

our **Bolton**

Issue 13 Summer 2023



Bolton's 18th Food & Drink Festival

Regeneration: Transforming Bolton Town Centre

A greener Bolton

New role to tackle
climate crisis

New look Farnworth Leisure centre

The newly renovated Farnworth
Leisure Centre has been declared officially open

**Bolton
Council**



Make a difference

JOIN THE BOLTON FAMILY!

Looking for a job? Then we're looking for you!

Do you want to make a difference to the lives of people in Bolton?

If so, why not join us to discuss the job opportunities available with Bolton Council.

Come along and meet Managers and staff from Bolton Council. Chat about current vacancies or your career aspirations.

Support in applying for roles will be available on the day.

Interested in joining us?
We'd love to meet you!

For all the latest opportunities at Bolton Council, check out:
www.greater.jobs

Come and see us...

Fri 25th - Mon 28th August
from 10am-5pm
Bolton Food and Drink Festival, Information Point, Victoria Square.

Every Tuesday and Thursday
from 12-2pm at our stand on Bolton Market, near the food court.



greater.jobs

Bolton Council

Welcome



Welcome to the Summer 2023 edition of Our Bolton.

This is my first introduction as the new Leader of Bolton Council, and I hope you will enjoy reading about all the exciting and important work we are doing on your behalf.

An 18th birthday to remember

As always at this time, we're looking forward to the August Bank Holiday weekend when we welcome hundreds of thousands of visitors to the town centre for the Bolton Food and Drink Festival.

This is the festival's 18th year and a comprehensive guide to this year's event is available over the page. Bolton is rightly proud of its spectacular events and

outstanding cultural offer. Elsewhere in these pages you can read about the recent IRONMAN weekend, Bolton Pride, an exhibition to celebrate 150 years of Bolton Town Hall and learn more about the many outstanding shows coming to our Albert Halls.

Reimagining Bolton

As consumer habits change and more people choose to shop online, we're working hard to reimagine our town centre. If you turn to pages 6 and 7, you'll find a map detailing some of the many projects already underway.

Each development forms part of our wider plan to make the centre a more vibrant and attractive place to live, work, visit, study and invest.

We are also investing in our district centres across the borough. Farnworth residents are already enjoying the newly refurbished leisure centre while the nearby Bolton Institute of Medical Sciences will soon bring

many exciting opportunities to the local area.

Protecting our residents and the environment

Our environment and green spaces play an essential role in our physical and mental wellbeing. I was pleased to see Queens Park awarded yet another Green Flag and look forward to the first official Bee Network buses in Bolton that will make public transport a cheaper and more viable option for our residents.

As Leader, I pledged to create a cabinet-level position to address Climate Change, reflecting the concerns and priorities of our residents.

This sits alongside the essential council services also detailed in this magazine, including work to support adults with disabilities, look after young people in care, tackle rogue traders and improve public health.

Nick Peel, Bolton Council Leader

Artisan Markets at Heaton Fold

Heaton Fold will host a new season of artisan markets on the fourth Sunday of every month.

These dates include...

No market in August **Sept 24** **Oct 22** **Nov 26**

Located in a picturesque valley just on the outskirts of Bolton town centre, Heaton Fold offers work experience for adults with learning disabilities.

This year the Artisan Market will have a number of new stall holders, food and drink stands, and a host of features – come and join the fun.

Find out more visit www.heatonfold.co.uk



heaton fold
GARDEN CENTRE

What's inside

4-5
BOLTON FOOD & DRINK FESTIVAL 2023



6-7
BOLTON TOWN CENTRE DEVELOPMENTS

8
CAN YOU FOSTER?

10
BEE NETWORK BUSES

14
IRONMAN UK



15
CELEBRATING BOLTON PRIDE



19
USEFUL CONTACT DETAILS

20
MEET YOUR COUNCILLORS



Bolton Food & Drink Festival 2023

FRI 25 TO MON 28 AUGUST

It's our 18th birthday and you're all invited to our party!

In association with



The Bolton Food and Drink festival is glamming up and hitting the town (centre) to celebrate its big birthday on August bank holiday weekend.

Be the first to try out some scrumptious cuisine from around the world, pick up some unique treats and gifts or check out the art by local artists on one of over 200 artisan market stalls.

Get your toes tapping at one of the live music stages while you take a breather from the bustling festival site and listen to the cream of the crop of popular local bands and musicians.

For those keen home cooks out there, there's a jam-packed line up of regional chefs with some of the region's and nation's favourites joining the festival over the weekend with a medley of cookery demos.

For younger visitors, life's a beach this year at our interactive Beach Party in the family zone on Le Mans Crescent, enjoy arts and crafts, face-painting, building sandcastles and much more all weekend long!

Grab a ticket to the hottest events in town!

As well as loads of fantastic family friendly activities, this year the team have created a great range of ticketed events. From the brand-new Bottomless Brunch, to the fantastic Celebrity Chef Demos and live comedy dining experiences!

On Saturday, join festival newbie Gok Wan who will be serving up a treat with some delicious Chinese food demos in our celebrity chef cookery theatre, located in the Festival Hall.

After a spin in the kitchen, the multi-talented chef will be taking to the decks creating a feast of retro club classics and old schoolhouse music.

Sunday will welcome another new face to the festival when business owner, charity founder, author, food presenter and TV cook, Nisha Katona MBE joins Team Bolton for the first time, leading the way for a spectacular Sunday spread.

