers for their great efforts in making it a success. Projects that had been on hold for some time were feverishly underway; patios, Japanese gardens, new sections of gardens. There were gardens of great contrast; lovely views and themed gardens. The new gardens on the Waterhouse Estate had surprisingly been created in one year despite drainage problems.

Everyone loved the contribution from the children at the Water Street Pre-School who had made a 'Bright and Beautiful' garden and interactive music wall display. Children enjoyed hunting in the gardens for 'Bolly Rocks', beautifully decorated by Hannah Roberts and family.

Some things did not go according to plan. Visitors leaving the tranquillity of David and Harry's garden with the accompaniment of classical music found that the local Sea Cadets had set up their fundraising event in the field at the bottom of my garden, and we had loud disco music and the aroma of beef burgers and hot dogs. However, this just added to the flavour of 'village life'.



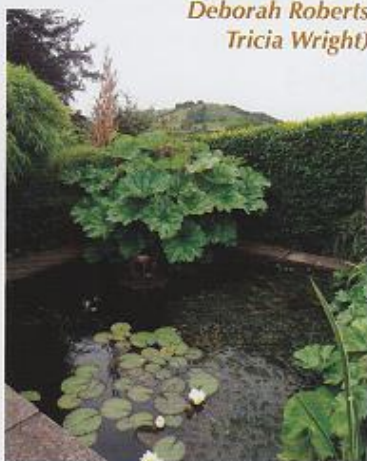
The teas on The Green (The Old Market Place) were popular and a big thank you to all our friends and relations who provided the delicious cakes and their help over the two days. Also a big thank you to all shops and businesses that advertised and sold tickets for us.

The raffle and tombola contributed to the fund raising and all prizes have been collected. We must also mention the beautiful floral displays in Water Street provided by the residents, they were stunning.

We made sure that we conformed to all the necessary health and safety regulations for insurance purposes, which proved quite challenging. Some questions posed were whether there were opportunities for bomb-making from ingredients in greenhouses, and if there were likely to be terrorists in the area. Needless to say we had an accident-free weekend.

We hope to organise a similar event next year and would love to hear from other enthusiastic gardeners. Tel. Maria: 01625 575993

Maria O'Brien and team
(Helen Clark, Janet Clarke
Barbara Darwent
Deborah Roberts
Tricia Wright)



BURNING ISSUES



I thought you may be interested in my Year 2 class recreating the Great Fire of London as an end of topic celebration.

We have been learning all about London and the Great Fire. The children have explored the famous landmarks and we have researched the famous fire.

We visited Bollington Fire Station at the beginning of the topic (just over the road!) to learn about fire safety and the excellent work the firefighters do. Then, as part of a home project, the children created their own Tudor houses to use in a re-creation of the Great Fire of London. The children were very excited to visit the fire station again, this time knowing that they were about to set light to their wonderful creations!

This is the second time that Year 2 have done this activity and this year we were blessed with weather similar to the historic event on September 2nd 1666.

We would like to say a big thank you to the Bollington Firefighters for their outstanding community support.

Mr Hasler,
(Dean Valley Primary School)





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CREATING A WORLD IN MINIATURE

One of our readers, Roger Molineux, recently became re-acquainted with a work colleague, Ken, who had been a crown green bowler from the 1970s. Knowing the chap was a well-known model railway enthusiast, he asked him to share his passion with Bollington Live! and Ken wrote this article.

In the early days my main hobby was painting and drawing, and I had very little interest in railways. Certainly not as a train spotter standing on the end of platforms collecting numbers! To me, railways were just a means of transport to various destinations.

It was while helping in a local toy shop in Chestergate owned by Arthur Whiting, that I developed a fascination for model railways. There in the shop window was a working Hornby-Dublo train set - and I became smitten!

After the war, materials were starting to become available again through numerous cottage industries supplying components and accessories for modelling railways. One of these was a London firm that had commissioned a series of paintings on card by a well-known Cheshire artist of actual buildings in the county. These could be cut-out and assembled, and along with shades of dyed sawdust for meadows and lichen for trees and hedges, they created a delightful visual setting to enhance the layout in the shop window.

To me, this was three-dimensional painting, and the start of my life-long hobby. Due to the interest shown by customers in the shop, Arthur and I decided to form the Macclesfield Model Railway Group in 1957, along with six other enthusiasts, and it is still thriving after 60 years!



The original premises were four rooms in a cottage in Longacre Street, Macclesfield, but as membership grew, a larger space was needed and found in the Black Road Community Centre. With all this enthusiasm, I built a big shed in my garden to display a large layout and accommodate the vast amount of model railway stock I had acquired.

Together with a few friends, we constructed a portable layout which was taken to many exhibitions, not just in the local area, but to Oxford and also London. It was G.W.R. (God's Wonderful Railway), and named 'Butley Town and Heybridge'; for which I still get enquiries today after more than 50 years.



I also received many enquiries regarding the construction of buildings and scenery, so decided to diversify and display my methods to the general public by having a demonstration stand at various shows in the region. This proved a very rewarding experience, as it afforded me the opportunity to build models for customers and test my initiative over a wide range of subjects which were not part of railway infrastructure. Thus, my modelling evolved. They included a Norfolk Flour Mill complete with canal basin and barges, scale models of both the Lakeland steam ships, a complete farm and outbuildings

and one client's own house and garden on the Wirral.

Modelling requires close study of the subjects for accurate detail and scaling. All my models have been built from rigid polystyrene plastic sheets (plastikard), in a wide range of styles, both plain and embossed in 2, 4 and



7mm scales. Injection moulded kits offer superb detail. Foam-board is useful for added strength.

Acrylics are used for painting, and sometimes watercolour pencils are used too, which are especially good for varied brick finishes. Three hundred or more hours can be spent on a project. To date, I have completed over 600 models in a selection of scales for customers and of these, many were without drawings or pictures.

The end of the line...

After 60 years attending exhibitions throughout the country, my restricted mobility has warned me now that these are a step too far. Also, my own layout in the shed has been dismantled and reassembled in a very good home, ensuring my legacy will live on to entertain and possibly inspire others.

As I am the last remaining founder member of Macclesfield Model Railway Group, I was very honoured to be presented with a life-time achievement award at our local show in March. This was in recognition of an exceptional contribution to the hobby of railway modelling.

