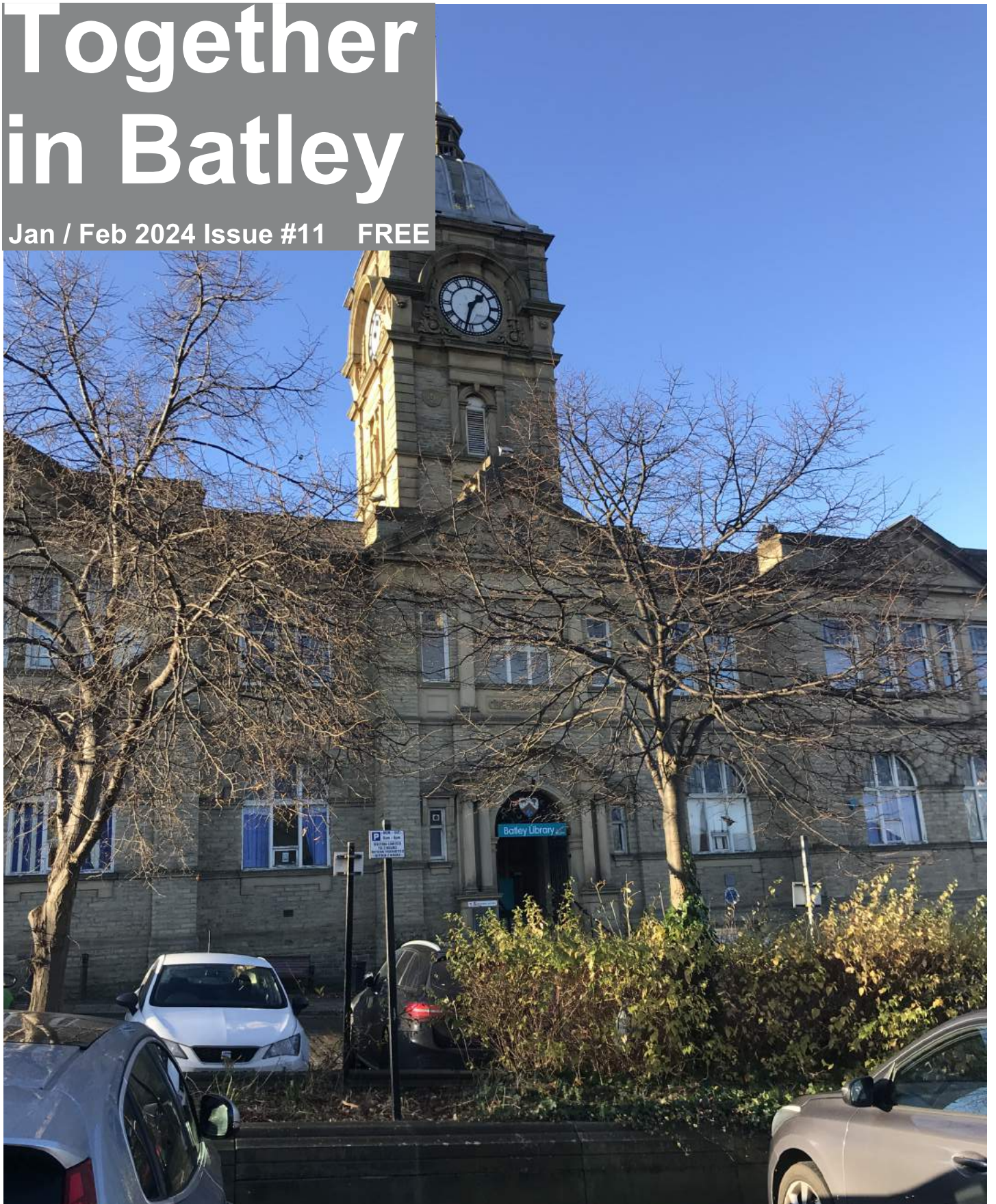


# Together in Batley

Jan / Feb 2024 Issue #11 FREE



**Pg. 8 War  
Memorial 100 yrs**

**Pg. 6 & 7 Out and  
About in Batley**

**Pg. 14 & 15  
Memory Lane**

# Editorial

## 11th edition Jan/Feb 2024

Please carry on sending all the wonderful things you are doing in Batley.

Thank you Locala and Tesco for funding 3 issues of the paper.

We have been awarded further funding for a year from Kirklees Council: thank you Kirklees. For our 12th edition Mar/Apr, we need your contributions by Feb 1st. Please send your articles, notes, photographs, recipes, puzzles as attachments to the email [togetherinbatley@gmail.com](mailto:togetherinbatley@gmail.com) or come to one of our content workshops:-

Mon 22nd Jan 4-6  
Tues 23rd Jan 10-12  
Thurs 25th Jan 10-12 planning meeting for everybody!!  
Fri 26th Jan 4-6

Paper copies will be available in the first week of Jan at Batley Food Bank, Batley Community Centre, Jo Cox House, The Park Café, The Salvation Army and Churches. If you would like to take copies somewhere so we can increase our reach to every community, please let us know:

[togetherinbatley@gmail.com](mailto:togetherinbatley@gmail.com)

Please send your contributions as attachments with any photographs or logos separate

Articles 350 words with 2 photos 8x8centimetres

Group Reports 60 words with 1 photograph

Book Review 150 words with 1 photograph

What's on 12-20 words

Thank you all for your super contributions.

