



BOLLINGTON *Live*

Issue 86 Spring 2023

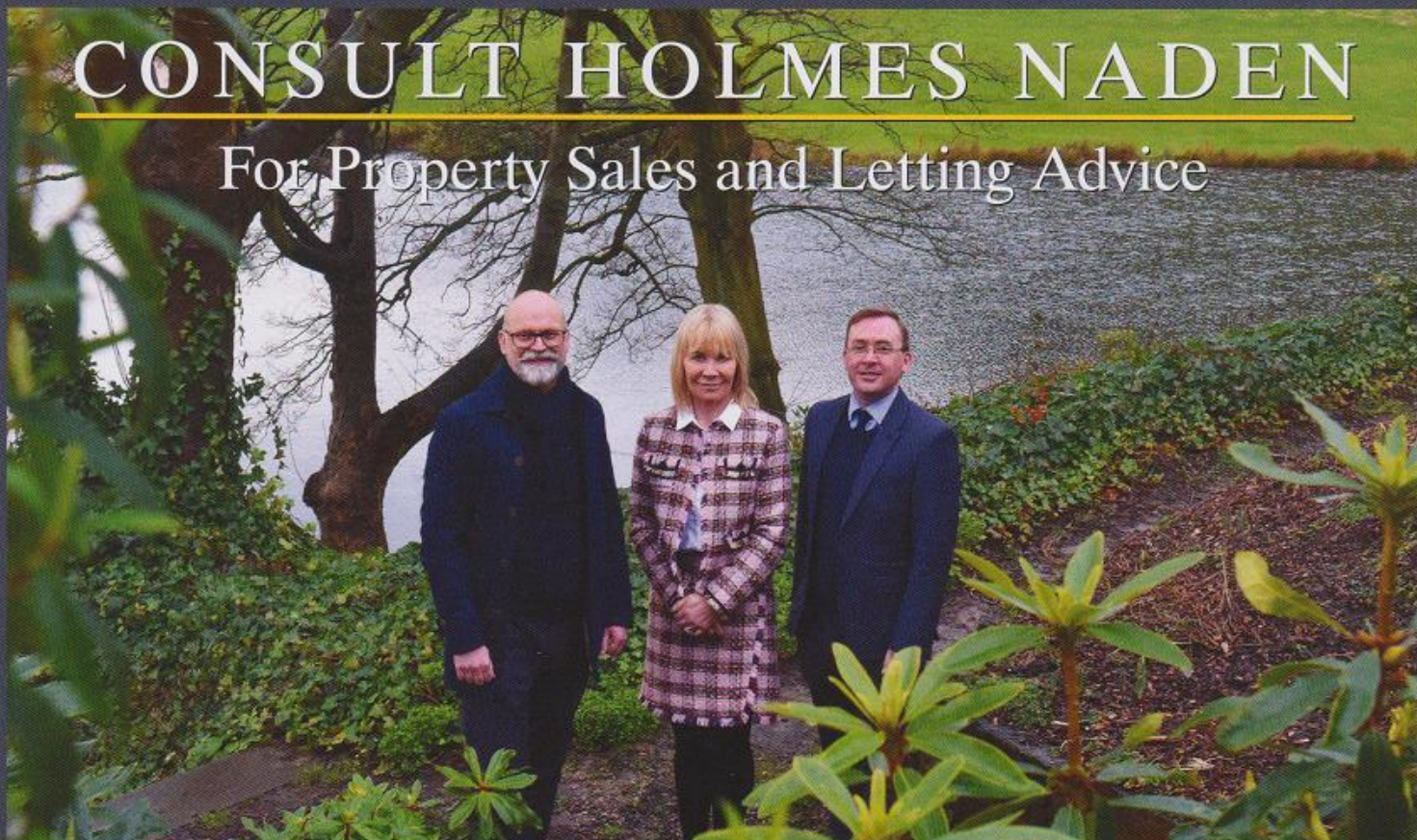
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Edward Naden followed on from the success of his Bollington branch by opening a branch in Prestbury that now celebrates 27 years in business. His colleague there, Jackie Marchant, is personable and popular and helps get that important sale through. Both Prestbury and Bollington branches offer a bespoke service with attention to detail and customer care that is second to none. Edward has a wealth of experience in all aspects of Estate Agency having worked in the industry for over 35 years. He would like to thank all his clients both past and present for their continued loyalty.

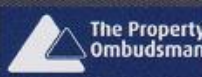
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LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

After Christmas is always a dark and slow time and usually I struggle to collect articles by mid-January. But this year I've had too many and had to postpone a few articles written by our lovely committee which will appear in our next issue.

Before I tell you about this issue, let me first apologise for the omission of a photo of the late Dennis Goodwin who was fondly remembered in an article in the Autumn issue. I've included a photo here and I am sure many Bollingtonians will have known him by sight even if they didn't know him for his passion for cricket.



Photo:
Dennis Goodwin,
fondly remembered

In this issue we have some interesting articles, including one, inspired by a postcard bought on an ebay auction, describing the old Kerridge Tramway. Also, for those new to the area there are a couple of articles about the community centre and the leisure centre which really show the volunteering spirit of our town as well as the dedication and hard work of many people over the years. From another article, I learnt how a reduction in the speed limit from 30 mph to 20 mph not only saves lives on our roads but is much better for our environment.

The what's on section is back! Many thanks to Claire Moreland for taking it on. Collecting and tabulating all the many events in our town is not an easy task. If you have an event you would like listed in our next issue, please email Claire: livedates@happyvalley.org.uk.

In January we had our first in person AGM for 2 years – it was lovely to meet new people and see the Bollington Live team back together, led very ably by Kate Gooding our chair who organised the evening – a big thank you to Kate. If you would like to join our small team you would be most welcome.



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!

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

Date for next copy:
16th May '23

Annette

YOUR TEAM

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

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

COMMUNITY MATTERS

Having taken on the 'What's On' section in the magazine, I have been on permanent lookout for all events Bollingtonian. It wasn't long before I came across the activities at the Community Centre, and so met up with Win Gleave, who is Bolly-born-and-bred.

Win has recently taken over as Chair of the Trustees from Pat Haddleton, who had the foresight to cut out and keep quite a few articles from the local press about the Community Centre and its history.

For a start, did you know that once upon a time there was a *Bollington Times*? An article from October 1965 commends the Bollington Urban District Council for having built 54 new bungalows in Bollington Cross, together with a 'social and welfare centre'. Amusingly for these days perhaps, the article says: 'The *old people* (my italics) will tell you that they appreciate all that the Council has done for them in providing such comfortable bungalows.' Also mentioned is a large community room in the Centre, where 'it is expected that meals for the old people will be cooked ... and it is also likely that a television set will be installed'. Two wardens were appointed, one resident on the upper floor of the Centre.

The Housing Department of Macclesfield Borough Council took over responsibility for the Centre in 1974, and Cheshire County Council hired it to hold Day Care for the elderly. The Women's Royal Voluntary Service also used the kitchens to prepare meals for the Meals on Wheels service. But in 2002 the Council announced they proposed to close the Centre as they had no further funding to invest in the building, which was by that stage in a poor state of repair.

It was at that point that Pat Haddleton, a volunteer cook at

the Centre, went to see the Council. More local volunteers came on board and, together with Pat, formed a Management Committee ... and several meetings later it was agreed that the Council would lease the Centre to them!

A twenty-year lease was duly signed, and the Management Committee drew up a wish list of much needed renovations. After quite a few ups and downs their project was completed in June 2003, the first of several other programmes of improvement since then.

Another huge challenge occurred in 2007 when Cheshire County Council suddenly announced the closure of Day Care at the Centre, and with it the drying up of a great deal of income. A local fundraising team was promptly set up, and leaflets designed and published to advertise the Centre to potential users. Among other events, four successful concerts were held as fundraisers, and the Luncheon Club held raffles.

