

BRIDGEND COMMUNITY NEWS

**Bridging Social
Isolation**

Edition 33



On Wednesday 2nd December, the national lockdown lifted and Cheshire East went into Tier 2 of Coronavirus restrictions. The Bridgend Centre shop therefore re-opened on that day and we welcomed customers back into the Shop.

We are now be open between 10am and 4pm weekdays and 10am and 1pm on Saturdays. We will continue with the Covid Secure practises that were in place before to keep everyone as safe as possible including the Bubble system for our staff and volunteers manning and working in the shop.

If you wish to donate any items for the charity shop, please book at an appointment to do so at www.bridgendcentre.org.uk/home/charity-shop. We are limiting donations to four bags or boxes per person.

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 Auction and Prize Draw

RAISE FUNDS FOR THE BRIDGEND CENTRE

Online Winter Auction and Prize Draw

Amazing Auction Lots! Perfect Prizes!
Place your bids and buy your prize draw tickets (£5) today at <https://app.galabid.com/bridgendauktion2020>

PARTY! MUSIC! FUN!

PARTY ON ZOOM TUESDAY 8TH DECEMBER 2020 AT 8PM
AUCTION ENDS AND PRIZE DRAW AT 9PM

Full prize and lot details at www.bridgendcentre.org.uk
Zoom Party login details will be posted on our Facebook page on the evening

Registered Charity 1123287

Bridgend went virtual this year to raise vital funds to contribute to the day-to-day running costs of our Centre.

On Tuesday 8th December we held an online auction and prize draw. We had some absolutely amazing auction lots and prizes for the raffle, all donated to us by local businesses and artists. All in all we raised an amazing £2,790!!

To celebrate on the evening, we held a party over Zoom and we were joined on the evening by Daz Antrobus of Silk FM who was a true expert in running a party, singer Andy Hofton and a wonderful poet from Stoke called Nick Degg who kept us entertained with his funny and heartfelt poems.

The list of Lot and Prize winners is listed below. Congratulations if you won and THANK YOU so much for your support to the Centre. And of course, THANK to all the hugely generous sponsors who provided prizes and those who helped run the party and most importantly to volunteer Claire Kerkham who organised it and galvanised all these people together.

Hopefully this can become an annual event and maybe we could even hold it in a real venue next year!

zoom Online Winter Auction and Prize Draw - Shared screen with speaker view



The wonderful poet Nick Degg

zoom Online Winter Auction and Prize Draw - Shared screen with speaker view

Prize Draw winners 000137

Total raised: £2,790

Prize	Winner
151	Prize 21 - Kim Crokery
131	Prize 22 - Anonymous
137	Prize 23 - Anne Swindell

Auction Lot Winners

Lot	Winner
Elbow Signed Lithograph	Emma Morgan
Chef Robert Owen Brown to cook meal at your home	Paul Gregory
Framed mixed media print by local artist Mel Hood	Pete Thorp
Lunch at the highly acclaimed restaurant the Creameries	Anne Swindell
Virgin Mary's signed cymbal and merchandise	Anonymous
The Great Northern Cloth – merino wool scarf – in leprechaun	Anonymous
The Great Northern Cloth – merino wool scarf – in napia blue	Anonymous
The Great Northern Cloth – merino wool scarf – in bronze green	Anonymous
The Great Northern Cloth – merino wool scarf – in black	Paul Gregory
Original artwork by Wonky Bolly Art of local hostleries	Karl Burgess
2 hours of guided gardening by gardening expert Kate Bush	Jo Maitland
2 course meal for 2 with house wine at the Poachers Inn	Karl Burgess
1 nights stay at Bolly B & B inc full English breakfast	Victoria Ainsworth

