

CANCAN



NEWS FROM BOLSTER MOOR COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

DECEMBER 2021



Hoppers

Nursery, pre-school and out of school club

At Hoppers all the children have been learning about Remembrance Day. All the children from our youngest toddlers to our oldest pre-school children have been working with different textures and materials to create poppies for our amazing display on the windows and stairs.

Our oldest children have been learning why we have different colour poppies to represent all the different nations that came together and fought together. They also looked at the animals that worked and supported the troops on the battlefield and lost their lives.

We are so proud of our children for working hard creating all their poppies in Remembrance of all the fallen soldiers.



We wish all our readers a very happy Christmas and a prosperous New Year



TREES!

Read how to get yours on page 2





Dianne and Michael are selling Christmas trees from Michael's shed on Drummer Lane

We are now selling CHRISTMAS TREES at Drummer Lane, Bolster Moor HD7 4JT

Various sizes, from 4' up to around 12'. We also have potted Nordman and Fraser trees.

Please come and take a look. Give us a call for any questions or to place an order for free local delivery. Thank you.

Michael 07802974666
Dianne 07847795139

Sky Lanterns - a plea from the RSPCA, National Farmers Union and the British Horse Society



Sky Lanterns, which are often released for celebrations around Christmas and New Year, can be deadly to livestock and other animals. In addition, they are a potential fire risk to silage bales, crops and moorland, in fact anywhere they land or get snagged, such as trees and flammable structures can be at risk. The danger they pose has been well documented by rural, farming and conservation charities, and yet thousands continue to be released every year throughout Britain. In addition to the fire risk, the metal parts they contain can have fatal consequences if they are ingested by grazing animals, or other wildlife can become entangled in the wire frames. Many local councils, including Kirklees, have banned their release on council owned Land.



Bolster Moo says " Please help to keep us safe, say no to sky lanterns "



Bolster Moor Buddies

Helping to make our community stronger

Though Bolster Moor is a thriving community where people look out for neighbours and friends, it's possible that a person's usual support might not be available. Bolster Moor Buddies will provide a backup. Buddies will be available to help anyone in the village who needs assistance. Here are two examples of possible scenarios where Buddies could help:

- bad weather prevents a person getting out to do their shopping
- a person's regular visitors are unable to make the visits due to bad weather or illness, and maybe the person would like a chat or some reassurance.

In such cases, the person can phone one of the BMCA members shown here. The member will have a larger group of helpers available, including those on our Buddies WhatsApp group, and will find someone to contact the caller. **If you know anyone who might benefit from the help Buddies is offering, please cut out and pass on.**

Andi Butler	648023 or 07980179457
Westwood Centre Mon, Wed, Thur, Fri 9am-1pm	845042
Hilary Pape (evenings and weekends)	847199 or 07981412469
Di Mayo	656509 or 07815814141
Nina Pollard (Tue, Wed & Fridays)	07985526847
Jan Lloyd	07976584266

Carols in Bolster Moor

We are planning to do some outdoor Carol singing around Bolster Moor this year. We felt there was still too much uncertainty about the covid situation to organise our usual Carols in the Barn event. However, we are hoping to walk from the Westwood area towards the Golcar Lily, Carolling as we go, so we are hoping people will join the merry throng with a torch or lantern, or meet us in the pub car park to sing. Bar snacks/ drinks/ coffee will be available for those who wish. The date and time is yet to be finalised, but we will post details on our community Facebook, and there will be posters around the village.



A Lost Opportunity

Earlier this year during lockdown a small piece of land off Westwood Edge Road was put out to tender. The piece of land available was a plot to the east of 108 Westwood ... where Tom's bench is sited. A small sub-group was formed to put together a bid to try and secure the land for the community. An outstanding bid/proposal was put together with the following stated aim:

"Secure and create a long-term community asset which provides a natural space that is inclusive and encourages collaboration opportunities. The project will provide a space for peace, reflection and to rest and, in doing so, contribute to improving the mental health and general wellbeing of the community."