In Pat's 2017 history of the Community Centre she reflects that 'the Centre would not be the place it is today without all the fantastic support we have from the local community. They have taken the Centre to their hearts and want to see it thrive.'

So these days there's a new website and lots of user groups, enquiries and bookings! Weekend parties are growing in popularity. It's wonderful too that the Lunch Club is still carrying on the tradition started in 1965, nearly sixty years ago. Two cooks, David Brown and Jennifer Rowley, prepare a feast on the



Photos:
Pat in the
Community
Centre

first Wednesday of every month. There are around 20-25 diners, more at Christmas, and I'm pretty sure they would not count themselves as old people!

So do take a look at the What's On pages, and of course visit bollingtoncommunitycentre.co.uk.

Also, why not have a think about joining the voluntary group which runs the Community Centre? I leave the final words to Jane Smith, one of the volunteers:

'We are run as a charity and hire the various rooms out for many community events, clubs and private hires, such as children's parties. We have a main hall with a capacity of 50, which costs £18 per hour to hire with a full catering kitchen, tables and chairs, garden, free wi-fi and nearby parking – this room has good disabled access too. There are two smaller meeting rooms upstairs which can be booked individually for £9 per hour and they have access to a small kitchen for making tea and coffee. To give a flavour of the activities that happen at the Centre, our current bookings include Knit and Natter, pilates classes, a recorder group, Happy Valley Voices, the Horticultural Society, the local WI and Probus groups, the Civic Society, a meditation group, and the Karamba samba band.'

We are a community-based organisation run by volunteer trustees and all fees for hiring the centre are used to maintain, repair and manage the facilities for the community.

We are currently looking for new volunteers or trustees, and anyone can be involved either at our monthly meetings or helping in specific areas. If you are interested please contact Win Gleave on 07815 672413.'

Claire Moreland



WARM SPACES

We are all aware that the cost of living has soared this year and it has been a particularly chilly autumn and winter. It can also be difficult to keep in touch with friends and family as much as we'd like when it's cold and dark outside and we're all so busy with life. It's great to be able to just drop in to a warm, welcoming environment when you feel like a chat.

So, from November 2022 to February 2023 Bollington Town Council, in collaboration with the Community Centre, offered a warm, welcoming morning event every Tuesday from 10am to 12.30pm. Warm Spaces provided hot drinks, great conversation and a range of word puzzles and board games for everyone to join in together.

The event was assisted by a grant from Cheshire East and donations of biscuits and snacks from local supermarkets. Every week it was well attended by residents from all over Bollington. At Christmas there was a dazzling display of festive jumpers and some impromptu dominoes lessons.

Bollington Library has also been offering residents of all ages a warm, friendly space with a range of activities to suit every visitor.

There is now a jigsaw swap so that residents can keep warm and entertained with a constantly changing range of puzzles while improving concentration and short-term memory and getting a great view of Bollington.

The children's area has recently been renovated and decorated,



Photo: Helen makes the best hot drinks and was our cheery bingo caller

Photo left: Jigsaw exchange

Photo middle: Children's area

Photo right: Technology training area

which has made it even more fun for the reading groups that run for children over 7 and young people over 13, as well as the drop-in Lego sessions, Rhyme Time and Story and Tea.

Of course, there are numerous additional activities in this Warm Space. These include computer access and technology training sessions, community groups such as Dementia Support, Knit and Natter and several book clubs. You can now keep warm in a creative writers' group, too. Bollington Library will be updating the technology area with a Tablet Hub in the near future.

Two Warm Spaces enjoyed by everyone!

Judy Snowball



WEBMASTER RETIRES

After 26½ years Tim Boddington is finally relinquishing the popular local website, happyvalley.org.uk. First developed in the earliest days of the internet, when there were no specialist tools available to ease the job, the site has gone through two further iterations of development to keep up with web-page technology.

Today it runs under the world's favourite web presentation system, called WordPress, which makes maintenance a very much simpler

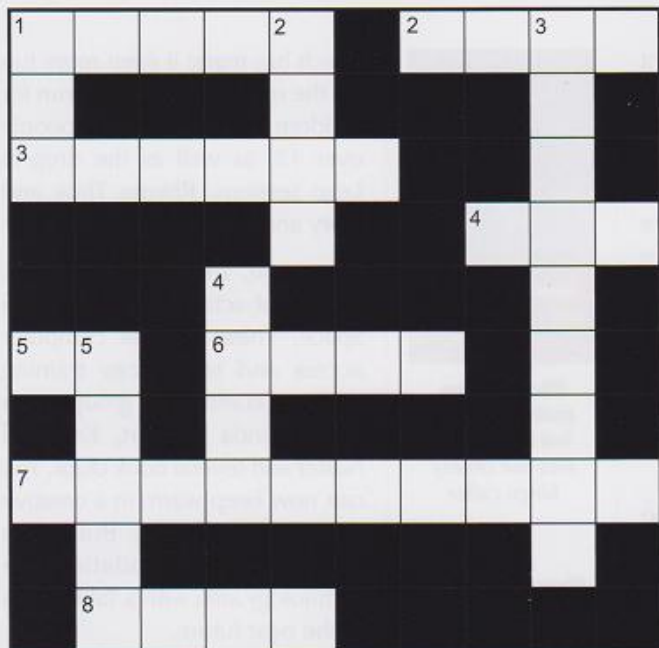
task. Much credit is also due to Neville Bester and Linda Stewart, who developed the WordPress version.

The site is being passed to Megan Codling, who has lived in Bollington for many years and looks forward to maintaining and further developing the website for many more years to come. You can help in this – if you are, or have been in the past, chairman or secretary of any service, social or sports group in Bollington, please check out the

organisation's pages to see that the details are up to date. If they need amendment, there is an email link at the bottom of every page to tell the webmaster about it.

And Tim in retirement? Well, he has two other, much more complex, websites for which he is still programming (coding) on a regular basis!

www.happyvalley.org.uk/organisations



ACROSS

- 1 - One of the main services we offer _____ & design (5)
- 2 - Often confused for 8A (4)
- 3 - You should always tell a _____ about us (6)
- 4 - C,M,Y or K, we need these to print (3)
- 5 - The best way round to look at your prints (2)
- 6 - Take out any errors (4)
- 7 - Which town will you find us in? (10)
- 8 - This one is Arial (5)

DOWN

- 1 - The best file type to send your artwork to us (3)
- 2 - A faint version of a colour (4)
- 3 - What kind of business are we? (9)
- 4 - What car park are we in the corner of? _____ Bank (4)
- 5 - We always advise you print a _____ first (5)

A1-print, 2-type, 3-friend, 4-link, 5-up, 6-omit, 7-bollington, 8-font
D 1-pdf, 2-lint, 3-printshop, 4-pool, 5-proof

0 1 6 2 5 5 7 4 8 2 8

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www.bollingtonprintshop.co.uk

Hand Painted Pet Portraits



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!

Just send me a good photo and I will do the rest!

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BACK TO THE FUTURE

It was with great pleasure and excitement I accepted a coveted invitation (limited numbers only!) to the inaugural lecture, a public academic ceremony, to celebrate the appointment to professor of my good friend Ang Davies at the end of last year.

Ang was appointed to Professor of Clinical Bioinformatics and Healthcare Science Education last year, but at the time no public ceremonies were taking place, so we had to wait a while to celebrate Ang's appointment and listen to her brilliant inaugural lecture. Ang invited her family, friends and colleagues and some people travelled from afar to celebrate this special occasion.

Gathered in the lecture theatre on a cold dark Manchester afternoon, we didn't know what to expect. The ceremony began with a short procession headed by Professors Andy Brass and John Ainsworth and Ang, all wearing their caps and robes – then Andy gave a short speech about Ang, her research, her star qualities, and so forth, before introducing her lecture, entitled 'Back to the Future'.

