

A full colour version of the CanCan can be viewed on the BMCA website

CAN CAN



NEWS FROM BOLSTER MOOR COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

JULY 2020

The Fantastic Adventures of Bolster Moor Residents During Lockdown 2020

Chapter One

Di Mayo: Her very own Gardner's World



If you have any photographs that show off your beautiful patch of Bolster Moor, please send them in so that we can share with the community.

Chapter Two: Walk and Talk during Lockdown

Jacqueline Jessop & Deezeal



Who would have thought I would have met and talked to so many people during lockdown. Yes really! My everyday 1hour walk with Deezeal our Doberman around Bolster Moor has resulted in me meeting many folks from our village. At first I nodded or waved to acknowledge those walking by us on our circular walk up Simon Green, on Slades, passed the Lily (who by the way do a lovely takeaway pizza) up Drummer Lane and over to Westwood Edge and then home.

I couldn't believe how scary going out made me feel at first. I always felt I had to walk quickly to get home as fast as I could, because I didn't really want to meet anybody..... who

knows they might have had the virus. However people were really sensible, they crossed over to the other side of the road when we approached them or, we did the same for them. We felt a lot happier and safer doing this, always exchanging a few comments when we did.

Our daily walks gave us a of chance to see lots of people; horse riders, cyclists, walkers, joggers and other people with dogs. Sometimes it seemed as if all of Huddersfield and come to the village.

Over the next few weeks it became particularly busy and we did much more crossing of the roads and country lanes. Because of this we ended up talking to lots of people we now recognized, those who were out at the same time as us everyday.

It was a time to get to know our neighbours, some of them were retired, some of them furloughed. There were neighbours we'd never seen out and about before, even though we'd lived here for 12 years. The weather of course played it's part, it was glorious every morning!!

If you know me you will know that I love to talk and it wasn't surprising that by the time we'd got to the end of Slades Road I'd spoken to many folks who were either working or sitting in their garden soaking up the sun..... This morning I bumped into Tony and Angela in the courtyard as we set off. As we got to the top of the hill I met Di who this week asked me to come in and have a look at her garden which she'd been working on again this weekend. It was obvious she had put in a lot of hard work. It was an eye-openerveg plots, caged fruit trees, rose beds etc. Further on the road I saw Sally who was just off to the Welcome Centre in Huddersfield where she is a volunteer, and round the corner I met Jess who was widening her path and we spoke about her time away from Bolster Moor when she was working in Mexico . My next chat was with Helen one of my ex pupils from Colne Valley, she was just returning from her morning jog. Then on the corner by Hoppers I saw the Chappells waving to us. They walk up from Golcar most days. As all 3 of us are teachers we can always find something to reminisce about whilst enjoying the spectacular views. Today I met Dave further along, he was looking for a B.T. engineer as his internet was down. Then across the road waiting for a catch up was Margaret and her daughter Davina, who couldn't wait to give Deezeal a few treats. On leaving them I chatted to Erica and Julie over the garden wall. They too like walking around the Moor. Moving on I spoke to Holly's mum who was sat with her white German Shepherd on her doorstep, and as I turned to leave I saw the landlady of the Lily. We had a chat about the take-out Sunday lunches they're planning! As I walked up Drummer Lane Betty and her dog met us. Pity the farm shop cafe wasn't closer...talking makes you very thirsty. Moving on we saw Paul and Claire with their two dogs. Finally 2 hours after starting our one hour walk we arrived home, as we settled down to a well earned drink the phone rings. It's Anne from down the fold who's just taking her German Shepherds for a walk and do we want to join them..... Its great to talk ...especially now more than ever. It really is good for people's mental health and well-being and also it helps us to keep upbeat in these unprecedented times.

It's amazing how many people along our route both young and old had actually been to Colne Valley high School where I'd taught PE for 32 years before my retirement. In fact some of them had attended the school in it's first year of opening in 1956. One lady I've spoken to called Sue told me she was the schools very first head girl!! Some our neighbours said I'd taught their children and it was lovely to find out where they were and what they were doing now.

Continued.....