Bringing the festival to a close on Monday and helping us go out on a high, is festival icon, James Martin who tops the guest list and returns to headline.

If belly laughs are more your thing, then you won't want to miss our fantastic immersive theatre and dining comedy nights.

On Saturday, back by popular demand, the Faulty Towers dining experience returns for one night only. And on Sunday, from the same team is the hilarious 'Live and Let Dine' dining experience, where you can prepare to be shaken when theatre meets vendetta, meets dinner show as the hero tries to unravel who's out to get him - and why.

Bolton Council's Executive Cabinet Member for Culture, Cllr Nadeem Ayub, said:

"I'm delighted to announce the extensive programme at the 18th Bolton Food and Drink Festival, and hope that visitors come from far and wide to join us in celebrating.

"As our flagship event, it's really important that we make this accessible for all and offer residents free, fun activities for them and their families.

"Events like this bring great economic benefits to the town and really help to showcase Bolton as a brilliant visitor destination."

"It's all thanks to our fantastic headline sponsor Peel L&P, who has made this event possible."

Don't forget you can also access a variety of 'festival-only' deals from a wide range of participating restaurants, pubs, cafes and traders during August and September with our exclusive festival wristband.

For more details on the wristband, including where to get yours, or to book tickets to one of our tasty events, visit our website:

www.boltonfoodanddrinkfestival.com

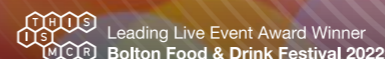


SCAN ME



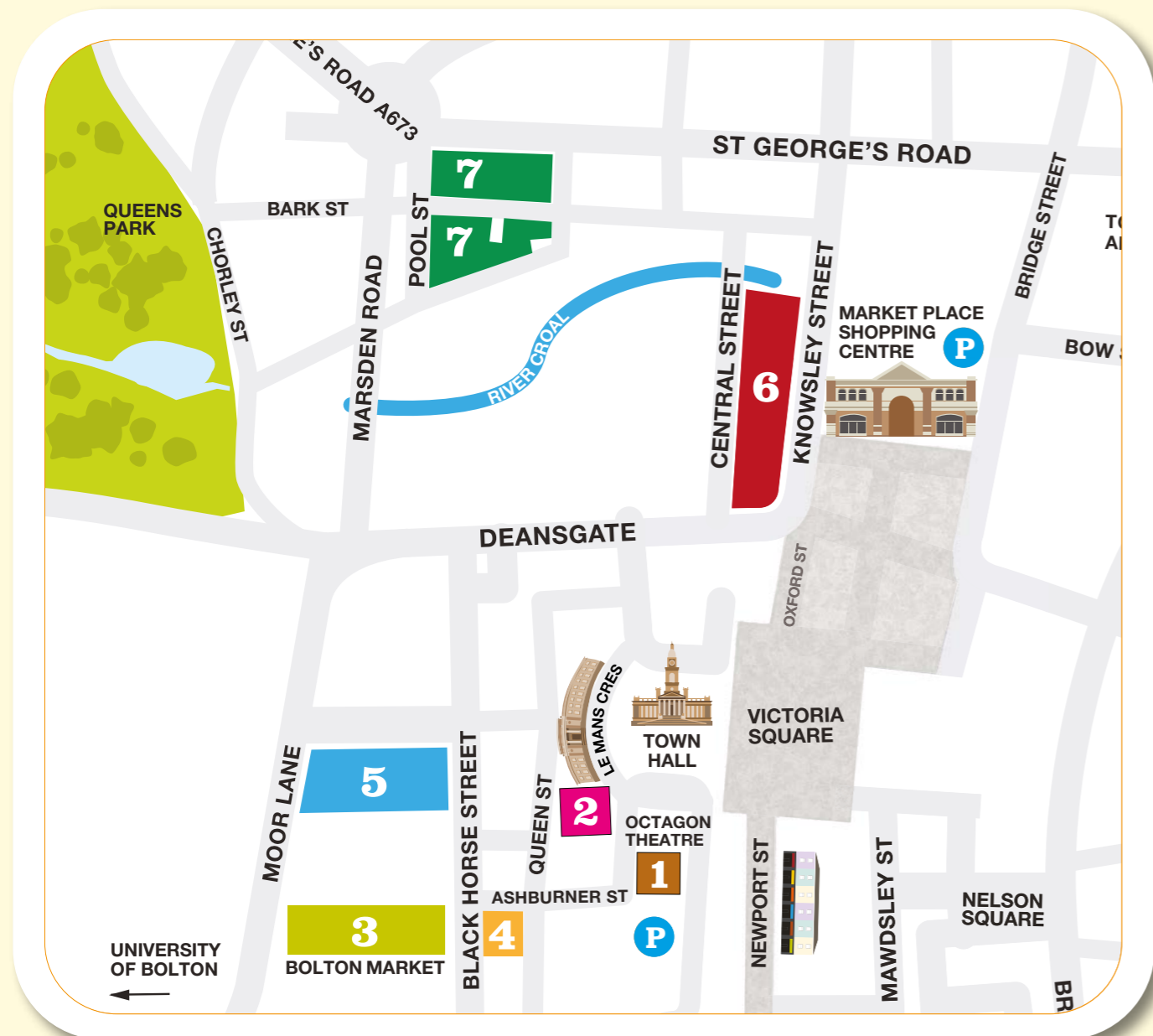
boltonfoodanddrinkfestival.com

[boltonfoodanddrinkfestival](https://www.facebook.com/boltonfoodanddrinkfestival) [@boltonfoodfest](https://twitter.com/boltonfoodfest) [boltonfoodfest](https://www.instagram.com/boltonfoodfest)



Bolton Council

Mapping the future of Bolton Town Centre



1. Wellsprings: A new home for tech-start ups
 The Wellsprings office building is being converted into a £11.18m modern, flexible workspace for digital and creative start-ups.