So, it has been quite a journey - and a very rewarding one. **Ken Ball**

PS. Ken has not quite finished, having recently completed a re-creation of the original South Park pavilion in Macclesfield, which he presented to the Friends of South Park.

With at least another model in progress, we hope that he will continue for some time yet.

Happy modelling!

TRANSITION BOLLINGTON

ACTION ON PLASTICS

Earlier this year, in the wake of plastics pollution being aired on TV through documentaries such as Blue Planet, a small group of people in Bollington decided to follow the lead of other towns throughout the UK in looking to spread awareness of ways to reduce the single-use plastic footprint in the community.

The group became 'Transition Bollington', supported by Bollington Town Council in the drive for Bollington to join over 250 transition towns across the UK.



Environmental plastics contamination is nothing new. Since plastic as a commodity was invented right here in Cheshire over 60 years ago, the issue of waste has never been suitably addressed and the substance has been building up around the world in land and water ever since, right down to nano-particulate level.

To briefly recap on the figures, it is estimated that 8.3 billion tonnes of hydrocarbon plastic has been produced worldwide since its discovery at ICI Northwich, and three-quarters of that – over six billion tonnes – is now trash, about 80% of which is sitting in landfill or the natural environment. Around eight million tonnes per year ends up in the oceans. Even the clothes that we wear, for example fleece jackets, contain micro plastic particles that

are too small for treatment filters; these end up washed into rivers and oceans, and get ingested by creatures so end up in the food chain. And on our plates. And if eating it isn't bad enough, plastics also release toxins into our food that have been found to impact on health – styrofoam trays being one of the worst offenders.

But did you know that, although Cheshire is the home of plastic, it is also the home of the world's first plastic bottle recycler? Bollington is the hub of that innovation; the invention was the brainchild of local entrepreneur Ches Orme.

**8.3 BILLION TONNES OF
HYDROCARBON PLASTIC
HAS BEEN PRODUCED
WORLDWIDE SINCE ITS
DISCOVERY -
OVER 6 BILLION TONNES
IS NOW TRASH**

No strangers to rising to a challenge, individuals throughout Bollington are getting together to make subtle changes in their plastic consumption and spreading awareness, for example by 'plogging' (plastic pickup whilst jogging).

#RefuseTheStraw

Local businesses have also started to transition. The Crown has sourced compostable black straws, and The Green has decided not to stock any straws. Heathcote's the butchers were already in the process of swapping their plastic wrap for waxed paper, and Café Waterside has switched to cardboard takeout boxes instead of styrofoam.

Transition Bollington has worked with Belfield's bakery to enable them to be the first Bollington



business to feature on the 'Refill' map – part of an app that shows people on a map where they can have their water bottles refilled with tap water free of charge.

Earlier this year on Bollington's Facebook forum, a mini-campaign to move away from the purchase of milk in plastic containers resulted in a large increase in orders for local milk deliveries in glass bottles. Lee Smith, Managing Director of Smith's Dairies, commented:

'We have always encouraged the use of glass bottles with all customers, but unfortunately with the rise of the supermarkets we began to lose the traditional customers.'

Fortunately, there has been an increase in the awareness of the damage caused by plastics. As such

TRANSITION MEETINGS

Bollington Town Hall at 7pm

Monday 29th October

Thursday 29th November

**All welcome, no fees/
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**Facebook group:
'Transition Bollington'**

www.transitionnetwork.org

SMALL CHANGES TO REDUCE PLASTIC CONSUMPTION

Choose...

- beeswax wraps instead of clingfilm and food bags
- reusable water bottles and cups
- reusable jute or fabric bags
- milk delivered or purchased locally in glass bottles
- bars of soap instead of liquid soap in a plastic dispenser
- terry nappies instead of disposable

Loose...

- fruit and veg in paper bags instead of plastic packaging

Refuse...

- plastic straws and cutlery, single-use and non-recyclable cups, plastic bottles of drinks, disposable razors and any single-use, non-recyclable, plastic items

And spread the news..

Reducing plastic consumption will benefit our community and help the upcoming generation manage the toxic legacy that is left to them.

we have seen a huge amount of interest in people changing back to the daily glass pint.'

Even the Bridgend Centre has got involved in the glass milk bottle movement - and has benefitted from the sale of their (non-plastic!) milk bottle holders, each hand-crafted in wood.

Transition Bollington is the new grassroots environmentalism and sustainability voluntary group in Bollington, formed by residents initially as a local response to the campaign on reducing single-use plastics. We are on hand to provide advice and information to local people, businesses and event organisers on swapping out plastics.

Look us up or come to one of our meetings!

H Wright

BOLLINGTON BY

In this issue we talk to a Bollington resident who has grown up in the town and has seen many changes over the years - Colin Hammond is one of these long-standing Bollingtonians.

How long has your family been in Bollington?

My great grandfather lived in Macclesfield but started the Brickworks with Mr Gardiner. My grandfather lived at Jevington on Grimshaw Lane. My father was born there but went over to Czechoslovakia to learn about brick making just before the war. He then joined up and in 1946 when he was demobbed he went to work in the brickworks.

Did you follow in the footsteps of your father?

I went to King's School in Macclesfield and then went away to Naval College. I planned a career in the Navy and it started off that way. I travelled round the world twice and enjoyed the experiences it brought me. However, when my mother died I came back to work with Dad. This was in 1970. By this time the brickworks was making industrial chemicals. I had an engineering background, and this was useful.

Are you still working?

Yes, although I have passed retirement age I am enjoying running the industrial units. We have 40 businesses here at the Brickworks. The brickworks is now famous among cyclists as a tough cycle run and was a leg of the Tour de Britain. I do take more time off now though.

What do you enjoy doing?

I like spending time with my wife and family. We have 2 grandchildren and we look after them sometimes. We also love to travel and visit unusual places. We are not great beach lovers and prefer seeing interesting sights. I am also a member of the Art Fund, a charity which helps people enjoy art that may otherwise have been lost. It also records art existing in places like churches. I am, at present, helping to record and research the interior of St Christopher's Church at Pott Shrigley.

You will have seen many changes in Bollington, what do you most like about it now?

I like its new renaissance; having spent years watching shops close, now things are opening. The demographic of the town has altered with many new young families moving in, who see Bollington as a good place to bring up children. They have contributed to a very positive vibe to the town. I love the Arts Centre and all the events there. I would like a few more Literary events. Something that I feel hasn't changed is the friendliness of the town.