The community here has pulled out all the stops for making sure that during lockdown residents in our village have everything they require to keep them safe and well. The "Buddy" system has really come into its own and the good thing about us all talking is that we could help one another if needed. The Farm shop has also looked after all our shopping needs. Having shared some great memories over these last 12 weeks with my new friends, I thought it would be a good idea to share some of my memories from my teaching days at CVHS on to the Colne Valley High School Facebook page...and what a response I've had to this. Every night for the

past 75 nights I have posted a photo of ex pupils or staff on trips we've been on or of them during PE lessons where pupils have been demonstrating different games as well as Judo, Tae-bo, Self-defence and Meditation. It has been fascinating to see the posts of ex pupils and the interaction between them...and the rekindling of old friendships and sharing their stories, stemming from them seeing my photos. I hoped through me providing items of interest to the group page it would give everyone the chance to forget "lockdown" and the pandemic for a few moments!!

In the near future when it's safe to do so I will be going to the farm shop's cafe again, just as we used to do before lockdown. I will I'm sure be meeting my new friends the ones I've met over these past few weeks, sharing good times over a coffee and one of their mouth watering buns

Remember the comeback is always stronger than the setback!

Stay safe and keep in touch



Chapter Three

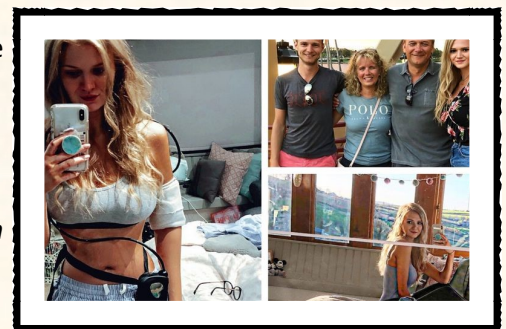
Natasha Spychalski

Her nomination for a Huddersfield Examiner Community Courage Award 2020

Natasha, who lives locally, has been living with ME and fibromyalgia for 8 years but despite her own battle with this chronic illnesses, she has remained constant in her mission to raise awareness of its effects on the lives who silently suffer. The full story can be found by using this link to the examiner website [https://www.examinerlive.co.uk/news/west-yorkshire-news/my-life-stopped-17-what-16361152?](https://www.examinerlive.co.uk/news/west-yorkshire-news/my-life-stopped-17-what-16361152?fbclid=IwAR0atnVJ8fODNi7KjQkAwQ58o7u_5ILBAITjllLaF2zTHzYNq3PO9fftgrY)

[fbclid=IwAR0atnVJ8fODNi7KjQkAwQ58o7u_5ILBAITjllLaF2zTHzYNq3PO9fftgrY](https://www.examinerlive.co.uk/news/west-yorkshire-news/my-life-stopped-17-what-16361152?fbclid=IwAR0atnVJ8fODNi7KjQkAwQ58o7u_5ILBAITjllLaF2zTHzYNq3PO9fftgrY)

Natasha is keen to share her story to help people understand that not every disability is visible. Everyday Natasha fights chronic fatigue and constant pain across her whole body. The condition is incurable and does not have an effective treatment. For people suffering with this terrible illness, lockdown is not new. Simple trips out with her family have to be carefully managed and prepared for, just so that she has enough energy. Natasha's life is passing by, with her sleeping up to 23 hours at a time, waking only to eat and shower. She described it as "Chronic fatigue makes you feel so heavy, like you have run 10 marathons in a row. You feel like a dead weight. It's like walking through a pool of syrup. The pain feels like your whole body is bruised and something is pressing on it. I want people to listen. People know what ME is but they make assumptions that it's just tiredness. It is much more than that. They judge you for being lazy or pretending because they can't see what's wrong with you. But if it wasn't real or was in my head how could it still be here after this long? You don't know what people are going through just by looking at them." (Examiner)



Chapter Four

The trouble with our internet!

Fellow villagers

Do you suffer from slow broadband? Then this may be of interest to you...

I am on a mission to get Westwood connected to the fibre line recently installed in our village so we can get broadband speeds that do not resemble dial-up!

As my household continues to increase its broadband usage (typically 10 to 15 devices connected at the same time) I am finding the current connection on copper wires cannot cope with our demand and as a result my internet speed can be lower than 1Mb download and as low as 0.1Mb upload.