The transformation of the council-owned building is being part-funded by £6.9m from the Government's Towns Fund and £1.4m from the UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF). The finished project will see diverse spaces across the different floors, offering services for both businesses and the public.

The upper floors will be a home for emerging businesses, with suites suitable for businesses from four up to 36 employees, allowing companies to take on more space as they expand.

Digital and creative start-ups will benefit from a managed office environment with shared meetings spaces, digital conferencing facilities and a podcast studio.

2. Bolton Central Library: A space for everyone
 Another Town's Fund project - work is well underway to create a new café, an expanded children's area, improved social spaces, updated digital facilities and a new mezzanine floor at Bolton's flagship library.

The new space has been designed to reflect the changing way that communities use libraries, with an added emphasis on creativity and accessing the internet.

While books will remain essential to everything the library does, users will also benefit from new digital facilities, education and employment information, creative activities and more.

The new mezzanine floor will provide a welcoming space for a variety of local community and wellbeing groups and for other groups who visit and wish to use the building.

3. Bolton Market: Local produce at great prices, right on your doorstep
 Bolton Market is undergoing a major £5.59m renovation thanks to the Town's Fund.

The new-look market will offer a wider variety of stalls, appeal to younger shoppers and create a space where people can meet and socialise in the evenings. The ultimate aim is to increase both the number of visitors and the amount of time they spend there.

It is hoped the modernised space will appeal to university and college students, as well as offering a convenient shopping destination for new town centre residents.

4. A new town centre green space
 A brand-new town centre park will sit on the former site of the Odeon cinema on Ashburner Street and will be created with the support of the government's Town's Fund.

The finished park will include seating areas, picnic tables and a performance space.

5. Moor Lane: A new community with affordable housing



Visitors to the centre will notice that work is progressing well at the Moor Lane development, with structural frames, brickwork and other key building milestones already reached.

The completed project will feature 218 apartments and townhouses, including 82 affordable homes, as well as commercial units and green spaces.

The main development site on Moor Lane occupies brownfield land on the former bus station footprint, with two smaller plots either side of the Job Centre.

The development is being delivered by Step Places, working with Bolton at Home and Bolton Council.

6. Central Street: Long term rental opportunities in a vibrant urban neighbourhood

The foundations have now been laid on this £35m regeneration project to create 167 new high-quality homes alongside the River Croal.



Developer Placefirst is transforming the brownfield site into a new neighbourhood, offering a mixture of apartments and town houses for long-term rent. Work has also started to create new public space along the river.

The finished neighbourhood will feature rooftop terraces and gardens, while residents will have easy access to Queens Park and will benefit from excellent transport links.

Once building work is complete, Placefirst will remain on site to manage and maintain the Central Street neighbourhood, with a dedicated resident services manager responsible for running every aspect of the scheme.

7. St George's Road and Bark Street: New homes in an ideal location
 This modern development of 58 townhouses offers a range of options including three-bedroom and four-bedroom homes.

Each townhouse is designed to provide a comfortable, modern living space with ample natural light and stunning views of the surrounding area.

The location is one of the development's major selling points, just a short distance from the town centre, key transport links and popular green spaces.

Main contractor Forshaw Construction has a particular focus on sustainability and environmental responsibility, and works closely with local communities to ensure that its developments have a positive impact on the surrounding area.



Can you foster?

Bolton Council appeals for more foster carers.

Thousands more foster families are needed across the UK every year and Bolton is no exception.

The council's Director of Childrens Services, Bernie Brown, said: "We are extremely grateful to all our foster carers who do a fantastic job dedicating their time to improving the lives of the children and young people they care for.

"It is important to us to be able to find the right placements when children come into care and as foster carers retire or move on, we are always in need of more people coming forward to make an enquiry.

"We understand that taking that first step can feel like a big decision, but our staff are on hand to answer your questions.

"And remember that foster carers can be all kinds of people with all kinds of experiences, just like the children they care for.

"You could be the difference for one child - make the call and find out more."

With record numbers of children in care and a significant proportion of the foster carer workforce retiring or leaving every year, many more foster families are needed to care for children, with the greatest need being for foster carers for teenagers and sibling groups.

Fostering offers children and young people a home when they are unable to live with their birth family.

Sometimes children only stay with a foster family for a few days, while others will live with their foster family for their entire childhood and beyond.

Many of these children have experienced abuse or neglect prior to coming into care. Good foster care can help to transform their lives and enable them to flourish.

Fostering offers children a safe and caring home and plays a big part in supporting them to maintain links with their birth family.



As a foster carer with your local council, you're never on your own.

Meet the family

Single-parent foster carer...

Kieran

Being a foster carer was something that Kieran had thought about for a long time. But as a single person who works full-time for a charity, he wasn't sure it would be possible.

