



BOLLINGTON

Live!

Number Forty Nine Summer 2010

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PLAYBUILDER

The Bollington Cross Youth Project has been in the pipeline for a number of years, but now, I am exceptionally pleased to say, it is under way!

After receiving consultation feedback from over 220 children, aged 8-13 and spanning four local primary schools and one secondary school, work has commenced on the 'Playbuilder Project' at the Bollington Cross Site. Various creative playground designers have been to the site and have received briefing on the children's feedback along with Cheshire East Council's criteria and all involved excitedly await the first set of designs!

Several elements of the Project are running simultaneously, so alongside the Playbuilder is the acquisition of the land situated at the end of the ATAX playing field. This area will be converted into part of the football pitches and a group of allotments. Discussions are currently underway with the land owner over the procurement of the land, whilst the allotments remain in the early stages of design with the Landscape Architect and are beginning to take shape. The completion of these elements will culminate around

the summer of 2010, enabling the next stage of applying for detailed Planning Permission with Cheshire East Council to commence. If the planning applications are successful and subject to funding, contractors will be invited to submit their tenders in January 2011, with commencement of site works at the ATAX playing field in the summer of 2011.

If you would like to learn more about the Bollington Cross Youth Project or to submit your views on the plans, please go to Bollington Leisure Centre where you will find a display and consultation feedback forms.

As with most, this project relies heavily on funding support and donations from local businesses, residents and the like. It is widely known that obtaining funding can, at times, be more of a challenge than delivering the project. Therefore, if you like what is being proposed please help by donating or sponsoring the project, or alternatively, if you would like to offer your professional services, please contact Paul Gibbons on, 07971 807369.

Steven Hurst/Charlotte Quinn

See centre page for a map of the plans.



Left: Artists' impression of the future of Bollington Cross Youth Project.

Date for next copy:
Friday 1st.
Oct. 2010

EDITORIAL

Summer has arrived, and with it, this, the 49th edition of **Bollington Live!** I hope that you like it and find something of interest inside.

All of our articles are Bollington-centric; we are very lucky to have such a vibrant and busy town (or village if you prefer) to keep Bollington's magazine jam-packed with articles every issue. Indeed, there is always too much to try and squeeze in and it can be difficult to try to choose which articles get into each issue.

This is one of the reasons why we choose not to publish articles which appear elsewhere. Please remember if you send **Bollington Live!** an article, it is only fair to expect that it is an article for **Bollington Live!** We do not have space to feature already published work.

As always, this issue has a wide variety of articles, from historical to contemporary - Radion Electronics and Bollington UDC to the Scouts current activities and new shops bringing life back into our shopping streets. Hopefully when tourists arrive as part of 'Destination Bollington' they will find something to do as well as see! I just hope they don't look at the official 'Welcome to Bollington' notice boards, which are complete with dull, rain-splattered photographs. Oh, and please don't mention the continued mis-spelling of aqueduct and next time you need photographs, why not ask the Bollington Festival Photography Group - they may even take them when the sun is shining.

Enjoy the magazine! It's the big 50 next time!



DESTINATION BOLLINGTON

Bollington really is becoming the destination of choice! The Destination Bollington project is seeking to develop the good reasons for outsiders to come and visit us here in the Happy Valley – they used to call it tourism; now it's destination management!

Of course we have always had lots to see but we've been a bit short on the doing. People have visited the town for years to look at our



Below: Ladies at 'Little Luxuries'.

Right: 'Costcutter' off-licence.

Photographs by Tim Boddington & Simon Nottage.

mills, our quaint streets, the flowers in Water Street and of course, the canal and Middlewood Way. Bollington also manages to attract large numbers of hikers and walkers who puzzle over the purpose of White Nancy and use our network of paths and bridleways to explore our beautiful surrounding countryside. But Bollington doesn't seem to have quite the same attraction as some other small communities I could mention – and until recent times there wasn't even somewhere to watch the world go by with a cup of tea!

Destination Bollington sprang out of the Town Plan and is designed to encompass many small projects aimed at improving the value of a visit and overall to create a central pleasure area encompassing the Middlewood Way, children's play area, Recreation Ground, canal, the waterside at Clarence mill,



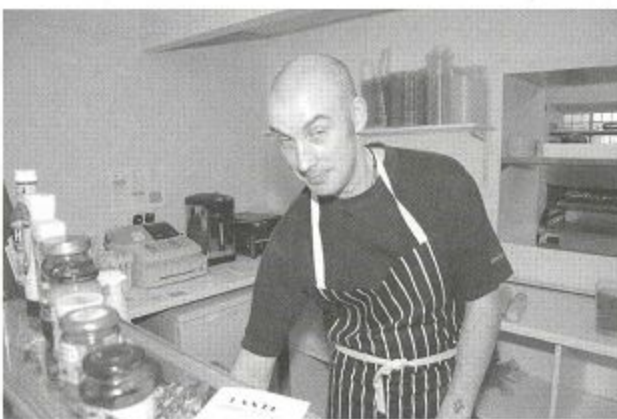
Above: Preparations at 'Taste'.

Left: New notice board by Clarence Mill.

www.happy-valley.org.uk/destination

all directly connected to the Palmerston Street, High Street and Water Street area. The brainchild of Michael Burdekin, this project has the support of Bollington Town and Cheshire East councils. You will have noticed the new slim black and gold visitor signs that have been erected at important points to show visitors the way to places in the town that they might like to see. A number were erected a couple of years ago and they have been added to this year.

Four new signs have also been provided, two each on the Middlewood Way and the canal, to help visitors arriving by those routes to find refreshment – all the pubs and cafés, including the new Maggoty Johnson café in High Street, are shown on a map of the town. On the other side these signs provide a potted history of the area where they are located, so whetting the walker's appetite for a closer look at the town.



Talking of the new café, have you noticed the revival of confidence in the town's retailing? Several closed premises are now refurbished and reopened; others including Beasdales restaurant and Bollington Printshop have been refurbished. The Plaice is going well in its third year; fish and chips are still a good meal out – even in a recession.

New to the town on Palmerston Street we have Little Luxuries beauty salon, where Bollington girl Charlene Tildsley is making a therapeutic start to her business life; Taste, for take-away convenience breakfasts and lunches and the former Threshers off-licence has

just re-opened as a Costcutter off-licence. Elsewhere, Maggoty Johnson café sits alongside Holmes-Naden estate agent's in High Street. Additionally, breakfast can be obtained at Waterside Café at Clarence mill and at The Plaice. West Bollington is not forgotten with Couzens Hairdressing on the corner of Wellington Road and Grimshaw Lane. Also in this area, having a major re-fit and expansion is the Co-op on Albert Road which should provide us with a much better shopping experience.

At Bollington Cross it must be time for some re-building of the rather poor shops at Crossfield Road. Round the corner the general store is doing well with Muzzy Ali developing his plans for some limited expansion.

So that leaves a couple of empty premises, the travel shop on High Street (Jacky Lane is now home based) and Holmes-Naden's old shop on Palmerston street. How soon shall we see these back in use? The travel shop is being fully re-furbished, purpose not yet disclosed. Holmes-Naden's old shop is presently the subject of a change of use planning application. Edward Naden told me that he has a buyer if he can get permission to re-open it as a hot food take-away. Do you remember in the 1970s when this shop was a wonderful ice cream emporium? Wouldn't it be great to see Hilly Billy ice cream from Blaze Farm being sold there!? Cool! Now that really would make Bollington a destination to visit!

Tim Boddington



Opposite Page: Well Dressing photographs by Janet Beech and Anthony Holland

happy-valley.org.uk/organisations/welldress.htm