What do you feel has been lost?

We have lost much of our industrial heritage; at one time there were many industries in Bollington, a rich, mixed economy. Shops thrived because of the factories and mills.

What aspect of Bollington do you feel proud about?

Certainly, the warmth and friendliness you find living here.

How do you relax?

I like to read, listen to the radio. My wife Sharon and I walk a lot around the town and beyond.

And your favourite place?

Well, all the cafes of course and I couldn't possibly pick just one.

Sandy Milsom



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KAREN DILKES

In April this year my family and I moved to Bollington from Northamptonshire. After getting the children settled in school it was time to concentrate on my career in Podiatry.

My childhood was spent in the Gym and at age 11 I was selected for the National Rhythmic Gymnastics squad to represent Great Britain until I retired age 18. I travelled the world in many international competitions including the European and World Championships, and became British Champion in 1995. Time away from competing I was in the national display team promoting Rhythmic Gymnastics at the Royal Variety performance, solo performances at The Royal Albert Hall and taking part in television shows such as the Generation Game.

During my time as a Gymnast I was treated for back pain by a podiatrist who helped me with biomechanical alignment and from then on I was hooked with the profession. To think my foot alignment was the underlying cause of my back pain amazed me, and the complex scope the podiatrist had to offer for my whole well-being.



I finished my Rhythmic Gymnastics career and enrolled in the University of Northampton to start my degree in podiatry. I qualified in 2003 and in those three years I completely fell in love with the profession and the complex role it has on peoples' lives. I spent 15 years working within the NHS, working my way up to become a podiatrist with specialist interest in diabetes. I have treated

a wide variety of patients and conditions including paediatrics, vulnerable adults, musculoskeletal, nail surgery, arthritis, circulatory and neurological disorders, all in addition to normal foot-related problems, ie callus, corns and nail care etc.

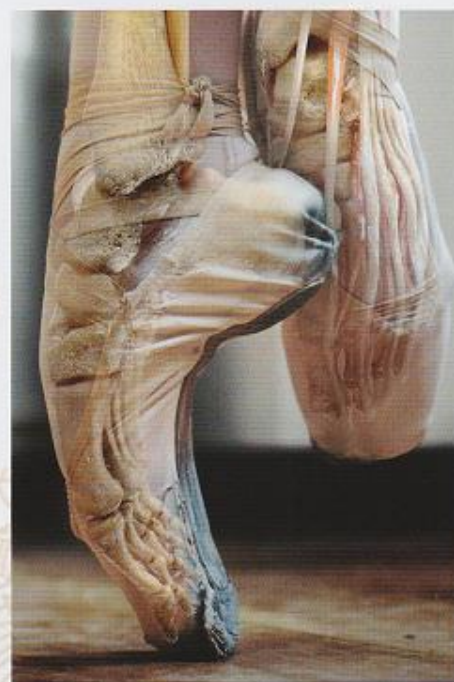
I am registered with the Health Professional Council and a member of the College of Podiatrists and take a proactive approach to my professional development, keeping up to date on the latest knowledge and treatments. Currently I can provide nail care, callus and corn debridement, vascular and neurological assessments, diabetes foot checks, education and advice on foot concerns. My personal aim for the future is to develop biomechanical and musculoskeletal assessments and to create contacts to provide foot othoses to help those avid walkers and runners amongst the residents of Bollington. I have met a member of the Harriers already! Nail surgery is also an area that will soon be provided once my patient base increases.

Since June I have been welcomed by Siobhan Alexander to work within The Mother Nature Sanctuary on Monday mornings. The Mother Nature Sanctuary is a new wonderful location offering a wide range of classes, treatments and varied sessions to the community of Bollington and I urge you to visit.

I have also just started Tuesday morning sessions at SK10 Salon as Kathy Turnock has been kind enough to let me use her treatment room to help me grow my little business. Patients also have the option of my treatments in the comfort of their own home, as home visits are also available.

In my few months of working in Bollington I have met some lovely people and I am fascinated by the history and interesting facts that people have shared about my new home. It is exciting times ahead and I look forward to meeting new people and making new friends.

Karen Dilkes



KD PODIATRY Facebook page

Kd.podiatry@yahoo.com

07340 796683

FEET FACTS

Podiatrists are health care professionals who have been trained to prevent, diagnose, treat and rehabilitate abnormal conditions of the feet and lower limbs. They can also treat and alleviate day-to-day foot problems including nail problems, corns and calluses.

The name changed from Chiropody to Podiatry in 1993 as it is the international recognised name for a foot specialist.

A human foot and ankle is a strong mechanical structure that contains 26 bones, 33 joints and more than 100 muscles, tendons and ligaments.

Sweat glands in the feet produce approximately half a pint of perspiration daily.

It takes 12-18 months for a toenail to completely grow.

Foot ailments can become your first sign of a more serious medical condition. Your feet can mirror your general health, so conditions with lungs, arthritis, diabetes, nerve and circulatory disorders can show initial signs in your feet.

A callus is a thickened area of the skin on the foot caused by pressure and sheer, such as from socks or shoes. The pressure and sheer cause the body to produce protective layers of skin = Callus.



BOLLINGTON *live*

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

OCTOBER

Saturday 20th - 10am until 3pm
Vintage & Autumn Fair
Bridgend Centre free entry 576311

Friday 26th - 7.30pm
Pure 80s Gold
Arts Centre £18 online inc buffet supper

Saturday 27th - 8pm
The Aurora Trio
Arts Centre £17.50 £2 conc online

Wednesday 31st - 5pm
Light Party
Celebrate All Hallows Eve; St Oswald's Church Bev Nixon beverleynxn@aol.com

NOVEMBER

Friday 2nd - 8.15pm
Bolly Comedy Club
Arts Centre £10 online

Friday 2nd - 8.30pm
Fil Campbell & Tom McFarland at Bolly Folk Club
Dog & Partridge £7 online at bollyfolk.com

Saturday 3rd - 10-11.30am
Well Dressers coffee morning
Community Centre, homemade cakes and pies for sale, raffle, tombola, entry £1 inc tea and biscuit

Saturday 3rd - 8pm
Washington Whirlygig Bollington Jazz Club
Arts Centre £10

Wednesday 7th - 7.30pm
Pott Shrigley Flix in the Stix - The Greatest Showman
Village Hall £4 advance £5 on the door pottflix@gmail.com