Prize Draw winners

Prize	Winner
Garmin Forerunner 35 Watch	Rebecca Agour
Kindle 6" e-reader in white	Michael Harrison
Rootstock Eco Hamper	Sue Brocklehurst
Original watercolour by Jane Harrison	Rob Nicholson
Majestic Loves Fizz – 6 bottles	Adam Dolphin
Three CDs by local singer songwriter Megan Dixon Hood	Kim Crokery
Shopping Spree (up to £30) at the Bridgend Centre	David Hasler
Luxury Hamper of goodies from the Body Shop from Becca's beauty buys	Rebecca Agour
Sunday lunch at Hollin House Hotel	Anonymous
Twelve tasty cupcakes by Julie Horsfield	Anne Swindell
Wonky Bolly Art – a painting of a subject of your choice	Louise French
Framed White Nancy Print from Bollington Print Shop	Hilary Atkin
Macclesfield Pilates and Yoga Studio – one month's membership	Anne Swindell

Prize Draw winners

Prize	Winner
Afternoon tea for four at Shrigley Hall	Anonymous
Afternoon tea for four at Shrigley Hall	Karen Davies
No 74 Deli - £40 voucher	Michelle Borell
Chicken from Heathcotes the Butcher	Nathanael Booker
Millhouse bakery voucher £10 and a co-op bottle of red wine	Helen Ellwood
Tea and cake for two - £15 voucher from Café Waterside	Karl Burgess
Inland Sea Limited edition sustainable T Shirt	Maxine Lomas
Painting of various Bollington hostleries by Wonky Bolly Art	Kim Crokery
£10 voucher to spend at the Indian Goat Truck, Bollington	Anonymous
£10 voucher to spend at the Indian Goat Truck, Bollington	Anne Swindell
£10 voucher to spend at the Indian Goat Truck, Bollington	Kirsty Swann
£10 voucher to spend at the Indian Goat Truck, Bollington	Michael Harrison
£10 voucher to spend at the Indian Goat Truck, Bollington	Rob Nicholson

Bollington News—Festive Fun

Bolluminations are back! Following on from the success of the Bolluminations in the village at the end of October, the organisers are encouraging us all to get creative again to brighten up the village for Christmas.

Your design doesn't have to be big or complicated and they are good fun to make whether you are 8 or 80!

Details of how to get involved are on their poster (*to the right*)

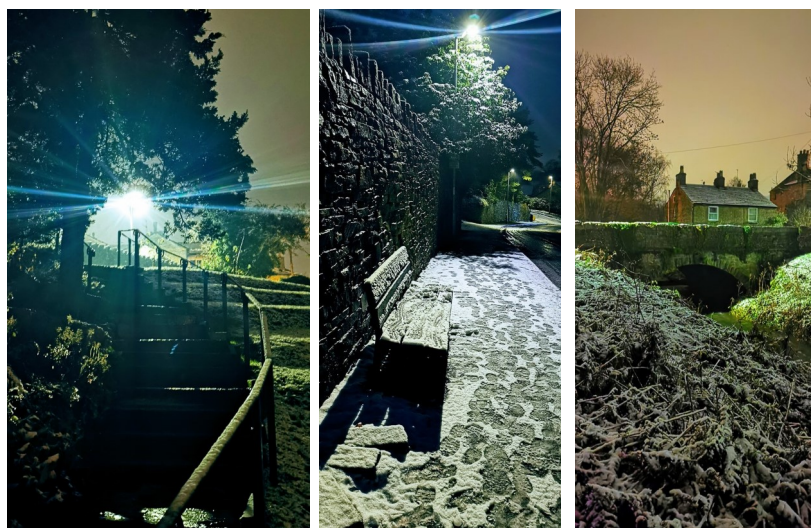
Bridgend will be joining in the fun this time so keep an eye out for our festive offering!

We plan to update you with pictures of everyone's fantastic festive frames after the event.



Snow falls in Bollington

Last Friday saw the first snow fall in Bollington of this winter. Bollington's fantastic local photographers captured these beautiful pictures..