Therefore, I have decided to make it my mission in life to pursue BT and OpenReach in the quest for faster broadband!

After much investigative work (by talking to Openreach engineers etc...) I have established that the fibre line and equipment you see fitted to the telegraph poles in our village are not currently connected back to the telephone exchange (located in Crimble near Slaithwaite).

My frustration is that I can see the fibre equipment from my house (less than 30 yards away) but for some reason it is not available for us to use. When I contact BT regarding availability, they just say it is not available and they are unable to give me a date when it will be available.

Apparently, only if BT get enough interest from people in a certain area will they consider bringing the fibre connection on-line therefore I am reaching out to you to help. If we, as a village, all register our interest for the faster fibre connection then BT may consider connecting us to the fibre line.

To register your interest is easy and will only take a couple of minutes of your time.

- * First, go to the Openreach website <https://www.openreach.com/fibre-broadband>
- * Next, find the button shown here and click 
- * Then, enter your postcode details
- * Then, find your address in the list and click "go"
- * Next, scroll down the page and fill in the details in the "Register your interest" section.
- * Finally, click "Submit" and that's it.

Thanks in advance for your help in this matter and hopefully soon we can all benefit from a faster broadband service.

Kind regards

Jonathan Garside

(Resident of Westwood)

jonnygarside@outlook.com

Jonathan is also collecting names for a petition, if you would like to add your name please contact him directly.

COVID-19 SUPPORT

BOLSTER MOOR BUDDIES

COMMUNITY SUPPORT FOR THOSE SELF-ISOLATING

BMCA in partnership with the Westwood Centre alongside the lovely people of Bolster Moor are coordinating support for those who need practical and emotional help while self-isolating.



SHOPPING

If you're running short on provisions, we can go out and get you the things you need.



COLLECTING PRESCRIPTIONS

We can help collect any prescriptions you need if you are self-isolating.



TELEPHONE BUDDY

If you feel isolated, we can find a calm and friendly telephone buddy you can talk to.

IF YOU NEED SUPPORT CONTACT US

FACEBOOK

Send a message on our Facebook page.
Search: Bolster Moor Community Association

EMAIL

cren@btinternet.com

CALL

07980 179457 or 07815 814141

Chapter Five

Bolster Moor Buddies Response to COVID 19

In March when the pandemic effects were starting to become a worry and lockdown was announced, the BMCA had a discussion about how we could mitigate the impact for our village and support our community. Christine Renshaw asked if she could co-ordinate a response a by expanding on our successful existing winter buddy scheme and work with the council to provide a response to the virus. Working in partnership with Nikki from The Westwood Centre we worked alongside the council response team to get up to date facts and information, designed a poster to let residents know of the support available from our volunteers , we used the face book page and local contacts to recruit new volunteers and expand the scheme to now be a 20 strong volunteer buddy scheme, and we set up a mobile phone WHATSAPP group for the 20 strong volunteer buddies. This has enabled us to instantly communicate and respond to requests

for support very quickly and effectively

We have supported people with shopping, picking up prescriptions, etc as you would expect but an added and unforeseen benefit has been our ability to communicate quickly and respond to other things in our wider community like missing dogs ,loose horses on the road , electricity power cuts etc and co-ordinate flower deliveries for some of our shielding residents (see Flowers from the Garden article provided by Clare Proctor)

We have also used the group and our face book page to provide a coordinated response to the requests for support beyond the village so for example, the button collection for NHS visors, NHS toiletries and knitted hearts. BMCA are very proud of village support for these collections

The Whatsapp Bolster Moor Buddy volunteer group will remain in place beyond Covid 19 and will be here to provide village support beyond the Covid 19 virus.

We want to acknowledge that we are also aware that there has been neighbours helping neighbours on more of an organic basis – we are proud to live in such a supportive community

We are a team of 20 volunteer buddies so please don't be frightened to ask for our help or contact us with a question. We are a strong team of volunteers and between us can usually find a solution and response!

Contact us for support or village information via:

Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/bolstermoorcommunityassociation/>

E mail cren@btinternet.com

Or Tel 07980 179457 or 07815 814141

Many thanks to our team of volunteers and our community

BMCA Committee

Chapter Six

Peter Norcliffe—What's in a name?

