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live

Issue 85 Autumn 2022

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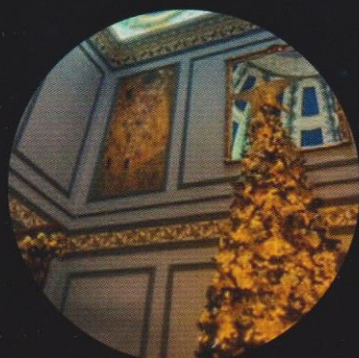
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T'S & C'S APPLY. SUBJECT TO AVAILABILITY

LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

I've shortened my usual letter this time to fit in more articles as we have had lots of people send in contributions and also more businesses wanting to advertise with us which is great news.



I hope you enjoy this varied issue, even though it is tinged with sadness following the passing of some much-loved members of our community, but they are fondly remembered in these pages. The what's on section is back on page 22 with events for November and December and we have everything from writing books and music to the history of the Salesians at Savio

If you have any ideas for the next issue, please email me: liveditor@happyvalley.org.uk

Date for next copy:
16th Jan 2023

House – something for everyone I hope.

To all our advertisers, sponsors, supporters, deliverers, the Printshop, everyone involved in this amazing magazine and YOU the readers - thank you for keeping Bollington Live alive!

Annette

HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

Members of Bollington Horticultural Society had an excellent summer day trip when they visited gardens at Thornbridge Hall near Ashford in the Water, near Bakewell, followed by Cascade Gardens at Bonsall, near Matlock.

Thornbridge Gardens were very relaxed and laid out mainly to the original 1890s design, with woodland, lakes and an Italian garden.

For many of us, the highlight of



the day was Cascade Gardens. The owner, Alan Clements, has spent a lot of time in India and China and was impressed by how nature was included in garden design. He wanted to re-create this in the quarry he owned, which also had been the site of an old corn mill and lead mine.

Alan started the work 26 years ago, so the garden is mature. There were plenty of seats dotted about so we could sit and appreciate the surrounding trees and plants, many of which Alan had bought from China. Some tasteful buddha statues and icons were placed among the foliage. In wet weather dozens of waterfalls cascade down the quarry, but unfortunately our visit coincided with the heatwave and there was only a small trickle!



Meeting third Thursday of the month.
www.happyvalley.org.uk/horticulture

Our visit was followed by afternoon tea, including homemade cakes, and another opportunity to buy plants, including bonsai.

Thanks to whoever planted all the wild flowers at the Middlewood Way entrance off Grimshaw Lane. They have been beautiful for weeks!

YOUR TEAM

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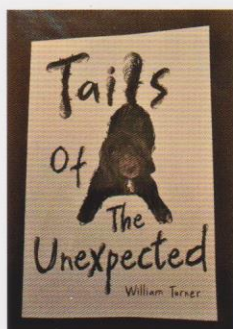
Back Issues: www.happyvalley.org.uk/live

IT'S A DOG'S LIFE

I recently moved to the lovely village of Bollington, and I've noticed the huge amount of dog owners there are in the village.

I've always been a dog lover myself, having grown up with a furry friend by my side; in fact, I have always loved all animals and have been fascinated with nature. So, a few years back, I decided to set up a dog-walking business as I was fed up of working in an office environment. The business became hugely successful and within six months I had already become really busy, establishing a dog day-care centre, with training and grooming included. I had a couple of vans out on the road for collecting and dropping off dogs from their homes for daytime walking and had taken on a few extra staff. Anyway, the long and short is that I sold the business in early 2020 and then along came Covid. So, I found myself restless again and wondering what to do next.

Inspired by my working life with dogs I decided to write a book on the subject and keep myself busy



in lockdown. Much to my surprise I was offered two publishing deals, and so the book became more than just a way of keeping occupied.

The book is entitled *Tails of The Unexpected* (published under a pseudonym William Turner) and contains several funny short stories about my life with dogs and some practical tips for the health and welfare of your dog, and it also contains some beautiful colour illustrations

I have raised money before on behalf of the Battersea Dogs & Cats Home by participating in their annual 'Muddy Dog Challenge', which involves a fun run, with your dog, over obstacles and water jumps – a great way to have fun with your dog and raise a bit of money for a great cause. Consequently, I've decided to donate half of all profits of my book, this time to a different charity – Dogs Trust.

Dogs Trust is an amazing organisation that rehomes dogs from all over Europe, and their ultimate aim is to stop the unnecessary destruction of dogs



that simply need a loving home, by adoption, fostering and sponsoring any dogs in need. This organisation gets no government funding and relies on the generosity of the general public.

So, by buying my little book, you will be helping, as £5 for each copy sold will go directly to Dogs Trust. The book is suitable for all ages, families, or anyone who just loves dogs.

Julian Jones

LIFE LESSONS

How much does your 10- or 11-year-old know about money management? If, like my primary-age grandchildren, they are the same as millions of others, extraordinarily little! Yet, according to research carried out by the Money and Financial Service, 5.3 million children do not receive a meaningful financial education.

However, the four-member team from Pettengell Wealth Management, based in Adelphi Mill, decided they want to change these statistics. So the team, all completed a financial wellness core accreditation and examination,

As there was a personal connection with Park Royal School in Macclesfield, they chose to trial their first two financial education workshops – 'Money Matters'

– with a total of sixty 10- and 11-year-olds.

During the sessions, the students played various fun games, which introduced them to the concept of risk and reward, investing, saving, budgeting, lending and borrowing, to name but a few – all with the aim of teaching them how to make money grow and increase their confidence in managing their own money.

The school students, teachers and Pettengell staff themselves all thoroughly enjoyed the sessions. The feedback from the students and teachers was really positive.

'I love how we got to see how money works and I also got to understand that money doesn't grow on trees.'

'It made me think differently about how to spend my money.'

'Anything that sounds too good to be true most likely is.' One aspect of the programme was a scam phone call from Rich Ricky, from the Caribbean, offering high returns for little investment on the fictitious £500 each student was given to invest at the outset of the sessions; worryingly, most of the children initially believed him!

The Pettengell Group, after this initial trial run, are keen to put something back into the Bollington community next year, so will be contacting local primary schools to offer to deliver the free workshops to their 10- and 11-year-olds. I'm sure that the schools that take up this kind offer will find their students (and teachers) will acquire a very useful life skill.

