

# Altrincham & Bowdon Community Voice Magazine Platinum Jubilee Edition



Featuring Jubilee Celebration Events & Stories plus the usual Business News, Interchange and Planning Updates

Website: [altrinchamandbowdoncs.com](http://altrinchamandbowdoncs.com)

Email: [altrinchamandbowdoncs@gmail.com](mailto:altrinchamandbowdoncs@gmail.com)

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## *A message from our President*

Welcome to the Platinum Jubilee edition of our Magazine. As you will read on the following pages several organisations entered into the spirit of the occasion by organising some excellent events for everyone to enjoy.

Meanwhile our committee have been keeping the wheels turning elsewhere. One major issue at the moment is securing the future of Altrincham Town Hall for community use. Angela Stone our town centre lead and committee member Martin Garrett have been working tirelessly on this project, gaining advice from specialists to help us submit a successful bid.

Friends of Altrincham Interchange Group continue with their quest to make our Station look welcoming for commuters and visitors alike. Congratulations to Bev Robinson and the rest of the team who have won several awards for their sterling work.

Paulina Lewis our planning lead and committee member Leslie Cupitt have been keeping an eye on Planning Applications during the Summer, in particular relating to Broadheath and West Timperley. You can read their report on page 13.

I hope you are enjoying our Summer weather and look forward to seeing you at our AGM in November, where there will be more news of our various projects and a Guest Speaker. Don't forget you can keep up to date with local issues on our excellent website [altrinchamandbowdoncs.com](http://altrinchamandbowdoncs.com).

Best wishes,  
*Patricia Kovach*



## *Martin Stone – A Tribute*

Martin, who was a former treasurer to the Civic Society for over a decade, sadly passed away in March this year.

Altrincham was at the heart of his family for over a century, as his Grandfather started a builders business in Greenwood Street in 1869.

Involved in many of the Civic Society campaigns, Martin prepared all the paperwork which resulted in a grant from the National Lottery for our Heritage Project.

Together with his wife Sandra, the former Clerk to the Management Committee, they moved to Ash Magna Shropshire in 2009 and enjoyed being part of the village community there while being closer to their families in Oxford & London.

A hard working, kind and gentle man, Martin will be greatly missed by all who knew him.

## *The Queen's Jubilee Poem by Mary Shoobridge*

Today the Queen was coming to tea to mark her platinum jubilee.  
The kettle was boiling, its whistle was trilling,  
The teacups and saucers stood ready for filling.  
Earl Grey or Darjeeling or simply PG,  
The choices were endless when it came to tea.  
The tables were loaded with various treats,  
Cucumber sandwiches, crustless and neat.  
Coronation chicken served in a bun,  
And iced bunting biscuits made just for fun.  
In pride of place was the Jubilee Trifle,  
Amaretti and lemon, it was quite an eyeful.  
The golden state carriage came over the hill,  
The Queen had arrived: oh what a thrill.  
The corgis hopped out on the heels of the Queen,  
Heading straight for the table: the trifle they'd seen.  
The footman attempted to distract them post haste,  
With a cloak like a bullfighter held at his waist.  
But the corgis steamed on with a glint in their eyes,  
If they couldn't have trifle they'd have chicken pies.  
The result was just chaos, the guests were affrighted,  
There was no chance the mayor would ever be knighted.  
There were serviettes flying and guests in distress,  
The entire picnic table was a right royal mess!  
The Queen waved and smiled as she took off her crown,  
"It gets jolly heavy" she said and sat down.  
No tea for me, the Queen said with a grin,  
My drink of choice is Dubonnet and Gin!



*from Paulina Lewis*

A neighbour of ours Keith Dennison made a Jubilee Trifle mentioned in the poem above, which tastes fantastic.

There are lots of ingredients for this dessert in the original recipe including St Clement's Jelly, Lemon Custard, Amaretti Biscuits, Lemon Curd Swiss Roll as well as whipped cream and more. It will take quite a long time to make it from scratch. However, online there are plenty of recipes using ready made substitutes! The original recipe can be found on various sites including [www.bbc.co.uk/food](http://www.bbc.co.uk/food)





*News from Oldfield Brow – from Friends of Cow Field – Summer 2022*  
*A report from resident Mike O'Neill*

We were blessed with great weather on the afternoon of the 3rd June when Friends of Cow Field hosted a special Jubilee Party.