Ang spent the next hour taking us through her career from her days as an undergraduate studying Biochemistry at Bath University – where she met her husband Mark – to the present day. During this time, both she and Mark spent some time on placement as researchers

in the US.

I'm not sure I can do the lecture justice here, but I'm going to try. Ang told us about her interesting and varied research and teaching, sometimes quite complicated science, while at the same time weaving in the people who had most influenced and/or supported her at that time. Ang started with a lovely and fitting tribute to one of her closest university friends and housemates, Kate, who sadly passed away in 2018 following a long battle with breast cancer.

After graduating, Ang moved to Warwick University to study for a PhD in Molecular Biology. Then she took a position at Astra Zeneca, where Mark was also working, and the couple moved to Bollington, got married and did what half of all Bollingtonians do – got a dog! Niamh, their first child, followed soon after and then Ang moved to a Biotech company in Manchester as their Principal Scientist.

Wanting a challenge and on maternity leave with their second child, Ethan, Ang joined the science group for the 2009 Bollington Festival and our friendship grew from that. Working together for both the 2009 and 2014 festivals on science events was both fun and hard work.

For the last eight years Ang has worked nationally with Health Education England and the National School of Healthcare Sciences to create the new profession of Clinical Bioinformaticians. These clinical scientists use their skills in biology, genetics and computer science to support patient care, for example, in cases of genetic conditions in families. Ang told us in her lecture that the development of digital technologies, such as artificial intelligence, to support healthcare professionals and patients is happening at a pace so there is a real need for healthcare professionals who can work

Photo right: Ang giving her lecture

Photo: Ang with husband Mark

Photo: Ang with sons Ethan (left) and James (right)



alongside data scientists and data engineers to translate this into patient care. Ang has been instrumental in setting up courses in Clinical Bioinformatics and Genomic Medicine. During this time Ang and Mark welcomed their third child, James, into the world.



After the amazing lecture there was a social event where everyone could catch up and congratulate Ang on her new professorship.

Back in Bollington, Ang can often be seen walking their dog Fern or going for a run along the canal. Being passionate about science communication, Ang has been into the local primary schools inspiring our youngest with science afternoons of experiments or with amazing science facts, and she helps out with Bollington SciBar at the Vale Inn too.

Well done, Ang, on your appointment – very well deserved.

Annette Hurst



BOLLINGTON HEALTH & LEISURE: A BRIEF HISTORY

Bollington Health & Leisure has been a feature in the village since 1977. Although it's a well-known and successful community facility, not many people realise that it operates as an independent charity and is managed by a volunteer Board of Management and Board of Directors. How the Centre came to be organised in this way is an intriguing story.

In the early 1970s, students from the University of Manchester undertook a project on behalf of the then Bollington Urban District Council to determine what social and leisure facilities were most desired by the residents of Bollington. As the village is surrounded by water, with a canal, river and several mill ponds, the overwhelming interest from this survey was for a swimming pool to

make children water-aware. The Urban District Council provided a site, and a voluntary fundraising committee was established to finance the project.

Designs were drawn up and sufficient funds were raised by initiatives such as the 'Buy-A-Brick' campaign, which proved to be extremely popular, and is still regularly mentioned to this day. With a large proportion of the people of Bollington and the surrounding area having contributed money, time and expertise, the new facility would truly be 'Built by the Community, for the Community'.

Before construction began, the project received a major blow after the reorganisation of local government in 1974 meant Bollington lost its Urban District status. The original intention was for the Fundraising Committee to meet the capital costs of construction and then for the Urban District Council to undertake operation and management. With responsibility for all public leisure activities passing to Macclesfield Borough Council, a review of sports and leisure facilities determined that

there was no need for another swimming pool to meet the requirements of the Borough.

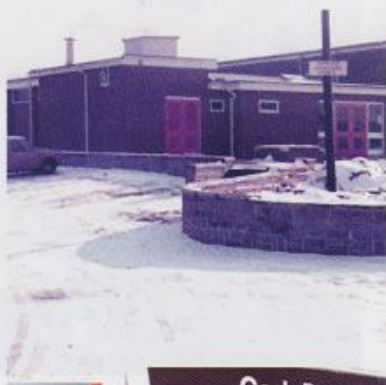
After more than five

years of hard fundraising, this was a setback for the volunteer committee. However, with the support of the renamed Bollington Town Council, who have always been solidly behind the project throughout the period since its inception, it was agreed that construction should continue and, if necessary, the management would have to be provided by a volunteer committee. The building plans were modified to provide a smaller pool in line with the budget available.

It was well known that no public swimming pool in the country operated at a profit, and so the next major hurdle was to find a way to cover the expected deficit. Squash was emerging as a fast-growing sport, and this was quickly identified as the potential saviour of the project. Fundraising activities therefore continued with a view to providing four squash courts, with the expectation that squash would subsidise swimming. At this time, there was a three-year waiting list to join local squash clubs and the four Bollington courts took the total number of courts in the area from seven to eleven. A health studio was also added to complete this stage of the development.

From the beginning, the centre honoured the original commitment with the

Photos: How Bollington Health & Leisure has changed from 1977 to 2020



HISTORY

Urban District Council to provide a high proportion of public and school swimming. By the mid-1980s, however, with rising maintenance costs and a declining demand for squash, it became impossible to break even financially. With the support and encouragement of Bollington's local MP and many people in both elected and full-time local government, efforts were made to secure grant aid to subsidise the public use of the centre. However, when it became clear in 1986 that no further public funds would be available, there was no alternative but to close the leisure centre.

The dogged determination which had enabled the centre to be built ten years earlier quickly came into play. Such was the resolve of the trustees and the managers that the centre reopened its doors two weeks later. A new business plan was devised, with much of the public swimming time given over to teaching. This proved to be the turning point, with the centre quickly establishing an outstanding reputation in the area for swimming tuition. In 2003 the centre achieved an Amateur Swimming Association Aquamark Award and was one of only four centres in the whole of the UK to gain this accreditation.

Today, more than 1,700 children are enrolled

on swimming courses, from pre-school children aged 6 months to teenagers, including special needs lessons, swimming clubs, lifesaving classes, adult lessons and 700 school swimmers weekly. More than fifty swimming instructors ensure the continued reputation as a centre of excellence for swimming teaching is maintained.

In 2015 Lifestyle fitness invested £1.1 million into creating a state-of-the-art gym facility, and in 2019 a full refurbishment of the pool was completed to the tune of £150,000. The centre also boasts a health spa, fitness and dance classes, beauty and massage therapies, a children's soft-play area and café.

In addition to sporting activities Bollington Health & Leisure provides facilities for many organisations. Two examples are the ALEX Project and the Meet Move & Improve Group, catering for those with Parkinson's disease and stroke survivors, respectively, to enjoy water-based group exercise and other leisure activities in a warm and comfortable environment.

All this been accomplished with the support of local people throughout the last 46 years, emphasising the need for this facility and, with the centre now in its fifth decade, demonstrating a fitting tribute to all volunteers who have sacrificed time

and energy for the benefit of the community.

We would love to hear from you if:

You have any pictures of you using the leisure centre pre-2000

You were part of the 'Buy-A-Brick' campaign or you bought a brick – please email us your name so we can add you to an honours board. Email reception@bollingtonleisure.co.uk with the subject heading of 'BHL History'

We're also on the hunt for passionate, dedicated individuals who would be interested in joining our voluntary board of management. This group meets monthly to plan and discuss the day-to-day running of the leisure centre. Please contact us for more information.

Tom Horsfield





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THE KERRIDGE TRAMWAY



Between Christmas and the New Year I had a cursory look to see if there was anything interesting on the eBay auction website to do with the history of the Macclesfield area. Usually there is nothing to interest me – either I have it already, or I don't want it. On this occasion, I was intrigued by one postcard. I made a bid for it, and to my surprise no one bid against me, so I got it very cheaply.