Peter Norcliffe, who once lived at Headwall Green and now resides in Golcar, has been using time during lockdown to reminisce about old Colne Valley names.....

Golcar and indeed Colne Valley folk had a habit of giving people and places nicknames, not only the house on Handle Street with many windows in rows called "sheet o' pins" but others were:-

- ◆ **Bill-O-wigs:-** A gentleman who lived up at Scammonden in 1920's/30's. He wore bright trousers, and was used by mothers as a threat for children's bad behaviour. The mind boggles at what Bill-O-Wigs had done to deserve this reputation, perhaps it's best not to think about it too much.
- ◆ **Jack-O-long door steps:-** fairly self explanatory; Jack lived in a house with wide or long steps to his front door. Door would have been pronounced dooa.
- ◆ **Jane-o-Bonnies:-** A Golcar lady going on her first trip to the seaside, sat up all night for fear of missing the wagonette, then slept through its departure, in other words, missed the boat.
- ◆ **Mall Fush:-** A very old lady, very withered and threatening. 1940's and 1950's children were scared of her -grown ups were amused.
- ◆ **Ned-O-Jims:-** Was Grandad Holdsworth's nick name, Grandad's first name being Edward (Ned) and his father's being James (Jim), this was a common way of naming people by describing their family connections.
- ◆ **Peep-o-day and edge-o-dark:-** B&J Whitwams, or "Peep" to give it its shortened nick name was a mill built on Britannia Road, was known as peep o day and edge o dark because half the mill was built on the Golcar side of the road, therefore, facing south (peep-o-day), and the rest of the mill built on the Linthwaite north facing side of the road, (edge o dark).
- ◆ **Gowca Lilies:-** My favourite roots for this one is likely to do with the Lily being the emblem of the Protestant Huguenots who were persecuted in France. They were very skilled textile and lace makers and as such found their way to the north of England, and in this case Golcar.
- ◆ **Linfit leadboilers:-** Had a habit of boiling lead it seems, for the manufacture of shot or weatherproofing presumably.
- ◆ **Slawit Moonrakers:-** The story goes that the local smugglers hid their barrels of bounty in the canal and were discovered by the authorities while trying to rake it out again, so they pretended to be drunk and said they were trying to rake the moon out of the canal.
- ◆ **Marsdin Cuckoos:-** A wall was built around a cuckoo's nest to prevent the cuckoo from flying away and therefore extending the spring.

Do you have any memories of unusual nicknames, place names or expressions from 'when I was a lad / lass'? We'd love to hear from you !



Contact
 Andi Butler: 01484 648023
 a.butler150@btinternet.com

NEWS FROM BOLSTER MOOR
 COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION



Bolster Moo says....



WE'RE ON THE WEB! www.bolstermoor.org.uk

Chapter Seven

Flowers From the Garden

Many thanks from the BMCA to 'Flowers From the Garden' and Slaithwaite Mutual Aid for extending their reach of flower gifts to people who are shielding etc on Bolster Moor. The BMCA were contacted by Clare via our Facebook page and we used our Buddy Volunteers to nominate local people. The lovely Clare kindly delivered them to peoples front doors and has written this for us...

'Kindness can change someone's entire day. During these strange days, kindness has been found in all sorts of places. Kindness from friends and families alongside kindness from strangers. In our local community, kindness is checking all the time that people are cared for and are not alone. Lots of people are being kind, just because. Because being kind is cool! These random acts of kindness are 'changing someone's entire day.'

I have met one of these kind people, Alison from Flowers from the Garden in Slaithwaite. We were introduced through the Slaithwaite Mutual Aid team. They are currently coordinating support for local residents. Each week, Alison is donating flowers to our lovely, local folk who have been nominated for all sorts of reasons. Getting flowers delivered to your doorstep makes you smile. I know this because I'm the lucky one who gets to knock on someone's door and say these flowers are for you, just because! Whilst delivering the flowers each week, I have loved saying hello and chatting a while, there are some very special people in our villages. The flowers are bright like the smiles and they smell like a walk in the countryside! Thank you Flowers from the Garden for spreading the love. Clare Proctor



Chapter Eight

Thank you NHS