Thank you from Friends of Cow Field to G-Force who organised the event and everyone they brought along to make it such a great day. Big thanks also to Seamons Moss Community Association for supporting G-Force and to Oldfield Brow Partnership for making this event happen. This event was just the latest of many great new initiatives underway in Oldfield Brow thanks to their efforts.

And a special BIG thanks to Forsyth Music, Manchester's world famous music shop, for providing musical gear free of charge so that Michael Welton (one of our local councillors and an ex professional musician) could entertain the crowd with non-stop live music.



Holding an event like this in Cow Field has been a long held dream of Friends of Cow Field and a BIG BIG thank you to everyone who came along to make it such a great event. It was fantastic to see Lots of people from Oldfield Brow, showing yet again what a great community it is, and people came from further afield too, many on their first visit to Cow Field.

Among the many attractions were donkey rides, bouncy castles, face painting, biscuit making and other activities, with food and beverages available at very affordable prices.

Everyone said how much they had enjoyed the event and that it would be great to have more events like this in Cow Field. Maybe an annual Fair, or perhaps even another event this summer. It could make good sense, with many people looking for an inexpensive but fun break.



Councillors Geraldine Coggins and Michael Welton cutting the Jubilee Cake while G-Force organiser (and Oldfield Brow girl) Tina Huxley is also caught on camera enjoying a well earned break from the hard work of running the event.



Stockdales is your local charity based in Sale. We are dedicated to helping people with learning disabilities live life to the full and we're delighted to help over 200 children, young people and adults, their families and carers every year.

Our caring and committed team helps people to experience the hope, joy and challenge that life brings. Each person we support is special and unique. If you would like to make a donation towards our work, please go to <https://stockdales.enthuse.com/donation> or post a cheque to 34 Harboro Rd, Sale, M33 5AH.

Your support means the world to us, thank you. For more information on our services and events, get in touch with Natalie or Sarah: email [fundraising@stockdales.org.uk](mailto:fundraising@stockdales.org.uk) or call 0161 973 2296.

Larkhill Craft Club opened in September 2016, since then we have continued to grow in numbers. Our varied programme of crafts is popular with crafters who wish to try something new. The crafts are suitable for a wide range of abilities, beginners to advanced, with help along the way from our demonstrators and other helpful members. We're a friendly group (shown below) who meet up twice a month where they can try a craft that is demonstrated, sometimes a technique that they have not tried before or some like to just bring their own crafts along and have a coffee and a chat.



Recently we embarked on a special Platinum Jubilee Banner for the Larkhill Centre. Debbie, one of our two club's organisers came up with the idea to make a wall hanging commemorating all the years Queen Elizabeth II has reigned. The group was given a topic and ideas to make a panel. The members were very supportive in producing the various panels, coming up with their own design using a craft technique of their own choice, cross stitching, appliqué, knitting, crochet, embroidery, foam and wood designs, beading etc. to name just a few.



Our club runs two Craft Fairs each year that are fast becoming a very popular event within the area. We provide stalls for local crafters to display and sell their handcrafted products. It may be cards, patchwork, quilting, gifts or decorations for all occasions. Many of our stall holders have been crafters for many years and keep up with current trends in the crafting world.



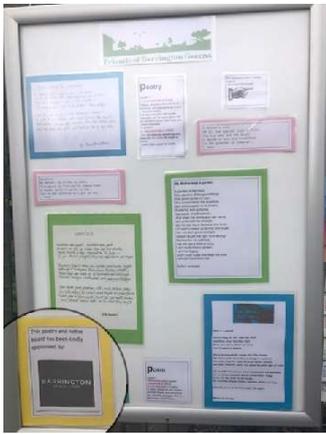
## Woodstock Park – Jubilee Fun Day

Woodstock Park Jubilee Fun Day on Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> June was a great success. With Donkey Rides, Face Painting, Bouncy Castles, sport activities and much more, hundreds of local residents supported the event on a warm dry day.



With thanks to G-Force for organising the day, financed by Trafford MBC from their government Jubilee funding. Two Councillors and a prospective councillor were present.





## Barrington Green – Jubilee Day celebration

Barrington Green Poetry Board pictured left

The Friends of Barrington Green Jubilee Day celebration was very well attended and a great time had by all. Live music locally generated.