Front cover: Batley Carnegie Library

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### Disclaimer:

The publisher assumes no responsibility or liability for any errors or omissions in the content of this site. The information published in this site is provided on an "as is" basis with no guarantees of completeness, accuracy, usefulness or timeliness. We accept no liability for outcomes should you choose to rely on details published here.

## An Amazing Volunteer:

# Mary Bateman,

From an interview with her son.



Mary had a brilliant life and she enjoyed every minute of it. She certainly made her mark on the town where she was a pillar of the community.

She attended Batley Parish Junior school, starting work at 14 in the Co-op, then she went to Otley Training School for Post Office Engineering training, being one of the few women to be accepted. She then became a telephonist at the old Batley Telephone Exchange. Mary met her husband through pantomime when she was singing and David's Dad played the drums. She was an excellent musician playing the piano with Batley Concert

Orchestra for many years. She started a Darby and Joan club with her mother and a few more like minded individuals. The Centre was so well attended that for the annual trips it was possible to fill 3 coach loads. Money was raised by selling chocolates, raffles and individual donations. Mary did so much for The Batley Old Peoples Centre and the church. Her son David says every town should have an old peoples' centre. Mary helped to make this happen in Batley!. Mary lived until she was 100 years old. She won a competition to go to America In her mid 80's and managed to visit the resting places of her uncle and cousins in New York State. A high spot of the holiday in her eyes was her friend who was driving, was caught speeding! She also visited the Holy Land on pilgrimage! She loved to travel and there wasn't an area of Europe she hadn't been to. Mary had a long and fulfilled life, full of energy to the end!



# Batley

## Yorkshire Mixtures Folk Dance Club

Ceilidh, caller and live music.  
Wed 7.30 to 10pm. £3 each  
Tel 07436 000842  
Batley RAFA Club (upstairs dance Hall)

## Batley and District Camera Club

meets every Tuesday 7.30-9.30  
at Batley Community Centre

## St Saviours Church, Brownhill

Help us to raise money for our roof.  
Community Lunch starts on Jan 13th then every  
Second Saturday of the month 12 noon. with  
Homemade soup with bread rolls, various puddings  
With custard and cheese and biscuits.

## Batley Library Consultation

Don't forget to fill in the consultation  
About Batley Library's future  
BEFORE  
The 15th of January. It is online and  
Paper copies are available in the  
library.



[www.kirklees.gov.uk/library-consultation](http://www.kirklees.gov.uk/library-consultation)

**Can we advertise your group: sports groups, dance groups, hobbyists etc?**

**Would you like more members, or want to celebrate the super things you do?**

**Ask the children to write it for you!!**

# Groups

## Batley Parish C of E J, I & N School



Year 4 visited Tropical World as part of their rainforest work. The children enjoyed comparing the English woodland to the climate of a rainforest. A group of our sports leaders were invited to support an event led by our Sports Partnership. They received special praise for their warm, caring attitude; helping other learners to take part in their activities. Well done!

## St Mary's Catholic Primary Academy, Batley

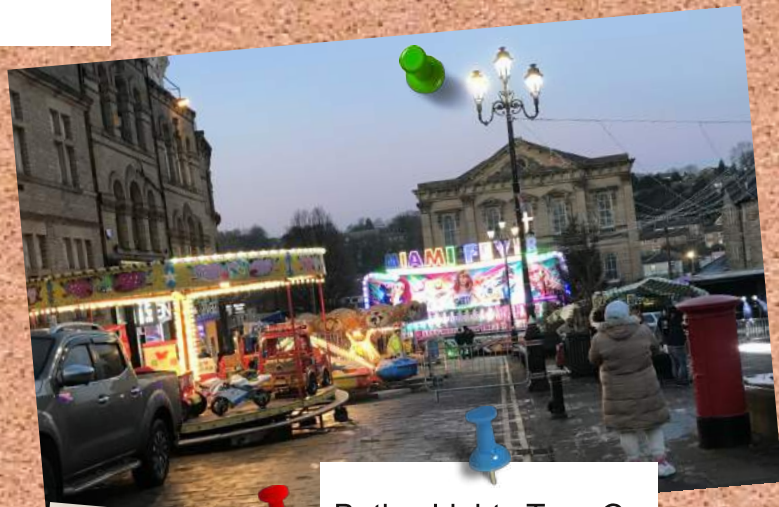
Our Remembrance Mass was held with dignity by some of our year 6 children. The beautiful poppy wreaths, which were made by all our classes in school, were presented to the front of the hall. It was a very touching mass and all the children conducted themselves with respect throughout. Our school prayer garden decorated with many handmade poppies. Lest We Forget.