Thursday 8th - 7.30pm
Kerridge War Memorial Curry Night
The Viceroy £15 inc food susan.poynton@hotmail.co.uk

Sunday 11th - 10.30am
Remembrance Parade to the War Memorial with Bollington Brass Band
Parade starts at the recreation ground

Tuesday 13th to Saturday 17th - 7.30pm
Showtime 2018 by Bollington Light Opera Group
Civic Hall £12 inc hot supper 431038 blogbookings@aol.com

Thursday 15th - 7.30pm
Bollington Horticultural Society - tools quiz with Sheila & Ron Gallimore
Community Centre: member £1.50 non member £3

Friday 16th - 7.30pm
Conversation with Cynan Jones
Arts Centre £7.50 online

Saturday 17th - 8pm
Pilgrim's Way
Stand & Deliver! Arts Centre £10 online

Sunday 18th - 2.30pm
Cinderella Tour
Arts Centre £7 adult £3 child

Friday 23rd - 8.30pm
Gerry French at Bolly Folk Club
Dog & Partridge online at bollyfolk.com

Saturday 24th - 8pm
The Florian Quartet
Arts Centre £17.50 £2 conc online

DECEMBER

Saturday 1st - 8pm
The TJ Johnson Band Bollington Jazz Club
Arts Centre £10

Wednesday 5th - 7.30pm
Pott Shrigley Flix in the Stix - Finding Your Feet
Village Hall £4 advance £5 on the door pottflix@gmail.com

Friday 7th - 8.15pm
Bolly Comedy Club
Arts Centre £10 online

Wednesday 12th - 7.30pm
Pott Shrigley Flix in the Stix - Xmas Special, Mamma Mia Here We Go Again
Village Hall £4 advance £5 on the door pottflix@gmail.com

Friday 14th - 8.30pm
Anthony John Clarke at Bolly Folk Club
Dog & Partridge online at bollyfolk.com

Tuesday 18th - 7.30pm
Messiah For All
Arts Centre £6 bollfestchoir.org.uk 511881

Monday 24th - 6pm
Christmas Eve - carols around the tree
Town Hall

JANUARY

Friday 4th to Saturday 12th
Sinbad the Sailor
Panto at the Arts Centre
bfptickets@hotmail.com

Friday 18th - 7.30pm
Claude Bourbon
Arts Centre £10 online

Saturday 26th - 8pm
Spats Langhams Hot Fingers with Emily Campbell, Bollington Jazz Club
Arts Centre £10

FEBRUARY

Friday 1st - 8.15pm
Bolly Comedy Club
Arts Centre £10 online

Saturday 23rd - 8pm
Frog & Henry
Bollington Jazz Club
Arts Centre £10

BOLLINGTON JAZZ CLUB AT BOLLINGTON ARTS CENTRE

November 3rd 8pm
Washington Whirlygig
A Yorkshire Band tipping their hats to the great Alex Welsh band

December 1st 8pm
The T J Johnson Band
Possibly the most popular band on the circuit with their mix of jazz, R&B and the great American songbook

January 26th 8pm
'Spats' Langhams Hot Fingers
Combination with Emily Campbell
Vintage jazz from a superb group of musicians and a great songstress

February 23rd 8pm
Frog and Henry
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DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

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Community kitchen, IT suite
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Mon-Fri 10am-4.30pm
Saturday 10am-1pm

01625 576311

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 circle (weekly)

Friday

10.30am Choir

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

Knit and Natter

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

Bollington Photographic Group Autumn/Winter Meetings

Third Thursday evening of the month:
7.00pm at the Printshop

Guest Speakers, Members' Photos,
Technical advice, queries etc

All welcome Details: 574618 or visit
Bollington facebook / twitter.

BOLLINGTON FESTIVAL WINTER BALL FUNDRAISER

November 24th 7pm to 1am

A night of dining and dancing in the
fabulous Tilden Suite at
Shrigley Hall Hotel and Spa

Highlights include:

Welcome drink

Three course meal

Award winning band: Groovy
Revolution

DJ

Forest Gin pop-up gin bar

Photo booth

Raffle and auction

£35 Tickets available from:

www.bollingtonfestival.org.uk

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HORT. SOC. NEWS

Following the visit to the wonderful
bulb fields in Holland, we have had
two more trips

One was to a beautiful garden in
Lower Withington, and the other
to Bluebell Cottage Gardens and
Nursery near Northwich, specialising
in hardy perennials. Here the group
was given a guided tour by the
owner.

There have also been interesting talks
including one on the new RHS garden
in Salford, called RHS Bridgewater.



Bluebell Cottage Gardens

WEBSITE RELAUNCH

Finally, it's here! Our website has
had a facelift bringing it right up to
date. Check it out to see our new
design, news feeds and 'meet the
team'.

If you're feeling really nostalgic
you can view images, videos and
programmes from festivals past
including the programme from the
very first Bollington Festival in 1964.
You can also sign up on the website
for future newsletters telling you about
new developments and what acts and
events we'll be holding (if you don't
opt in we can't contact you).

Get in touch by email or leave a
comment on Facebook.



Arts Centre tickets:
www.bollingtonartscentre.org.uk

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....DIED "DOING HIS DUTY"

1914-1918 THE GREAT WAR

'Died doing his duty' were the words engraved upon the gravestones of brothers Hedley Stewart and Gordon Audley Stewart at the request of their father Joseph after their deaths in 1916 and 1917 respectively, in the middle of the war to end all wars. Only now do we call that conflict 'World War One'.

In April 2018 we drove over to northern France and Belgium to pay our respects to these young men who had grown up in our house in Bollington and who went off to serve in the British Army in the Great War, never to return. We had known of their loss through the oral history told to us by our neighbour, when we bought our home Rock Cottage 26 years ago. As we had never had such a tragedy ourselves, we decided to research further and seek out their resting places.

We started in Ypres in Belgium staying in a lovely, quiet B & B in the centre of the walled city that had suffered huge destruction in the Great War. The centre has been renovated and restored excellently, including the Lakenhalle (Cloth Hall) which houses the 'In Flanders Field' museum.