"I knew I had something to offer a child and so when I saw an advert online, I enquired. The application process went into a lot of details. It was a very

reflective process and very supportive, as we discussed everything that has happened in my life, so it was quite therapeutic.

"When I became approved it was only a few weeks until I got my first placement. I was really surprised at how well I took to it. I get a lot from it and I know the children feel the same."

"We have a great relationship and I'm just sad that it took me to the age of 42 to apply."



Contact your friendly fostering team to find out more
www.bolton.gov.uk/fostering or email fostering@bolton.gov.uk
 or call **0800 107 1564** for more information.



New Jubilee Centre officially opens

After years of hard work, the new flagship Jubilee Centre has opened its doors and it is already making a huge difference in the community. Centre user Zena Grundy helped cut the ribbon to declare the facility officially open.

After the ceremony, a time capsule was buried in the centre's garden, containing mementoes and keepsakes which offer a glimpse of what life is like in Bolton in 2023.

The centre boasts a state of the art, fully equipped hydrotherapy pool to support a range of abilities, as well as sensory and rebound rooms and community spaces.

It is specifically designed and adapted to offer leisure and support services to people with autism and disabilities, helping them to develop their independence and life skills. Leader of Bolton Council, Cllr Nick Peel, said:

"It was an honour to take part in the opening ceremony for the New Jubilee Centre which will make such a difference in the lives of service users and local residents.

"This facility was designed with the help of the users, to make sure it meets the needs of the community both now and well into the future.

"We want to support service users to live fulfilling, independent lives and this brand-new modern facility will play a huge role in helping achieve this goal."

The centre is run by Bolton Cares, a business wholly owned by Bolton Council.

Bolton Cares supports older people, people with learning disabilities and autism and people with mental health problems.

Its mission is to provide high quality, compassionate care, and support to help local people live better lives. Sanjeet Bains Managing Director of Bolton Cares said:

"The centre is an excellent example of partnership working with Bolton Cares, Bolton Council, the people we support, and their families.

"The project has been a culmination of four years hard work and together we have achieved so much. Well done to everyone involved."

Find out more at boltoncares.org.uk

'Yellow' to new Bee Network buses

Passengers in Bolton may have noticed something a little different about our buses recently.

With Greater Manchester's bus franchising due to come into effect later this year, the first of a new fleet of yellow vehicles have already made their debut in Bolton.

Bus franchising marks the biggest change to transport in Greater Manchester for almost 40 years.

Bringing the bus network under local control will mean passengers in Bolton will benefit from:

- Simpler fares and ticketing
- A price cap - so no one pays more than they need to
- Better customer service
- Local accountability for passengers to give feedback
- Integration with the wider Bee Network in Greater Manchester – including trams and bike hire

Operators Diamond and Go North West will run the first Bee Network bus services in Wigan and Bolton and parts of Salford and Bury from September.

All the buses in Greater Manchester will be under local control and part of the Bee Network by January 2025.

As part of the scheme, there will be 270 new electric buses that will be fully accessible, with wheelchair bays, hearing induction loops, audio and visual announcement systems and anti-slip flooring.



New £40m centre to train NHS staff

The University of Bolton's Institute of Medical Sciences (IMS) is a new £40m skills training centre for clinical healthcare roles. Welcoming its first cohort of learners in September 2024, IMS will offer professional and vocational skills training for learners aged 16+ and existing health professionals.

It will train 3,000 learners annually, in study areas including nursing, midwifery, physiotherapy, speech and language therapy and bioinformatics. Located on the grounds of the Royal Bolton Hospital in Farnworth, it is a collaborative project between the University of Bolton, Bolton College, Bolton NHS Foundation Trust and Bolton Council.

IMS is the most significant investment in healthcare training in the North West for decades and was awarded £20m of Government Levelling Up Funding.

Community impact

IMS is designed to help alleviate NHS staffing pressures, provide improved levels of care in the community, and improve employment prospects in the region by giving people a direct route to clinical healthcare roles.

It is expected to deliver 20,000 new jobs and apprenticeships in its first 20 years and will contribute roughly £150m to the borough's economy once complete.

IMS is also an important step on the University of Bolton's journey to opening a School of Medicine, making it only the second education provider in Greater Manchester to do so.

Achieving this would mean that healthcare training in Bolton could commence at entry level and progress right through to the highest level of clinical practice.



Safer roads for all

Council seeks new powers to make our roads safer.



You can have your say on plans to make our roads safer by giving us more power to clamp down on irresponsible drivers.

We have launched a consultation on "moving traffic enforcement" to tackle problems like drivers stopping in yellow box junctions or making banned right turns.

The police currently deal with these issues but new rules could allow the council to issue fines as well.

Not only would this help improve safety and traffic flow, but it would free up police resources to tackle more serious crimes.

To find out more about our proposals, and to have your say on the plans, visit bolton.gov.uk/consultations before **September 6**.

New-look Farnworth Leisure Centre

The newly renovated Farnworth Leisure Centre has been declared officially open by the Mayor of Bolton, Cllr Mohammed Ayub.

Work started last year to transform the facility by extending the gym and adding a new dance studio.

The project, funded by the government's Future High Streets Fund, also includes new windows and a reconfigured car

park with additional spaces.

The reimagined leisure centre is part of Bolton Council's Farnworth Town Centre Masterplan, which was drawn up in 2019 following extensive consultation with local people.

In 2020, the town was awarded a grant of £13.3m from the Future High Streets Fund towards

a number of development projects. This also includes the regeneration of the old precinct.