Unfortunately, Kirklees Council didn't appreciate the true value of our bid/proposal and have sold the land to another bidder. This was extremely disappointing, as it appears that this piece of land is the last plot that Kirklees Council own in our area and that could be made available to the community. As some of the Bolster Moor long-time residents may be aware, this piece of land has previously been used as allotments and open grazing and was under the management of the (now defunct) Golcar Allotments Association.



The land was offered as a piece of Green Belt land and bidders were asked to submit an offer with a clear proposal for how the land would be used. It was also made clear to bidders that the highest bid would not necessarily win (unless it was significantly above the others). To date, none of the other bids has been made public nor has the winning bidder and price been announced.

Despite several requests to Kirklees Council, we have been unable to find out who has purchased the land. The only positive feedback that we have had is a contact to Julia and Stephen Batley (Tom's parents) to say that the bench will be allowed to be left on the plot. (However, it has been stated that it may have to be moved from its current location.) Whilst we are all very appreciative of this, we still don't know what the new owners intentions are regarding the land and, consequently, we don't know if we would be able to work with them as a community.

Jake from the Westwood Christian Centre was a key player and our designer for the bid. His diagram (see above) shows how valuable and interesting the site would have been for the community. From a community perspective, this appears to have been a lost opportunity to provide a very useful space for local use ... especially in the current climate.

When I was a lad.....memories of a 1940's Christmas

from our occasional columnist Peter Norcliffe

When I was a little lad, Christmas was the most special time of the year. Summer textile 'fotnit' at the seaside was also quite exciting, but not to the same giddy heights that Christmas achieved. Just like summer was always hot and hardly ever rained, winter was always snowy. The winter of 1947 saw snow covering to the depth of the upstairs bedroom windows. That's changed now of course, like many other things.

These days we have become accustomed to having all sorts of exotic foodstuffs throughout the year, and particularly so at Christmas. Before our modern expectations and fast delivery services, we had to manage on fruit and vegetables grown more locally. Carrots, turnip and potatoes were grown in the carrot, turnip and potato seasons, and some families preserved them for the winter months by covering the newly picked crop of carrots and taties with straw and earth, while the turnips were wrapped in damp sawdust or sacking and kept cool until required. By the time the next new crop was available, the old crop had changed its consistency, texture and flavour: the carrots and turnips became woody, and the taties grew as big as yer 'ed, (although a very small 'ed.)

Brussel sprouts were, of course, another Christmas regular, and judging by how well cooked they were, must have been put on to boil in late November! However, they could stay in the ground for most of the winter and be used as required.

The first time I realised that our Dad was Father Christmas was on Christmas Eve 1953, when I was six years old. The anticipation was so overwhelming that I couldn't sleep. When Mum put me to bed I was convinced that I heard sleigh bells outside, and I couldn't understand why Mum was less than enthusiastic when I told her what I'd just heard.

I lay awake for hours hoping Santa hadn't forgotten me. Then when I saw the bedroom door silently opening, I pretended to be asleep so as not to disturb Santa's busy evening. I was squinting through slitted eyes hoping to get a glimpse, when creeping into my bedroom, silhouetted by the landing light, came our Dad carrying several boxes, one of which was a large box, big enough for the train set I had asked for. Sure enough, when Santa left my bedroom I couldn't wait to see what there was. There in all its glory was a Hornby O gauge clockwork train set. I was overjoyed beyond belief. That moment has stayed with me for the past 67 years.



I'm nearly sure that was the only Christmas our presents were brought into our bedroom. Before and after that particular Christmas our stockings, nearly always a pillow case, were put by the fireplace of whichever room was being used at that time. At Christmas it could have been either the living room (dining room) or the front room (lounge). The front room was exclusively used on special days, sometimes on Sundays when we were expecting visitors. We may even have used the front door on really, really special days.

To build some of the excitement, if a buildup was necessary, Mum, my big sister Rhondda and I, would write little notes to Santa, respectfully requesting a treasured gift. These notes were then offered to the mouth of the chimney over a lit fire. Due to the rising heat and draw of the chimney, these notes would disappear as if by magic, and I was fascinated by how they went up the chimney for Father Christmas to read. We would visit also Santa's grotto during the Christmas period. The whole experience of Christmas was magical to me.

