

BRIDGEND COMMUNITY NEWS

Bridging Social
Isolation

Edition 30



Photo courtesy of Claire L.Hamilton

From Thursday 5th November, England went into lockdown for a second time this year in order to try to slow the spread of Coronavirus.

Pubs and restaurants are closed, apart from takeaway services, plus non-essential shops, leisure and entertainment venues. No social mixing is allowed, apart from in your support bubble, and people must stay at home unless travelling for specific reasons including work and education. This means that once again, the Bridgend Centre must close.

As before we will continue to produce this newsletter to be a companion to you throughout these challenging times. If you would like to make a contribution with an article, picture, poem or song, please do drop us a line at info@bridgendcentre.org.uk

Bridgend Bunting project gets off the ground



This Invitation is for you to participate in a community group project to create a very long celebration bunting to be showcased at the Bridgend Centre's 30th birthday celebration Bridgefest in May 2021.

We invite you to create a flag design of your choice – it could be something that reminds you of the Bridgend Centre, linked to a special place in Bollington or simply a pattern based on your favourite colours! Can't draw, paint or print? No problem! Submit your favourite inspirational quote, some birthday wishes, a memorable date of an event that is special to you? Or press a late autumn flower from the garden or a selection of leaves from your favourite walk. So long as we can photocopy your design it can be recreated on cloth!

Templates can be purchased online at on our website or from the Bridgend Centre at the cost of £2. Please go www.bridgendcentre.org.uk to download yours!

When you've finished your design drop it off at the Bridgend Centre and keep an eye out for your design(s) on our Facebook page for updates as the string of bunting grows.....

Here are some photos showing paper designs and fabric flags that have already been created by our loyal craftspeople for a bit of inspiration. **Avril Corbett**



Online Virtual Auction and Prize Draw

Save the date! On Tuesday 8th December we will be holding an Online Virtual Auction and Prize Draw to raise vital funds for the Bridgend Centre. We have some amazing Lots and Prizes lined up, including..... wait for it.....a signed Lithograph from Elbow. The actual band Elbow!

Other Lots in the Auction include a signed Cymbal from the Virgin Marys, a painting by Mel Hood, a meal cooked by celebrity chef Robert Owen Brown, lunch for four at the Creameries in Chorlton, plus much more!

As well as the auction there will be a prize draw with some fabulous prizes including champagne, hampers, afternoon tea, a month's membership of Variety Fitness, and vouchers at local businesses.

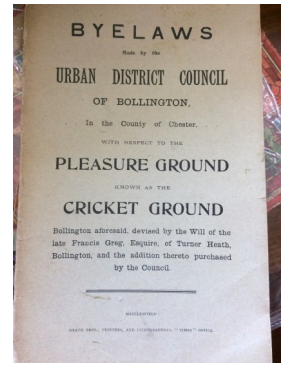
The auction and prize draw will be online and we will have a little social/party on Zoom to catch up with friends. We will keep you posted on this as we get more information.

Please note that this date has changed from previously advertised.



Reminiscences of Bollington—Recreation Ground

Angela Williams sent us this image of a booklet of byelaws for the Recreation Ground, which got us to thinking about the history of the 'Rec' and how it appeared in Bollington.



The history of the Recreation Ground starts properly in 1901 when Francis Greg Esq. JP died and left the Cricket Ground, as it then was, to the people of Bollington to be administered by Bollington Urban District Council. Francis was part of the Greg family who had played such an important part in the town's development and was a keen supporter of Cricket. The area where the Recreation Ground now is was originally called 'Gnat Hole'. Francis generously provided a pavilion, a bandstand and paid £20 for a roller to make sure the summer wickets were properly prepared.

The change in status to a public recreation ground in 1901 caused a great deal of controversy at the time because footballers naturally wished to use the ground during the winter months. Traditionally the famous Bollington St. John's Team based on the congregation of St. John's Church had used the eastern end of the Cricket Field during the winter months. This came to an end in 1901. In the early years the Cricket Club prevailed and footballers were excluded due to the political influence of the cricketers on Bollington Urban District Council (BUDC). The BUDC built a Bowling Green beyond Francis Greg's Bandstand where the footballers traditionally played. In addition in 1908-09 they built a new entrance on Palmerston Street with a memorial plaque in honour of Francis Greg. Bollington St. John's, soon to become Bollington United, petitioned the Council in 1913 to provide a football ground. The Council was now more sympathetic but the footballers had to wait until after 1918 when the River Dean could at last be diverted to its present course to provide space for their pitch.