# Out and About



Batley Station Poppy Day



Batley Lights Turn On



Interfaith Week Peace Roses in Tesco



# ...in Batley



Tesco Craft Fair Morley WI



Trinity Christmas Fair



Oxfam sale



Open Day At The Community Centre

BECOME A CONTRIBUTOR. Do you want to celebrate the good news stories and amazing people in Batley? Email [togetherinbatley@gmail.com](mailto:togetherinbatley@gmail.com) to find out the details

# Batley War Memorial 100th anniversary

A service was organised by Batley History Group, The Royal Air Force Association, United Benefice of Batley and Batley and Birstall Royal British Legion to mark the 100th anniversary of the unveiling of the Batley War Memorial

From the service booklet:

In 1920 a war memorial committee was formed. Designs were discussed, names were collected from communities, religious groups and individuals and money was raised. The appeal was to build a better future in a lasting peace. £862 of the money raised by the fund contributed to the extension of Batley Hospital. When General Sir Ian Hamilton unveiled the Memorial Gardens in 1924 he said that for a true memorial to the nearly 800 dead those present should take their part to prevent another war.

Our memorial now remembers the dead of the First World War, Second World War and the Iraq War.





# POL Yorkshire Food Bank and Monthly hot dinners



Purpose of Life is a UK-based non-profit charity that was established in 2014. We provide aid within the UK and throughout the world.

We strive to promote community cohesion and treat everyone equally irrespective of race, religion, colour, etc. Purpose of Life believes no one has superiority over another, except through piety and good actions.

One of our inclusive projects is our Yorkshire food bank which is available to those in need weekly. Our food bank delivers food and hygiene products to members of the community on a weekly basis.

Our monthly dinners also provide support to the local community. Our monthly 'Help the

homeless & vulnerable' dinners provide a hot meal as well as other fun activities to bring the community together and uplift those in need. We have had such an amazing response to these events, and we are pleased so many people from our communities are able to benefit from a warm 3 course meal & further support from our team.

These projects are funded partly by grants and partly by donations. Asda has been instrumental in supporting us to raise funds for these activities in their Dewsbury store.

These events are held on the last Thursday of every month at the PKWA centre (indoors) Off Manor way, Batley WF17 7BX. We also provide free taxi pick-ups from Dewsbury town hall.

Purpose of Life ensures 100% of your donation is received by those in need. Check out our website for more info [www.pol.org.uk](http://www.pol.org.uk)

If you need food/hygiene support please get in touch or if you would like to donate, please visit our website.



# What's On!

Each Week Jan / Feb

## Every Monday:

Gym. 9.30-10.30am \* Batley Sporting Foundation

Breakfast, dinner and pudding 10.00-1.00pm at the Central Methodist Church

Coffee Morning 10.00am-12.00pm \* Batley Butterfly House

Coffee Morning 10.00am-12.00pm \* Bleak House Wilton

Community Café. Coffee, tea, pies, peas and cakes. 9.30am-1.30pm \* Salvation Army

Over 50's Group 1.00-4.00pm  
12.00-1.00pm Mature Movers Keep Fit  
\* Trinity Centre Batley Carr

Movement and Games. Chair-based exercises. 10.30am-12.00pm Batley Community Centre \*RVS

St Mary's Theatre Group 7pm \* St Mary's Social Club and Parochial Hall

This way for English 1.00-4.00pm \* Batley Library

Keep fit 12.00-1.00pm at Trinity Centre, Batley Carr

Family History Drop in 9.30-12.00pm at Batley Community Centre

Carers Count, Coffee and Chat, 10.30-12.00pm 3rd Mon every month, at The Crescent

Batley Mencap, Social Evening, 6.00-9.00pm at Chickently Community Hub

Andy's Man club, Join the conversation, 7.00pm- Batley Library

Magical Mondays, cuppa and activities 10.00-12.00pm The Crescent.

