



# Bolton Newsletter

## From the Chair

Hello friends

Once again, it's the weather that is causing problems for us. The arctic winds and snow storms of recent weeks are putting up a strong fight against the spring bulbs, but the daffodils are starting to poke through the soil, so Spring is coming to my garden in Bolton, though very slowly it seems this year. Despite that we have Easter to look forward to this coming month with Hot Cross Buns and CHOCOLATE! Mmmm.

On Easter Monday we will again have a stall at the Bolton Unity Festival, held at BWFC stadium at Middlebrook before the match. We will need volunteers to help man our stand (but all those that do can have a free ticket to the football match) so please see the article in this newsletter about this event for details (*below*).

Win Conway has organised some really entertaining speakers for us so far this year. The talks on DIY Surgery and Designing for the BBC were amazing. I was so pleased to see the hall full to brimming and I know members enjoyed the talks just as much as I did. In April Win has organised a talk on Dickens, so do put the date in your diary Friday 28<sup>th</sup>. It's sure to be another interesting talk.

And finally, please consider if you can spare a few hours each month to help out with a committee role. As a voluntary group, our u3a is based on the premise of mutual aid. We can only operate if there are enough of us to volunteer our time to help things run smoothly. Can you find some time to help share the load?

Until next time, enjoy all the sunshine that comes our way.

Learn, Laugh, Live

Jeanne Kelly

[chairman@boltonu3a.org.uk](mailto:chairman@boltonu3a.org.uk)



(See poster on Page 10 for more information)

To promote u3a and look for new members, Bolton u3a will again be having a stall at the Bolton Unity Festival 2023 at the Premier Suite at Bolton Wanderers' University of Bolton Stadium on Easter Bank Holiday Monday 10th April between 11am and 3pm ahead of Bolton's match against Cambridge United (kick-off at 3pm).

As last year it is expected to be a very well attended event so if you have a couple of hours to spare that day, and/or want a FREE TICKET TO THE FOOTBALL MATCH will you please contact **Lynn Gray 07947 027 649** or **Jeanne Kelly 07740 625 080** [chairman@boltonu3a.org.uk](mailto:chairman@boltonu3a.org.uk) stating the hours you can help man the stand between 11am and 3pm. Thank You.

## Bolton u3a Needs YOU!

We have at least two committee posts to fill later this year and I'm asking you all to consider if you **have a few hours to spare** each month to **help keep our much-loved Bolton u3a in operation**. Please speak to Chair, Jeanne Kelly, at the monthly meetings if you'd like to have more details before deciding.



Our **Business Secretary**, Paul Beaumont, is moving away from the area so we need to replace him; and our great **Venues Co-ordinator**, Janet Thatcher, stands down at November's AGM after managing the role for 5 years. Please read Janet's description of her role below.

Currently, the Business Secretary role includes taking minutes, arranging the AGM (along with the Chair and following the established format) and maintaining the u3a archive at Bolton Library. As a committee member, your actions are fully covered by u3a liability insurance so you've no fears on that score and you will get the satisfaction of being part of a great team and making some firm u3a friends. Email Jeanne Kelly at [chairman@boltonu3a.org.uk](mailto:chairman@boltonu3a.org.uk) for more details.

No committee role is particularly onerous. You don't have a boss: we are a voluntary members' organisation and, like the rest of your committee, you do what you can to support our group. Many **roles can be job-shared** and organised to **suit your strengths and abilities**. So, if you are new/ish to u3a; want to know more about how we operate and/or want to be involved in a very worthwhile local cause then please consider joining your committee. **Contact Jeanne Kelly on 07740 625 080** if you have any questions.

### The venues coordinator's job

Having joined the Bolton u3a Committee in August 2018 and having booked rooms for 5 years, it is now time to hand over to someone else.

The main part of the venue co-ordinator's work is done early in the year and consists of finding out the room requirements of groups for the following year and booking the rooms with the various venues. Nearly all of this work can be carried out by email. I find the spreadsheet passed on to me by my predecessor very helpful in this process, and I will pass this invaluable document on to my successor. During the rest of the year I occasionally cancel or rearrange bookings and am on the lookout for new venues. I also make sure that we have a u3a risk assessment for the premises that we use and check the emergency evacuation procedures.