Big crowd for athletics in 1912 or 1913.

Cricket has always been the dominant use of the Recreation Ground and it has been host to many famous cricketers. The Australian Test player Keith Stackpole (43 Tests 7 centuries) visited with Ramsbottom Cricket Club in a friendly match in the late 1960's. Frank Hayes, who scored a maiden Test century against the West Indies in 1973, visited Bollington Recreation Ground many times with Marple Cricket Club.

One important though unplanned contribution the Recreation Ground made to the life of the Town in the early 1900's was that of drawing attention to the foul state of the River Dean. By the 1890's when Gnat Hole entered wide public use over 300 cess pits drained directly into the River Dean. Complaints flooded into the Health Authority and then the Bollington Urban District Council from people using the Recreation Ground. The stench was awful and visible faecal matter clogged the River. An inspection eventually occurred in 1899 and the then Medical Officer of Health declared the river "nothing but an open sewer." The Council still refused to raise the money necessary for a pure water supply and a proper sewage works. It required two prosecutions to force their hand and the sewage works was opened in 1906 much to the relief of all those who enjoyed the use of the Recreation Ground.



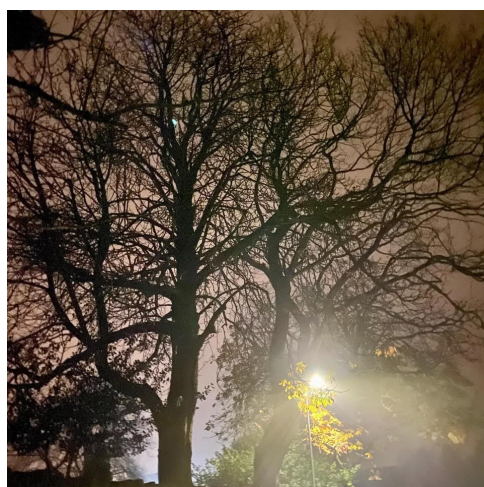
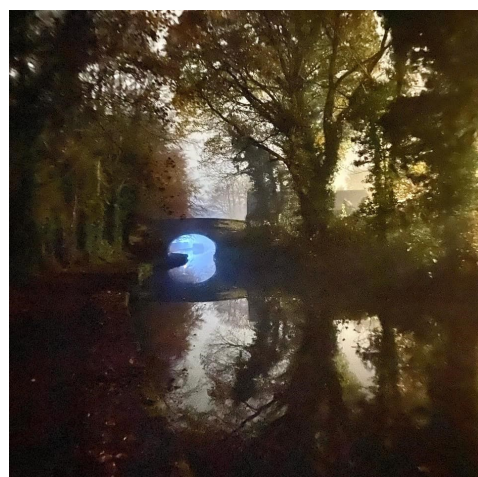
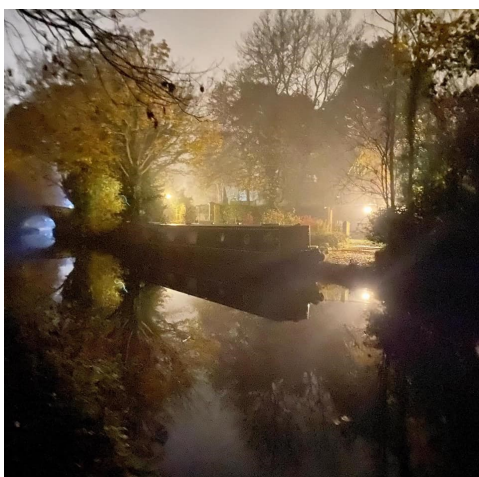
The River Dean in 1909

In later times new challenges have appeared for the Recreation Ground and its place in the life of the Town. Since 1974 Bollington has lost direct responsibility for the Recreation Ground which, with the demise of Bollington Urban District Council, moved to Macclesfield Borough Council. In 2005, a Friends of the Rec group was formed in partnership with Macclesfield Borough Council. A number of dedicated local people entered into a sustained partnership with the Borough Council in order to return Bollington Recreation Ground to the standard that local people could take pride in and that would support those who continued to need the ground for their sporting activities. The aim was to be achieved through attaining the coveted Green Flag status for Bollington Recreation Ground. The Green Flag has been the national standard for parks and green spaces in England and Wales since 1996. Macclesfield Borough had no green spaces with Green Flag status and it is a credit to them and the **Friends of the Recreation Ground** that the **Green Flag was awarded** after only three years of work in May 2008.