Bolton Council's Deputy Leader, Cllr Akhtar Zaman, said: "When the council consulted with Farnworth residents about the regeneration plans, they told us they wanted

improved facilities at the town's leisure centre.

"Now we have delivered on this priority for local people, creating a place that will have a positive impact on the physical and mental wellbeing of the community."





Starting a new school?

Your child will be learning and socialising with more children when they start their new school and could be at risk of catching preventable diseases if they haven't had all their childhood jabs.

- Buy uniform
- Get school shoes
- Check primary school jabs are up to date

Primary school jabs

- Diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis and polio (4 in 1 booster)
- Measles, mumps and rubella (2nd dose of MMR)



If you are not sure if your child has had all their routine vaccinations, check their personal health record (Red Book) or contact the GP surgery.

To get the best protection for your child, they need to have had **two doses of MMR vaccine.**

For a checklist of the vaccines and the ages at which they should ideally be given visit www.nhs.uk/vaccinations

Stopping illegal vape sales

Shops raided as Bolton clamps down on underage vape sales.



Last month, our Trading Standards officers have raided shops across the borough as we clamp down on the illegal sale of vapes to under-18s.

In a major operation alongside Greater Manchester Police, the council visited shops that have been reported to be selling e-cigarettes to school-age children.

While vaping can help smokers quit, it is not harmless and is not for young people under 18 as it is especially important to protect young lungs and brains.

Our Trading Standards, Public Health and Childrens Services departments have committed to addressing the growing problem of under-age vaping.

Our Cabinet Member for Regulatory Service, Cllr Sue Haworth, said: "There is a legal age limit on vape products for a reason, selling e-cigarettes to

under-18s is no different than selling them alcohol or cigarettes.

"We carry out test purchases based on intelligence from members of the public to ensure shop owners are following the law.

"While the majority are compliant, it only takes a minority of shops flouting the rules to put the health of Bolton children at risk.

"This action will continue until the message is understood – Bolton will not tolerate the illegal sale of vapes to under-18s."

£4.1m tobacco bust is UK's biggest

A raid by Bolton Council's Trading Standards Team uncovered an estimated £4.1m of illegal tobacco, believed to be one of the biggest seizures of its kind in the UK.

Acting on a tip-off, officers forced entry before discovering 28 boxes of raw tobacco weighing 6.1 tonnes at a lock-up in the centre of the borough.

Supported by officers from Greater Manchester Police, the seized goods were removed and taken to a secure location ahead of further investigations.

Bolton Council's Executive Cabinet Member for Regulatory, Cllr Sue Haworth, said: "This council has a zero-tolerance policy on the sale of illicit tobacco which damages our



communities and deprives our NHS of vital tax income.

"This is the biggest Trading Standards seizure in Bolton's history, and one of the largest of its kind anywhere in the UK.

"The raid was possible thanks to the intelligence that was shared with us. I urge anyone with similar information to come forward so that together we can end the sale of illegal tobacco in Bolton."

Anyone with any information can report information to **The Citizens Advice Bureau** or **Crimestoppers** anonymously on **0800 555 111**

Green Flag Award: Queens Park is one of UK's best

Queens Park has once again been recognised with a Green Flag Award, the international quality mark for parks and green spaces.

The honour is testament to the hard work and dedication of the team tasked with looking after the popular green space.

In addition, the Friends of Longsight Park are celebrating after receiving a Green Flag Community Award for Longsight Park.

Rivington Terrace Gardens has also achieved the Green Heritage Site Accreditation, supported by Historic England, for

the management of its historic features.

Cllr Richard Silvester, Bolton Council's Executive Cabinet Member for Climate Change and Environment, said: "This is wonderful news and I congratulate everyone involved at Queens Park in achieving a Green Flag Award for the 8th year running.

"Queens Park is a vital green space for the community in Bolton and the staff and volunteers do so much to ensure

that it maintains the high standards of the Green Flag Award.

"Everyone involved should feel extremely proud of their achievement."

"This is particularly special to me as a Councillor representing Queens Park and Central Ward and living opposite to Queens Park which I enjoy and walk through each day on my way to work in Bolton town centre."





IRONMAN® UK BOLTON ENGLAND

Crowds flock to IRONMAN weekend

Another hugely successful IRONMAN weekend in July saw more than six thousand people take part in three exciting events over three days.

Thousands more were in the town centre and along the route to cheer them on.

The weekend is estimated to bring over £3.9m of economic benefit to Bolton and the surrounding area.

The weekend has something for people of all ages and abilities and on Friday over 1,200 participants took to the starting line for Bolton's biggest ever NightRun.

Saturday saw smiles all around as over 4,000 children and young people took part in the biggest IRONKIDS in the world.

Sunday brought the amazing IRONMAN competitors to town, as they swam, cycled and ran their way through a staggering 140.6 miles.

Councillor Nick Peel, Leader of Bolton Council, said: "From children as young as three doing their first Ironkids to the experienced athletes amazing us all in Ironman, everyone should feel a huge sense of achievement."

Councillor Nadeem Ayub, Bolton Council's Executive Member for Culture, said: "I'd like to thank everyone who came out to support the three events. You do such a fantastic job and help make the weekend special."

Next year's weekend will be bigger than ever, with over 10,000 people expected to take part.

NightRun will double to over 2,000 people, IRONKIDS will grow to 6,500 places, and as many as 3,000 athletes will take on an IRONMAN 70.3.