Why did I take on the job? Having enjoyed attending u3a groups for a year or two, and being aware of the mutual help nature of the u3a, I thought it was my turn to put something into the organisation and this looked like a job that I was suited to. I have enjoyed getting to know my fellow committee members, the group leaders and those working at the venues we use. By finding and visiting possible new venues I have got to know Bolton better. All in all, it has been rewarding and enjoyable. Do think about whether you could take over this role. An early volunteer could spend a few months working alongside me to become familiar with the role.

Janet Thatcher

### Observers Always Welcome at Committee Meetings

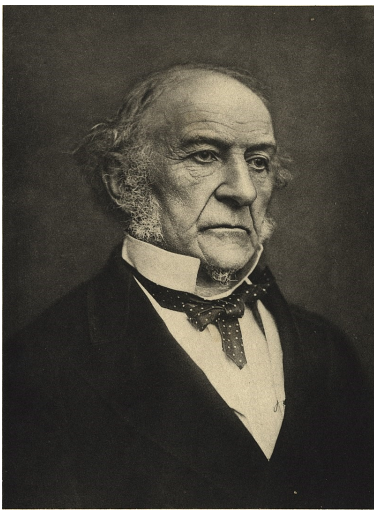
All members of Bolton u3a are most welcome to sit in and observe what goes on at committee meetings. Our next meeting is to be held on Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> April 10.30am at St. Andrew & St. George United Reform Church, St George's Road Bolton. Please call Jeanne Kelly on 07740 625 080 if you wish to attend.



## General Monthly Meetings

A wonderful attendance of more than ninety members and guests enjoyed another excellent talk in February when Christine Green entertained us with tales (and video clips) of her time working for the BBC. Our March and April meetings have a Victorian theme with talks on a politician and an author whose names are known to all.

Our next speaker on **Friday March 24<sup>th</sup>** is freelance journalist and author, Anthony Poulton-Smith, who is going to speak about Liberal Prime Minister, W E Gladstone (1809 - 1898).



On **Friday April 28<sup>th</sup>** we welcome Veronica Walker who will tell us about Dickens the man.



## CPR (Cardiopulmonary resuscitation) course. Might you be interested?

Bolton u3A member Kathryn writes:

*A couple of weeks ago I was in the dreadful situation of giving CPR to my neighbour. I have attended a few First Aid courses but it must be 3/4 years since I last did one. The call handler on 999 was brilliant. Calmly providing instructions, reassurance and encouragement in a very professional manner. In the hours and days following I replayed the situation many times. It has made me realise how important First Aid courses are for all of us.*

*I have been looking at courses for fellow u3a-ers and would like to gauge interest. If you may be interested in a First Aid course with a focus on CPR please can you email me at [engledene@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:engledene@yahoo.co.uk)*

*Thank you  
Kathryn Chatwin*



## Photo ID for voting

Paul Dyson has compiled the following information to bring to our attention new legislation regarding photo ID and voting.

### Local Elections 4 May 2023 – are you aware of this important change?

The following information has been extracted and adapted from Bolton Council's website. Further information can be found at: <https://www.bolton.gov.uk/voting/voter-id>

#### Voter ID

New legislation means that, beginning with the local elections on **4 May 2023**, everyone voting at a polling station will need to present a form of photographic ID. The types of acceptable ID are listed below.

Electors must still be registered to vote and must still attend the polling station shown on their poll card.

The poll cards delivered to home addresses will be in a larger format this year and will give information about voter ID and will list the acceptable forms of photographic ID.

The following are forms of photographic ID allowed by the legislation and likely to be possessed by U3A members:

- ◆ Passport
- ◆ Driving licence
- ◆ A Blue Badge
- ◆ Older Person's Bus Pass
- ◆ Disabled Person's Bus Pass

If any of the above forms of ID are out of date, they are still acceptable at the polling station as long as the photo still looks like you.

#### Voter Authority Certificate

If you do not have any of the above forms of photographic ID, you can apply for a "Voter Authority Certificate". This is a form of letter with a photograph of you which can be used at a polling station.

You can apply for a VAC at: <https://www.gov.uk/apply-for-photo-id-voter-authority-certificate>, where there is further information about providing the photograph.