Ed Baron



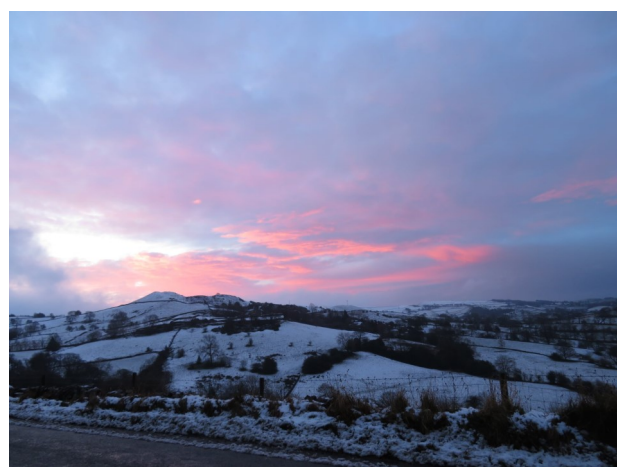
Andy Langdon



Andy Langdon



Andrew Heathcote



Andrew Heathcote

Home School Isolation—By Jasmin Langstaff age 10



Hi! Jasmin here again. I am Kerry from Bridgend's daughter and I wrote you a little article a few weeks ago about what it has been like being at school during this annoyingness we call a pandemic. If you remember, I told you that apart from the buckets of sanitizer and other mild annoyances that life was pretty much normal.....that was until my poor teacher tested positive for Covid! It started like any other Thursday, I dragged myself out of bed with no small amount of grumbling and then Mum said that had been sent a message from school that we had to isolate for 14 days, so no school for my class but no going anywhere else either!

My little sister was ever so cross that she still had to go to school and I briefly felt a little smug. That was until I realised that school had organised a full programme of lessons online, I still had to be up and dressed (all be it in my Panda jumper not my school uniform!) for morning registration everyday and that instead of a trained professional teacher and classroom assistant, I just had my Mum to "educate" me!! Mum isn't as good at teaching but she did give me cups of tea whilst doing my work so it pretty much balanced out!

I was very proud of my teacher as, even though she had Covid, she still worked all day and long into the evenings too dealing with us constantly asking questions about the technology as well as the school work itself. She must have said "you have to unmute yourself to speak" about a billion times (and that was just in the first lesson!) but she never got cross with us!

Luckily, because the Bridgend Centre was shut for lockdown, Mum was able to benefit from all the lessons I had too. She learnt all about Viking longboats and how difficult it is to make an exact replica of one out of Tetrapak cartons that doesn't capsize every two seconds.

We all made P.E. challenge videos that we shared and even had a virtual playground where we could chat together online.

I missed playing out with the other kids and seeing my friends, so when my little sister got home from school she was very surprised to find me so eager to play with her instead of kicking her out of my room like usual! I almost knocked her over with a hug when she got home!

The days went by surprisingly fast but I was definitely ready for a change of scene by the end of it! Our first day back to school all together was really good fun, we started the day by dancing in our classroom to celebrate being back and that nobody had gotten poorly. We were even able to go to our swimming session at Bollington Leisure centre, which is one of my favourite things.

We have been back for a couple of weeks now and its not long until we break up for Christmas. I can't wait for some time at home but this time without the having to stay there!

Merry Christmas All—Love Jasmin.xxx

Time to talk

Are you living with memory problems or dementia?

Are you a carer for someone with memory problems or dementia?

Would you like some advice or support?

For friendly, professional advice from a Dementia expert

All sessions 1.30pm - 3.00pm

Wed 16th December
Poynton Civic Hall. Face to face session. Tel 01625 872238 to book a 20 minute slot.

Wed 30th December
Contact 07976 519095 for a telephone conversation or email: ecn-tr.admiralnurse@nhs.net

Supported by...



Hello again, everyone. What strange times we live in, but a good time to reflect on some of the good things in life.