Kate Gooding

TWICE ABOVE THE ATLANTIC

In 2016 Aiden Appleton flew to America as part of his degree in Music Composition, studying for a year at the University of North Florida. During this time, his university friend took a 1978 Lincoln Continental automatic across America, carrying a two-person tent in the back.

His friend managed to cover 10,000 miles in the Lincoln, fitting the trip around his exams, and started filming the journey to show his family back home. This then took the form of a documentary which, four years later, he made into a feature-length film. Having been chauffeured around for part of the trip, Aiden (a guitarist and composer) came on board to co-write the soundtrack. Aiden has a background in orchestral music composition across many platforms

including video games (my son's ears prick up!).

On hearing the album, *Twice Above the Atlantic*, it's hard to believe this is the first time two orchestral composers have created something that leans towards pop/folk/indie and is more mainstream. The album tracks wouldn't sound out of place on Radio 1 or 2 and the artists they hunted down from the UK, America and Canada have gorgeous voices. Aiden explained they set out to be all-inclusive with their music; it's a refreshing change from lyrics about women wearing bikinis in nightclubs, and it oozes the atmosphere of good old John Denver!

It all feels very honest, not trying to impress a young crowd or fit a certain mould, and devoid of any ego. They have even had copies

Photo:
Aiden and his friend Marcus on their American road trip

of the album made into gorgeous old-school cassettes and CDs (in the same colour scheme as the Lincoln!).

Despite dabbling with the American dream, Aiden is very much settled in Bollington, where he was welcomed by such support from the community when he moved here. As for the Lincoln, it's still going strong; having been brought back to the UK, it's currently on a ferry to Portugal for a run around in the sunshine.

You can listen to the single releases from *Twice Above the Atlantic* on Spotify and buy the album (old school style!) at www.aidenappleton.com/music as a very cool Christmas gift or something nice for yourself.

Hannah Atkin





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SEVENTY YEARS AT SAVIO



For the last 70 years, Savio House has been home to a Salesian Community of priests and brothers, the Salesians of Don Bosco (SDB), a religious order in the Catholic Church who dedicate their lives to serving young people.

Originally, Ingersley Hall was acquired to meet the training needs of the Order because in 1952 the neighbouring Salesian Missionary College at Shrigley Hall was too full, so those studying philosophy in preparation for the priesthood were transferred to Ingersley Hall, now called Savio House.

Today Savio House is a residential youth retreat centre and in this beautiful location we offer a unique retreat experience for young people from schools across the north; from Preston to Birmingham, from Doncaster to North Wales. It is indeed, as our logo tagline says, 'A place to be'.

'A place to be'

... with friends, on retreat, away from the pressures of home or school ...

... to be challenged, inspired, encouraged, affirmed ...

... to be more the person God created, a volunteer retreat team member ...

... to be relaxed, on holiday, prayerful and reflective ...

... to be searching for meaning, understanding, belonging and acceptance ...

The potential and possibilities are almost limitless.

The resident Salesian community of SDBs and young lay volunteers is dedicated to offering an inspiring, challenging and often life-changing three-day retreat experience to over 2,500 young people each year. Based on the oratory model of Don Bosco, we welcome young people from many different backgrounds and situations, helping them to feel

at home with us and experience a secure sense of belonging. This is a really important element of the retreat and has to be achieved in the first few hours of our encounter if we are to make the most of the great opportunity of the subsequent days.

Through reflecting and sharing the stories of their lives, through our affirmation session and other activities, we help the young people to learn a little more about themselves, their God-given gifts and talents, and their great potential for good; something Don Bosco was always keen to emphasise.

In good Salesian style, in and through all of this, is a joyful atmosphere of games and fun, music and laughter, and moments of free time and recreation spent together, building up relationships among the young people and building up trust between them and their staff and the retreat team. It is the quality of these new, short and intense relationships, based on friendship and trust, that allows the work of the retreat to have a positive impact on their lives.

But no sooner have we connected with the youngsters and learnt – and remembered – their names, they are gone. The retreat experience is very short and intense, demanding a great deal of energy, resilience, confidence and compassion from the retreat team.

We are blessed at Savio House each year by the presence, generosity,



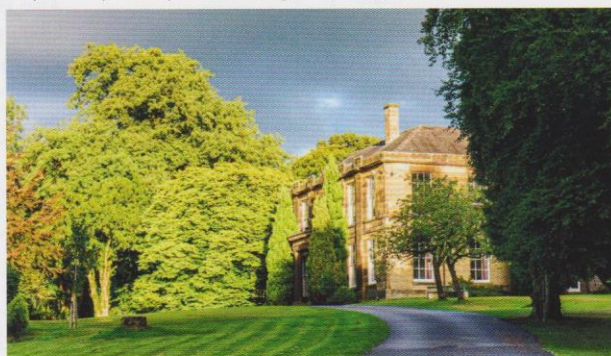
Statue of Dominic Savio, a student of Don Bosco, after whom the centre is named

If you would like to know more about the Salesians and their work at Savio House please visit the website or contact the Rector, Martin Coyle.

www.saviohouse.org.uk

mcoylesdb@gmail.com

Ingersley Hall became Savio House



hard work and witness of a team of young Salesian volunteers. They are able to share with the young people their own experience of faith, of searching for meaning, of questioning and struggling with growing up, and listen to their stories and experience with great understanding and empathy; this is young people ministering to young people – again, a Salesian characteristic of Don Bosco's oratory experience.

We are a mixed-gender, mixed-age (18–80 years), multi-racial and multicultural community. In 2022 we are made up of 11 people from 11 different countries! The fact that we can live and work together as a community is a great blessing and a powerful witness to the young people, who have often experienced a breakdown of relationships and very fragmented situations in their lives. And at a deeper level, our community experience reflects a little of the universality of the Church and the great richness and diversity of the Christian community.

While most of our time and work focuses on the young people who come on retreat to Savio House, that's not the whole story. We have strong links with the parish of St Gregory in Bollington, and we welcome other groups, including other youth ministry groups of the Salesian Province. This brings in the wider group of Salesian volunteers and animators, gives opportunities for the Savio House retreat team to reach out to other projects and activities and fills Savio House with groups of young people for summer holidays and projects, including youth leadership programmes and training. In turn and in time, this activity attracts new volunteers for Savio House and the Salesian volunteer network.