The deadline for applying for a Voter Authority Certificate for the May 2023 elections is **5pm on Tuesday 25 April**.

#### Postal vote

The procedure for postal voting appears to be the same as in previous years. Anyone who is registered to vote can apply to vote by post. You do not have to give a reason.

The deadline to apply to vote by post in the elections to be held on **4 May 2023** is **5pm on Tuesday 18 April 2023**.

You can obtain a postal vote application form here: <https://www.bolton.gov.uk/voting/postal-vote>

#### Proxy vote

A proxy is someone who votes for you if you can't make it to the polling station to vote yourself. There is more information at: <https://www.bolton.gov.uk/voting/proxy-vote>

### **NEWS OF INTEREST GROUP MEETINGS AND ACTIVITIES IN APRIL 2023**

**Group News** There are a number of cancellations and changes of date for group meetings in April; mostly, but not entirely, owing to the Easter Bank holidays. Please check with your group information in the following pages.

#### **Music Appreciation changes for April & May**

The Music Appreciation sessions in both April and May fall on Bank Holidays. Win has cancelled the April session for now and will contact group members directly if there is any further change. The May session will take place on **Wednesday May 10<sup>th</sup>**, same time and place.

**Crown Green Bowling Group** restarts at 2.00pm on **Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> April**, at Bradshaw. However, there may be some disruption in activities following the severe water damage in the clubhouse, followed by the resurfacing of the access road to the car park. It is unlikely that we shall have access to the club's kitchen facility, so members should bring their own flasks/drinks etc. Toilet facilities will be available in the cricket pavilion. The following **Monday, April 10<sup>th</sup>**, is Easter Monday when there will be the annual challenge match versus the Bradshaw Bowling Club. Spectators will be most welcome, and there will be no U3A attendance charges on that day. Normal U3A bowling will resume on **Monday 17<sup>th</sup> April**.

**Mah-Jong:** We are sorry to note that the Mah Jong group is no longer meeting.

**Yoga:** On the other hand, we are pleased to welcome back the Yoga group. Please note the new time; The 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of the month, starting 17<sup>th</sup> April.



**International Studies Group** on **Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> April** will consider whether **Rwanda** is a safe destination. Is the genocide of 1994 now forgotten and consigned to history, or do underlying tensions remain? Group member David worked there regularly between 2012 & 2015, and he will share his experience, thoughts, and photographs

**ARCHAEOLOGY:** MAGGY SIMMS [simmsmaggy15@gmail.com](mailto:simmsmaggy15@gmail.com)

Every 2nd Thursday. The Zoom link will be sent out shortly before each meeting.

**BRIDGE GROUP:** BARBARA & CHRISTOPHER HARDING 01204 525763, [b.harding@talktalk.net](mailto:b.harding@talktalk.net).

Wednesdays weekly 13:30 – 15:30 at St Andrew & St George Church.

**CINEMA GROUP:** CHRIS & DUNCAN MACPHERSON 07988 889399 [duncan@dcamacpherson.me.uk](mailto:duncan@dcamacpherson.me.uk)

The April meeting of the cinema group will be on Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> April.

Details of time to meet and film chosen will be emailed to group members at the end of the preceding week.

New members will be welcomed.

Please contact Duncan to express interest and provide him with your contact details

**CLASSICAL CIVILISATION (GREECE AND ROME):** PAUL DYSON 01204 842311, [paul.dyson1676@gmail.com](mailto:paul.dyson1676@gmail.com)

This month's meeting will be on Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> April, at 10.30 am at The Hub.

The topic this month is philosophical: Q - what is the link between atoms, hedonism and beans? A - Epicurus, whose ideas on 'life, the universe and everything' (*Epicureanism*) were influential in both Greece and Rome. The poet Horace, whom we met last month, was an enthusiastic believer.

**COFFEE AND CHAT:** DUNCAN MACPHERSON 07988 889399, [duncan@dcamacpherson.me.uk](mailto:duncan@dcamacpherson.me.uk)

The April coffee and chat group meetings will be on Tuesdays 4<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> April from 10.30am at the Olympus Restaurant. The group is open from 10.30 to 12.30 so feel free to drop in for as long as you fancy! Everyone welcome.