The picture I saw on the website wasn't very clear, but now I have the original, I can see that it does show what I thought it did – the bottom of the incline of the tramway which ran down from the Kerridge quarries, under the Victoria Bridge, and down a slope to cross Oak Lane. In the picture you can see some of the 118 stone steps set into the hill beside the line, which was known locally as the 'rally road' – probably a local pronunciation of 'railway road' or 'railroad'. It was probably taken after the tramway had gone out of use, and the two pairs of rails appear to come to an end, but the Ordnance Survey plans of 1870–72 and 1896–97 both show rails continuing on a level crossing across Oak Lane and

ending at the wharf by the canal with a sawmill (stone) on it.

Old accounts of the tramway say that there was a steam engine at the top of the incline. I can't help wondering if this was just a drum acting as a brake, with full wagons coming down, and empty wagons going up. Horses must have been used above the steam engine, and on the other side of Oak Lane where the terrain was more or less flat. The gauge of the tracks was 3 ft 6 in, and an article in the *Macclesfield Community News* from November 2006 by Dorothy Bentley Smith has a photograph of an axle from one of the wagons with a wheel on each end, which had been dug up from beside the track. I wonder where it is now?

Whether or not a branch tramway ever existed isn't clear. Mrs Bentley Smith was convinced that it did, running northwards from a coalpit at Swanscoe Farm, and going by Endon Hall to join the inclined tramway. The low, level embankment running north from the farm is still very evident, but was there an actual junction? Clifford Rathbone, writing for the *Macclesfield Express* in 1969,

Photo above: Old postcard bought on ebay

quoted from an undated sale catalogue for the Endon estate, which mentioned 'an existing inclined tramway (some repairs needed)' which moved stone, coal and clay to a private wharf on the canal, with loading space for six boats. I own a sale catalogue from 1910 which mentions clay from which blue and red bricks had been made but says that the vendor cannot vouch for the presence of coal under the estate. Lot 1 includes the Windmill and Victoria quarries, the tramway, and the wharf and buildings, but the catalogue doesn't comment on the state of the tramway.

The man behind the enterprise was William Clayton, of Endon Hall, who must have built the tramway in the 1830s. The canal opened in 1831, and the tramway is shown on the first edition of the one-inch Ordnance Survey map of the area, published in 1840. More details of the tramway, and photographs, can be seen on the Happy Valley website.

The other extraordinary feature of the photograph is the decorative archway over the end of the tramway, which has a building marked 'Endon Cottage' to the left of it. It's the kind of fanciful thing that was put up to mark public celebrations – such as coronations, royal weddings or visits from dignitaries. The card marked 'Saxon Series. No. 949' was never posted and is not dated, but the arch might be connected with the coronation of King George V in 1911 – or it might not. And even if it was a coronation arch, what a strange place to build it! Any ideas as to its significance will be welcomed.

David Cliffe

WHAT'S ON

MARCH

Until 19 March, Sundays 2-4pm
and during other listed events
Down the Garden Path textiles exhibition
Arts Centre

Wednesday 1 March from 10.30am
Luncheon Club, open to all!
Community Centre Ovenhouse Lane
Tea and coffee served from 10.30am,
followed by a two-course lunch 12 noon
£8 per person, booking required- call Win
Gleave on 07815 672413

Friday 3 March 8.15pm
Bolly Comedy Club
Arts Centre. Doors and bar open from
7.15pm, strictly 18+, £12

Sunday 5 March 7.30pm
Bollington Folk Club
Dog and Partridge

Wednesday 8 March 10am-1pm
Recorder group
Community Centre

Saturday 11 March 9.30am
Bollington Festival Choir:
Public Singing Day -
Gounod's St Cecilia Mass
Arts Centre, Tickets £15,
booking essential - call 01625 551881



Monday 13 March 6.30pm
Bollington SciBar
Vale Inn, Free talk on Cognitive
Behaviour Therapy
bollingtonscibar.co.uk
Sign up to mailing list on
bollingtonscibar@hotmail.co.uk

Monday 13 March 2-4pm
Bollington W.I.
Community Centre

Tuesday 14 March 10am-12 noon
Men's Probus Club
Speaker: Nicola Loveday Guilty! Your
Honour, Civic Hall

Thursday 16 March 7.30-9pm
Bollington Horticultural Society
Community Centre

Saturday 18 March 7.30pm
**Bollington Chamber Concerts: The
Heath Quartet**
Arts Centre Doors and bar open from
7pm, tickets £20 from 01625 572648 or
www.bollington-chamber-concerts.org

Sunday 19 March 7.30pm
Bollington Folk Club
Dog and Partridge

Monday 20 March 7.30-9pm
Civic Society
Community Centre

Tuesday 21 March 10am-12 noon
Ladies' Probus Club
Speaker: Trevor Wragg There's more to
walls than meets the eye! Civic Hall

Wednesday 22 March 10am-1pm
Recorder group
Community Centre

Saturday 25 March 7.30pm
**Bollington Jazz Club: Amy Roberts, John
Hallam and Kincaid's Three Bears**
Arts Centre Doors and bar open 6.30pm,
tickets are £12 call 01625 574410

Sunday 26 March 7.30pm
Bollington Festival Choir Concert
St Oswald's Church £12 / £3 for 18 and
under. Phone 01625 575554 to reserve
tickets and pay in cash only at the venue.
Refreshments served at the interval

26 March until 23 April
**Fibretronics exhibition of abstract
paintings**
Arts Centre, Sundays 2-4pm and during
other listed events

Friday 31 March 10am-12 noon
Joint Probus Coffee Morning
Community Centre

APRIL

Sunday 2 April 7.30pm
Bollington Folk Club
Dog and Partridge

Monday 3 April 7.30-9.30pm
Bollington W.I.
Community Centre

Wednesday 5 April from 10.30am
Luncheon Club, open to all!
Community Centre Ovenhouse Lane
Tea and coffee served from 10.30am,
followed by a two-course lunch 12 noon
£8 per person, booking required- call
Win Gleave on 07815 672413

Wednesday 5 April 10am-1pm
Recorder group
Community Centre

Friday 7 April 8.15pm
Bolly Comedy Club
Arts Centre. Doors and bar open from
7.15pm, strictly 18+, £12

Tuesday 11 April 10am-12 noon
Mens' Probus Club
Speaker: Geoff Scargill The Amazing
Story of Edward Watkin
Civic Hall

Sunday 16 April 7.30pm
Bollington Folk Club
Dog and Partridge

Monday 17 April 7.30-9pm
Civic Society
Community Centre

Tuesday 18 April 10am-12 noon
Ladies' Probus Club
Speaker: Lynda Pyatt Listeners scheme
in prison. Civic Hal

Wednesday 19 April 10am-1pm
Recorder group
Community Centre

Thursday 20 April 7.30-9pm
Bollington Horticultural Society
Community Centre

Friday 21 April 7.30pm
Bollington Jazz Club: Frog and Henry
Arts Centre. Doors and bar open from
6.30pm, tickets £12 - call 01625
574410

Friday 21 April to Sunday 23 April
**Bollington Art Group Annual
Exhibition**
Civic Hall

Friday 28 April 10am-12 noon
Joint Probus Coffee Morning
Community Centre

MAY

Wednesday 3 May from 10.30am
Luncheon Club, open to all!
Community Centre Ovenhouse Lane
Tea and coffee served from 10.30am,
followed by a two-course lunch 12 noon
£8 per person, booking required- call
Win Gleave on 07815 672413

Wednesday 3 May 10am-1pm
Recorder group
Community Centre

16 - 20 May
The Little Mermaid
Bollington Light Opera Group
Bollington Civic Hall
Nightly with a matinee on the Saturday.
Tickets £15 (concessions available at £13
Tuesday and Wednesday only). Book via
ticketsource.co.uk/bolly