Savio House remains a very special place to be.

Martin Coyle SDB

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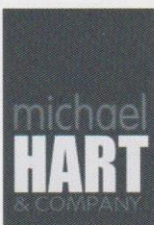
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BOLLINGTON BY SYLVIA ROBERTS

In this issue you can meet another of our Bollington residents who has made the town home, brought up a family, worked in the community and given something back to the place that made them feel welcome.

When did you come to Bollington?

I came here in the 1960s. I was born in Blackpool, lived in Manchester for a while, then Higher Poynton, and in 1965 my husband Alan and I moved to Bollington and found our forever home. Both my children were born here, and I worked at the playschool and ran Suttons estate agents, which is now a restaurant.

What sparked your desire to become involved in local politics?

It was a conversation I had with Frank Hall, a serving Bollington councillor who impressed me so much. I knew it was something I could hopefully do. I stood for the Council, was elected to both Town and Macclesfield councils, and later served on the County Council. My two sessions as Bollington Town Mayor were truly memorable, as well as a great deal of fun.

What did you like most about being Mayor?

Meeting new people has always been a pleasure. It was lovely to be able to put names to faces and get out and about around not only Bollington, but also, formally representing a place I love, to many other towns and villages in Cheshire East. One of the best bits was visiting the local primary schools. It was slightly easier the second time around, as I was not a complete novice and I had as my consort the inimitable Betty Bonson, known and loved by everybody. That was the year that Bollington's tip was expanded and improved, and I was asked to open it. How does one open a tip? Only one thing to do: I took my own bag of rubbish!

During your time on the Council,

what are you proud of?

The fact that I was instrumental in sorting out the Market Place and Green, when the Borough Council was galvanised into upgrading it and replacing and re-siting the chains and Kerridge stone along the High Street frontage. It's now a very pleasant area, which has been, on occasions, restored to its market-place status and is at the heart of the Bollington's historic triangle.

What was the worst thing you had to face as a councillor?

The flooding on Oldham Street was horrendous, it began in Lamaload, cascaded clear down to Bollington, right through the paper-coating factory, along Oldham Street, over to the Green, through several of the cottages and then right along the cottages backing onto the river on Water Street, causing flooding the whole way. Since nobody took responsibility, many residents were left with huge water damage to their homes and belongings, and a great many of them had inadequate or even no insurance coverage. Fortunately nobody was hurt physically but there was huge mental stress to a large group of residents as well as financial concerns.

What would you like to see improve in Bollington?

I would like to see an improvement in parking. A while ago there was some idea of purchasing some land on the outskirts of Bollington and providing transport into the town. Nothing ever came of this. Parking continues to be a problem. The Tesco development has worsened the traffic problems.

How do you relax?

By singing in two local choirs and being a member of Bollington Art Group. I am still involved in the organisation of the senior citizen's party, despite being older than some of the invited guests!



Travelling is a joy, and I am also keen to show off my own country. I've been a registered Blue Badge tour guide for several years, to Japanese and American visitors, over much of the UK. I love being a grandma to two lively boys and enjoy time with my lovely daughter Sarah.

I believe you have a claim to television fame? Can you tell us about it?

Many people will remember 'The Krypton Factor' from the 1990s, which had contestants competing to solve puzzles and having their physical and mental abilities tested. I entered, did quite well and really enjoyed the experience. As it was challenging physically, I enrolled both Dr Maurice Coope and the athletics teacher from a local school to get me up to scratch – they both injured themselves and I got off scot free!

How green are you?

Very, I hope. I love gardening and growing things. I recycle everything and try to keep as active as much as possible.

Thank you, Sylvia, you are certainly continuing to be active in retirement.

Sandy Milsom

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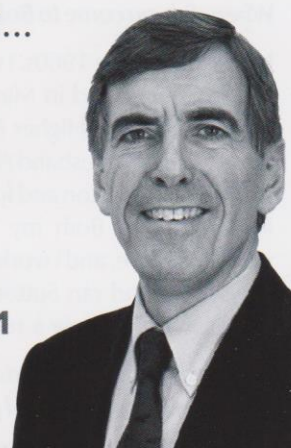
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DANCE MAGIC

'Dancing; having fun; imagining; feeling musicality and rhythm; sharing and making friends.' These are just some of the attributes that children will experience if they attend 'babyballet®,' an award-winning preschool dance programme for boys and girls from 6 months to 6 years.

The opportunity to undertake these fun and exciting classes is now available here in Bollington. They take place at the Civic Hall every Friday and are taught by local resident Briony Young Cooper – or

'Miss Briony' (photo left), as the parents, carers and children call her, following the traditions



If you are interested please contact wilmslowand macclesfield@ babyballet.co.uk or Miss Ellie (photo above) on 07496 429724 who will be delighted to talk to you.

of the ballet world.

Briony, a fully qualified early years and primary school teacher, has many years' experience of dance and is an enthusiastic advocate of this programme. Indeed, her own young son is now attending the Tinies sessions at the Civic Hall.

This franchised programme, which began in 2005, now has eighty babyballet® schools across the UK. Miss Ellie, the owner of babyballet® Wilmslow and Macclesfield, opened her business in December 2021 and is now running nineteen classes a week, currently taking place in Bollington, Macclesfield, Prestbury, Adderley Edge, Tytherington and Wilmslow, with the support of her wonderful teachers Miss Briony and Miss Chloe.

These classes take place within a fun and caring environment and are fully inclusive, taking account of children's individual learning and behavioural styles and personalities. No boy or girl is excluded from attending a class. Indeed, Makaton and 'sign-along' sign language is often used to ensure inclusivity for children with additional needs.

There are four age-related classes:

Tots (6–18 months) This includes musical playtime with toys and opportunities for children and parents/ carers to enjoy together.

Tinies (18 months–3 years) In these classes children are encouraged to explore and further their ability to move sing and dance.

Movers (3–4 years) Here



the focus is on developing gross motor skills and basic ballet rhythm.

Tappers (3 years+) Combined with 'Movers' and 'Groovers', children in these classes make a noise with their tap shoes set to catchy songs!

Groovers (4½–6 years) In these classes rhythm and posture-enhancing ballet techniques are now introduced in a more structured way and children are encouraged to improve their coordination, balance, and self-control.