Celebrating Bolton Pride




Bolton Pride 2023 brought together communities to shine a light on people who are often overlooked for their talents and experiences.

Pride is a celebration and protest for the rights of LGBT+ people to enjoy a happy and healthy life.

The fabulous Pride parade swaggered through the streets of Bolton from the university to Victoria Square, enjoyed by the Bolton community along the way.

With the support and sponsorship of Bolton Council, Victoria Square was opened up to be a home and safe space for the Bolton's LGBT+ community, with even the town hall shining in Pride colours throughout 28-30 July.

This year's event was run by Rob and Kevin Wright, proud members of the LGBT+ community who volunteered their time to put together a fantastic event for all to take part in.

 If you'd like more information, please visit the Bolton Pride website www.pridebolton.co.uk



A celebration of civic heritage

All this year, we are celebrating the 150th anniversary of Bolton Town Hall.

Back in January, we welcomed King Charles III to tour the building and learn about its proud history.

The visit came 150 years after The King's great-great-grandfather, the future King Edward VII, officially opened Bolton Town Hall in 1873.

Now, Bolton Museum is hosting a spectacular exhibition which tells the story of the building, from its construction, its use and role in public life, and what the building means to us today.

The exhibition includes original plans and drawings, mayoral items including furniture, jewels and silverware, and many items which have never been on display before!

Kids (and big kids!) can dress as the mayor or a panto dame, follow the trail to find out about the building, discover how they measure up to parts of the building, and examine hidden parts of the building through builders' blueprints.

The exhibition runs until Sunday 1 October.



What's on at the Albert Halls



The George Michael Legacy
7th October



The Art of Believing - Flamenco
12th October



The Chicago Blues Brothers
14th October



Johnny Cash Roadshow
21st October



The Nutcracker
26th October

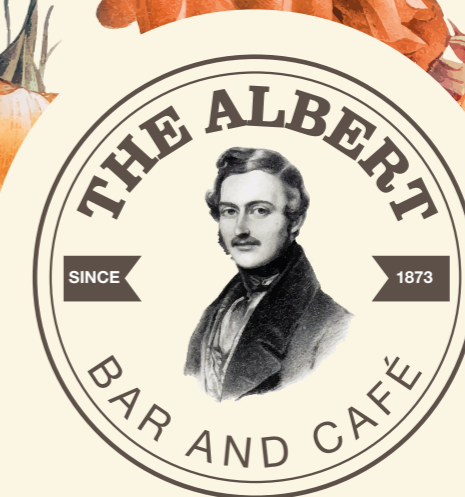
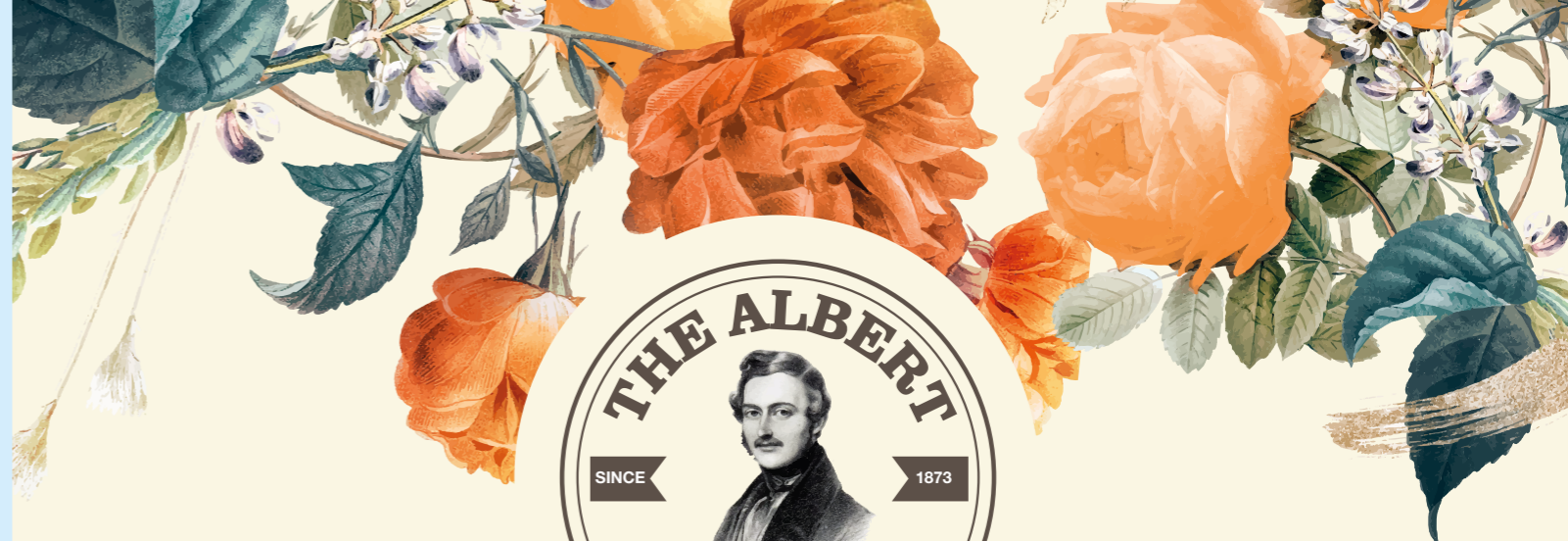


The Golden Pearl Pirates
31st October

Tel 0343 208 0500

www.quaytickets.com/boltonalberthalls

**Albert
Halls
Bolton**



NOW OPEN

**Wednesday to Saturday
10am - 4pm**

Visit us at our exclusive bar to enjoy your favourite drinks and taste our brand new food menu, including a range of jacket potatoes, sandwiches, toasties and cakes.