WHAT'S ON

Friday 5 May 8.15pm
Bolly Comedy Club
Arts Centre. Doors and bar open from 7.15pm, strictly 18+, £12

Sunday 7 May 7.30pm
Bollington Folk Club
Dog and Partridge

Monday 8 May 6.30pm
Bollington SciBar
Vale Inn, Free talk on Parasitic worms
bollingtonscibar.co.uk
Sign up to mailing list on
bollingtonscibar@hotmail.co.uk

Monday 8 May 7.30-9.30pm
Bollington W.I.
Community Centre

Tuesday 9 May 10am-12 noon
Mens' Probus Club
Civic Hall

Saturday 13 May 2-6pm
Bollington Wine Fair
Arts Centre. £25 per person (18+),
Early Bird tickets available at Knowles
Green Creative Tasting

Sunday 14 May
Bollington Harriers Trails Event
bollingtonharriers@gmail.com

Tuesday 16 May 10am-12 noon
Ladies' Probus Club
Civic Hall

Wednesday 17 May 10am-1pm
Recorder group
Community Centre

Thursday 18 May 7.30-9pm
Bollington Horticultural Society
Community Centre

Sunday 21 May 7.30pm
Bollington Folk Club
Dog and Partridge

Monday 22 May 7.30-9pm
Civic Society
Community Centre

Friday 26 May 10am-12 noon
Joint Probus Coffee Morning
Community Centre

Wednesday 31 May 10am-1pm
Recorder group
Community Centre

BRIDGEND CENTRE

Mondays
Walk for Health, 10.15-11.15am
see website or separate leaflet for
details. **FREE**

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

Wednesdays
Guided walk, 10.15am-1pm see
website or separate leaflet for
details. **£3**
Spanish conversation -
Intermediate, 1.30-3pm. **£5**
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 call 01625 576311 for all
details.

COMMUNITY CENTRE

Mondays
Happy Valley Choir, 10am-12 noon
Pilates classes, 6-7pm

Tuesdays
Meditation classes, 6-7pm, **FREE**

Wednesdays
Alternate Wednesdays:
Recorder group, 10am-1pm

Thursdays
Knit and Natter, 2-4pm, second and
fourth Thursdays each month.
Just turn up! Or call Win Gleave on
07815 672413

Karamba samba band, 7.15-9.15pm
except 3rd Thursday

bollingtoncommunitycentre.co.uk

PROBUS - EXPLAINED

Question: What exactly is Probus?

Answer: Originally an acronym for
Pro(fessional) **and** **Bus**(iness), it
nowadays stands for two friendly
informal local social clubs in
Bollington for all retired or semi-
retired people to meet and expand
their interests.

Both mens' and ladies' clubs in
Bollington are very friendly and lively
groups of people. Activities include
guest speakers, luncheons, theatre
trips, bowling etc.

Monthly meetings: 10am-12 noon
at the Civic Hall, the men on the
second Tuesday and the ladies on
the third Tuesday of the month.
There is a joint Coffee Morning on
the last Friday of every month at the
Community Centre, from 10am-12
noon. Subscription is £20/25 a year to
pay for speakers

New members are always made very
welcome!

Mens' Club contact: Mike Rotheram
01625 576736

Ladies' Club contact: Linda
Rotherham 01625 576736

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Please email
livedates@happyvalley.org.uk
if you would like to advertise
an event here.

All dates and times were correct
when we went to print.

Apologies if things have changed
and we made a mistake.

PLANNING PURGATORY

Planning is an emotive word for humans. Many of us hate doing it. We want to be free to live as we wish, and do what we want when we want. Immediately we are asked to plan we are forced to recognise all the restrictions in our lives – financial, family and work commitments.

As a local Councillor, however, I have a public duty towards planning. Every month detailed plans come before us in the Council Chamber at the Town Hall, which we must consider and comment on. All of these are land-use plans within the Bollington area. Most are small-scale, sensible and can be agreed to. Often, however, I have to consider rules and regulations. Comments go to Cheshire East Council and the final decision is taken by a Planning Officer or the Cheshire East Northern Planning Committee.

I ask questions. Is this house in a conservation area? Is this building site in the green belt? What impact will this new build have on highway use? Is there enough parking? How will this plan, if carried out, affect neighbouring residents?

And sometimes we get cases of great interest that will impact strongly on local residents, and it is three of these current plans I want to discuss.

*Photo below:
Land at the end
of Coope Road*

*Photo Right: St
John's Church*

*Photos kindly
provided by
Tim Boddington*

First, I want to discount one potential proposal of local interest. Not because it is not important, interesting, and very controversial, because it is. The proposal is to create a Youth Hub next to the viaduct.

I believe we desperately need more indoor facilities for our young people in Bollington. But this proposal is not at the stage of a plan that I am describing. It is an aspiration for the future – and is it in the right place? The plans in my mind are more developed and could all come before us in 2023.

The three plans I want to talk about are:

Simply Developments: Plan to convert St John's Church into 18 apartments.

Cheshire Peaks and Plains: Plan to create a managed wildlife park and social housing at the end of Coope Road.

Brinkley Investments: Revived plans for building 55 dwellings on the brownfield site in Ingersley Vale.

St John's Church

St John's Church has been declared redundant since 1 February 2006. It is an iconic building and when it was bought, and development proposed for 13 apartments with a dual-use space around the church, I and many others welcomed the proposals, and the plans were passed officially in 2010. Initial external work was carried out.

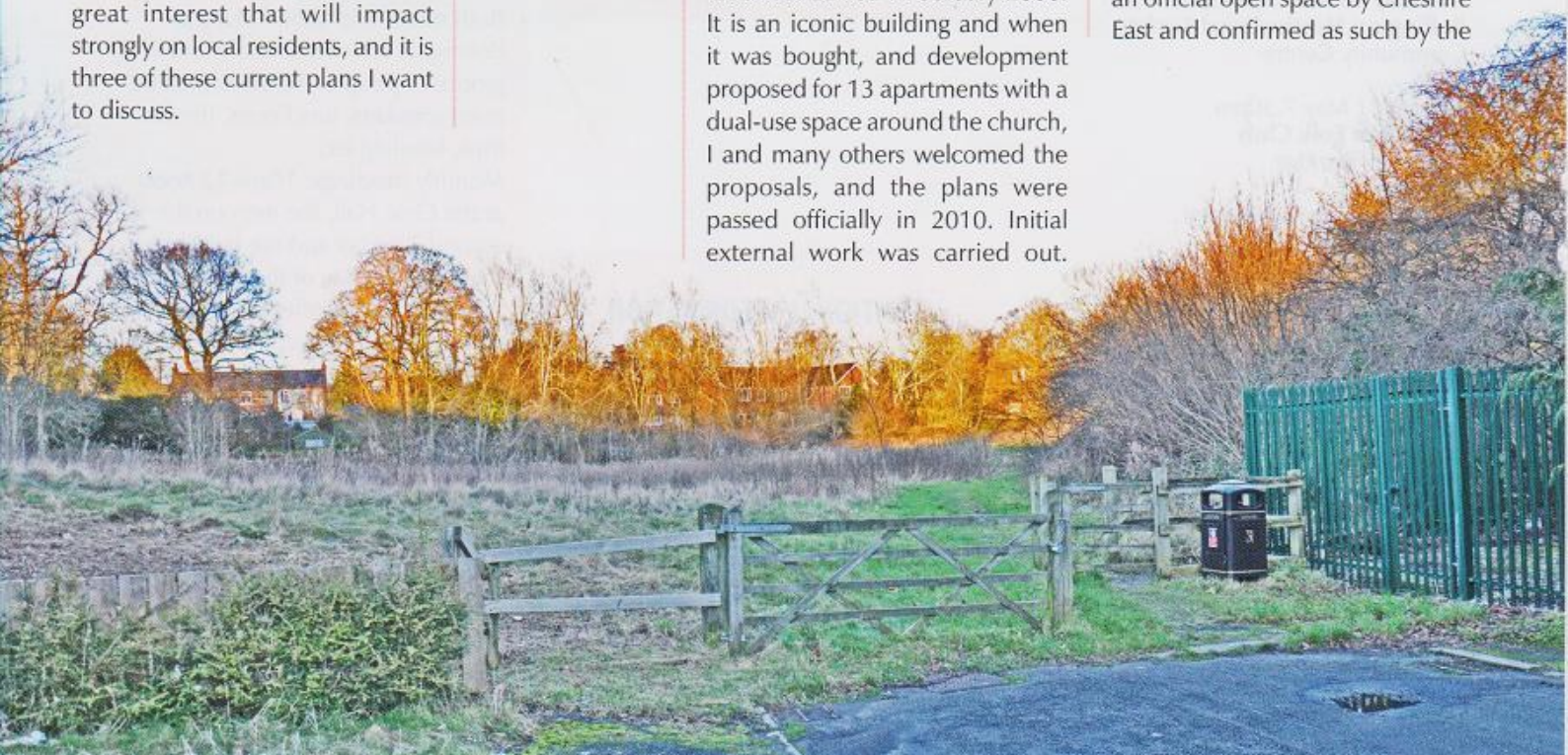
These plans balanced the vital need to retain and reuse the building positively with the need to respect the surrounding churchyard with its historic and military graves. We must recognise that part of this, and the columbarium, are still in use.