**CROWN GREEN BOWLING GROUP:** MICHAEL HAWORTH 01204 302329.

Bowling is back every Monday afternoon at Bradshaw Bowling Club, commencing 2 pm Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> April. On Easter Monday there is the annual challenge match versus the Bradshaw Bowling Club (see details above).

**INTEREST GROUP MEETINGS APRIL 2023**

**CRYPTIC CROSSWORDS:** EAMONN KELLY 07745 887172, [eamonngkelly@gmail.com](mailto:eamonngkelly@gmail.com)

Since April 7<sup>th</sup> is Good Friday the first meeting in April has been moved to Friday 14<sup>th</sup>, with the second session on 21<sup>st</sup> April, both at Olympus restaurant at 2 pm.

The current group is now full but, if there is sufficient interest, a new group (for absolute beginners) will start later this year. Please contact Eamonn if you are interested in a new group.

**DIGITAL PHOTOGRAPHY:** JANET THATCHER 01204 846573, [venuescoordinator@boltonu3a.org.uk](mailto:venuescoordinator@boltonu3a.org.uk)

The first Friday in April is Good Friday, and so the meeting is brought forward one week to **31<sup>st</sup> March**

We will be travelling by number 1 bus which leaves Bolton interchange at 9.53 am, reaching Egerton Cross Guns at 10.17 am and we will be getting off at Darwen Circus at 10.29am.

The follow up study meeting in St Andrew & St George's Church is Friday 21<sup>st</sup> April at 10:30, when we will share our Darwen photographs and continue to look at tutorial videos.

New members would be very welcome

**DINING GROUP:** PAUL BEAUMONT [paulbeau64@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:paulbeau64@yahoo.co.uk)

This month, the group will be dining at CIBO (in Egerton) on 13<sup>th</sup> April at 1 pm.

Please email Paul if you intend coming for the reservation numbers. [paulbeau64@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:paulbeau64@yahoo.co.uk)

**FAMILY HISTORY GROUP:** EAMONN & JEANNE KELLY 07740 625080 [chairman@boltonu3a.org.uk](mailto:chairman@boltonu3a.org.uk)

Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> April at 2pm at Harwood library.

Get help tracing your family history using the library's free edition of Ancestry.

Please contact Jeanne if you intend coming.

**HISTORY GROUP:** TONY SETTLE 01204 792640 [tony.settle@hotmail.com](mailto:tony.settle@hotmail.com)

Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> April: 10.30, the Hub.

Topic : Uncovering the Mystery of North Korea - the historian as tourist. Nick Tyldesley

**INTERNATIONAL STUDIES:** BRIAN JONES 07966 177675, [emersonbjo1@outlook.com](mailto:emersonbjo1@outlook.com)

Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2023: 2pm at The Hub:

Is Rwanda a Safe Destination? See Page 5 for more information.

**LANGUAGE AND COMMUNICATION:** WIN CONWAY 01204 398838, [winifredconway@gmail.com](mailto:winifredconway@gmail.com)

Friday 28<sup>th</sup> April: 10:30 – 12:30 at the Hub.

**LOCAL HISTORY:** JOAN BLUNSDON 01204 845875, [jblunsdon@btconnect.com](mailto:jblunsdon@btconnect.com)

There will not be a Local History meeting in April as it would have taken place in the week leading up to Easter and member attendance would probably be low.

**MATHS GROUP:** PAT TODD 01942 799188, [patriciatodd@live.co.uk](mailto:patriciatodd@live.co.uk)

Friday 21<sup>st</sup> April: 13:30 at the Hub, Small Meeting Room. All are welcome.

**MINDFULNESS:** ANNIE JONES 07702 058525, [j.annie@virginmedia.com](mailto:j.annie@virginmedia.com)

The group will continue to meet on Zoom at 13:00, but there is a change of dates in April and the group will now meet on the **3<sup>rd</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup>**. This is a practice group, and no previous experience or knowledge of mindfulness is needed in order to join, though membership is limited to ten. Anyone interested in joining the group on Zoom should contact Annie.

**MUSIC APPRECIATION:** WIN CONWAY 01204 398838.

Unfortunately scheduled sessions for both April & May fall on Bank Holidays. There will be no meeting in April and the May session will take place two days later than usual on **Wednesday May10<sup>th</sup>**, same time and same place.