## Every Tuesday:

Coffee Morning. With singing every other week. 10.30am-12.00pm

Bingo 7.30pm \*Rafa Club

Over 50's Luncheon Club 12.00-1.00pm  
5.30-8.00pm Majorettes \*Trinity Centre

MASC Karate 4.00-5.00pm and 5.00-6.00pm £5 Michelle 07932650854  
Bingo from 7.30pm £3 a book \*St Mary's Social Club and Parochial Hall

Fitness for Ladies 5.00-6.00pm Al Hikmah Centre \*IMWS

Baby Clinic 9.30-11.30am Carlinghow Academy 01924 326371

Open Gym: 9.00-10am Ladies Only  
Gym: 5.15-6.15pm Learn Together

Craft Club: 12.00-2.00pm  
M.E.N. Men Only Gym. 6.30-7.30pm  
Over 55's Gym 6.30-7.30pm Open Circuit 7.30-8.30pm \*Batley Sporting

Foundation

Pilates 12.30-1.30pm Batley Community Centre \*RVS

Rhyme Time: snack, play 1-2.30pm  
\*Batley Library. Term time only

Stay and Play 1.5-3yrs 1-3pm 50p  
\*Warwick Rd School Fri 01924 455593

Batley and District Camera Club, 7.30-9.30pm Batley Community Centre

Creative writing, 2.00-4.00pm at The Crescent

North Kirklees Family History Group, 10.00-12.00, Batley Community Centre

Lunch and Bingo, 11.00-2.00pm, Church Ablaze, Wellington Street

Yoga, 1.00-2.00, Trinity Centre. Contact Alida on 07401 964218

## Every Wednesday:

Stay and Play £1.50 9.30-11.30am  
\*Salvation Army

Baby Weigh free. 10-11am \*The Crescent, 40 Station Rd. 01924 444929 1st Wed of the month.

Singing 4 Fun with Anthony 2-4pm £5 07876267267

Fit Steps with Karen Dance fitness 5.45-6.45pm £5 07973 242684  
St Mary's Rock and Roll Club 8.00pm £3

# What's On!

Each Week Jan / Feb

Pool in the Lounge 8.00pm 50p \*St  
Mary's Social Club and Parochial Hall

Social Dancing Space 2.00-4.00pm  
Trinity Centre, Batley Carr

Wonderful Wednesdays, Call in for a cuppa,  
10.00-2.00pm The crescent

Crafty Ladies, 1.00-3.00, Church Ablaze,  
Wellington St.

Ceilidh, caller, live music, Yorkshire  
Mixtures Folk Dance Club, 7.30-10.00pm,  
£3 each tel 07436 000842

Peer Talk.11.00-12.30, Jo Cox House. For  
those living with depression & anxiety.

Community Archive with support, 10.00-  
12.00, Batley Library.

Family History drop in 10.00-12.00pm at  
Batley Community Centre

## Every Thursday:

Open Gym 9-10.30am Ladies only Gym  
5.15-6.15pm M.E.N. Men Only Gym 6.30-  
7.30pm Wellbeing Walking 10-11am  
Over 55's Gym 7.00-9.00pm Open  
Circuit 7.30-8.30pm \*Batley Sporting  
Foundation

Luncheon Club 2 course meal-please  
book 11.30am-1pm Batley Community  
Centre \*RVS

Community Café coffee, tea, pies, peas  
and cake 9.30am-1.30pm \*Salvation  
Army

Long Covid Support Group 11-12pm  
at Batley Library.

Story Time Free 10.30-11.15am  
\*Batley Library. Term time only

Slimming World with Lynn  
9am/11am/5pm/7pm 07988 662052 \*  
St Mary's Social Club and Parochial Hall

Batley Youth Hub survival skills, sport,  
food, music, games. 6.30-8.00pm \*Bleak  
House, Wilton. Facebook: Fearless People  
Yorkshire.

Wellbeing Group, 11.00-1.00pm, 2nd  
Thurs every month, The Crescent.

Coffee and Chat, 17.00-18.30pm, 1st  
Thurs every month, The Crescent.

Sensory Play for children, Afternoon,  
Bleak House, The Wiltons

North Kirklees Family History Group,  
10.00-12.30pm Batley Community  
Centre tel 917414.

Stay and Play Free 9.00-10.00am or  
12.15-1.15pm \*Al Noor Nursery  
Community Centre, Hyrstlands Rd  
07661735370

Step by Step Job and Training advice  
1.00-4.00pm at Batley Library

## Every Friday:

Crochet Group 10-12pm

Get Active Owls for over 50s, 10.00-  
3.00pm, Batley Sports and Tennis  
Centre, 01484766131

Lego and Convo for adults with autism,  
2.00-3.00pm, Batley Library

Rugby League memories 10.00-11.30am  
Batley Library

Walking Rugby 12.30pm Batley  
Community Centre \*Batley Sporting  
Foundation

Rock and Roll Band nights Monthly  
7.30pm

Mick Ingram Tribute Nights, Monthly  
7.30pm Tickets £8, £10 \*St Mary's  
Social Club and Parochial Hall

10.00-12.00pm Art Class \*Trinity  
Centre

The Craft Club 5.00-7.00pm under 8's  
only with parents. \*Bleak House, Wilton

Singing for Wellbeing, sINGspiration, 1.00-  
2.00pm, Rosewood Centre, Dewsbury  
District Hospital.

Fabulous Fridays, 10.00-2.00pm, The  
Crescent.

North Kirklees Family History Group,  
9.30-12.00, Batley Community Centre  
tel 917414

Drop in Breakfast and Lunch, 9.30-  
12.30pm, Church Ablaze, Wellington St.