Now new plans have been proposed for 18 apartments, which increases the intensity of use and the external parking requirements considerably. We need life brought back to our dead building and we need to respect the needs of our present and future deceased people of Bollington. Can these new plans be accepted and supported in this historic area of our town, with its important heritage recognised through the status of a conservation area? Personally, I am wrestling with that decision.

Land at the end of Coope Road

The land at the end of Coope Road was sold to Cheshire Peaks and Plains Housing Association (CP&P) by Cheshire East Council in 2007.

It has been a rough open space with a footpath across it, valuable for responsible dog walkers and as a place for children's dens for many years, and is designated as an official open space by Cheshire East and confirmed as such by the



PURGATORY CONTINUED

Bollington Neighbourhood Plan.

Naturally CP&P want to use it as positively as possible, and they are proposing building social housing on part of the land, with the other part dedicated to a 'managed' wild area, including a wild children's play park. This is a serious proposal being explored with Cheshire East Planning Department. CP&P have indicated that the social housing planned will be exclusively available to Bollington residents. This in my view is a proposal that needs very serious consideration, with detailed local consultation coupled with an up-to-date Housing Needs Assessment before any decisions is taken.

It would also mean the loss of an open space in Bollington, which has very few open spaces within its very constricted parish area, and we have lost a great deal to housing developments already in place.

Ingersley Vale

I am torn again over the new proposed development in Ingersley Vale. This is a rare brownfield site in Bollington's settlement area, although all the benefits in terms

of S106 agreements, and eventual precept payments, will go to the smaller village of Rainow. The whole impact of the development will be felt in Bollington, which provides the only road access to the outside world of services and employment.

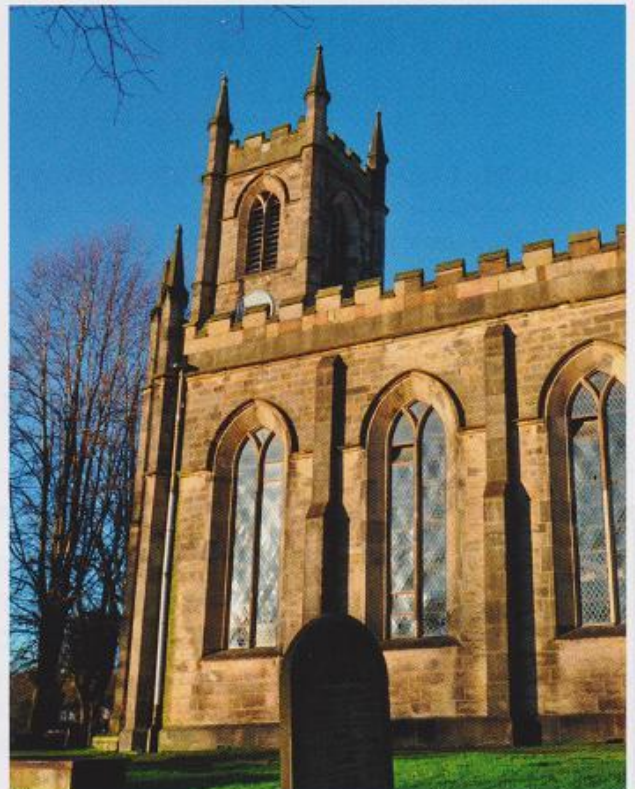
Fifty-five dwellings are proposed, with the crumbling and increasingly dangerous mill building being completely rebuilt. Remember, there is already planning permission for 66 houses, 09/4033M. The access is very problematical but Cheshire East Highway Planners deem it acceptable. Local residents in this currently quiet rural backwater naturally are mostly strongly opposed and there are wishes to turn the area into a kind of outdoor park and information centre for the Peak District.

These three proposals are very likely to come before Bollington Town Council this year for official comment. They all have huge potential impact on parts of our local community. Please note you will be able to have your say on the official Cheshire East Planning website where all local planning

applications are displayed in detail.

Bollington Town Council website and no doubt social media will keep residents informed. But your thoughts are always welcome to your local Councillors and our Editor.

Ken Edwards



FROM STORE TO DOOR

Transition Bollington and ELOV bikes are working together on an exciting grocery delivery scheme to reduce the ever-increasing numbers of cars on the roads.



On 11 January the team piloted an online home-delivery service, using the Co-op's existing 'Click and Collect' process and an ELOV cargo bike. ELOV used the order

number to pick up and drop off at the door. It was so simple, and no air was polluted or roads congested with more cars.

If you'd like to help reduce the number of cars on Bollington's



Photo far left: Bollington Co-op hand over the order

Photo left: Russ Hope from ELOV bikes delivers the order

Photo above: The delivery arrives

roads, this may be one way you can do it. Go to www.bit.ly/elovbollington to find out more.

There's space on the order form for special instructions – they can return bags to the shop if required, for example.

We're really keen to hear from you – does this sound like something you're interested in? Email transitionbollington@gmail.com to tell us your thoughts and find out more.

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SAFER ROADS AHEAD?

Are you too scared to ride a bike on Bollington's roads? Do you walk when taking the children to school or to go shopping? Are you worried about the impact of the traffic in Bollington on pollution and health? Or do you feel it is just safer to go by car?

You might be interested to read about and support the '20's Plenty for Cheshire East' campaign to bring down the speed of cars in towns and villages like Bollington. But how would this benefit us?

Authorities for 28 million people living across the UK have either already implemented or are in the process of normalising a 20mph limit on roads that would normally have a 30mph limit. This includes our neighbour Cheshire West and Chester. An analysis of the first three years since the implementation of the 20-mph programme showed a 43% reduction in vehicle collisions, a 14% reduction in collisions where someone was killed or seriously injured and a 47% reduction in collisions causing slight injuries.¹

Noise-research studies show a perceived halving of ambient noise when reducing from 'Dirty 30' to 20mph.²

The resulting decrease in car use has meant pedestrians have increasing confidence in the safety of local roads for themselves and their children because the simple persistent fear of walking on local roads is greatly reduced.

The change in driving behaviour by normalising 20mph from 'Dirty 30' results in a reduction in CO₂ and NOx emissions as well as particulates because there is reduced queueing and therefore less braking and acceleration.³ Also, this change in driving behaviour results in reduced fuel use and thereby helps drivers in the cost of living crisis.⁴ We also note there has been no significant reduction in trip time for those using their cars.