The recreation ground and Pavilion continues to be at the heart of Bollington life. We at the Bridgend Centre are hugely grateful to the Friends of the Rec for allowing us to use the Pavilion for two months in early 2020 to deliver our services while the extensive repairs to the roof were being carried out. For more information on the Recreation Ground, please go to www.happyvalley.org.uk

Autumnal Bollington

We love these photos by Claire L. Hamilton taken recently around Bollington and Kerridge. It certainly gives a distinctly Autumnal feel!



Recipe: Lime and Bitter Choc Pie

Base:

250g (9oz) digestive biscuits, crushed
100g (3.5 oz) butter, melted

Filling:

405g can condensed light milk
Finely grated zest & juice of 5 large limes
285ml double cream

Decoration:

30g (1oz) bitter chocolate, melted
6-8 thin lime wedges and slivers of zest

Method:

Crush biscuits, mix with melted butter and line the bottom and sides of a dish. Chill in fridge.

Whisk the cream, milk, lime juice and zest until the mixture is thick and creamy.

Spoon over the biscuit base and chill in the fridge for at least 1 hour.

Decorate with drizzled chocolate, lime wedges and slivers of zest.



What to do with old furniture – how to join the nations upcycling trend



Upcycling your old furniture is a great way to give them a new lease of life. Almost any item can be upcycled into something new and improved. It not only a good way to bring out your creative side and to make something that can be truly unique but it is also good for the environment. Instead of wasting un-loved furniture, you can transform them into something new.

It's not difficult, though it might take a bit of time depending on the size and material of your project.

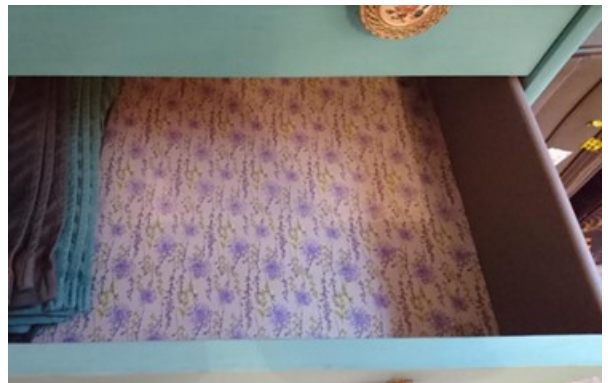
I love going to charity shops and looking for items that I can transform to work in my space and to create exactly the look I want, rather than buying of the shelf furniture. Most of the time I use chalk paint as it give a bit more texture and because it's super easy to use.

With the following tips you can easily breathe new life into

1. Think about the end result – use Instagram or Pinterest to look for ideas before you get started. Choose a colour that will work with the room you want to put it in after it's finished. Go for good quality paint as it will give you a better coverage and high quality finish. I love using Annie Sloan chalk paint however there are other brands out there that are just fine.

2. Spend a few extra pennies on good paint brushes. Cheap ones leave bristles in your work and don't give good coverage. All good paint brands now have their own paint brushes which work wonderfully well together. Wrap brushes and rollers in tinfoil or cling film in between coats to keep the brush moist and then clean them as soon as you've finished painting or waxing.

3. Preparation is key to upcycling. Plan ahead and ensure you have the tools and equipment needed to do the job. Give the furniture a wipe down before you start and depending on the material you might want to sand it lightly with a 240 sand paper. This helps the paint to stick better. If you are using a light colour on top of an existing darker colour applying a coat of a suitable primer is recommended. Apply at least 2 coats of paint and let it dry well between coat according to the instructions on the tin.



You can support us

The Bridgend Centre has been in Bollington for 30 years now, delivering vital services to the whole community. So many vulnerable people depend on the Centre and we are working to ensure we can provide as much support to them as we can during this strange time of social distancing.

If you would like to help us to keep the Centre open during these challenging times, please go to our website to donate: <https://bridgendcentre.org.uk/home/donate/>.