Hedley



Gordon

Below:
Restored trenches



At the Menin Gate erected in 1927 to commemorate 54,896 British and Commonwealth soldiers who lie in unmarked graves, a nightly and moving 'Last Post' ceremony is held at 6pm. We used the city as a base for two days exploring the cemeteries, battle sites, mine craters and museums of the 'Ypres Salient'. There is an incredible amount of preservation of sites and we were impressed by the quality and sheer size of the works by many nations and individuals to ensure that the history of the Great War is relayed accurately and respectfully.

Our next two nights we spent further south on the Western Front in France, staying at a little hotel in the town of Albert, in the area of the River Somme. We had checked with the Commonwealth War Graves Commission (CWGC) for the details of the young men, Hedley and Gordon, and we set about finding their graves, and researching how and why they were lost. Since 1917 the CWGC has recorded, created and maintained the graves of all Commonwealth nations, in 153 countries around the world, for both world wars.

Private 4227 Hedley Stewart of the 21st and 23rd Battalions of the Royal Fusiliers was born in June 1888 and grew up in Rock Cottage, Bollington, enlisting in Manchester November 1914, in what may have been a 'Sportsmen's' Battalion, named the 21st. The 21st was severely cut up in France in 1915 so he was transferred to the 23rd. We wonder whether the 21st was a 'pals' battalion, and it may be worth more research to see if other lads from Bollington did the same. He was killed on 13 November 1916 aged 27 and buried at Serre Road Cemetery No.2. This is mid-way between Arras and Albert in France, just north of the River Somme. How long he was serving there we do not know, but by 13 November 1916 he was part of the last stage of the Battle of the Somme that ceased on 20 November 1916.



Hedley Stewart

Those seven days were focused on the Hill at Ancre where British and French troops were to push towards the German Hindenburg Line some 10km east, to weaken the resistance, but that strategy was by then failing, after four months relentless trench warfare. Further south towards the river, there was more success and up to 15km were gained, but in this Ancre area hardly any progress was made, save that the field fortress at Beaumont Hamel was taken.

On 13 November 1916 the weather was snowy and muddy, and with a thick fog. The ground was entrenched 'No-man's Land', with huge craters, so massive artillery and the few first British tanks were equally entrenched and bogged down. Here Hedley died. He was interred on the Serre Road out of Beaumont Hamel to the north, now a quiet country road winding through farmland. His grave is set obliquely up to the left side of the slope, across manicured lawns and flower beds. He lies next to his comrades, exactly as recorded by the CWGC. Hedley's obituary was published in the Macclesfield Courier and Herald on the 9 December 1916.

Private 41197 Gordon Audley Stewart of 'A' Company, 2nd Battalion, South Wales Borderers signed up after his older brother had died. He was born in either July



Gordon Stewart

or November 1898. The differing months found in research raise the question of whether on enlistment he declared himself older, as he was in fact just 19 when he died on 21 November 1917.

Gordon too grew up in Rock Cottage, Bollington. His battalion was part of the offensive called the Battle of Cambrai which from 20 November to 30 December 1917 was the first large scale raid into the German lines using new artillery methods and massed tanks. British tanks had been first used in September 1916, but only a few at a time supporting ground troops. The advance to attempt to take the town of Cambrai was a new strategy, of 476 tanks at once. The infantry followed the tanks into the field, but by the second day had lost momentum about four miles inside the Hindenburg Line to the North east of Marcoing, at Rumilly. The Cavalry that should have swept up the rear had failed to arrive and 179 tanks were destroyed, together with the troops.

Combat turned into 'yard by yard' fighting with dire consequences. Gordon and 23 other comrades fell on 21 November. They were all buried by the German army at the point that they had reached in Rumilly in a German graveyard. The British were forced back to Marcoing. Gordon was recorded as missing for many months, but

by the summer of 1918 he was known to have died of his wounds. His and his 23 comrades' remains were recovered and reinterred at the British cemetery in Marcoing in 1920, where they rest still, all together in an undefined grave. His stone stands with the other 23 in a row at the far end of the small cemetery, overlooking the waters of the St Quentin Canal to Marcoing. The spot is beautifully kept by the CWGC. In the small chapel is the written record of all the interments. The Obituary to Gordon is in the Macclesfield Courier and Herald on 1 June 1918, many months after his death, and only after his loss was confirmed.

Both gravestones bear the words of their father Joseph, 'He died doing his duty'. Our short journey was sad but fascinating. Our lives have been linked to these young men, as our family has grown up in their home, but we have never suffered such losses. May we never have to face such a conflict again.

Mark and Lydia Stephens



www.cwgc.org

**Bollington Discovery Centre;
Cheshire Archive and Local Studies;**

www.happyvalley.org

www.longlongtrail.co.uk

www.iwm.org.uk

QUARRY - LABYRINTH



Above:
The Labyrinth in snow

Below:
*A Quarry Conveyor
Beehives*



Many of you will be familiar with The Festival Labyrinth sited on the Middlewood Way at Grimshaw Lane.

In memory of Dr John Coope, the founder of the Bollington Festival, the labyrinth was created by local environmental artists Jeff Teasdale and Lorna Green for the Bollington Festival in 2009. But did you realise that the stone for The Festival Labyrinth came from Kerridge's very own Endon Quarry on Windmill Lane?

Lorna Green is based in Bramhall. Her sculptures are inspired by, and related to, the nature, history and people in the various places she visits. Since creating The Festival Labyrinth, she has used stone from Endon Quarry in other sculptures, but more importantly, her affection for this place and its people has become a very important part of her life.

The result of this is a new multimedia installation called 'Quarry' which will be premiered at Manchester's Portico Gallery (10th November) and 1st December at the Manchester Academy of Fine Arts (MAFA) Exhibition. Lorna received a MAFA Fine Art Bursary Award for this project.

'Quarry' is comprised of four short films which show different aspects of the quarry's life and work, landscape, flora and fauna throughout the year and including the people who visit it as well as the honey bees! The videos will be played on screens inlaid into wooden plinths, made at the quarry, and surrounded by stone, accompanied by the especially composed music by Julia Harding, a musician and teacher based in Tytherington. Although Julia has worked with Lorna on several previous occasions, this has been the first time she has created music for a video, so this has proved both interesting and challenging at the same time.

As yet there are no plans for showing 'Quarry' in Bollington – both Lorna and Julia would really like this to happen in the future.