During all these classes, the children get to 'meet' the babyballet® characters – Twinkle, Teddy, Flutterstar, Chuck the Cowboy, Grandad Jack, Kitty the Car and the Castle in the Sky. These characters all have different personalities and attributes, which help to enhance the whole learning experience.

Other ballet traditions are adhered to, such as curtsying and bowing at end of each session. In the future, children may be able to take part in a performance, but currently this is not part of the local programme.

Kate Gooding



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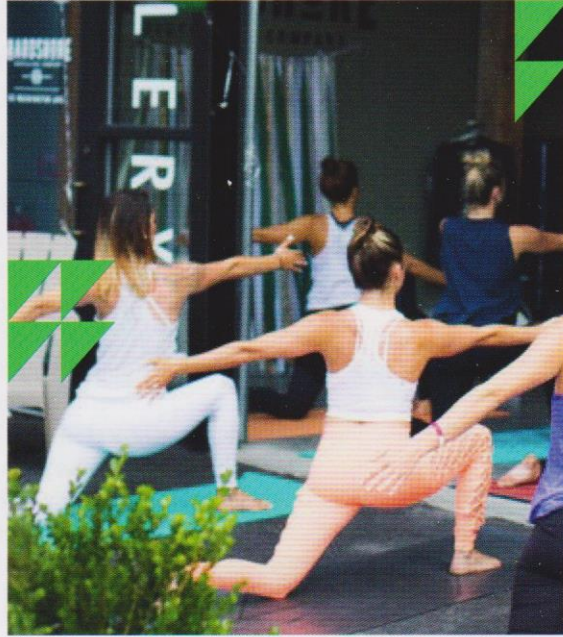
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Bollington Festival Wellness

Community health and wellbeing are the very foundation of the Bollington Festival. In the 1960s, festival founder Dr John Coope, of the Bollington Medical Practice, realised that the root of many of his patients' ailments was, in fact, a lack of social engagement.





BOLLINGTON FESTIVAL 2024 MAY 10 - 27

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@bollingtonfestival

Dr John created the festival as a vehicle for bringing the community together through musical, athletic, scientific, social, theatrical, choral and artistic activity.

To honour our founder during our Diamond Jubilee Festival, we are developing a special programme of wellbeing events which will run throughout May 2024.

Wellbeing is defined as '*a sense of health and vitality that arises from our emotions, thoughts, experiences and actions*'.

When we have wellbeing, we feel happy, healthy, socially connected and purposeful for most of the time.

As we all know, Bollington is an extremely vibrant community, buzzing with wellbeing activities: pottery classes, football, music, yoga, heritage talks, fitness, knitting groups, beekeeping, trail running, mental health groups, cricket, scouts and meditation - to name but a few!

Our hope is that during the festival, local businesses and individuals will engage with the community by providing classes, taster sessions and talks which showcase their wellbeing services or products.

Long term, we hope to lay the foundations for continued future practices, with a proportion of folk enjoying the new experiences presented by all this social, physical and intellectual interaction so much, that they take up the activities beyond the duration of the festival!

The festival organisers would very much welcome proposals from businesses or individuals to run or sponsor wellbeing events as part of the festival programme.

Do please email Sara Knowles at this address to share your thoughts and ideas:
wellbeing@bollingtonfestival.org.uk



Bollington Festival, May 2024

The Bollington Festival is an important and much-loved part of Bollington's DNA. We believe it is the largest, entirely volunteer-run festival in the country. The festival began in 1964 and has been running, roughly every four years, ever since. May 2024 will be the festival's Diamond Jubilee - mark your diary! With your help, 2024 will be the most exciting, most foot-stomping, colourful, engaging, inclusive, creative, inspiring, memorable, FUN Festival yet!

Feeling Lucky? Try The Festival Lottery!

We could all do with a bit of extra cash. Try your luck with the Festival Lottery - for just £1 a week (for as many weeks as you like), you could win the weekly prize draw, while also contributing much needed funds to the festival coffers. Half of the money raised by the lottery is put back into the festival. Visit the website today to enter:
www.bollingtonfestival.org.uk
Good luck!

FONDLY REMEMBERED

DANIEL GOULD

Earlier this year I lost a good friend and Bollington lost one of its best when Daniel Gould sadly past away at the age of 41.

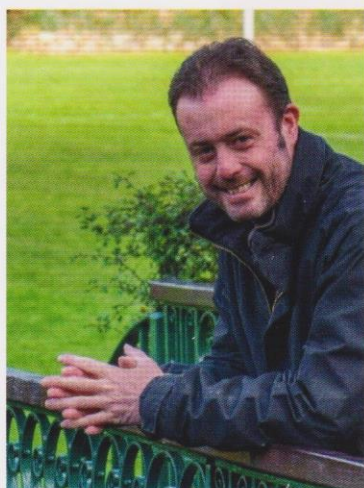
He was a rare thing was Daniel, someone you could rely on, have a laugh with, a drink with, someone who was honest, hard working and loved by everyone. It was an honour and a priveledge to have known him since we were both 4 years old.

Since he died the people of Bollington have poured out their love, respect and admiration for Dan by the bucket full. A candle lit vigil took place which was witnessed by close to 200 people.

More recently at the Bollington Beer Festival a barrel of 'Bollingtons Best' was named in his honour and was well drunk by all.

I've got a long list of memories of Dan, enough to probably fill a full issue of Bollington Live on its own, but I don't think I'll ever get used to driving through the village and not see him waving to me as he was on his way for a quick pint, or have him popping in the printshop to help him with his computer problems. Rest easy Dan, I'll see you round the bend.

Matt Wray



DENNIS GOODWIN

Dennis was born on 22 July 1934 on Chancery Lane, the only child of George Goodwin and Ellen Unwin. In his boyhood he was a choirboy – that is, when he wasn't bunking off school to watch the cricket and smoking Woodbines, hiding them in the wall on High Street so his mum and dad didn't find out!

For his National Service Dennis signed up for the Royal Air Force. Already a great cricketer, he played a key role in his squadron's cricket team. With an important game coming up, his squadron leader asked if he was looking forward to it, Dennis replied that as he was scheduled to be on duty he wouldn't be able to play. Dennis was so pivotal to the team that his squadron leader made sure his shifts were changed to allow him to play!