# What's On!

Each Week Jan / Feb

## Every Saturday:

Lego 12-5pm Bagshaw Museum

Trading Card Club 2.15- 4 Batley Library

Crafts 2pm Batley Library

## Every Sunday:

Ballroom Dancing with Trevor 7.45 £3

\*St Mary's Social Club and Parochial Hall

Junior Park Run 9.00am 4-14yrs

\*Friends of Wilton Park

Lego at the Museum, 12.00-4.00pm, 1st weekend every month.

Lego 12-5pm Bagshaw Museum

## List of Providers:

\* Batley Butterfly House: facebook or email batleybutterflyhouse@gmail.com

\* Batley Community Centre 07726 771936

\* Batley Library ring 01484221000 and ask for Batley Library

\* Batley Sporting Foundation ring 07808 055022 or email info@batleysportingfoundation.org

\* Bleak House, 200a Ealand Road, Wilton. WF17 8JL

\* Carers Count <https://carerscount.org.uk>

\* Friends of Wilton Park fowp2015@gmail.com

\* IMWS

[https://www.imws.org.uk/contact us](https://www.imws.org.uk/contact-us)

\* RAFA 01924 474370

\* RVS ring 07884 114853

\* Salvation Army ring 01924 443716

\* St Mary's Social Club and Parochial Hall, Melton St.

[www.stmarysocialclubbatley.uk](http://www.stmarysocialclubbatley.uk)

\* 07896 974492

\* The Crescent ring 01924 444929

\* Trinity Centre ring 0770665090

\* Bagshaw Museum, Wilton Park, Batley.

\* Batley Community Alliance Volunteers, Richard Martin 01@btinternet.com

\* Batley Mencap: 13 park Rd Batley, 01924 443018

\* Jo Cox House, 01924 479082

\* North Kirklees Family History Group. Tel 01924 917414

# What's On! *Special Events Jan / Feb*

## **Oxfam end of season sale**

*At TESCO 9th-11th February*

## **Billy Pearce at St Mary's Social Club**

*Batley Sat 24th February.*

## **Young Entrepreneurs School**

*The Crescent*

*Wednesday 3.00-5.00 tel 01924 444929*

## **Kirklees School's Out Creative Holiday Club**

*Ages 13-16 12.30-4.30pm The Crescent*

*Jan 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th. Activities or chill out!!!*

*Book at 01924 444929*

## **Kirklees School's Out Music Holiday Club**

*Age 8-12 9.30-1.30 The Crescent*

*Jan 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th. Music, cooking, crafts*

*Book at 01924 444929*

## **January Challenge**

*Field Lane Primary School have partnered with the national group : 64 Million Artists.*

*Every day in January a different creative activity is*

*Shared to help people tackle loneliness*

## **Great Winter Get Together**

*Jan12-15*

*Look out for coffee mornings in Batley*

## **Asian Community League Coming to Batley**

*Games once a month at Howden Elough*

*£5 a player Play 3 competitive games on Sat aft.*

*Contact [www.supereagles.co.uk](http://www.supereagles.co.uk)*

## **Great Winter Get Together**

*Jan 12th 10.00-12.00pm*

*Coffee and Cake at Upper Batley High School*

## **Craft Directory: Some of the local craft people!**

### Saz and Dylan's Wax Melts

Sabrina Gartland

07510611554

Find them on Facebook

### Debbie's Designs

Gifts for all occasions

[debbie.bridge@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:debbie.bridge@hotmail.co.uk)

07591612635 & on Facebook

### PBS Scent With Love

Luxury home fragrances

On Facebook

### Races MS BOWtiful

Boutique

Craft supplies

<https://racesmsbowtifulboutique.com/>

### Darcie Elle Designs

Facebook @Darcieelledesigns

### Sam's Bath Bombs

On Facebook

To re-order call on

07748062583

### Party Time with Nutty Ness

Professional children's

entertainer. Facebook

Call or text 07977110079

Find them on Facebook

### Penny Punk Customs

Industrial style

Lamps, coasters, oil burners

On Facebook

### Paint Me Funky

Face painting

Facebook

For bookings please email

[AQEELA1988@gmail.com](mailto:AQEELA1988@gmail.com)

### Anne-Marie Knits

Hand knit using new materials

On Facebook @Anne-Marie

Knits

# Memory Lane

## Batley Market Square 2

In 1868 Batley Council was established with 18 councillors and 6 aldermen. A 99-year lease was negotiated with the Akroyd Trustees for the corn field on Commercial Street and a market soon flourished there. This encouraged the trust to sell or lease land round the field which led to the first shop being built



*Market Clock taken 1905-1907*

incorporated into the library building. The row of shops and offices built between 1874 and 1880 curve along the market square and are interestingly decorated. They are all Grade 2 listed.