Julia Harding

www.lornagreen.com

www.kerridgestone.co.uk

www.happyvalleyhoney.co.uk



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0151 708 8078

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01625 451788

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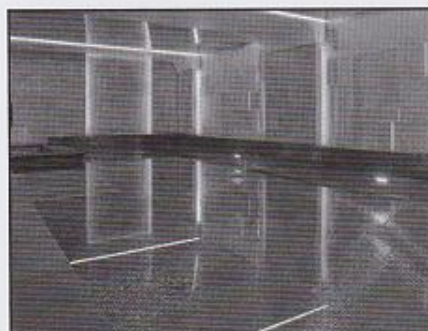
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OUR 'MULTI-STORY' MAN

If you see a middle-aged man with close-cropped salt and pepper hair sitting in a Bollington café staring at a laptop, it's probably Andrew Thorp. He might not be typing but he's definitely thinking – about something!

A former golf referee and journalist, Andrew now earns a living as a consultant in the field of business storytelling. 'It's the oldest form of communication there is,' he explains, 'but storytelling is the in-thing these days when it comes to selling yourself.'

There are a number of branding and marketing agencies in Bollington and Andrew's work complements theirs by helping leaders and sales people articulate their company message in a way that's both human and authentic. He calls this 'Verbal PR'. 'You want to convey a consistent message,' he says. 'But you don't want it to sound scripted and robotic when you're talking about your company and what it does.'

were difficult times but things seem to have worked out OK in the end!' he says.

'I travel to some amazing places but I always long to be back in Bollington. It's like returning to the Mother Ship, especially when you see White Nancy guiding you home like a beacon. The air is different here, the smell of the blossom in the spring, the sounds of the forests and the fields; it's like a tonic, an antidote to the stresses of commuting. For me it's what makes this place so intoxicating. And I'm not referring to the pubs!'

'I remember doing some work in upstate New York last year. It's a wealthy area with beautiful countryside but you can't walk in it – because it's mostly people's gardens! To go for a walk I had to drive for 40 minutes to find a nature reserve. Contrast that with Bollington; you stumble out the front door, wander up the road and suddenly you're in the Peak District.'



www.andrewthorp.co.uk

something which has helped him both professionally and socially. 'Some people talk about Bollington in terms of insiders and outsiders, but I've never found the 'locals' anything but welcoming and glad that you've shown some interest. You simply have to engage and be open. I have a wonderful circle of friends here now, a multi-generational mix of teenagers to senior citizens from all sorts of backgrounds.'

It's clear Andrew has developed a sense of pride in his home town over the last 20 years, but he points out the risk of becoming too insular. 'We have every right to celebrate what we have in Bollington – the people, the culture, the scenery and wildlife. However, let's not forget that we have strong links with those beyond our borders. It's great to import ideas and experiences from other communities, both near and far. It's important to collaborate with other towns and cities, to recognise that many of us 'export' our skills and knowledge to everywhere from Macclesfield to Melbourne. You have to poke your head over the wall sometimes.'

Speaking to the Multi-Story Man of Bollington, he clearly sees himself as a connector. 'Stories help to bridge gaps. They make the complex more understandable, help us find common ground with others and remind us of our basic humanity.'

If you spot Andrew in a café or elsewhere, stop to say hello and maybe share your story. If you've never met before, be assured he does like speaking to strangers!



Over the last decade Andrew has established an international reputation as a corporate storyteller, helping global brands like Coca-Cola and PwC in places as far afield as the USA, Middle East and Europe. Most of his clients want to differentiate their brand, build stronger bonds with customers, attract and retain talent and show a more human face. Andrew gives them a better story and the confidence to deliver it well, in various situations.

Everyone has a story to tell and Andrew's is one of personal and professional reinvention after a mid-life crisis some 10 years ago. 'Those

Andrew spends a lot of time coaching people to be better communicators, whether they're pitching to potential clients or having casual conversations. 'Presenting is always a challenge for people,' he explains. 'They're nervous and worry about getting anything wrong in an exposed situation. But to be honest, the most valuable business (and life) skill is probably the ability to listen. If you have a friend who's a great listener, cherish them – they're a rare gem!'

Ignoring the advice his mother gave him as a child, Andrew has always enjoyed meeting strangers,

BOLLINGTON INITIATIVE TRUST

PROGRESS REPORT – AUTUMN 2018

The Bollington Initiative Trust (BIT) has made significant progress since its formation over 15 years ago. This report provides a summary of its background, recent activities, projects and funding.

WHAT IS BIT?

The Trust is a company limited by guarantee and a registered charity. BIT's aims are to safeguard and manage important land and buildings and carry out other projects which are of benefit to the Bollington community. BIT is a community based 'development trust' and a member of the national body 'Locality', which represents the interests of similar trusts throughout the UK. The great advantage of having a development trust in Bollington is that it is a legal body that can hold and manage assets for the community, access grants that are not available to public bodies and can generate considerable voluntary effort. BIT is Bollington's Trust and is committed to working closely with other organisations in our town.

WHO MANAGES THE TRUST?

The Trust is wholly managed by Bollington residents and has seven legal trustees and three other members who together make up its Management Committee. These volunteers are all experienced professional people who bring skills of finance, property management, grant applications, heritage resources, education and other matters of relevance to the Trust's projects. Assembling this pool of skills is an important resource for Bollington and the Trust is open for others to join in the future.

OUR PROJECTS

The Trust has progressed three main projects to date.

TINKERS CLOUGH WOOD

Tinkers Clough Wood, near the Adelphi Mill off Grimshaw Lane, was leased to the Trust by its private owner for 99 years so that it could

BIT Management Committee:

*Will Spinks**
(Chair)
*David Haddleton**
(Secretary)
*Geoff Cloughton**
(Treasurer)
*Graham Barrow**
*Lester Humphreys**
*Kate Gooding**
*Mick Wilkins**
Peter Skinner
Margot Park
Shirley Sugden
*Sam al Hamdani**.*

**Trustees*

*** not included in photo*

If you would like to join BIT or have any questions or proposals please contact:
Will Spinks;
email: s.spinks1@ntlworld.com
telephone 01625 573413



be better managed and kept open to the public. The mixed deciduous wood had fallen into disrepair after the former Macclesfield Groundwork Trust had carried out a project to improve it but subsequently sold the land when they relocated from Bollington.