**MUSIC CHOICE:** MURIEL/GEOFF JEAUVONS 01204 595758, [spencermu4@aol.com](mailto:spencermu4@aol.com)

Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> April: 10:30 at the Hub

Please note the change of day, from Thursday to the 1st Tuesday of each month at 10.30 am.

New members welcome - please contact Muriel & Geoff on the above telephone number.

**INTEREST GROUP MEETINGS APRIL 2023**

**PHILOSOPHY:** CAROLE COLLINS 01257 480863, [caroleacollins@hotmail.com](mailto:caroleacollins@hotmail.com).  
Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> April: 14:00 at the Hub

**POETRY FOR PLEASURE** LYNN GRAY 07947027649, [mrslynnagray@gmail.com](mailto:mrslynnagray@gmail.com)  
Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> April: 13.30-15.30 at the Hub:  
Any member who happens to be free on any of these occasions would be most welcome to join us.  
If you would like any further information contact Lynn.

**PSYCHOLOGY:** BRENDA MACIEJKOWICZ 07814374132, [bmaciejkowicz@yahoo.com](mailto:bmaciejkowicz@yahoo.com)  
Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> April: 14:00 at the Hub. Topic: Neurodivergence/ autism  
Members wishing to join the group in 2023, please contact Brenda by email

**QUIZ GROUP:** MIKE HAWORTH 01204 302329, [mrh170744@gmail.com](mailto:mrh170744@gmail.com)  
Friday 14<sup>th</sup> April: 1:30 at the Hub in Large Meeting Room.  
Question Master will be Mike.

**READING GROUP:** ANNIE JONES 07702 058525, or by email at [j.annie@virginmedia.com](mailto:j.annie@virginmedia.com)  
In April the group will meet by Zoom on **Thursday 20<sup>th</sup>** at 10:30.  
The book for discussion will be 'Sense and Sensibility' by Jane Austen  
Please contact Annie for further information.

**RUMMIKUB:** NELLIE PLATT 01204 575608 [nelliemay.platt@gmail.com](mailto:nelliemay.platt@gmail.com)  
TONY SETTLE 01204 792640 [tony.settle@hotmail.com](mailto:tony.settle@hotmail.com)  
Monday 17<sup>th</sup> April: 10:30 at the Hub

**SCRABBLE:** NELLIE PLATT 01204 575608 [nelliemay.platt@gmail.com](mailto:nelliemay.platt@gmail.com)  
TONY SETTLE 01204 792640 [tony.settle@hotmail.com](mailto:tony.settle@hotmail.com)  
Monday 17<sup>th</sup> April: 10:30 at the Hub Small Meeting Room.

**SINGING FOR PLEASURE:** PAUL DYSON 01204 842311, [paul.dyson1676@gmail.com](mailto:paul.dyson1676@gmail.com)  
The group will meet Friday 21<sup>st</sup> April, at 10.30 am in the Seminar Room at Claremont Church  
(no meeting on the 7th, as it is Good Friday).  
New members are welcome in all voices (Alto, Bass, Soprano, Tenor) - no auditions. Claremont Church is an excellent central venue - the big red-brick chapel on St George's Road, opposite the Salvation Army.

**STITCH AND CRAFT:** SERENA JOHNSON [serenajohnson@sky.com](mailto:serenajohnson@sky.com) 07885 715 520  
Our final session for this term will take place on Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> April at 10.30 a.m. at St A&G Church.  
Our chosen topic is card embossing and decorating. The first Stitch and Craft summer term session will take place on May 9<sup>th</sup>

**TOPICAL SCIENCE:** ROSEMARY ASHWORTH 01254 208581 [rosemary@rodash.plus.com](mailto:rosemary@rodash.plus.com).  
Monday 17<sup>th</sup> April: 2 pm at the Hub. Topics: Science in the News this Month: Antibiotics in Agriculture and their Effects on Antibiotic Resistance. Other Research into Antibiotics Please feel free to bring along any news items that you wish to share with the Group.