He met Margaret at Rhoda Dawson's tea dance in Bollington, and they married on 22 December 1962. They had two daughters: Jane and Katy. They settled on Gleave Avenue, where he lived for over fifty years. Dennis worked at Henry & Leigh Slater in Bollington for over 35 years, starting as post boy and working his way up to sales manager. Sadly, Margaret died in October 2003.

As well as his family, Dennis's love was cricket, and he is part of the very fabric of Bollington Cricket Club. He played for the first team for many years, with Margaret doing the teas and Jane and Katy spending time at the Rec in Bollington, and the whole family would often travel to away games. When he could no longer play, he umpired and then became President, and went on many cricket tours. Dennis also enjoyed playing golf, and after leaving Slaters enjoyed a new career working in the golf centre

at Mottram Hall. His grandson, Jack, carried on Dennis's legacy as Captain for the 2022 season at Bollington Cricket Club.

In 2006, Dennis met Charlotte. They found much in common, including a mutual love of France. There followed some interesting 'dates', including a trip to see Christmas lights that weren't actually lit! On New Year's Day 2007 Dennis met Charlotte's children for the first time, and was soon accepted by them. Visiting again at Easter 2007, Dennis asked Charlotte's son to drive him to look at a new golf course. In fact, in the car, Dennis was asking Julian's permission to marry Charlotte! The wedding took place in November 2007.

Dennis had a stock of humorous phrases: *'Let's have the one we came for'* when everyone had already had enough to drink, but Dennis thought they could all manage another... *'Stick a geranium in your hat and be happy'* when someone was moaning ...

Dennis had a quadruple heart bypass in 2002, after which he enjoyed many years of good health, but sadly this began to falter, and he had several extended periods in hospital. He wasn't able to attend the traditional President's Day cricket match in 2021 and was only able to watch his beloved Bollington play cricket in August 2021 from the car. Charlotte nursed Dennis at home for as long as she could, enabling him to remain at home admiring his favourite view over Bollington and the hills beyond. Dennis was a true gentleman and a Bollingtonian through and through and was loved by many. He will be sorely missed by all who knew him. To use another one of his favourite sayings, Dennis would agree that he *'had a good innings'*.

'A cricket fan'

STEVE THE TREE

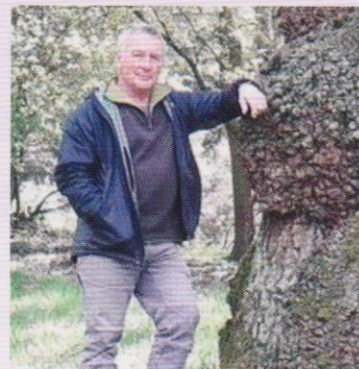
Recently, my good friend and colleague Steve Mitchell unfortunately and very sadly passed away. Steve was probably better known to many by his nickname 'Steve the Tree'. He was a well-known and popular member of the community, and over the years we have worked for many of the people of this town.

Steve's vast knowledge and experience in the field of arboriculture was second to none, and he always acted with professionalism and integrity. He has mentored and taught me many things and has helped many of the

young lads who wanted to enter the industry.

Steve grew up in Derbyshire and moved from place to place before eventually settling in Bollington over 40 years ago. He even spent a couple of years living and working in sunny San Francisco, California. Steve had many hobbies and interests; some of you might remember his long-serving companion, Flash (a Gordon Setter). Together, they would spend many an hour walking in the splendid countryside that we are so lucky to be surrounded by. He was a keen skier, enjoyed rock-climbing, and of course going

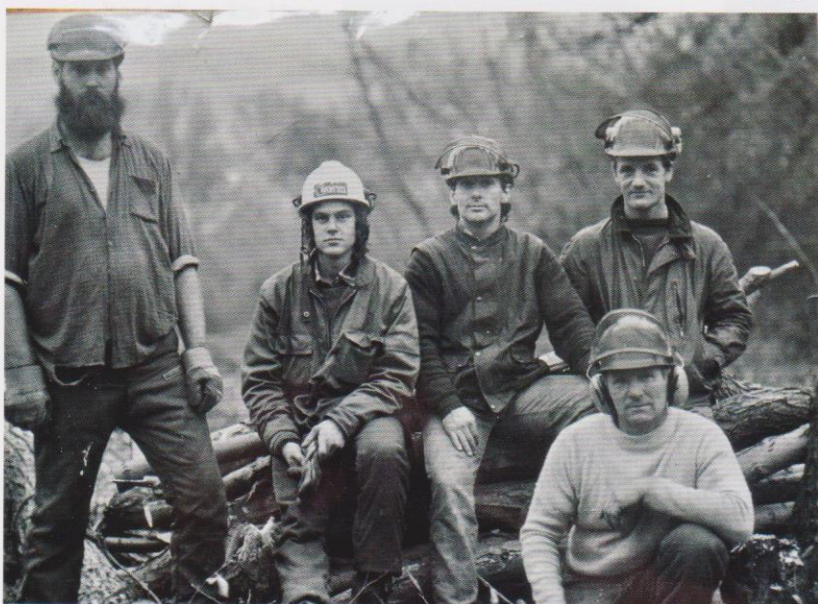
My colleagues and I shall be going on to carry on the good work, offering quality tree service. Please call 01625265204 or 07929219145 for free advice



to the pub! He could often be seen having a few pints in the Cotton Tree (or the Church House, The Poachers and the Meridien in the old days!). He was also interested in restoring old motorcycles and had a small collection of classic bikes that he enjoyed tinkering with in his workshop.

Steve and his lovely partner Janine were about to embark on a new chapter in life. He was planning to relocate to Buxton and was stepping back from work to lead a quieter life, unfortunately this never came to be. I know a lot of people in Bollington will remember Steve very fondly. Everyone I met in the village was greatly shocked with the news of his death because of how fit and active he was. I am sure you will all agree with me when I say: 'Rest in peace Steve the tree!'.

Gavin Raggett



'Old school tree dudes' circa 1980s

GETTING LOST... AND FOUND!

The Treehouse has re-energised one of Bollington's most creative landmarks, the Festival Labyrinth, while enjoying a sensory experience along the way.

As with all Treehouse community projects, both children and adults met on a beautiful Sunday morning to connect with each other and with nature. As well as laying the cardboard and bark, kids also spent time litter picking. Once the work was completed, the group spent time walking into the Labyrinth; getting lost but also finding a sense

of calm within the space.