Alternatively you can donate quality items to our shop. Please go to our website to book a slot. **Thank you**

4. Once you have finished your pieces, make sure you protect all your hard work with wax or varnish to give it longevity. After putting so much effort into making something re-loved, give it the respect it deserves by finishing it properly.

5. If you want to go all out on a chest of drawer or similar, you can line the inside of the drawers with fabric. All you need is a fabric of your choice and some spray glue. Measure and cut fabric to size, apply the spray glue to the wood and carefully place the fabric on top, trying to avoid creases.

6. Enjoy!

Michelle Greenwood

The Malvern Hills

Leaving the M5 motorway at the Worcester South junction you are immediately aware of the form of the Malvern Hills, the prominent feature in the landscape of southern Worcestershire. Growing up in this area they had always been a large part of my consciousness and a recent extended stay in the area gave me the opportunity to re-acquaint myself with them.

An Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, the Malvern Hills run north to south through Worcestershire and Herefordshire (and part of Gloucestershire) for about eight miles taking in a variety of landscapes and affording magnificent views over the surrounding countryside. From the highest points of the hills it is possible to see parts of thirteen counties, the Welsh mountains, the Herefordshire hills and the cathedrals of Worcester, Hereford and Gloucester.

The Malvern Hills are of ancient origin being formed of some of the oldest rocks in England, about 700 million years old. They also have a long history of human habitation, from at least the Bronze Age, around 1000 BC. They provide important natural habitats for a range of species including birds, butterflies, rarer plants, fungi and veteran trees. Bluebells can be found in the spring and birds such as kestrels, buzzards, stone chats, meadow pipits and green woodpeckers can be readily observed.

The Malvern Hills are easily accessible to the serious and casual walker, the tourist, the day tripper and the sightseer with clearly defined footpaths and routes from various access points along their length. Although often a fairly steep climb, the Malvern Hills are only moderately high by northern standards, the highest point being 425 metres, but as the surrounding landscape is so flat, particularly to the east, this height is accentuated.

At the foot of the Malvern Hills is Great Malvern, a good base from which to explore the hills, a town that is accessible by rail as well as road. This historic spa town boasts Great Malvern Priory, previously a Benedictine monastery founded in the 11th century, several theatres and connections with famous people such as C.S.Lewis, J.R.R. Tolkien and Sir Edward Elgar, the Worcestershire born composer, who lived in the area for much of his life and took inspiration from walking on the hills. Tolkien has also been said to have taken inspiration from the Malvern Hills. Malvern developed as a spa town during the 17th to 19th centuries and the famous Malvern water was bottled and shipped around the world.

The highest point is the Worcestershire Beacon, which is also the highest point in Worcestershire, at the north end of the hills, easily reached directly from Great Malvern or one of several car parks. Its counter-point on the Herefordshire side is the Herefordshire Beacon, which is the highest point on the Herefordshire side (but not Herefordshire); it is also known as British Camp as it is the site of one of the best examples of an Iron Age hill fort in Britain.



The northern hills viewed from British Camp



The Worcestershire Beacon



The view from North Hill, with Malvern on the left



Sugarloaf and North Hill



British Camp

Other hills in this area, such as Midsummer Hill, also provide evidence of ancient settlement. Visible from British Camp is Eastnor Castle and the obelisk overlooking the estate, whilst further south are disused quarries and large areas of common land, which along with woodland makes for a varied landscape.

One of the best ways to experience what the hills have to offer is to walk the length of the ridge from Chase End Hill in Herefordshire to North and End Hill close to Great Malvern, easily doable in a day as a linear walk. Alternatively it is possible to do shorter circular walks taking in smaller sections of the hills and there are also many lower level and less-strenuous paths to suit all types of visitor. **Pete Turner**

Item of the week in the Bridgend eBay shop

Although the Bridgend shop has been forced to close for Lockdown 2, we are still selling items through our eBay store and have lots of lovely items listed.

This vase is by Mdina of Malta. Mdina Glass was set up in 1968 as Malta's first glass making company using a blend of traditional glassblowing techniques and those from the burgeoning studio glass movements of the early-to-mid 60s.

For decades, Mdina Glass was known for primarily producing small vases, bowls and paperweights that appealed to tourists visiting the islands and to trade export clients. It was in the early 2000s that the modern identity of Mdina Glass took shape. This move into the home décor market with larger, more colourful and expressive vases and bowls, bespoke trophies, lighting products, lanterns, table and kitchenware, soap dispensers, scented candleholders, sculptures, installations, customised design projects and more.