**WALKABOUT:** JOAN BLUNSDON 01204 845875 [jblunsdon@btconnect.com](mailto:jblunsdon@btconnect.com)  
I have had to cancel the walkabout for April - hopefully will be able to resume the walks in May.  
Joan

**YOGA:** ALWYNNE CARTMELL Contact her at [Alwynnes2@gmail.com](mailto:Alwynnes2@gmail.com), or on 07968 021393.  
Monday 17<sup>th</sup> April: 2 pm at Astley Bridge Baptist Church. At last; getting back to "normal" and teaching again.  
Thank you for being so patient - I do appreciate what chaos I caused. I've planned 2:00 - 3.30 on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of each month, starting April 17<sup>th</sup>. I am aware many folk still believe yoga is an exercise they can't manage, so I hope to change members' minds.  
Alwynne

Committee Members		
Chair	Jeanne Kelly	<a href="mailto:chairman@boltonu3a.org.uk">chairman@boltonu3a.org.uk</a> <a href="mailto:jeanne@jmkmarketing.co.uk">jeanne@jmkmarketing.co.uk</a>
Vice Chair	Lynn Gray	<a href="mailto:vicechairman@boltonu3a.org.uk">vicechairman@boltonu3a.org.uk</a>
Business Secretary	Paul Beaumont	<a href="mailto:businesssecretary@boltonu3a.org.uk">businesssecretary@boltonu3a.org.uk</a>
Treasurer	David Dean	<a href="mailto:treasurer@boltonu3a.org.uk">treasurer@boltonu3a.org.uk</a>
Group Leaders' Coordinator	Duncan Macpherson	<a href="mailto:groupscoordinator@boltonu3a.org.uk">groupscoordinator@boltonu3a.org.uk</a>
Newsletter Editor	David Dean	<a href="mailto:newslettereditor@boltonu3a.org.uk">newslettereditor@boltonu3a.org.uk</a>
Membership Secretary	Alison Dyson	<a href="mailto:u3abolton@hotmail.co.uk">u3abolton@hotmail.co.uk</a> <a href="mailto:alison.dyson1676@gmail.com">alison.dyson1676@gmail.com</a>
Venues Coordinator	Janet Thatcher	<a href="mailto:venuescoordinator@boltonu3a.org.uk">venuescoordinator@boltonu3a.org.uk</a>
Monthly meeting Front of House	Ernest Harper	<a href="mailto:ernestboggs3@gmail.com">ernestboggs3@gmail.com</a>

### Bolton U3A Monthly Meetings

14:00 – 16:00 on 4th Friday of every month (except December) at St Andrew & St George United Reformed Church, St George's Rd, BL1 2BS. Visitors, for an entry fee of £3, are welcome to attend twice.

#### Friday 24 March

W. E. Gladstone, 1809 –1898

Liberal Prime Minister

Anthony Poulton-Smith

#### Friday 28 April

Dickens - The Man

Veronica Walker

### Membership Enquiries

Alison Dyson Email: [u3abolton@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:u3abolton@hotmail.co.uk)  
Change of address, email or phone details?  
Please let Alison know for our records.

### Help us stay informed

If you know of a member who has been ill, or is recently deceased, please inform the relevant group leader, in order that the information can be circulated appropriately. Please leave a phone number if you want a Group Leader to respond to a phone message.

### Newsletter News

Please send contributions for the next newsletter, due towards the end of April and with information for May, to:  
[newslettereditor@boltonu3a.org.uk](mailto:newslettereditor@boltonu3a.org.uk)  
Deadline: Friday 21st April

We are always happy to support new groups and activities!

E-mail: [groupscoordinator@boltonu3a.org.uk](mailto:groupscoordinator@boltonu3a.org.uk)

Visit our Website:

<https://u3asites.org.uk/bolton/home>



## IN OTHER NEWS

### Request for volunteers from Bolton Newstalk

Bolton Newstalk is a registered charity staffed entirely by volunteers. It was founded in the early 1970s to provide a regular, local talking newspaper for the blind, visually impaired and disabled members of the community. Such people can hear national and regional news on radio and TV, but miss out on local stories and news.

Since its foundation we have used all kinds of recording techniques from reel-to-reel tapes, CDs, USB memory sticks to the current format - podcasts. We are fortunate in having our own recording studio at the Sensory Centre, Thicketford, at the rear of the Tonge Moor Health Centre.