In a few days, the team had managed to source a milk float (courtesy of eLov) full of cardboard and several tons of bark from local organisations, which helped improve accessibility to the Labyrinth.



Contact:
transition
bollington
@gmail.com

Situated along the Middlewood Way, the Labyrinth was designed and built as part of the 2009 Bollington Festival. It was funded by the National Lottery, with donations from Bollington and Cheshire East Council.

Richard Jones

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Geoff Kay

art

As a designer I have enjoyed painting from a young age but have recently rekindled my love for watercolour; painting landscapes and pet portraits in particular. As an animal lover, it is of great satisfaction to capture the true character of a beloved pet. From my home in Cheshire, allow me to bring your pets to life in a vibrant, illustrative portrait - the perfect gift!

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GRAVE FRIENDS

St Gregory's Roman Catholic church cemetery has been a fixture in Bollington since 1834, with many of the parishioners' loved ones resting there. Located on Chapel Street, where the old St Gregory's chapel was originally constructed, it is a peaceful and calm retreat from the outer world.

For decades the cemetery was lovingly cared for by Derek, followed by John and June from the parish; their house backed on to the graveyard. But with increasing age the volunteer job became too big and it passed to Chris and a few other volunteers who continued to care for this sacred space.



In 2021 the job passed to another parishioner, Alistair, who with his trusty band of three volunteers, work for a couple of hours a week chopping, digging, strimming and tidying whatever needs sprucing up. I visited one Wednesday morning to catch up with Alistair and his team and spent a lovely hour finding out what they are doing, how they are doing it and in Dave's case, why he is doing it!

The team are restoring and maintaining the graves and cemetery grounds, not only for aesthetic purposes but also for historical records. Almost all the older graves are grown over or even buried under soil and grass. It takes careful and sensitive excavating to unearth these hidden pieces of history which brings great joy to

the four people doing the digging.

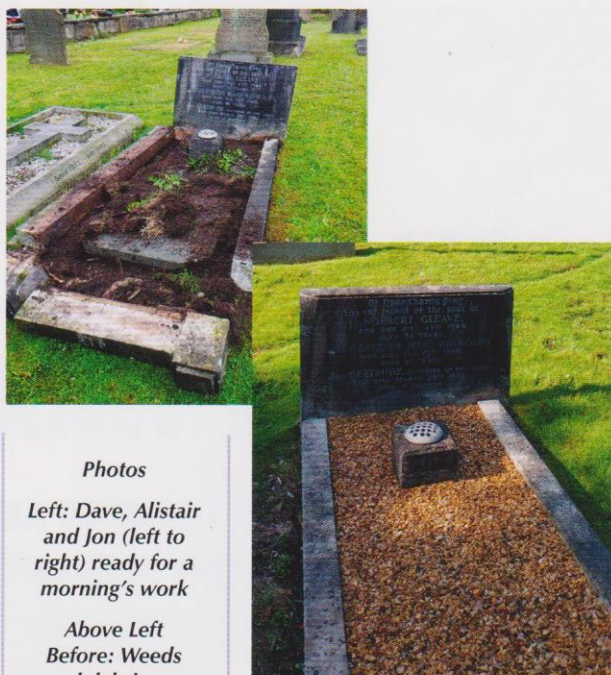
The oldest grave at the cemetery dates back to 1841 (rumour has it that John, the oldest member of the group, may have even known them). There are also two First World War graves, which are tended to on a yearly basis by the War Graves Commission.

The volunteers have been toiling away for over a year now and there is a visible improvement from when they started. Much work has gone into removing brambles, unwanted saplings and overgrown hedges. Dave, another volunteer who has a tyrannical hold over correct debris disposal, has just about managed to chop all the unwanted greenery into the green bin in precise four-inch pieces. If anyone fails to chop the garden waste this way, there are consequences!

Alistair usually brings the coffee for elevenses and Annette bakes weekly so all are fed and watered. Annette's cakes now even receive critique from the others and banter usually ensues on their 20-minute coffee break. Apparently, Dave's main reason for joining the volunteer team is to 'earn a few brownie points for when I pop my clogs', with John immediately quipping that he started on a minus!



When asked who is in charge, all fingers immediately point to Annette, who meekly smiles, feigning ignorance. She has been working on digging out completely



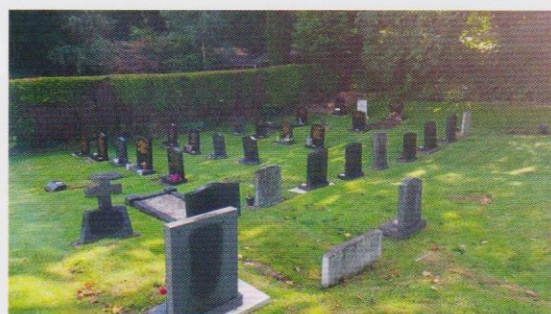
Photos

Left: Dave, Alistair and Jon (left to right) ready for a morning's work

Above Left Before: Weeds and debris are removed from an old overgrown grave

Above Right After: The old grave is refreshed with new stone chippings

submerged graves, revealing headstones which have been hidden for years. She is jokingly referred to as 'ideas woman', constantly suggesting new and innovative ways to improve the cemetery, which almost always fall on deaf ears or are labelled as 'too much like hard work'!



Left: Annette carefully removes years of weeds

Above: Newer part of the cemetery

One area that is receiving careful attention is the rose bed, as the roses were kindly donated by a late parishioner and bring much joy to those visiting. The volunteers are hoping to bring winter and spring colour to the circular bed while carefully keeping the existing roses.

Thank you to the team for sharing their stories with me, and thank you to them for lovingly maintaining this haven of peace in the centre of our village.

Miriam Beck



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MEET THE MAYOR

John Cadman Stewart is the current Bollington Town Mayor. In fact, 2022 to 2023 is his second time in office. His first term, in 2020, coincided with the Covid pandemic and lockdown, which meant meetings on Zoom and social distancing.

This year John can do what he enjoys most about the community, meeting the people of Bollington in person. John was born on the Wirral and lived in Helsby until his family moved to Hooton; he was the middle child in a family of five. He went on to study at the University of Salford with a sponsorship from GEC, and ended up running the factory from 1991 to 1994. In 1990 he married a concert pianist in France and they both spent four years in China working for the French company, Alstom. He returned to the UK as a business consultant. He and his wife divorced in 2000 and they have one son, Hadley.