Faced with results like these, Wales will adopt default 20mph speed limits for urban and village roads on 17 September 2023 and Scotland is planning to set 20mph as the norm in towns and villages by 2025. In England many cities have long established '20's Plenty' schemes. Cornwall, Herefordshire, Oxfordshire and Cambridgeshire are implementing it at the county level this year and beyond – the introduction of a county-wide 20mph speed limit in Oxfordshire is already delivering social and environmental benefits and the county's active transport approach is transforming residents' quality of life.⁵

So, armed with some compelling reasons to reduce the speed limit, last autumn, Town and Parish Councillors from across Cheshire East were invited to a presentation from the National campaign '20's Plenty for Us' who have advised local authorities across the country (and internationally) on how best to normalise 20mph speed limits instead of 30mph. The councillors heard about the benefits of this where motor vehicles mix with pedestrians, bike riders, horse riders and others.

Town and Parish Councillors were invited to pass a motion to call on Cheshire East to implement default 20mph speed limits where people work, live, play, shop and learn in their local town – in our case, Bollington. The recommended motion also called for default 20mph limits in similar streets across the whole of Cheshire East. The more widely 20mph is implemented, the more drivers get used to it and the more effective it becomes.

Several Parish and Town Councils have already passed the motion. Transition Bollington and Bollington Civic Society are very keen for Bollington Town Council to pass it too.

50% of all pedestrian fatalities and 80% of serious injuries, due to the frontal impact of a car, happen at 21-30mph, but only rarely at 20mph or below, as there is more time to react, brake, stop, and ideally, avoid a crash.



To join the '20's Plenty for Cheshire East' campaign, email 20splentyforcheshireeast@gmail.com

We will keep you up to date with the campaign to persuade Cheshire East Council of the benefits. You can also find out more at www.20splentyforcheshireeast.org.uk

If 20mph speed limits are the norm, we won't need expensive changes to our streets. We'll just need changes to signage, public engagement and education. Through public engagement Councils can decide which streets are safe enough to retain 30mph speed limits while meeting the needs of vulnerable road users. In a typical authority-wide implementation, 20 per cent of streets remain at 30mph and 80 per cent drop to or stay at 20mph.

We need your support to encourage our Town Council to act on this request.

Transition Bollington
TransitionBollington@gmail.com

20's Plenty



Where people are

1 - www.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk/news/councils-20mph-zones-keep-communities-safe

2 - www.20splenty.org/airandnoise/pollution

3 - www.20splenty.org/new_research_on_emissions

4 - www.futuretransport.info/urban-traffic-research/

5 - www.20splenty.org/progress_2022

BAYLEAF IS BACK!

After closing their doors for a rebuild just before the pandemic, Bayleaf has finally reopened. We were there recently to discover how good Bollington's award-winning chef and restaurant are.



*Photo left:
Emerson and Will
arriving at the
Bayleaf*

*Photo right:
Visiting the chefs
in the kitchen*

*Photo middle:
Our table*



We had 3 onion bhajis to share. Along with the fish tikka, these were the highlight of the starters. All the starters were divine – one of our parents said the samosas were the best they'd ever had. The mains were delicious; a quote from one of our parents was that theirs was 'a masterpiece'. We had the chicken tikka masala and Bombay potatoes and the chicken tikka shatkorra (both very good!). All the food went and we stopped short of licking the plates clean. The wine was lovely, our parents ordered 2 bottles!

We were lucky enough to get the chance to visit the kitchen and

meet the chefs who cooked our delicious food. They were very busy, but we prised them off their posts for a photo. They clearly love what they're doing and were really proud of what they've achieved since reopening.



We are very thankful to the Bayleaf for being such a welcoming place, we will be back!

By Will and Emerson, year 7

Bayleaf Lounge Bar & Restaurant was established in 2006 and for the past 16 years it has been dedicated to supporting the community, providing flavourful food with a great service and an experience customers won't forget. Their aim is to maintain customers are receiving good quality and quantity of food for a reasonable price.

HORT SOC NEWS

Bollington and District Horticultural Society will be holding its 56th Spring Show at the Civic Hall on Saturday 25 March from 2pm to 4pm. Trophies will be presented at 4pm by the Mayor, Councillor John Stewart.



There will be beautiful displays of spring flowers and bulbs – some for sale – and also bonsai, handicrafts, baking and children's prizes. Anyone can enter; you can find the schedule

on the society's website: <https://happyvalley.org.uk/horticulture> or for more information email bollington.horticultural@hotmail.com.

The society also has an interesting

programme of monthly talks at the Bollington Community centre and visits to, for example, the Southport Flower Show, RHS Bridgewater gardens and also Bollington's local plant nursery, Scotswood Nursery, in Swanscoe.



BIT OF AN EXCITING UPDATE



Who are we? Bollington Initiative Trust (BIT) is a registered charity. Our purpose is to help preserve Bollington's unique environment and heritage, for the benefit of our local community. We were set up to save both buildings of historical importance and green space that were under threat and make them available to the local community to use and enjoy.

The charity has been in existence for around eighteen years and whilst the trustees – most of whom live in Bollington – have worked on many plans and concepts, there are currently three active projects – Tinkers Clough, Turner's Lodge and the Water Street Centre.

We now wish to share some very exciting updates about developments at the Water Street Centre.

This former Victorian secondary school is situated in the centre of Bollington, right in the heart of the conservation area. It is an important community asset but had been neglected for many years until the Trust acquired it. Supported by a large number of residents who participated in focus groups and three town-wide surveys, it is proposed that it will be a vibrant community space – a Family Hub for local children and their families – whilst continuing to host current users, the Bollington Preschool and the rainbows, brownies, guides and rangers.

If the Family Hub were to become a reality, however, the building, particularly the first floor, needed some love and attention after many years of neglect. There were the two major renovations required.

The first was the reconfiguration and refurbishment of the toilets on the first floor, including an accessible facility, along with the replacement of the boilers. This was especially important for the wellbeing of 150 or so Rainbows, Brownies, Guides and Rangers who use the upstairs rooms on a weekly basis during term time. This work was completed in May 2021.

The second and larger project was to sympathetically repair, replace and renovate the leaking Victorian slate roof. Due to the age and importance of the building this could only be undertaken by a specialist architectural roofing firm. However, we are now delighted to say that after almost six months of painstaking work, the roof repair was completed in December 2022. It is expected that this roof should be good for the next hundred years or so. Trustees are delighted they no longer have to empty a paddling pool after every heavy rainfall!

This work would not have been possible without the very generous support of local businesses, national and regional charities, many individual residents and a large donation from a family trust. In total over £250,000 has been raised and spent.

Our work is not yet finished, however. We now turn to further internal refurbishment of the upstairs, including repairs to the water-damaged ceilings, repainting and reflooring. The good news is that funding is in place for this, and indeed work has already started, with the ceilings having been repaired and replaced and, thanks to the generosity of a local professional decorator who gave his time and expertise at a greatly reduced price, several rooms have already been repainted. In the coming months, much-needed new flooring will be laid in the hall and two of the upstairs rooms and, as funds became available, the relocation of the kitchen can take place.

Please watch for further announcement for open days where members of the community, including local children and family-orientated groups and organisations, will be invited to see the improvements at first hand and to discuss with Trustees how they may wish to use this new Bollington facility.

In the meantime, if you would like to help us raise funds for this great community initiative or would like further information on any aspect of this project please contact BIT through our website: www.Bollingtoninitiativetrust.org or via Facebook.

Kate Gooding (BIT Trustee)

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BRAZILLIANT BOLLINGTON

'There's a new kid on the block', as the saying goes! This one happens to be a British champion and international pro-gold medallist in the sport of Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu (BJJ).