At the end of October, thanks to the owners of Holly farm, the Cheshire Bodgers were able to have another socially distanced gathering in the woods. This was the last one planned for this season but, unfortunately, many of our members were unable to attend, primarily due to level 3 categorisation for those living in Stockport and Greater Manchester. However, a small, but beautifully formed trio, plus the dog, braved the elements and met in the woods for the cooking of lunch, toasting of marshmallows and even a spot of whittling. Happily, the elements were kind to us and we were blessed with some beautiful Autumn sunshine. Lighting the fire, brewing coffee and cooking lunch seems to be the prime motivation for us at the moment, but no excuses are needed for getting outdoors and sharing a bit of human company when you can.

On to other things greenwood related, am very pleased to report that only a couple of weeks ago a good friend of mine kindly delivered some long lengths of freshly felled holly wood, which now reside in my back yard. Holly is a very hard wood to whittle, but it has a lovely pale colour when seasoned. With no more Bodgers meetings able to take place for a while, at least I will be able to whittle away in my back yard when the sun shines. I hope to make some butter knives, cooking spatulas and also some White Nancy love spoons.

Although the winter sun might shine for some of the time, whittling out of doors can be very cold on the feet. So



now, as a second time of lockdown heads towards us with the promise of tighter restrictions and furlough, I feel it is time for me to exchange my whittling knives, in the evenings at least, for knitting needles. Thankfully I have had time for a quick visit to The Crafty Corner in Macclesfield to kit my self out with the tools to knit an extra warm pair of woollen socks. I have never knitted with circular needles before, but now will be the perfect time to learn. I definitely think I'm going to need those socks this winter.

BOLLINGTON TOWN COUNCIL

CHRISTMAS EVENTS 2020

street music | window art | lights | radio event

Let in the Light
27th November

4 Christmas trees illuminated from 5pm at Bollington Cross, Town Hall, Market Place and Bull's Head (Kerridge). Festive lights throughout the town. Virtual switch-on of lights via Facebook. Follow the Christmas Tree trail on foot or bike.

12 Gigs of Christmas
2nd to 23rd December

Enjoy live festive music performances from your doorstep or window from local musician Neil Shaw-Hulme. 12 gigs on 12 evenings (6.30-7.30pm) leading up to Christmas Eve. Locations will be posted on Facebook: your chance to rehearse for Christmas Eve 'Together Apart'!

Bolluminations
From 18th December

Create your own window art for your home or business to create a beautiful display of festive scenes throughout Bollington. Learn how to get involved by joining the Bollington Bolluminations Facebook Group. See posters around town or find details via social media.

Christmas Eve
'Together Apart'

Tune in to Canalside Radio by 5.30pm and join your neighbours (together apart) for a radio broadcast of festive music and carols by local musicians and school children. Bring some festive fayre to your doorstep or window and join in with singing and celebrations.

Bollington
TOWN COUNCIL
www.bollington-tc.gov.uk

facebook twitter



Recipe— Cranberry and Clementine Eccles Cake

Jo Maitland sent us this gorgeous sounding recipe in. We can't wait to try them ourselves!

Ingredients

1 packet of puff pastry or make your own rough puff pastry instead; 20g butter; 150g dried cranberries; 2 tbsp chopped mixed peel (I never bother with this); 50g demerara sugar (or any sugar really); zest of 2 clementines; 1 teaspoon of mixed spice; 1 egg beaten; 3 tablespoon caster sugar.

Method

Preheat oven to 200 degrees c/gas 6. In a small pan melt the butter. Add the cranberries, mixed peel, demerara sugar, zest and spice. Heat gently and stir until sugar has dissolved. Remove from the heat and leave to cool completely.

On a floured surface roll out the pastry to the thickness of a pound coin. Cut out 10 circles by re-rolling the trimmings. I use my largest biscuit cutter which is 10cm diameter.

Divide the fruit between each of the circles of pastry leaving 1cm rim around the edge. Brush the edge with water and pull the edges of pastry to the centre, pinch together and turn over on the floured surface. Gently roll out a little wider taking care not to break the pastry.