John came to Bollington the following year. During his time at university he had often visited Bollington and felt he would like to live here too. First he rented, and then bought a house on Water Street. He met Lynne, his second wife, in London and they moved to Moss Lane. They had two boys who went to school in Bollington. They divorced in 2016. In addition to his job as CEO at Senior Aerospace in Congleton, John is the treasurer of Ruby's Fund, a charity supporting



families and carers of children with special educational needs and disabilities.

John was always interested in serving the community and was inspired to do something about it when a discussion in the pub concluded with a challenge for him to get involved and make a difference. While he's keen on giving something back and getting something done, his motivation is rooted in his strong values: 'I want to feel that I am doing the right thing.' In 2018 he was co-opted on to the Council, and in 2020 he was made Mayor at an online mayor-making ceremony. He received awards such as the Shuttle award, online. In 2022 he was recommended to wear the mayoral chain once again; this time the mayor-making was in person and John has been able to meet many members of the community.

As Mayor, John is keen to meet as many people as he can and

represent the Town Council at as many community events as possible. This year has seen him meeting senior residents celebrating significant birthdays, attending the late Queen's Platinum Jubilee celebrations, representing Bollington at Chester Cathedral, attending the senior citizens' party and the pre-school graduation, and many other events. The mayor has a Youth Consort, 17-year-old Tony Platt, who represents the young people of the town and ensures their views are represented.

John Stewart cares passionately about the environment and wants to preserve the great outdoors, and would like to look at ways in which the Council can reach the target of Bollington being carbon neutral by 2030. The ceremonial role of Town Mayor is valuable as an interface between the Council and the community and John is very active in the latter. He enjoys the chance to reach out to so many different groups and is happy to listen to people's concerns. He is delighted to see members of the community involved in projects that enhance the town; weeding the area around Ashbrook Road, for example.

When he hands over his chain of office, and providing he continues to be elected, John will be happy to continue to serve as a councillor in Bollington.

Sandy Milsom

BOLLINGTON CIVIC SOCIETY MEETINGS 2022/23

Community Centre, Ovenhouse Lane at 7.30pm; meetings are held on the 3rd Monday of each month (unless there is a bank holiday).

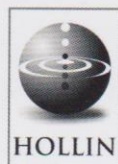
Monday 21 November 2022

AGM followed by details of the revisions to the Neighbourhood Plan. Refreshments will be served.

Monday 16th January 2023 - Speakers to be arranged.

Annual membership is £10. Non-members can attend the meetings for a small fee.

If you would like more information or would like to join the Civic Society please contact Alan Wilson, alanwilson777@btinternet.com



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MAKING A DIFFERENCE

I've donated some of my things and done some artwork for a place called Safespots in Wythenshawe, Manchester, which helps out women and children who've been abused. The centre is very welcoming, it's really bright and they're all really nice there. You can donate anything you want to help people out.

My mum and the other people who work there are trying to change the law to keep people safe, and on Christmas Day we are going to have a meal with those who will be on their own. I'm looking forward to seeing the people.

Emerson Hall, Year 7

MORE ABOUT SAFE SPOTS

Safespots has four local residents within its team. As well as advice and support, they provide mothers and children with items such as CCTV cameras to keep them safe; toiletries; and food and clothing, as many families are fleeing dangerous environments with no belongings at all.

Safespots doesn't use online fundraising platforms, as to avoid



deductions being taken from money donated, but if you would like to donate something to help those who have escaped violence, please contact them for more information email info@safespots.org.uk Tel: 07837 889637

Picture by Marlina B, Safespots survivor. Her words accompany it: 'Too many times we've heard of abused, discriminated and killed women; unfortunately it's a reality not that far from us. I would like this work to be like a belt that wakes women and makes them realise that there is a way and that we can be free to fly.'

CLAIRE AT MOTHER NATURE

Claire is one of the people running workshops at the Mother Nature Sanctuary in Bollington. She offers sessions covering specific aspects of women's health and wellbeing and would like to introduce herself and her workshops.

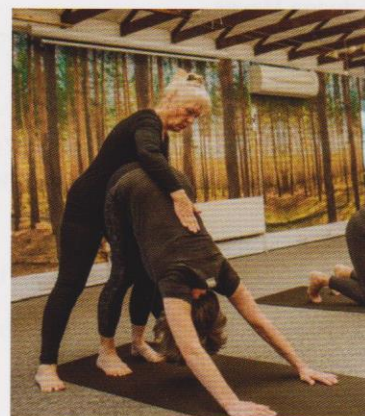
Claire has practised yoga for many years now, and in the late 1990s recurring pain from a previous injury led her to discover Pilates, and she became a convert. During the following years she qualified as a Pilates teacher and a yoga teacher, both in Hatha and Yin yoga, and somatics. Over the years she has taught one-to-one sessions as well as groups.

She was motivated to study courses based on the pelvis and pelvic floor exercises and started to offer Pelvic Floor Awareness workshops and refresher sessions in Bollington. The information on pelvic floor care and health is slowly becoming more available and more people are openly discussing this area, especially in women's health, addressing the changes and support needed at each level.

There is a lot we can do ourselves with some simple routines and self-care to help with various symptoms. Claire's workshops cover basic anatomy together with specific exercises that aid recovery. The general idea is to give a foundation of knowledge and some tools going

Email clairewalingmovement@gmail.com

Tel: 07825 704290



forward for self-help, improving general wellbeing.