BIT began by producing a management plan for the site, which outlined the work required. This plan was necessary to access further funding for site works. A total of £80,000 was raised and spent on:

- *Felling unwanted or over-mature trees*
- *Re-instating the path and bridge which link the canal towpath to the Middlewood Way*
- *Removing litter and rubbish, improving the river and drainage*
- *Re-building sections of the boundary wall and erecting an entrance marker stone*
- *Producing a small publicity leaflet about the wood*

Volunteers maintain the wood for everyone and put right the inevitable vandalism that takes place from time to time.

The Trust would like to form a 'Friends of Tinkers Clough' group and is investigating this at the moment.

TURNER'S LODGE

One of the first building projects tackled by BIT was to acquire, from the former Macclesfield Borough Council, the disused toilet block at the bottom of Ingersley Road. The negotiations took over two years, but the Trust eventually received the closed and deteriorating building and set about producing plans for its conversion for community uses, including ideas for a small office or an information centre.

An attractive scheme was prepared by the Trust's architect, Peter Skinner, but it proved difficult to assemble sufficient finance to carry out the works. A break-through was achieved through a partnership with Go-Lo Macclesfield (an organisation established to promote the then Government's Green Deal Project). Largely with Go-Lo funding the building was converted at a cost of £85,000 to be a demonstration building with high levels of insulation and energy-saving features and was



leased to Go-Lo Macclesfield as their Bollington office. With the demise of the Green Deal, Go-Lo terminated their lease agreement and the building needed a new use.

After discussing the opportunity with a number of voluntary organisations it was decided to lease the building commercially to the Bollington-based business 'Simplicity Granite' and the renamed 'Turner's Lodge' now provides an annual rental income to the Trust to spend on other community projects.

THE WATER STREET CENTRE

The largest project tackled by the Trust to date has been saving the old Bollington secondary school building on Water Street. After several years of negotiation with the Council, the Trust eventually had the building transferred to its ownership in 2014. The Trust had been successfully managing the building with a management agreement with the local authority for some years, and accumulating a fund to restore the building.

The not-for-profit Bollington Pre-School, occupies the lower floor and has been the main partner



with the Trust in its vision to create a Bollington Family Hub. In recent years the Bollington Brownies and Guides have been using the upper floor.

The Trust has carried out a thorough condition survey and produced plans to repair and slightly extend the building to accommodate a disabled toilet and a much needed lift to the first floor. The roof is in urgent need of repair and the upstairs toilets require attention.

With a grant of £14,500 from the Government's Bright Ideas Fund the Trust has been working with 'Locality' to produce a detailed plan to develop a Family Hub. Surveys of local public opinion about this vision have been carried out and a financial plan for operating the Family Hub

has been produced. The final scheme to convert the building could cost as much as £400,000.

Other projects investigated which have not proceeded

In addition to the above projects the trust has also investigated other projects (a heritage skills training centre and field study centre at Savio House; the conversion of the former Lowther Street School to starter business units; the replacement or redevelopment of the Recreation Ground pavilion) which did not proceed for a variety of reasons despite considerable effort on BIT's and others part.

Finance

The Trust, from its small beginnings, has attracted some income and regularly attracts grants for various feasibility studies, business plans and capital works for projects.

BIT's Annual Finance report for 2017/18

For the year that ended October 2017 the total income was £33,378 of which £15,364 (46%) came from grants and £17,960 (54%) from rental income from a combination of Turner's Lodge and Water Street.

Kate Gooding

AHEAD OF THE CURVE?

Some might say Bollington is 'ahead of the curve' in many things. We have a fantastically active Town Council and nearly have our own neighbourhood plan; we have our very own Trust – BIT – looking after historical buildings; we have the 'Transition Bollington Group'... this is to name but a few initiatives Bollingtonians have thrown themselves into for the good of the town and the people living here.

But are we 'ahead of the curve' in our food offerings to the townsfolk and others visiting? We have many excellent food outlets from take-aways to tapas and everything in between, but where are the vegan menus?

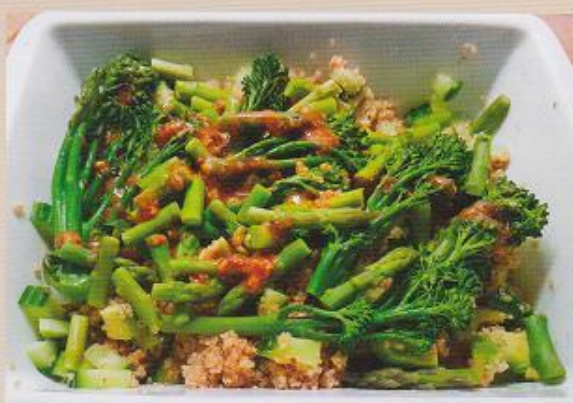
With 'Jeganuary' coming up, (where we are being encouraged to eat only plant-based food for the month of January), what are we going to eat? and more importantly, where can we go for a good meal out?

So here's a start – why not try making this at home....
Quinoa Greens easy supper.

Start by cooking the quinoa as it says on the packet; lightly steam any green vegetables you have in the fridge and set aside; chop some cucumber and an avocado into chunks and set aside.

To make the dressing: Put a large dollop of almond butter (crunchy one is best) in a measuring jug with a few spoons of olive oil just to thin the butter. Add lemon juice, chilli flakes and salt and pepper to taste.

To assemble: drain the quinoa and put in a shallow serving dish, put all the other ingredients on the top and drizzle over the dressing. Top with some flaked nuts if you like. Enjoy!



With over 600,000 vegans in the UK today and almost 4 out of 10 britons buying meat-free or vegetarian food why can't we simply choose something vegan from a pub or restaurant menu? So a plea – please don't lump together 'diary-free, gluten-free and vegan' and think that will appease those 'funny eaters'. **A choice is what we want!**

Annette Hurst

tyrZ

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HEALTH & LEISURE

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CALLING ALL PARENTS!

Have you got a couple of hours to spare each week to help a young family achieve the best possible start in life? Parent volunteers are supporting families from all backgrounds and walks of life in Bollington as well as in surrounding towns and villages.

Modern family life can be a struggle: we don't always live in the communities where we grew up and parents often return to work when children are very young. Rarely now do we have the benefit of nearby friends and family support networks, reliable neighbours and local knowledge. Combine this with other factors such as postnatal depression, multiple births, single parenthood, illness, disability and bereavement and you have a recipe for social isolation, unhappiness and family distress. This is not what any parent wants for themselves or their children.