The Post Office (part of the parade of shops) was opened in 1906 and extended in 1927 to accommodate the telephone



*Market Hall taken circa 1890*

against the marketplace in 1874. The cornfield was part of the arable field system of Batley until this time.

In 1868 the corporation passed an act to build a proper Market Hall at the head of the market square. The Hall was opened in 1878 housing 28 stalls, 6 butcher's shops, borough surveyors office and a weights and measures department. It was too small and so was demolished within 20 years. The tower was left standing until the town clock could be



*Market Square taken 1902*

# Memory Lane



Town Hall and Police Station taken 1927

exchange.

Batley Town Hall was erected on Commercial Street as The Mechanics Institute in 1853 offering science classes, art, and general studies. The town's first comprehensive library was collected here. In 1870 the building was leased, then in 1874 sold to the Corporation for £3,400 and converted it into the Town Hall. In the early 1900's the corporation decided to create a purpose-built Town Hall. The architect Hanstock drew up the plans with 2 Concert Halls, Town Clerk's Office, Mayor's reception rooms, Council Chamber, Committee Rooms, Corporation

Offices, Police Station and Court Room at a cost of £40,000. With sewers, new roads and tramway network costs they would have needed a big rate rise to pay so they decided to extend the present building. A fire damaged some of the building but the final re-build and extension cost £15,731 and was completed in 1905. An entrance was created onto the market square. In 1919 it was described as having "a fine Council Chamber, Mayor's Parlour, large Assembly Hall and Court House". The accommodation for various committees and staff was insufficient so in 1918, a block of adjacent property was bought. In 1960 the entrance onto Commercial Street was blocked. The Town Hall is Grade 2 listed.



S 4749 Carnegie Library and Post Office, Batley. Library and Post Office taken circa 1910

Between the Town Hall and the Police Station is the former Court House.

The police Station with a special house for the inspector in charge was built and opened in 1927 and this completed the buildings round the square.



Bottom of Market Square taken circa 1905

Market Square 3 will feature The Central Methodist chapel, The RAFA Club, Batley Baths and the Technical School and the School of Art.

Information for this article is taken from:

Around Batley Norman Ellis 1996

Historical snapshots of Batley and Birstall Malcolm Haigh 1994

Memories of Dewsbury and Batley 1997 True North Books

The History of Batley 1800-1974 Malcolm H Haigh 1978

Jubilee History of the corporation of Batley 1919 Walter Bagshaw 1919

Historic Walks Around Batley and Birstall Malcolm Haigh 1987

From Village to Town: A series of Random Reminiscences of Batley During the Past 30 Years (1882) Isaac Binns

# 4

Crime Prevention Checklist

## Car Security

**Show your  
car you care**  
**Park safely,  
lock it & hide  
your keys**



Is your car your pride and joy?

The biggest purchase after your house?

Are you doing everything you can to secure and protect it?

Supported by





# Oxfam Festival Shop in Batley

## Tesco's for End-of-Season Sale



The Oxfam Festival Shop team recently concluded their summer of festivals with a fabulous end-of-season sale at Tesco Extra on Bradford Road in Batley. This was the team's first end-of-season sale event; the largest pop-up shop to date, representing a significant milestone for the team in Batley. The event was a resounding success, generating vital funds to support Oxfam's cause and actively engaging the local community with Oxfam's operations. The shop offered a varied selection, ranging from kid's shoes to suits, many items being brand new with tags. Unlike over the warm festival season, a wet and windy Batley



made for jackets becoming the best seller. This was a great opportunity for the Oxfam Batley team to clear out their unsold festival and eBay stock and provide Batley with some bargains.

The Oxfam Batley team would like to thank every customer who visited and supported the pop-up shop. Gratitude is also extended to the Oxfam volunteers from up and down the country, who made the event possible: by helping set up, market, and run the shop. Appreciation goes to the Oxfam staff from the Batley warehouse who assisted behind the scenes and beyond. A special thank you is reserved for Tesco's Batley and the entire team. Who allowed the use of the community space upstairs and displayed a more than welcoming attitude to the whole Oxfam team. The success of the event was certainly a group effort.

Encouraged by feedback from customers, volunteers and Tesco, the team are pleased to announce a similar sale event in the New Year. This huge pop-up shop will be happening in the same spot, upstairs in Batley Tesco, scheduled to take place between the 9th – 11th of February. The team promises to bring along a whole host of items, including homewares and accessories at amazing prices.



For those interested in getting involved and helping Oxfam prep for this upcoming event, please use the email provided to get in touch. Either way, keep the dates free in your diaries for some charity shop bargain hunting on a large scale! You can also check the usernames below for social media, to keep up to date with the team and for more details on this upcoming sale.

Email: [festivalshop@oxfam.org.uk](mailto:festivalshop@oxfam.org.uk)

Instagram: [@oxfamfestshop](https://www.instagram.com/oxfamfestshop)

Facebook: [Oxfam Festival Shop](https://www.facebook.com/OxfamFestivalShop)

# Important news for Batley about our Carnegie Library

By The Friends of Batley Library.