## *Friends of John Leigh Park held a Jubilee Picnic Event*

Friends of John Leigh Park held a Big Platinum Jubilee Lunch event on Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> June 2022.

Many members of the group and local people turned up to support the event, despite the rain threatening to put a damper on things.

St.Ambrose Jazz Group supplied music, the Bollin Morris Dancers jiggged away together with some of the visitors who joined in. The Magic Voices Choir sang their hearts out to much applause. Would be bell ringers could try their hand at bell ringing in the bell tower tent. Those picnicking enjoyed some of the Jubilee Cake, generously baked by the St.Ambrose Jazz Group Leader.

A very successful event despite the weather and a good way to celebrate community and the 70 years which Queen Elizabeth 2 has given us.

If you would like to become a member of the John Leigh Park Friends Group, type the link below into your browser:

<https://johnleighpark.org.uk/become-a-friend.html>



Report by Dave Jolley, Sec FoJLP



## Trafford College's Creative Contributions to the Altrincham Community



In recent months Trafford College students have had the opportunity to contribute to some exciting artistic ventures with Altrincham BID. Altrincham BID, who produce VisitAltrincham.com, supported Trafford College's final year Creative Arts students, 20th June to 1st July with a town wide display of their work. The artwork formed a town centre art gallery in the windows of local businesses and shops. Each piece of work was accompanied by information and a QR code which allowed visitors to find out more and view the online digital gallery on Trafford College's website.

Jane Andrew, Head of Art & Design at Trafford College explained, "We worked with Altrincham BID last year, it was such a success that we are delighted to be creating a fabulous outdoor gallery in the windows of shops and businesses again for 2022".

"Through the art exhibition, the community of Altrincham were able to get a real sense of the fantastic quality of work that the students had produced this year and we are extremely proud of this year's students who, as ever, have been ambitious in their work".

Mandy White, Altrincham's BID Manager said, "It's an absolute pleasure to work with Trafford College on this project again. The college is an important part of our town and it's great to be able to celebrate the work produced by the students. We would like to thank the businesses who supported this project by hosting pieces of art".

Some of the local businesses who took part in the exhibition include: Inch Arts, Moss Studio-Store, Toast, The Bottle Shop, Aura Music Academy & Calderpeel Architects.

This wasn't the only opportunity that students had to display their artistic talents. Trafford College creative art students collaborated with Altrincham BID and Inch Arts in a large art show to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. The project included a parading troop of fifty life-sized corgi sculptures, decorated by artists, which were displayed in the windows and foyers of businesses around Altrincham town. The event paid homage to the Queen's long-time love of Corgis!



At Trafford College we believe in establishing strong relationships with our community partners to provide students with the opportunities to take part in exciting events, much like the Altrincham Town Art Exhibition. These projects allow students to put their studies into practice and gain the confidence to excel in their chosen field outside of the classroom. As a college we pride ourselves in supporting the local community and getting our students stuck into public events, whether they are studying creative arts, business, or anything in between.

If you're an adult considering a potential career change, or a student, we may have the perfect course for you. Visit the Trafford College website to see our full list of available courses, for 16-18 school leavers, adult learners, and University-level students - [www.trafford.ac.uk](http://www.trafford.ac.uk) For school leavers looking to study at Trafford College in September 2023, make sure to register for our 16-18s Open Day at our Altrincham Campus, 22<sup>nd</sup> September! Keep an eye out for updates on the open day times etc - [www.trafford.ac.uk/events](http://www.trafford.ac.uk/events)

We look forward to seeing you there.



## *BUSINESS NEWS IN ALTRINCHAM*

*from Angela Stone*

### **New openings**

Green & Co has become Nerd, a healthy café offering a wide selection of board games to customers. Skanda opened in the Stamford Quarter offering Scandinavian fashion designers with a focus on sustainability. The Orange Tree Pub has reopened with new management. Most Bakery has opened offering freshly baked bread and pastries.

### **Closures**

Iceland has closed. The Drawing Room which closed has been bought by the owners of Blanchflower and is undergoing refurbishment. Tim Horton's is set to close in September. Kokoa has been sold & is currently closed. The Bottle shop in Goose Green has been sold and it's understood the new owner is looking at offering a deli as well as the range of bottles. Jigsaw a high-end interior company are refitting their unit in the old Blockbuster unit. Costello's has a Planning Application in to take over the former beauty unit next door.

