



BOLLINGTON *Live!*

Number Fifty Five Summer 2012



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BIT is Bollington's Development Trust and was established in 2005 to manage land and buildings for our community. Current projects include the Water Street School, the Smea House walled garden, the Recreation Ground pavilion, Trickers Clough Wood and the closed toilet block on Strigley Road. A new interactive web site is also being developed.

The Trust seeks further members for its Management and Trustee Group and would like to hear from you if you would like to get involved and help move Bollington forward.

To learn more please contact:

Graham Barrow on (01625) 573807 email: graham@gbdtl.co.uk
Margaret Park on (01625) 262988 email: margaret.park@me.com

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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. Contributions are welcome to: The Editor, c/o Bollington Printshop, The Old Stables, Queen St., Bollington SK10 5PS

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BUILDINGS CRUMBLE...

The Grade II listed Methodist Church in Wellington Road is due to close at the end of August. For a small congregation the cost of maintaining and running the building has become unsustainable.

A considerable amount of work is now required to arrest the deterioration of the stonework; this comes just after expensive work was carried out on the spire a couple of years ago. The congregation will move on to another church and the Methodist Church authorities are expected to dispose of the

property for probable redevelopment into apartments as the listed status of the building prevents its demolition. The Reverend Howard Stringer says they are looking for a new location in Bollington.

This closure is a huge blow to the town and raises significant issues due to the main

hall being the town's largest performance space, renowned for its beauty and excellent acoustics.

It is regularly used by the prize-winning Bollington Brass Band both for practice and for concerts. Several other groups use the building and all these will need to find new homes.

Outside the building there are questions regarding Bollington Arts Centre which is located directly behind the Church; indeed, the centre was built to be the Methodist Sunday School and has a right of access through the church grounds. The car park up the drive, however, belongs to the church. A more immediate problem is that the electricity supply for the Arts Centre comes directly from the church. A direct connection to the main will now be required and this will cost up to £30,000 to install!

The present building is the third Methodist Church on the site. Peter Lomas, builder of Waterhouse Mill, gave land, known as Knowles Green, for the first small chapel in 1807. In 1837 Thomas Oliver leased further land to the church and a new, bigger, chapel was built, and the Manse followed in 1853. The present church was built in 1884 to hold 700 people 'with more on benches'!

Tim Boddington

For more history read Jean Wright's excellent '200 Years of Bollington Methodist' available from the Discovery Centre.

The final band concert from the Church will be held on Sunday 15 July, 7.30pm, in aid of East Cheshire Hospice.

Tickets £8 and £2 (children) from Roger Johnson 01625-613815.

Photograph: Anthony Holland

EDITORIAL

Back in the mists of time, **Bollington Live!** was born as a 12 page magazine. This issue is the first time we have achieved a magazine of double that size!

For a voluntary publication to even continue for so many years, never mind still getting bigger and better really is an achievement for Bollington; and I really do mean Bollington - it is you who this magazine is for, you who send in articles, and you whose businesses support us in ever increasing numbers. No matter how many pages we have in **Bollington Live!** there are always more articles than space available. Surely a sign of a positive and vibrant community!

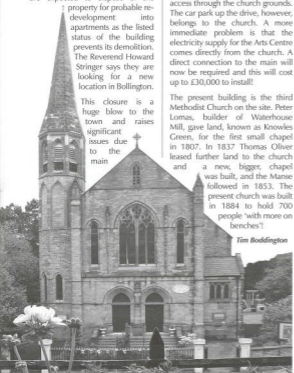
One of the ways that the Editorial Group have tried to improve the magazine is to try to widen the target readership. I think we are going some way to achieving that. In this issue there is genuinely involvement from Bollingtonians aged from eight to eighty.

Whilst we often consider historical articles to be ancient activities by people long since passed, the more recent history is often overlooked. In this issue we have several major articles which back to the 1960s and '70s. Future history also is being written with such events as the new Skate Park and the Diamond Jubilee events, both of which are also included in this issue. I would particularly like to thank our young residents - Billy Schofield and Ashley Brooks - featured on the front cover.

There really are too many articles to mention in this short editorial, so please read on, and enjoy the summer - whatever the weather!

All the best!

Date for next copy:
Friday 28th
September
2012



BOLLINGTON

CELEBRATES!

The people of Bollington love local events, whether it's the Youth Fair, the Skate Park opening or the Bollington Festival. The Queen's Diamond Jubilee weekend was no exception and in spite of very mixed weather Bollingtonians turned out in force to celebrate.

On Saturday, streets were closed and parties took place, notably in Barnfield Road, Fairfield Avenue and Clarence Terrace. On Sunday it was the Jubilee parade from Grimshaw Lane to the Recreation Ground along the Middlewood Way. It was very wet and windy but the Town Mayor, Cllr. Ken Edwards, the Bollington Brass Band and over 100



people turned up decked in union flags. As they crossed the viaduct the wind took hold of the union flag umbrellas, but they held their ground to fight another day, albeit a little out of shape! The Mayor, Cllr. Ken Edwards, was however in very good shape and, clothed almost completely as a union flag, led the parade onto the Recreation Ground through a WI guard of honour. Ken, ever the outdoor type, then marched the parade around the ground to ensure everyone was thoroughly soaked but surprisingly very happy.

The weather by this time had declared war on Bollington and the organisers of the Big Lunch had instigated plan 'B' to use the Cricket Pavilion, which was also decked out with union flag tablecloths and 'the full works'. Hot food from the BBQ, hot drinks and locally brewed Bollington ales sustained everyone and a good time was had by all.



Monday dawned fine and dry and at the Arts Centre at 11.00am there was a long queue to enter the Treasure Hunt, to find gems hidden around the gem of Bollington itself. At 10.15pm things started to hot up as the Jubilee Beacon was lit on White Nancy - proud in her new livery. This was following



by a firework spectacular on the Recreation Ground. Hundreds turned out and they were not disappointed. The Bar and BBQ on the Recreation Ground were very busy providing much needed funds for the Cricket Club. Nick from Canalside Community Radio had the audience enthralled with his music which was timed perfectly with the firework display.

David Naylor



Photographs by: John Appleyard, Carol Barnes, Terry Heathcote, Tom Lewis, Simon Nottage