Sandy Milsom

WHAT'S ON

NOVEMBER

Friday 4 November 8.15pm

Bolly Comedy Club

Arts Centre Doors and bar open from 7.15pm, strictly 18+, £12

Saturday 5 November 9am-3pm &

Sunday 6 November 10am - 2pm

RA Smart Fabric Sale

Clough Bank, Grimshaw Lane SK10 5NZ

Saturday 5 November from 5.30pm

Pott Shrigley Bonfire Night

Cricket field, Pott Shrigley
Fireworks, bar, BBQ, games Gates open 5.30pm; bonfire lit 6.30pm, fireworks 7.30pm

Family (2 adults, 2 children) £20; £10 adult; £5 child pay at the gate

Saturday 5 November 7.30pm

Bollington Jazz Club

Kevin Grenfell's Jazz Giants

Arts Centre, Doors and bar open from 6.30pm, tickets £12 - call 01625 574410

Saturday 12 November 7-8.30pm

Knowles Green Christmas Wine Tasting

Arts Centre, Advance tickets £35 from Knowles Green, 114 Wellington Road
Taste through seven selected wines full of diversity and quality for any Christmas celebration

Sunday 13 November Remembrance Sunday, Memorial Gardens

Thursday 17 November 8pm

Bollington Horticultural Society: The Language of Flowers, Community Centre

Saturday 19 November 8pm

Edwina Hayes

Folk/Americana singer/songwriter
Arts Centre, £12

Tuesday 22 November 2.30pm

Lucky Lucky

Bollington Festival Music Theatre
Arts Centre, 2.30pm, doors open from 2pm, Free

Saturday 26 November 7.30pm

Bollington Chamber Concerts: The Consone Quartet

Arts Centre, Doors and bar open from 7pm, tickets £20 from bollington-chamber-concerts.org/

Sunday 27 November

Christmas Lights Switch On

Sunday 27 November 7.30pm

Bollington Festival Choir: The Promise of Advent

St Oswald's Church, Doors open 7pm, tickets £10, soft refreshments available

DECEMBER

Friday 2 December 8.15pm

Bolly Comedy Club

Arts Centre, Doors and bar open from 7.15pm, strictly 18+, £12

Saturday 3 December 4-7pm

Christmas Mini Wine Fair

Knowles Green, Advance tickets £15 from Knowles Green, 114 Wellington Road

Saturday 3 December 7.30pm

Bollington Jazz Club: TJ Johnson and his Band

Arts Centre, Doors and bar open from 6.30pm, tickets £12 - call 01625 574410

Wednesday 7 December 6.30-8.30pm

Knowles Green Wine Tasting Made Easy

The Castle, Macclesfield, Advance tickets £30 from Knowles Green 114 Wellington Road
Five wines will be presented from small, boutique wineries

Friday 9 December 7.30pm

Bollington Brass Band Christmas Concert

Arts Centre, £10, Doors and bar from 7pm

Tuesday 13 December 7.30pm

Bollington Festival Choir: Messiah for All

Arts Centre, Booking essential on 01625 511881

Sunday 18 December 6.30pm

St Gregory's Christmas Carol service

All welcome, free

CHRISTMAS AT POTT SHRIGLEY

Sunday 11 December:

Christingle, 10.45am

Sunday 18 December:

Carols by Candlelight, 10:45am and 6:30pm

Thursday 22 December:

Carols by Candlelight, 6.30pm

Christmas Eve: Holy

Communion 11.30pm

Christmas Day: Family

Communion 10am

Sunday Services 8:30am and 10:45am unless stated otherwise

www.pottshringleychurch.org.uk

PROGRESSION ART EXHIBITION

Sunday 16 October to Sunday 6 November 2.00 - 4.00pm and when the centre is open

Stuart Mollison - rsm898@gmail.com

Stuart trained as a horticulturalist and often uses landscape and plants as a source material with the shapes, forms, textures and colours fascinating him. Urban sketching, buildings and architecture are another recurring theme. Pen and ink wash, watercolour, mixed media and acrylics are his materials of choice. Recent exhibitions include MODA Manchester, The Stockport Open and Blue&Berry, Chelford.



Andy Jeffrey - ap.jeffrey@btinternet.com



Andy largely takes his inspiration from the countryside around him, the people he meets and fellow artists, however, recently interiors have started to feature. The current

series of 'Wood' pictures was inspired by the way that light filters through windows in early spring and late autumn with the wood pattern items leaning on Braque and Picasso during their early collage phase. Recent exhibitions include MODA Manchester and Macclesfield Art Trail at The Park Tavern and Bristol City Art Gallery.

BRIDGEND CENTRE

Mondays - Spanish conversation for Beginners, 9.15-10.15am, over Zoom. £4

Tuesdays - Creative writing, 11am 12.15pm over Zoom. £4
Crafts, 10.30am-12noon. £4
Art, 2-3.30pm. £4

Wednesdays - Guided walk, 10.15am-1.00pm, see website or separate leaflet for details. £3
Spanish conversation - Intermediate, 1.30-3pm. £4
Mah Jong - ancient strategy game, 2-4pm. £3

Thursdays - Talk and Games (TAG), 2-3.30pm - quizzes, games, guest speakers and the occasional outing. £3

Fridays - Community Choir, 10.30am-12noon. The ability to sing is not a requirement. £4

bridgendcentre.org.uk or
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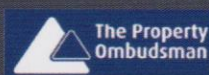
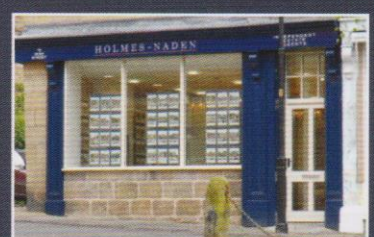
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BOLLINGTON *Live*

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PEDDLE POWER

Bringing a community together to tackle climate change, one step at a time.

Over the summer - and in the run up to World Car-Free Day in September - a group of carbon-conscious kids from Bollington have been working with councils and local businesses to fix up their school cycle path.

The children, who attend Adlington Primary, regularly walk or cycle to school. They ride in as a group and have lots of fun chatting and helping each other along the way. However, their woodland path to school needed restoration to ensure its safety. Thanks to the kindness and support of Bollington, Adlington, and Cheshire East Council, and a team of volunteers from chartered surveyors GIA, this was all made possible.

With the support of Ed, the Cheshire East Ranger and a team of volunteers, parents and children put together a plan to repair the path over 2 days. Not only has it made the journey safer (and more exciting), it has served as a fantastic example of how a community can enjoy working together to make things better. One volunteer noted, 'We had such a great day, Ed was incredible. It was fun, informative and great to know that we can help support the kids.'

Walking or cycling provides an easy reduction in our carbon footprint as well as giving a host of other health, social and well-being benefits; plus the kids love it! As Autumn sets in, the kids are still as determined as ever to make a difference and set an example. They're currently working with Transition Bollington to install a new set of bike racks too.

Richard Jones



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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 ninth** year.

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