Prior to the covid pandemic, we used to record on a weekly basis, every Sunday afternoon, with a rota of programme producers, readers, and recording technicians. On the following Monday, teams of copiers would copy the master recording onto the memory sticks and send out to our listeners, via the Royal Mail's "freepost" system. Our customers would play the memory sticks on a small machine which we provided free of charge. After listening to the programme, they would return the USB via the same system. We also added the recording, as a podcast, to our website to be accessed by those who did not have a machine.

However, when the Covid pandemic struck, our *modus operandi* had to be changed completely, as we no longer had access to our recording studios at all. The main problem was how to effect a recording, but this was managed by those programme producers and readers who had smart phones whereby the recordings were done remotely and emailed to one of our technicians who then added it to the website as a podcast. As a member of the Talking News Federation, our national body, we could add these podcasts to an app available to the visually-impaired community and, additionally, available on the Alexa smart speakers.

However, although these facilities have increased our listener base, we have lost many of our volunteers - all our copying teams (as that service was no longer necessary), and all the readers and programme producers who were unable to do remote recordings as they didn't have the latest phone technology. But we have carried on with our programmes, albeit only recording every 2 weeks now, to ease the strain on our reduced programme producers and technicians.

As a reward for our work, we were fortunate to receive the Queen's Award for Voluntary Service (QAVS) in 2022 and were invited to attend the official reception at Bolton Town Hall for the recent Royal visit by King Charles and Queen Camilla.

To maintain our service, we are looking for volunteers to be readers, programme producers or technicians to spread the workload. If possible, we would also like to reintroduce the copying system to provide the programmes on the memory sticks to those who are unable to access the internet or don't have access to the app or smart speaker. If anyone is willing to volunteer, or knows someone who may be interested in joining our organisation, especially as a technician or a programme producer, I would be only too pleased to hear from them.

Thank you.

Michael Haworth  
Chairman, Bolton Newstalk  
T; 01204 302329; m: 07921 772355  
e; mrh170744@gmail.com

# BOLTON UNITY PROJECT INVITES YOU TO THEIR

## Bolton Unity FESTIVAL

**FREE  
ENTRY**

**EASTER BANK HOLIDAY MONDAY  
10th April 2023**

**PREMIER SUITE  
UNIVERSITY OF BOLTON STADIUM  
BL6 6JW  
11AM - 3PM**

**SPECIAL  
GUESTS**

**DANCE AND MUSIC PERFORMANCES  
COMMUNITY STALLS  
GAMES AND ACTIVITIES FOR ALL  
PARADE AROUND THE STADIUM  
CULTURAL EXPERIENCES**



[WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/BOLTONUNITYPROJECT](https://www.facebook.com/boltonunityproject)

Parish Church concerts were very popular last year, and Bolton u3a member Sue Stockton has sent this year's programme for inclusion in the newsletter.

# **BOLTON PARISH CHURCH**



## **Tuesday Lunchtime Concert Season 2023**

**from 18 April to 25 July, and  
05 September to 31 October 2023**

**Performances start at 13.15 and finish around 13.50**

**Admission free, donations appreciated**

**Tea and coffee served**

## Bolton Parish Church Concerts Programme

<b>18 April</b>	<b>Paul Greenhalgh, Piano</b>
<b>25 April</b>	<b>Pavlovic String Quartet</b>
<b>2 May</b>	<b>Chris and Ellie from Salutation Brass: A Coronation Celebration</b>
<b>9 May</b>	<b>Pupils - Chetham's School of Music</b>
<b>16 May</b>	<b>RNCM Students</b>
<b>23 May</b>	<b>Emily Bowden, Saxophone &amp; Piano</b>
<b>30 May</b>	<b>John Powell &amp; Elin Rees, Baritone &amp; Piano</b>
<b>06 June</b>	<b>Elmett Clarinet Quartet</b>
<b>13 June</b>	<b>Pupils - Chetham's School of Music</b>
<b>20 June</b>	<b>Junior RNCM Pupils</b>
<b>27 June</b>	<b>RNCM Students</b>
<b>04 July</b>	<b>Celloship of the String</b>
<b>11 July</b>	<b>Melanie Plumley, Organ</b>
<b>18 July</b>	<b>Laura &amp; Rosemary Robinson, Viola &amp; Piano</b>
<b>25 July</b>	<b>Ed McHale, Organ</b>