You can also get your tickets at our box office too!

**Albert Halls,
Victoria Square, Bolton**



alberthalls-bolton.co.uk



A greener Bolton

Our new lead member for climate change aims to build on successful projects as the borough works towards its environmental goals.

In May, Cllr Richard Silvester was appointed as the council's first Executive Cabinet Member for Climate Change and Environmental Services.

The role was created by the new Leader, Cllr Nick Peel, who had pledged to make environmental issues a cabinet-level priority for the council.

In 2021, the council adopted the Climate

Change Strategy which aims to make council operations net-zero carbon by 2030, while also supporting other organisations to achieve the same goal.

The plan was developed with the help of several key local partners and reflects the views of residents that were collected during Bolton's Big Climate Conversation.

Since then, a number of initiatives have already been adopted and a number of climate milestones have been reached.

Among them are schemes aimed at boosting active travel and encouraging residents to use public transport as an alternative to driving.

Bolton is also lucky to have a number of active climate volunteers and community groups.

Among them is Bolton Green Umbrella, whose volunteers provided £1.4m worth of hours worked over the year 2021-22.

Bolton Council Leader, Cllr Nick Peel, said:

"Tackling the climate crisis is a central part of our programme and I am pleased to deliver on our promise to create a new cabinet member for this vital issue.

"This means the climate crisis will be considered as part of all top-level discussions, ensuring all council decisions reflect our goals for creating a greener Bolton.

"We know the environment is a key priority for our residents and this is now reflected in our cabinet as we work to deliver on our climate goals."

Cllr Silvester said:

"The climate crisis is the biggest challenge facing our planet and it is right that people expect us to take action at a local level.

"Climate change is everyone's responsibility which is why our strategy is based on working with partners, volunteer groups and local communities in order to achieve our goals.

"I hope residents will have already noticed the work being done to make Bolton greener and I look forward to announcing more initiatives in the near future."



Useful contact details

Rubbish and recycling

For general enquiries and how to report a missed bin collection or order a new bin go to www.bolton.gov.uk/rubbish-recycling
01204 336632

Council tax

To register for council tax or report a change of address or circumstances. To access your account online, view council tax charges and check your bill go to www.bolton.gov.uk/council-tax
01204 331599

Housing and finding a home

To register for council rented accommodation, information and advice on sheltered accommodation, adapting your home and preventing homelessness go to www.bolton.gov.uk/housing-options-advice
01204 335811 Homes for Bolton
01204 335900 Housing Advice

Benefits

For council tax support, housing benefits, apply for food parcels, furniture or help with gas and electric go to www.bolton.gov.uk/benefits
01204 331590

Blue badges

To apply for, renew or report your Blue Badge lost or stolen, go to www.bolton.gov.uk/parking-permits/blue-badges

Licensing

To apply for or renew a license for taxis and private hire, alcohol and gambling, street licenses and charity collection go to www.bolton.gov.uk/business-licensing
01204 336584

Business rates

To pay your business rates, report a change in circumstances or find out about business rates reductions go to www.bolton.gov.uk/business-rates
01204 331730

Births, deaths and marriages (Registrar's Office)

To register a birth or death please go to www.bolton.gov.uk/registering-birth-death
01204 331185

We've listed these useful telephone numbers, but all applications and most services will require you to go online to make an enquiry. If you don't have access to the internet at home, you can come to the One Stop Shop in the Town Hall, your local library or community hub.

Before you go...

Bolton thanks to Armed Forces heroes

This year's Armed Forces Day was marked with a special event on Victoria Square.

A short service was followed by a family fun day with lots of stalls and free activities such as BWFC Football stadium, Bolton Cadets on display, re-enactments, inflatables and more. Military vehicles and weapons were on display, supported by local 216 Bty Royal Artillery.

Cllr Ryan Bamforth, Bolton Council's Armed Forces Champion, said: "This is an important time to honour our military and show our support for the important job they do."

Bolton Leader heads GM's digital transformation

Cllr Nick Peel has been appointed as Digital City-Region portfolio lead at Greater Manchester Combined Authority.

Under the GMCA structure, all ten council leaders each take on a portfolio position in addition to the role in their own area.

Cllr Peel said: "People, places, and the environment remain at the heart of everything we do.

"Ultimately we want to harness the power of digital to make Bolton, and all of Greater Manchester, a better place for our residents."

Tell us what you think...

We want to hear your views. Please let us know your thoughts on ourbolton@bolton.gov.uk

Meet your councillors...