This is where Home-Start can help. In 1973 this marvellous organisation was set up in Leicester by Margaret Harrison, a full-time mum, who recognised that there were gaps in informal support as traditional family networks disintegrated. The model is very simple yet effective. Volunteers who are parents themselves offer a couple of hours each week to help other parents in their own homes. Support comes in many different forms. It might be practical support in helping families to cope with multiple births when there simply aren't enough pairs of hands, eyes or ears! Or emotional support for

parents who feel overwhelmed or are struggling with mental health issues such as postnatal depression or social anxiety. Visiting a toddler group for the first time can be a very daunting and stressful experience on your own, but much less so with

**WHEN MY TWINS WERE
BORN PREMATURELY
I ALREADY HAD
TWO VERY YOUNG
CHILDREN AND DIDN'T
KNOW HOW I WOULD
COPE. MY HOME-
START VOLUNTEER
WAS INVALUABLE
AND REALLY HELPED
ME FIND MY FEET. I'M
HOPING ONE DAY TO
BECOME A VOLUNTEER
AND CONTINUE TO
OFFER HELP TO MUMS
WHO NEED IT'**

A Young Mum

the accompaniment of a friendly and supportive volunteer. Or quite simply, just a friend who will visit each week, listen, offer reassurance around parenting skills and help with play activities.

There are now Home-Start organisations across the UK who are linked to the leading national charity Home-Start UK. Home-Start Cheshire was set up in 1998 and we currently have around 100 volunteers supporting young families throughout the county.

We are always looking for new volunteers to join our team. All you need is to be a parent yourself, be reasonably fit and healthy, have a couple of hours free each week and be friendly and reliable. You might be retired, your children might have flown the nest, or you might want some work experience with children and families.

Home Start

**Support and friendship
for families**

Cheshire

Full training is provided via a 6-week course (one day each week, 9.30am-2.30pm) and you will be fully supported in the role. You are never on your own as a Home-Start volunteer and it can be a very rewarding and enjoyable experience: volunteering can give a real sense of purpose and self-satisfaction, raise your confidence and enable you to meet new people.

Home-Start needs YOU! For further information and how to apply, please visit our website www.homestartcheshire.org.uk or contact our main office on 01606 606 441. Your local Coordinator will get in touch with further details. We very much look forward to hearing from you.

Kathryn Dewick

**I REALLY ENJOY
VISITING MY HOME-
START FAMILY EACH
WEEK. IT HAS GIVEN
ME A REAL FEELING
OF HAPPINESS AND
PRIDE TO WATCH THEM
DEVELOP CONFIDENCE
AND NEW SKILLS AND
KNOW THAT SOME OF
IT IS DOWN TO ME**

Homestart Volunteer



THE METHODISTS & WATER STREET SCHOOL

In the recent Bollington Initiative Trust leaflet about developing a Family Hub at the Water Street School it said that has been a secondary school but it was much more! It was actually built by the Methodist Church based in Wellington Road in the mid 1800s and the history books of Bollington refer to it as the Wesleyan School.

The Methodists, around the same time, built what was known as the Large Sunday School where Bollington Library and Civic Hall now stand. Water Street School was built, according to the history of Wellington Road Methodist Church, in 'the Elizabethan style' with departments for boys and girls. This Methodist Church School was handed over in 1910 to the local council and became a Council School, which I attended in 1940 until I passed the eleven plus and went to the Kings School.

In the same year the Water Street School became a secondary school with split premises in Water Street and the Large

Sunday School (Note: this term was used throughout the North West. The Macclesfield Large Sunday School now houses the Silk Museum and the Cinemas). Before that Water Street School was a primary school. I think one of the reasons the Methodists gave the building up was that the building needed upgrading. It remained a secondary for a comparatively short time but those who went to it have very happy memories of the school and the staff.

Although the Church of England and the Roman Catholic Church still have many church schools the Methodist Church now has very few. I have many happy memories of my time at Water Street Primary School,



which had the advantage for me of just being round the corner as I lived in Market Place on High Street and our house looked directly at the school across the river Dean.

The Methodists were the first to build several churches in the town. The Wesleyan Methodists built a new church as well as building the Sunday school and Water Street School. I presume the finances came from prominent Methodists; these included Thomas Oliver (of Oliver's men) and the Swindells family who once owned Clarence Mill and Adelphi Mill.

In addition, money would come from local traders and the members of the church. This, plus the possibility of building materials being close at hand from the quarries at the back of Water Street and (in those days) cheap labour and land to build on, made this possible. The land was formerly known as Birchwood Meadow.

The Revd Canon Roy Arnold

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Above: Teachers at Water Street School 1930: Miss Burrens, Ted Billington, Miss Wilde, Miss Barber, George Williamson



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ALICE'S FIRST 10K

The Bollington run is in its 5th year and this year Alice shares her memories of doing the run for the first time.

'The feeling at the start of the race, setting off in a swarm of runners was brand new to me and my limbs immediately felt heavy. Each stride felt ten times the usual effort. All I could think was 'why am here on a Sunday morning? I could be in bed'.

'I signed up this year because it was exactly the motivation I needed to make sure I do regular exercise. Speaking to friends after the race it struck me how different everyone's reasons for running are. Others like me are motivated to feel the health benefits, building mental strength and as a form of stress relief. Some get involved for the physical benefits and enjoy the challenge of seeing what their bodies are capable of. And for lots of people it's a social activity, being part of a local running club and spending time with friends. Running to the pub seemed to be a firm favourite for many.'

'Before the race, I told myself it didn't matter about the time but I was secretly hoping to finish in less than an hour. It wasn't until after the first few kilometres that I was able to shake the heavy feeling away and even then, I was not prepared for the hilly first leg towards Shrigley Hall, and the signpost telling me I was 4k in did little to reassure me.'

'Seeing supportive familiar faces, out in the rain, waving to us and shouting encouragement helped us along. During the final push down Princess Drive, the time



board came into view and I was shocked to see 59 minutes flashing in front of me. I sprinted to the end to clinch the sub-hour finish I'd hoped for.'

Special thanks to the race sponsors: Holmes Naden, Canalside Community Radio and the Cooperative.

And a big thank you to all our marshals and everyone that volunteered their time on the day.

Tom Horsfield

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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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