## The Consultation:

The proposal is to move the Library Service into the Town Hall. The Carnegie Building would be “surplus to requirements” and therefore “disposed of”.

We need to respond to this plan. Please fill in the consultation which is now available as paper copies in the library and until January 17th online at:

[www.kirklees.gov.uk/library-consultation](http://www.kirklees.gov.uk/library-consultation)

QR code below...



## The petition:

The Friends of Batley Library have set up a petition. If we can get 3,000 signatures we will initiate a debate on this issue in the Council. Please support us:

<https38degrees.org.uk/petitions/keep-batley-library-in-its-much-loved-carnegie-building>.

How many  
baby Wrens  
can you  
see?



**Can you become a community Connector?  
 Help us to shape local services.  
 Help others to have a say.  
 Learn more about the NHS  
 How to get involved:  
 Three two hour training sessions  
 How can you help?  
 Through surveys, events etc.  
 Call us or text 07721 649311**

## **Brilliant: Recognition for the work of Soothill Community Association**

Habib Dadhiwala, leader of Soothill Community Association, said “Over the years since COVID, we have had to push on giving all factions of our community something they can engage with that is meaningful. We look to promote social, emotional and physical well-being and work with a number of groups locally as well as delivering a few groups of our own.

"We are indebted to Efficiency North and Kirklees Council for their support".



## Manorfield Infant and Nursery School:

As part of the Kirklees Year of Music, we are participating in a project called 'Create and Sing' in association with the Royal Opera House. This project is being led by Mrs Ellis and it will allow our children to combine singing and drama to build their self-expression, creative collaboration, performance confidence, voice, movement, and memory skills. At the end of the project, our children will be joining Royal Opera House artists and other local schools at Huddersfield Town Hall on Wednesday 6 December to sing music from The Magic Flute alongside professional opera singers.



## Field Lane Junior, Infant and Nursery School: Presentation of the Arthur Halliwell Award



Ama Chaney visited school to award us with this amazing trophy. We are its first recipients since the pandemic. Ama said she was inspired by all the outdoor learning opportunities we have to offer. She joined us for one of the final gardening clubs of the year. Children



were making herb bracelets, wood chipping the pathways, weeding the vegetable plots and planting fennel and spinach.

## Batley Grammar School - Primary Phase: Energy Heroes



Recently Key Stage 2 were involved in the start of an exciting new project, in training to become: Energy Heroes! The morning began with an educational assembly about global warming and the impact it has on our world, from flash floods and droughts to extreme heat waves and cold snaps. The children heard about renewable energy and how we, as individuals, can help to reduce the damage we are causing to our planet.

Year 5 were then able to participate in a workshop designed to help us save electricity in our homes and around our school. They calculated percentages, looked at pie charts and came together to discuss how energy usage has changed over the past 40 years - it was fascinating! A special thank you to the facilities team for allowing our class 'Auditors' to assess the school and begin to put together an action plan to conserve energy and help to save money both at home and at school.

## Healey Junior, Infant and Nursery School: Welcoming Judith and Woody from The Kirkwood



Our schools have been supporting The Kirkwood, a local charity that helps to improve the quality of life for local people, against all the odds.

Recently Healey held a coffee morning with a plethora of refreshments being served, including samosas and pakoras to take away, which was attended by Judith Ambler, Community Fundraiser from The Kirkwood and Woody, The Kirkwood bear! Two ladies, from the lunchtime staff team, Aasma and Tasleem, had been up since dawn, catering for the event.



## Batley Girls' High School: A model of modern flexible

Rebecca Sokol, Admin Coordinator for Yorkshire Rose Teaching Partnership and Library Assistant at Batley Girls' High School has added another title to the list, after successfully achieving her full Guide Leader qualification.

Rebecca has been working towards the qualification for the past two years and attained the accreditation at the end of September. The Batley Girls' High School 26th Guide unit is very successful and popular and Rebecca now leads the unit, with the help of a volunteer, and Emma oversees at a more strategic level; they certainly make a formidable team.



This a tremendous achievement for Rebecca, the school and our Trust community, as this Guide unit is seen as a model of modern flexible Guiding. It runs at Wednesday lunchtimes so mosque commitments aren't impacted after school. The leaders are creative with their implementation of different themes to attain badges and work within the parameters of being based in school with limited time constraints. During 2023 the Guides have earned Confectionery, Photography and Craftivism badges alongside learning new skills, such as

self defence.

## Upper Batley High School: Forest Café Funding

We are delighted that we have been allocated a grant from The Bupa Foundation and Groundwork UK - Green Community Grants' scheme after submitting a proposal to build a café area within our Forest School site.

It's been awarded specifically for the purpose of connecting young people with nature and each other, to build social, emotional and physical wellbeing. Both the build project and the enjoyment of the finished café will deliver these experiences to our learners.