Place them on a baking sheet (I lined mine with my non stick baking sheet), brush with the beaten egg, sprinkle generously with the caster sugar. Make 3 slits in the top of each with a sharp knife and bake for around 15 minutes until golden. They will store for a couple of days in an airtight container apparently.



Bridgend's new profile picture by Artist Adam Francis



If you are on Facebook, you may have noticed Bridgend Centre's new profile picture. Designed for us by local artist Adam Francis from Adam Francis Art. Here Adam tells us a bit about himself and his work.....

Originally from Crewe, I moved to Macclesfield in 2008 when I married Heather, from Poynton. I describe myself as an 'architectural illustrator', preferring to draw the manmade beauty of architecture over that of the local countryside, from my home studio in Macclesfield.

Fine pen drawing is my usual style, and I can spend around 20-90 hours drawing detailed buildings and landmarks. More recently I have been working on a more contemporary, graphic style that I think lends itself perfectly to my 'Macclesfield Collection', which aims to showcase the very best of the town's architecture and landmarks. It's an ongoing passion but I aim to illustrate most of the town's historical buildings and landmarks - it certainly won't be a quick undertaking! I

also take on commissions for building illustrations and was delighted to recently take on the Bridgend Centre. After studying Art & Design at South Cheshire College, I went on to the University of Wales to achieve a BA (hons) degree in Animation. I set up my photography business in 2012 and turned my illustration hobby into an online business in 2016. Illustrating the architectural history of the town is my way of honouring the amazing architects, labourers and visionaries that came before us and I urge everybody to just pause and take in historical buildings, wherever they are, and admire the craftsmanship and fine details that adorn them. **AdamFrancisArt sells items on Etsy**



Shopping local this Christmas



This year has been particularly difficult for small businesses. With lockdowns and encouragements to shop online, big businesses like Amazon and Tesco have seen a boom in sales whilst life has been increasingly difficult for small retailers.

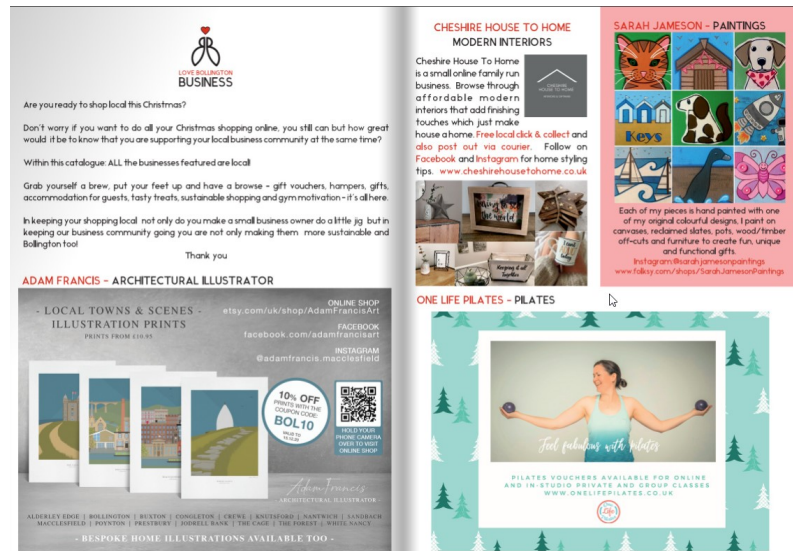
Whilst Bollington isn't known for its expansive range of shops, many residential homes and outside workshops are host to a wide range of small businesses that you wouldn't necessarily know were there. The Bollington shop local group on Facebook was created to highlight the wealth of talent available on our doorstep.

The Love Bollington Market team have also done a fantastic job with their virtual online markets and whilst they are finished for this year, they hope to return in the spring.

We are also very lucky to have bakers, traditional butchers, a deli and a new wine and cheese shop in the village (on the former site of Wellington Road branch of Heathcotes) for all those festive foody treats. For the everyday essentials, the local shop by the leisure centre and the one on Grimshaw lane do a fantastic job of supplying the things we need. Our Co-Op also do a great job of supporting the community and the pennies that are spent there go towards supporting community projects locally.