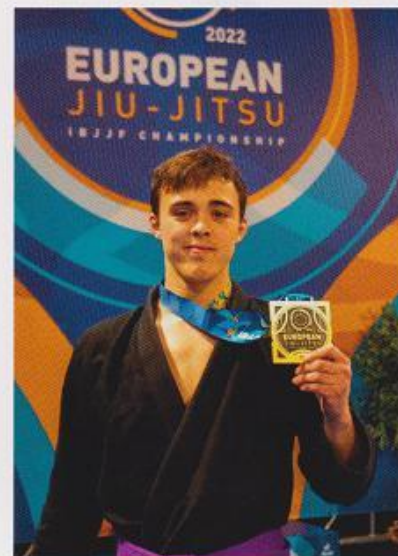
George Stephens was born in Bollington but moved with his parents to South Carolina, USA, at the age of 4. Newly arrived in America, George began training in the art of Taekwondo. Amazingly, he achieved his black belt at 7 years of age! George then moved on to learning Mixed Martial Arts, where jiu-jitsu became his favourite discipline, and after five more years he switched to Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu full time.

George really enjoyed training hard and gained a love of competing. In his first international tournament in 2017 he came third; spurred on by this and wanting to do even better he went on to train even harder, and the following year he won his first international tournament in Atlanta, USA.

After returning to England with the family in 2020 George has been training, competing and teaching consistently. In August 2022 he became an affiliated member of Stealth BJJ Oldham and was very fortunate to be offered studio space and the opportunity to join the team at the world-class facility of AW fitness, based in Adelphi Mill.

Photo: George Stephens at the European championships in 2022

Photo: George with some of his jiu-jitsu class participants



There he started to offer BJJ classes to both children and adults, with a focus on helping individuals get fit, learn potentially life-saving skills and meet new friends in a safe environment.

Current participants are mostly from Bollington, but others come from Macclesfield and Tytherington and the age range is from 5 to 53 years. George has also held a very well-attended women's self-defence class and is considering holding further sessions.

The beginner's programme has been carefully developed so anyone can participate regardless of age, athletic ability, fitness or experience. George is looking to welcome more participants and offers a free taster session. He also offers deals at different times of the year, so do watch out for these. However, if you are interested and want further information go to George's website: stealthbjjmacclesfield.co.uk or on Facebook: [SteathBJJMacclesfield](https://www.facebook.com/SteathBJJMacclesfield).

Bollington Live! wishes you well, George, in this exciting new initiative and we look forward to hearing about your own personal success in future competitions.

Kate Gooding



OUR ARTS

Bollington Arts Centre finished 2022 in festive style with the annual Christmas Concert of the Bollington Brass Band and the final monthly Comedy and Jazz evenings.

At the December Jazz evening we raffled off a hamper which had been donated to the Arts Centre by the regional Co-op organisation. This raised £260, which was donated to the Silklife Foodbank in Macclesfield.

2023 started with the Festival Players' panto season as a prelude to the Arts Centre opening for all

spring-term classes and regular events. The centrepiece of spring for the Festival Choir is a Public Singing Day on Saturday 11 March. Singers of all ages from 17 upwards are invited to join the choir for an informal and purposeful day of singing. The work to be studied is Charles Gounod's 'St Cecilia Mass', which will be the main item in the choir's summer concert. Participants will be invited to join the choir to continue rehearsals after Easter and to sing in the concert.



60 Years
BOLLINGTON
FESTIVAL 2026
MAY 08 - 25

As you may already know, the Bollington Festival Committee has made the difficult decision to move the next Bollington Festival to May 2026 instead of next year. There are many reasons for this, but the main ones are to do with the ripple effect of the pandemic still being felt by local businesses, alongside the financial and economic pressures that we are all facing in our everyday lives.

The good news is that between now and May 2026 we will be putting on some fantastic events. Watch out for the Race Night, the Art Trail, and several more very

exciting fundraisers.

Also, in May 2024, we will host the Jubilee Jamboree! This will be a long weekend of community fun, to mark the Diamond Jubilee of the Bollington Festival in style.

Bollington Open Gardens, 24-25 June 2023

Another opportunity to view the wonderful gardens of Bollington, in all their glory, showcasing the hard work and horticultural talent of our community. Tickets will go on sale in May and the ticket price will include a map and children's trail.

ANNUAL ART EXHIBITION



Bollington Art Group is a thriving, talented group of artists, who practise and learn throughout the year at the Arts Centre and Civic Centre in Bollington.

The Annual Art Exhibition is our chance to wow the people of Bollington with our paintings and give them the opportunity to purchase works of art by local practitioners at reasonable prices. All paintings are framed and ready to hang, and the variety is tremendous. There are acrylic, watercolour and mixed-media

artworks on a variety of subjects, many of which have been taught at classes throughout the year.

Recent classes have included mixed-media still life, taught by Jane Cockayne; loose, expressive watercolour, taught by Adrian Homersham; and seascapes, taught by Emily Muggridge. Naturally our artists produce work independently, from home, as well.

After the artists have been paid, all proceeds will go to the East Cheshire Deaf Children's Society,

and we are hoping that their chairman, Amanda Barker, will open the exhibition on Thursday 20 April at the Civic Hall. The exhibition will then be open to the public from Friday 21 April through to Sunday 23rd. Tea, coffee and homemade cakes will also be available and we hope that people will come and enjoy the work shown.

Sara Skinner

NEW

to Bollington
Health & Leisure

Baby and Me

BH
&L

Workout and Play!

Every Tuesday
At Bollington Health & Leisure

£10 per session

Please speak to reception or call 01625 574 774 to book
"Little ones up to 18 months"

Fitness Class

11:45 am - 12:15 pm

Time with Mark
our Postnatal Personal
Trainer



Hot Drink

From our café

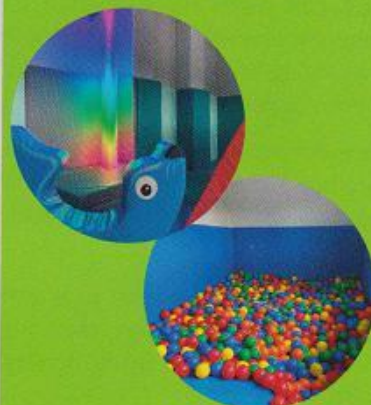
Time for a well deserved break and
socialise



Soft Play

12:15 pm - 13:15 pm

Time for your little one to have
a workout of their own



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HAPPY VALLEY TRAILS EVENT

The Bollington Harriers invite you to tie up your laces, ready to join us at the Happy Valley Trails Event, on Sunday 14 May at 10am, starting from Adelphi Mill.

We are very proud to be bringing the event to Bollington in 2023. Last year's Half-Marathon Trails Race saw over 120 runners from across the North-West visit the peaks and valleys surrounding Bollington; we hope to make this year's event an even bigger success.

The event includes two fun and challenging courses – a half-marathon and a 10K – setting out from the heart of Bollington and running out around the beautiful countryside and hills of the Happy Valley.

The half-marathon course is as varied as it is tough! The route visits Kerridge Ridge, Harrop Wood and Sponds Hill, before returning back up to Bollington's famous landmark, White Nancy.

The 1K course follows the half-marathoners before turning back to Bollington, down Oakenbank Lane. It still makes the best of Bollington, winding its way up the steep steps to meet the spectators at White Nancy.



Into our second year of organising a running event of this kind, the Bollington Harriers Committee is positive you'll have a great day out, whether you are a runner from near or far! With people travelling down from North Yorkshire and up from London to take part last year, it's an inclusive event. We look forward to welcoming even more people to Bollington this year.

The club really pulls together to make this happen – from a large team of marshals on hand to steer the runners' course, to people at feed stations fuelling them full of homemade bakes, fruit and water. And not forgetting the volunteers greeting the runners at the finish line at Adelphi Mill, with a medal and a bottle of locally brewed beer for all competitors!

We would love to see you there.

Laurence Tendler, Co-Race Director



For more information and to sign up, visit <https://bit.ly/HappyValleyTrails>.

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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 *thirtieth* year.

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BOLLINGTON *Live*