This is a photo of our Santa's Grotto visit to Rushworths Department Store in Huddersfield (long since gone of course; it disappeared around 1970 I think). My big sis Rhondda and I look happy to be there, so I'd probably just been fed. We don't know who the lad on the right is. I hated that bonnet headgear fashion – it was one of the things I threw over the fireguard to watch it burn and burn.

When I was a lad continued....

During the early hours of Christmas Day, Rhondda and I would creep downstairs to see if he'd been. I'm not sure who was the instigator of this furtive impatience; I suspect it would have been Rhondda. Being an older sister, she had been a very suspect influence throughout my childhood. I was of course a willing partner in these clandestine and furtive investigations, and what we found in our respective pillow cases was always a treasure trove of goodies, though perhaps not what children would expect now.

Under all the 'stocking fillers' were always some fruit, nuts and coins. The fruit would be a tangerine, along with the nuts, Christmas being the only time we had them. Chicken dinners were also a rarity, but always happened at Christmas. I seem to remember that the tangerines were wrapped in tissue paper, but I may be mistaking that with blood oranges.

Another part of the excitement was noticing that the piece of Christmas cake, glass of milk and carrot that had been put out just before we went to bed, had been consumed by Father Christmas and his reindeers. An empty glass with droplets of milk in the bottom, and an empty plate with a few crumbs left, were a sure sign that Santa and the reindeers had appreciated our offering.

Ah, the memories of those childhood Christmas mornings when the world was a cascade of wonderful things will never leave me.



**We deliver
smiles**

**Deliveries to Bolster
Moor, Scapegoat Hill,
Wellhouse and Golcar
Areas**

**Contact Di Mayo on
07815814141 or 656509
for further details**

A day off cooking!

**Would you or
someone you
know appreciate a
home cooked
meal?**



**A main meal and pudding
delivered to your door by a
friendly local face.
ONLY £4.00**



Golcar Lily

Public House & Restaurant



CHRISTMAS 2021 OPENING TIMES

Pub opening hours

Christmas Eve
Friday
12:00-11:00pm

Christmas Day
Saturday
12:00-3:30pm
CLOSED EVENING

Boxing Day
Sunday
12:00-6:00

Bank Holiday Monday
12:00-9:00pm

New Year Eve
Friday
12:00-2am

New Years Day
Saturday
12:00-6:00pm

Bank Holiday Monday
12:00-9:00pm

Food serving times

Christmas Eve
Friday
12:00-9:00pm

Christmas Day
Saturday
RESTAURANT CLOSED

Boxing Day
Sunday
12:00-4:00pm

Bank Holiday Monday
12:00-8:00pm

New Year Eve
Friday
Food served 12:00-2:00pm
5:30pm-9:00pm
Normal menu and specials
menu served

New Years Day
Saturday
12:00-4:00pm

Bank Holiday Monday
12:00-8:00pm

Disposal of Christmas Trees



We have again arranged with Liam Robinson, the local tree surgeon from 'A Cut Above' to shred any Christmas trees

which local residents may want to dispose of.

Please drop your trees in the corner of Michael Sykes' field, half way down Drummer Lane, next to Liam's premises, **no later than Thursday January 6th.**

Many thanks to Liam and Michael for doing this

The dates of the next Community Meetings:

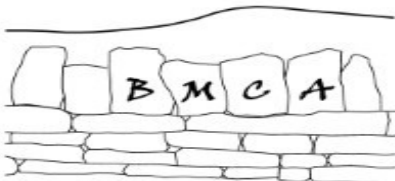
Tuesday 7 December 2021

Tuesday 4 January 2022

Tuesday 1 February 2022

All meetings begin at 8pm at the Golcar Lily.

We welcome any items of local news, events, or articles suitable for inclusion on the website from members of the community.



NEWS FROM BOLSTER MOOR COMMUNITY

WE'RE ON THE WEB!

www.bolstermoor.org.uk

Contact

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a.butler150@btinternet.com



Bolster Moor Community
Association