### **Hospitality**

Work continues to expand the Best Bar None awards and accreditation scheme further, to get more bars interested in joining the assessments and the Committee are continuing to develop new ideas. Due to the delays some schemes had in starting up again across the UK, the year will now run until December this year with an event at the House of Lords in February next year. The Roebuck secured funding for a defibrillator, this is now fixed on the wall outside the pub. We have met with Campaign for Real Ale with a view to working together on Assets of Community Value or talking to Regional Managers.

### **Manchester Marathon**

Took place on its normal date, the first Sunday in April. This year there were over 24,000 runners. The event was a qualifier for the Commonwealth Games and the World Championships later this year so there were a lot more runners early on. We had some great entertainment on the Altrincham bit of the route including The Music Place the Little Belters and Alty Sings and the children came out to make some noise and high-five the runners.

### **Charity work**

Paint Altrincham Pink took place in March and raised over £12,000 for Prevent Breast Cancer. The Fashion show organised by BID and Laundry B went down incredibly well as did the tradition "Pub Crawl" with Manchester Storm. Businesses across town raised money from the sale of pink drinks, cakes, even shoes! Paint Altrincham Blue will take part in November for Prostate Cancer co-ordinated by Tony Collier. The BID company organised 50 life-size Corgi's which were displayed across town during the Jubilee period. These raised over £35,000 at auction.

### **Other news**

The Development at the bottom of the Downs has been bought by a partnership of Consensus Properties and McGoff. We hope work will recommence soon.

Patrick Properties in partnership with Regus are redeveloping Lynnfield House into a 24/7 co-working space which will include a gym and coffee shop for its members.

Plans to refurbish the Leisure Centre were passed at the Executive Committee at the end of July, we await next steps in the development plans.

Public realm work in and around town starts in September but will break in November for Christmas trading.

Work on the former Rackham's unit is well underway.

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*Pat Coulburn – A tribute*

We were very sad to hear of the death of Pat Coulburn, Secretary of Sale Civic Society. Sale Festival paid tribute to her this year. Sale and the Civic Movement could ill afford to lose her.

**Rob Chilton past Chair of Sale Civic Society writes:**

"Pat lived and breathed Sale from an early age and was a font of all knowledge on any subject relating to local history. She was totally dedicated to educating all ages, young and old, about Sale's history and heritage. She was also very passionate about Ashton Park. Her passing is truly the end of an era for Sale and the whole of Trafford, and she will be much missed by all who knew her and enjoyed her wit and wisdom."

*Picture courtesy of Sale & Altrincham Messenger*

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*Trafford College Student Career Success*

TV and film student Hannah Seager together with some college friends produced a promotional video for the Civic Society two years ago. She received a National Marsh Christian Award for her efforts which was presented to her at a Civic Voice AGM in Wakefield.

The year 2020 also included a dream start to her creative digital media career after gaining a place on the coveted BBC Apprenticeship Scheme. Hannah who received a triple distinction in her Level 3 Extended Diploma in TV and Film, beat more than 9,000 other applicants to land a job on the production team for Blue Peter.

We wish her continued success in her career ambitions.



## *Friends of Altrincham Interchange*

*A report by Bev Robinson*

Volunteering at the Interchange is certainly full of variety and Friends of Altrincham Interchange are always looking to further enhance the platforms. May be you would like to help?

In the 18 months I have been involved with FoAI the herb planter on platform 1 has been replanted, there are now an additional 7 up-cycled whisky barrel planters on platform 4 together with 2 window sill planters. We keep to perennials as much as possible and the Northern rail colour palette except for this Platinum Jubilee year. We use peat free compost and mulch to help with water retention. Bird boxes and bug boxes have also been put up.

Poetry boards (located on both platform 4 and in the ticket hall) were introduced and are regularly refreshed. As a rule we keep to train-themed poems but made an exception for the Platinum Jubilee. The Hare and Rabbit poems and their adventures on the Mid Cheshire Line came about when I suggested to a friend and local poet, Pam Bradshaw, that she write a poem to display at the Interchange. She enjoyed the theme so much we now have 24! Could you or do you know someone who would like to write a poem about trains, trams or buses for us to display?