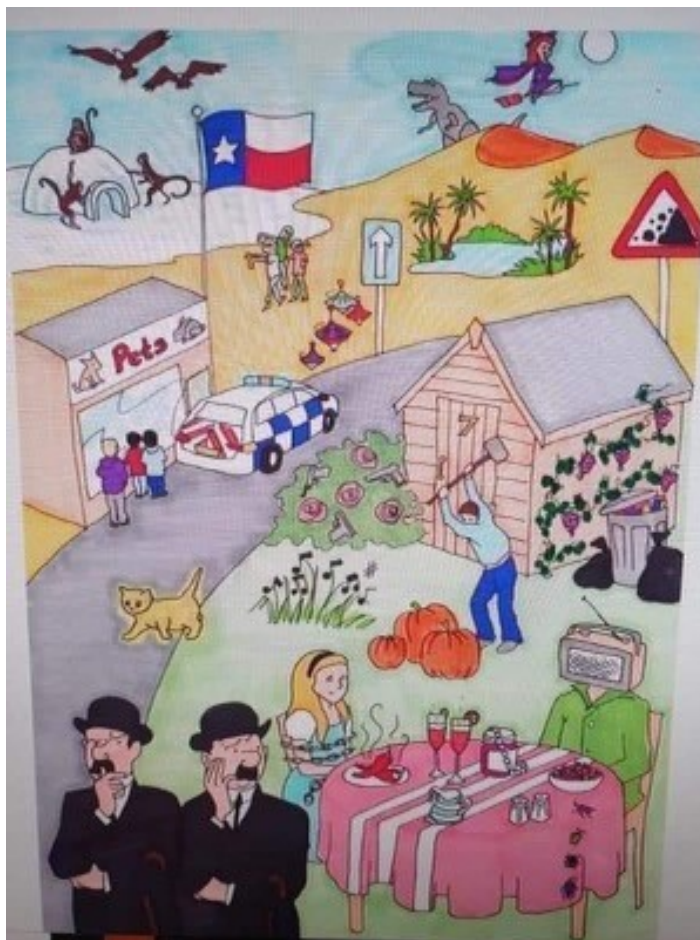
Love Bollington Business is a new group set up with the purpose of promoting Bollington businesses. They have a Facebook page and a website, where you can find details of various businesses based in the area. The Facebook page gives individual sellers an opportunity to display their wares. Love Bollington Business have created a downloadable Christmas catalogue which details all the businesses in the area who are members of their organisation. It can be found on their website at www.lovebollingtonbusiness.co.uk or their Facebook page @lovebollingtonbusiness.

So lets see how many happy dances our cash can generate this Christmas!



Mind game—Hidden Bands

Can you find the 30 bands hidden in this picture?



Answers to last weeks riddle

Say what? I speak without a mouth and hear without ears. I have no body, but I come alive with wind. What am I? *Answer: An echo*

Green and red You go at red, but stop at green. What am I? *Answer: A watermelon. You eat the red part, and you stop eating at the green part.*

Tall to short I'm tall when I'm young, and I'm short when I'm old. What am I? *Answer: A candle.*

Today, tomorrow, yesterday I'm where yesterday follows today and tomorrow is in the middle. What am I? *Answer: A dictionary.*

Head and tail I have a head and a tail that will never meet. Having too many of me is always a treat. What am I? *Answer: A coin.*

No wings or eyes I can fly but have no wings. I can cry but I have no eyes. Wherever I go, darkness follows me. What am I? *Answer: Clouds.*

Head to toe I help you from your head to your toe. The more I work, the smaller I grow. What am I? *Answer: A bar of soap.*

Everything, everywhere I am the beginning of everything, the end of everywhere. I'm the beginning of eternity, the end of time and space. What am I? *Answer: The letter "e."*

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 for our community during this challenging time.



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