Groundwork UK will be monitoring the projects throughout the delivery phase. We're really excited to see this germ of an idea come to fruition and aim to have it ready to enjoy for the spring.



## Batley Grammar School - Secondary Phase: Reading Mentors

Annually, we run a very successful reading mentor support group to help younger students struggling with reading. The scheme involves pairing KS4 students with KS3 students to provide weekly one-to-one support, including discussions about what students find difficult about reading, help choosing books/magazines, listening to each other read and providing constructive, positive feedback. The results of the scheme are amazing and clearly demonstrate the positive effects of working with a reading mentor.

This year, a group of specially selected Year 10 and 11 students attended a workshop led by Kirklees Reading Friends, to learn the skills required to be a successful reading mentor. The workshop helped them understand the challenges a struggling reader may encounter and they discussed strategies they could use to help their mentee overcome them. They also talked through how to build positive relationships with their mentees, which in turn will help them build confidence in their reading ability.



The students who attended the workshops commented on how useful they had found it and were looking forward to putting the skills they learned into practice.

Community Connections **YCC**

Let's tackle loneliness.

# CALL FOR COMMUNITY FRIENDS

Do you have a spare hour a week to help lonely or isolated people in your community? Visit your friend face-to-face or call someone on the telephone and help tackle loneliness with YCC's Community Friend service.

[volunteer@yccuk.org.uk](mailto:volunteer@yccuk.org.uk)  
01484 415465

COMMUNITY FUND

Reg Charity No 285125

# Foster Families holiday for free!

Take a look at our holiday homes and learn how to apply for your free holiday today:

SCAN HERE

Alex Timpson MBE

The Alex Timpson Trust

Alex Timpson, foster carer to 90 children, died in January 2016, still wanting to do more to help children who had a difficult start to life. On average looked after children sadly come bottom in up in prison and come top of the unemployment statistics. By providing free books, linking with schools, funding research and opening free holidays to Foster families, The Alex Timpson Trust...



## Batley Sports and Tennis Centre.

Brilliant news for Batley that the baths at Howden Clough are safe!!!



# Northorpe Hall

Summary of the article by Dipika Kaushal posted in full on Together in Batley web site.

Northorpe Hall is a charity founded 60 years ago to support children where ill health, low income or disadvantage prevent them from accessing and benefitting from mainstream provision. For the past 20 years Northorpe Hall has supported children's mental health and emotional wellbeing. Their work is made possible by public and private funding.

Things are difficult for our children and families. Statistically in the UK five children in every classroom of 30 has a mental disorder. Even more worrying 74% have developed this condition before their 14th birthday.

As a charity, Northorpe Hall's vision is that children have good mental health most of the time and fast access to support when they don't. We believe in early years intervention and our approach to children's mental health and wellbeing is holistic, involving parents, carers, schools and community groups. We design support solutions that deliver real results, and our work is recognised as being innovative and impactful.

A great example is linked to NHS winter pressures funding, provided because "too many" young people were presenting at A&E with a mental health crisis. This funding enabled Northorpe Hall to develop a dynamic partnership with a creative arts charity. The model brought together Artists and Wellbeing Support Workers to provide safe spaces for young people to manage their anxiety and a range of mental health conditions whilst waiting for CAMHS support. Aside from the well-being benefits arising from friendships and connectivity, we evidenced anxiety being managed or reduced, coping skills improve and the risk of mental health crisis diminished.

This young person's feedback speaks for itself:

*"before attending the group I was very lonely and lost, and stuck in my head and stuck at home. It got me out of the house, and out of bed, it provided a safe space where, for the first time in a long time, I could genuinely be myself".*

If scaled up these programmes have the potential to help thousands of children across the country develop new skills, manage their mental health and become more emotionally resilient.

I'm proud that over the last 60 years, Northorpe Hall Child and Family Trust has helped improve the lives of thousands of children and young people and I would love the charity to thrive and grow over the next 60 years.

The innovative work we do at Northorpe Hall is dependant on donations and fundraising. You can find how donations help and you can make donations via our web site:

[www.northorpehall.co.uk/donate](http://www.northorpehall.co.uk/donate)

Please see the full article on our web site: [www.togetherinbatley.co.uk](http://www.togetherinbatley.co.uk)

# Seen at Batley Lights Turn On:



## The 6 Busketeers

"We are a group of friends who get together every year to play Christmas Carols. Last year we raised £100 for Batley Food Bank. We hope we can continue in the coming years"

Editors comment: A brilliant joyful performance: good luck to all of you.

# Badges:

Jasmine is 10years old. She started badge-making when she went to the Young Entrepreneurs School at The Crescent (wed 3-5pm)

The badges are beautiful.



If you are interested please contact [louise.pugh2@ntlworld.com](mailto:louise.pugh2@ntlworld.com)