We believe our waiting room is the smallest in the UK. Have you called in? It now has a library 'Bring a book, take a book, enjoy the read' and is included on the Little Manchester Library Trail. Do you have any books, preferably novels, you could donate? The popular 'Marvellous Days Out' booklet together with walking and cycling guides funded by the Mid Cheshire Community Rail Partnership are also available here. Have you picked up your copy yet?

The Interchange was transformed for the Platinum Jubilee with 100s of metres of bunting, some knitted by the Altrincham Library Knitters, flags, themed planters, lamp post plaques, a Royal poetry board; and a fabulous Jubilee poster by St Vincent's school (which is still on display). The Interchange staff participated by wearing crowns and Queen Elizabeth face masks, sweets were given out to passengers and we had a Royal book shelf in the library. Best of all we had a Royal Visitor who arrived on the 11:10 from Stockport to meet the FoAI volunteers, the Interchange staff, passengers and to start the 'Trooping of the Corgis' trail organised by Altrincham BID.

We plan to have a history board next year and the Interchange facts have already been gathered. Four 'Tommy Soldier' silhouettes are due to be installed on platform 4 and the Altrincham Library Knitters are again busy knitting for us, this time its poppies.

Blessed Thomas Holford Catholic College pupils have been working on a mosaic which will be put up on platform 1 this summer.

We're proud to have won a number awards – principally from Cheshire Best Kept Stations. Copies of our awards are on display in the waiting room. Have you called in and seen them? We entered the RHS North West in Bloom competition and were judged in early July. It's not all about plants but community involvement too.

With the help of our Community Rail Officer- currently Steve Forde - we continue to press for permissions to address and re-plant the overgrown areas at the south end of platforms 1/2/3.

We now have Twitter and Instagram accounts so please follow us and get in touch if you'd like to help Friends of Altrincham Interchange whether it be sorting books in the library, watering the planters, helping to decorate for holidays and key events, IT skills, whatever. You'll be most welcome!

Bev Robinson (volunteer with FoAI)



## *Broadheath Report from Leslie Cupitt as at 31<sup>st</sup> July 2022*

**Woodstock Park** – Jubilee Fun Day on the Friday of Jubilee weekend was a great success, see report elsewhere. Many local people said they would help within a Friends of Woodstock Park but only one local resident has so far stepped forward in expressing a wish to help with a new Friends group. We will try to get an embryonic Friends group going and see if we can draw more people in. The consensus was that the young children's play area was a disgrace and many said they would work towards getting it improved. There are grants available up to £25K provided there is community support behind the project.

We tried to get THT Capacity Building involved in getting the Woodstock Road entrance gate to Woodstock Park painted in preparation for the Jubilee. What a waste of time THT Capacity Building are. They do not want to help, just want to say they are doing lots when they are not doing much at all.

**Lidl** – I am informed work has started on the Homebase to Lidl conversion. I need to get involved to help the local residents to make the contractors behave in a proper manner.

**Old Packet Inn** – Currently does not have a tenant although the brewery is looking for one. The building between the Packet Inn and the canal bridge is now up for sale (former B & J Hire) which could create a risk of a developer buying up both buildings for yet more high-rise flats. The buildings were the first loading point for fly boats on the Bridgewater Canal and built around 1759. It is currently not a listed building. The Packet Inn also does not have a listing either. CAMRA are also actively watching the situation on the Packet Inn. The matter has been raised on the social media platform NextDoor.

**Cartwrights** on Atlantic Street – The planning application was approved for change of the site to smaller industrial units with one large industrial site. Altrincham Councillors opposed the application on behalf of the residents on the Oldfield Brow side of the canal mostly on grounds of noise and air pollution (paint spraying air extraction systems).

**Lok n' Store** – The former Aldi retail store on Davenport Lane has a planning application submitted. Requests for clarification have been submitted to Planning at Trafford MBC but they have failed to respond. The submitted Plans do not include the approved new egress from the Lidl store, nor the recent fatal accident on George Richards Way. It also makes very bold assumptions about how Trafford will maintain road markings so the site does not create yet more traffic congestion on Davenport Lane.