To check out all the items we have for sale in our eBay shop, you can search for us on eBay, we are called [bridget-centre](https://www.ebay.co.uk/search?_trk=bridget-centre). Or you can look on our website at <https://bridgendcentre.org.uk/home/charity-shop/eBay-store/>

Warm Homes Project



Thanks to support from E.ON, Age UK Cheshire will again be able to help older people keep well and warm this winter.

Our Information and Advice Service will be providing advice on benefits and money related issues, with the aim of maximising income, further reducing fuel poverty and getting access to the support needed in order to live independently.

Our trained advisors will arrange a meeting over the

phone, or via video call to complete a benefits check to identify the income currently received, and what other benefits they might be entitled to, as well as supporting them to apply for the £140 Warm Home Discount (annual rebate off electricity bills) and Boiler Replacement Schemes.

Advice is free, impartial and confidential.

Our Warm Homes Project will be running from November 2020 until March 2021.

Contact Us

If you are interested in accessing this service or would like further information, please contact our Warm Homes Advisor, Stacey Brady on stacey.brady@ageukcheshire.org.uk or our Information and Advice Service on (01244) 401500 or email: informationqs@ageukcheshire.org.uk

Cheshire East
carers' HUB

young carers' HUB

WILMSLOW GUILD
Learning for pleasure

FREE COURSE
BUILDING CONFIDENCE FOR CARERS

ARE YOU A CARER? WOULD YOU LIKE TO BUILD YOUR CONFIDENCE?


Funded with the support of Cheshire East Carer's Hub and the award of the Carers Choice Grants 2020-21, Wilmslow Guild is delivering Building Confidence Courses for Carers

This 6-week course can be still taken online or distance learning on the following start dates:

Online Course: 10-12pm Wednesday 18th November 2020

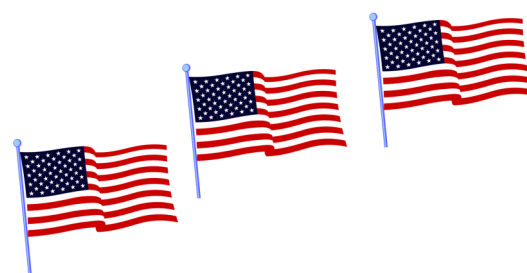
Distance Learning Option: Study at Your Own Pace - Available now

Find out more and book
01625 523 903
www.wilmslowguild.org



Mind game—Quiz America

1. What are Shovelhead, Knucklehead, and Panhead ?
2. John F Kennedy was baptized as JFFK. What was the other F for?
3. What building did James Hoban design?
4. In 1951, who said "I married beneath me - All women do"?
5. Lexus is the favorite luxury car according to who?
6. The name of what American state means meadowland?
7. The best kind of wood for making pencils is what?
8. Eighteen percent of Americans put who in their will?
9. Which American Indian tribe has over 300,000 members?
10. In 1984 Bloomingdale's started selling what?
11. The Cannon airport serves what city?
12. What company sells more cars than Ford, Chrysler, Chevrolet, and Buick combined?
13. In America, on which holiday are the most collect calls reversed?
14. What horrible thing happens every 45 seconds in America?
15. The Society of Friends is an organization better known as the what?
16. The energizer bunny wears what on his feet?
17. Which innovative new product only sold 1,200 bottles in its first year?
18. Who owns the Audi car company?
19. Forty one percent of U.S. women believe that what nationality men make the best husbands?
20. What should be done with a used worn out flag?



Last week's anagram answers	
staooldt	toadstool
unssiretfulf	fruitfulness
lnewoleah	halloween
oftrs	frost
itms	mist
uomshmor	mushroom
unatum	autumn
rbhtaeien	hibernate
askerplrs	sparklers
Behec unt	beech nut
upmnikp	pumpkin
oecbbw	cobweb
yhliic	chilly
enrfbio	bonfire
gteirma	migrate
oriefrksw	fireworks
craon	acorn
harvest	harvest
asveel	leaves
tustnhec	chestnut



Thank you to I am Print

This newsletter was printed free of charge by I am Print, Adelphi Mill, Bollington to support people of Bollington during lockdown. A massive thank you to I am Print for this invaluable support.



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