ASTLEY BRIDGE

Con Hilary Fairclough
01204 336343 or 07814378406
hilary.fairclough@bolton.gov.uk

Lab Kate Taylor
07488282225
kate.taylor3@bolton.gov.uk

Con Dr John Walsh
01204 840188 / 01204 332216
07836363635
john.walsh@bolton.gov.uk

FARNWORTH SOUTH

FKF Maureen Flitcroft
maureen.flitcroft@bolton.gov.uk

Lab Champak Mistry
01204 397522 / 331320
07710027499
champak.mistry@bolton.gov.uk

FKF Paul Sanders
07731 881885
paul.sanders@bolton.gov.uk

HORWICH SOUTH AND BLACKROD

HBFI David Grant
07850184230
david.grant@bolton.gov.uk

HBFI Samantha Williamson
07851081174
samantha.williamson@bolton.gov.uk

HBFI Peter Wright
01204 331210 / 07824528502
peter.wright@bolton.gov.uk

RUMWORTH

Lab Sajid Ali
07931524997
sajid.ali@bolton.gov.uk

Lab Abdul Atcha
07930699542
abdul.atcha@bolton.gov.uk

Lab Amjid Khan
07966164501
amjid.khan3@bolton.gov.uk

BRADSHAW

Con Mudasar Dean
01204 336493
mudasir.dean@bolton.gov.uk

Con James Moller
james.moller@bolton.gov.uk

Con Leslie Webb
01204 492080
les.webb@bolton.gov.uk

GREAT LEVER

Lab Mohammed Ayub
07838 11952
mohammed.ayub@bolton.gov.uk

Lab Karen Hon
07583689920
karen.hon@bolton.gov.uk

Lab Mohammed Iqbal
mohammed.iqbal@bolton.gov.uk

HULTON

Ind Derek Bullock
07824 527267
derek.bullock@bolton.gov.uk

Lab Aalaina Khan
aalaina.khan4@bolton.gov.uk

Lab Shafaqat Shaikh
07773434846
shafaqat.shaikh@bolton.gov.uk

SMITHILLS

Lib Roger Hayes
01204 841008
roger.hayes@bolton.gov.uk

Lib Susan Priest
07534506506
susan.priest@bolton.gov.uk

Lib Garry Veevers
07824 528876
garry.veevers@bolton.gov.uk

BRIGHTMET

Lab Sean Fielding
07942271316
sean.fielding@bolton.gov.uk

Lab Robert Morrisey
robert.morrisey@bolton.gov.uk

Con Adele Warren
07940290975
adele.warren@bolton.gov.uk

HALLIWELL

Lab Rabiya Jiva
rabiya.jiva@bolton.gov.uk
07772489862

Lab Kevin Morris
01204 371202
kevin.morris2@bolton.gov.uk

Lab Safwaan Patel
07470172445
safwaan.patel18@bolton.gov.uk

KEARSLEY

1KR Paul Heslop
07733410231
paul.heslop@bolton.gov.uk

1KR Melanie Livesey
07443472462
melanie.livesey1@bolton.gov.uk

1KR Debbie Newall
07516678130
debbie.newall1@bolton.gov.uk

TONGE WITH THE HAULGH

Lab Martin Donaghy
07795333800
martin.donaghy@bolton.gov.uk

Lab Emily Mort
07972763946
emily.mort@bolton.gov.uk

Lab Nicholas Peel
01204 331094
nicholas.peel@bolton.gov.uk

BROMLEY CROSS

Con Samantha Connor
07824 526356
samantha.connor@bolton.gov.uk

Con Amy Cowen
07534787284
amy.cowen@bolton.gov.uk

Con Nadim Muslim
07557114319
nadim.muslim@bolton.gov.uk

HEATON, LOSTOCK AND CHEW MOOR

Con Martyn Cox
01204 331190
martyn.cox@bolton.gov.uk

Con Anne Galloway
07388857892
anne.galloway@bolton.gov.uk

Con Andrew Morgan
01204 331019
andrew.morgan@bolton.gov.uk

LITTLE LEVER & DARCY LEVER

Lab Liam Barnard
07776845905
liam.barnard@bolton.gov.uk

Con David Meehan
07903140853
david.meehan@bolton.gov.uk

Con Andrea Taylor-Burke
07964834836
andrea.taylor-Burke@bolton.gov.uk

WESTHOUGHTON NORTH AND HUNGER HILL

Con Bernadette Eckersley-Fallon
07824 52724
bernadette.eckersley-fallon@bolton.gov.uk

Lib Arthur Price
07875065792
arthur.price1@bolton.gov.uk

Con Martin Tighe
martin.tighe@bolton.gov.uk

FARNWORTH NORTH

Lab Nadeem Ayub
07743076437
nadeem.ayub@bolton.gov.uk

Lab Susan Haworth
07775007855
susan.haworth@bolton.gov.uk

Lab Hamid Khurram
07961769835
hamid.khurram@bolton.gov.uk

HORWICH NORTH

HBFI Ryan Bamforth
07904571770
ryan.bamforth@bolton.gov.uk

HBFI Victoria Rigby
07300423339
victoria.rigby@bolton.gov.uk

HBFI Craig Rotheram
07775686753
craig.rotheram@bolton.gov.uk

QUEENS PARK AND CENTRAL

Lab Richard Silvester
01204 467914
richard.silvester@bolton.gov.uk

Lab Linda Thomas
01204 332090 / 07879 891129
linda.thomas@bolton.gov.uk

Lab Akhtar Zaman
07980962826
akhtar.zaman@bolton.gov.uk

WESTHOUGHTON SOUTH

Lab David Chadwick
07805066313
david.chadwick@bolton.gov.uk

Lib Neil Maher
07879662459
neil.maher1@bolton.gov.uk

Lib David Wilkinson
01942 819456 / 07733300554
david.wilkinson@bolton.gov.uk