**Volunteers** – We must find new volunteers to help with many of these projects.

**Pelican Inn** – Very confusing situation on the submitted planning application. Trafford Planning delayed the application while they tried to get the applicant to reduce the site density. The applicant has started an appeal process because of the delay (which is likely to fail). The Planning Committee have reviewed the application as submitted and are minded to reject it on density and access on to the Manchester Road (A56/A556). Local residents have opposed the submitted plan based on density, access to A56, no available local schools or GP practices, overspill of parking on to local roads, the loss of a local meeting space and well used public drinking establishment. The A&BCS need to be raising with TMBC the building of yet more residential places without there being adequate school places and GP surgeries available.

**Leslie**



## Trafford Council Levelling Up programme

Levelling Up is a moral, social and economic programme led by Government to spread opportunity and improve services fairly across the UK.

Trafford has lower than average investment per capita in culture per annum (currently £3.49 compared to £11.35 in Greater Manchester) and is designated as an Arts Council 'High Need Area'. Although we have some existing high-quality cultural assets, our visitor economy is much lower than the Greater Manchester area, and employment in the tourism and creative industries has fallen (-25% between 2015 and 2020).

As part of the Levelling Up programme, Trafford Council is bidding for funding that will improve key arts, culture and heritage assets in Trafford. The bid will focus on Watling Gate, Waterside Arts Centre and Sale Library, and a number of parks and cemeteries across the borough. The aim is to maximise the potential of these assets to create jobs, increase accessibility of these areas and improve wellbeing and pride in Trafford for our residents and visitors.

### The bid has three linked projects:

1. Restoration and repurposing of Watling Gate, a Grade II listed heritage building in Timperley, will house an enhanced Local Studies & Heritage Library (which will move from their current base in Sale Waterside) that includes:

- Research facilities
- Community meeting space
- Café
- Exhibition space

2. Refurbishment of the Sale Waterside building which houses Sale Library and Waterside Arts Centre which will include:

- Expansion of the Waterside Arts Centre, including a new mezzanine floor overlooking the Sale Waterside ground floor foyer, to link the Arts Centre and Sale Library
- New exhibition space to provide a permanent home for the Cosgrove Hall archive, which includes Postman Pat and Noddy puppets and the 'Tales from the Riverbank' animation collection
- Increased accessibility to Sale Library, including new event and community spaces

3. Creation of a Cultural and Heritage Trail which forms a 'living museum' connecting our investments in Watling Gate, Sale Waterside, historic parks and cemeteries all the way to the Dunham Massey National Trust site. The Civic Society has suggested some additions to the parks bid including the gardens next to Timperley medieval moat and Woodstock Park in Broadheath to celebrate industrial heritage.

This investment in a signature trail for Trafford will also deliver wellbeing benefits through active mobility and exposure to nature and recreational opportunities along the Bridgewater canal. The investment will showcase the history of and make improvements to:

Gorse Hill Park	Newton Park
Victoria Park	Urmston Cemetery
Stretford Cemetery	Davyhulme Park
Longford Park	John Leigh Park
Worthington Park	Denzell Gardens
Walkden Gardens	Stamford Park
Sale & Brooklands Cemetery	

## **Altrincham & Bowdon Civic Society Membership**

Why not help to make Altrincham and Bowdon a better place by joining the Civic Society. Your subscription will help the Society achieve its many goals. We can also keep you up to date by email on our events and important changes in the town that affect you.

### **ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP FEES BECOME DUE ON THE 1st JANUARY**

**To APPLY for or RENEW your membership you will need to do the following:**

#### **FROM THE WEBSITE MEMBERSHIP PAGE**

Download or read our **Data Protection Privacy Notice**

Download and print off a **Membership Form**

Download and print off a **Gift Aid Form** (optional)

**Complete and sign the Membership form, together with a Gift Aid Form (if applicable) and return them to the address shown below together with your payment (if paying by cheque).**

If you do not have access to the Internet, please write to the membership secretary  
Altrincham & Bowdon Civic Society 14 Greenwood Street, Altrincham, Cheshire, WA14 1RZ  
or Phone 0161 927 7508.

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*Altrincham & Bowdon Community Voice*

*Newsletter of the Altrincham & Bowdon Civic Society Registered Charity No: 246145*

*Compiled and Edited by Richard Hagon © Altrincham & Bowdon Civic Society 2022*

*Chair: Judie Collins 0161 962 7108 Vice Chair: Paulina Lewis 0161 928 6789*

*Treasurer: Trevor Stone 0161 927 7508 Clerk: Richard Hagon 07960 102684*

*President: Patricia Kovach Vice President: David Eastwood B.A.*

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