

# Our Bolton

Issue 16 Summer 2024



## Bolton Food & Drink Festival 2024

Your complete guide

### Bolton Town of Culture

A jam-packed summer of events to keep kids busy over the holidays.

### Armed Forces

Bolton proudly supports our veterans

**Bolton Council**



CONNECTING PEOPLE AND PLACES  
IN THE HEART OF BOLTON

# PROUD OFFICIAL SPONSOR OF BOLTON FOOD AND DRINK FESTIVAL

## WE'RE LOCAL BUILDERS CREATING QUALITY, AFFORDABLE HOMES AND VIBRANT COMMUNITIES.

**VISIT OUR  
STAND IN  
VICTORIA  
SQUARE!**

Help shape Bolton's future by voting in our School Sustainability Competition!

We've challenged local primary schools to create model houses from food and drink packaging. The finalist models are on display at our stand.

**Come and cast your vote! The winning primary school receives £5,000 for their School Improvement Plan.**

Follow [@creamsmillbolton](#) for updates. Share your festival experiences with [#WatsonBolton](#)



### • EXCITING NEW DEVELOPMENTS •



**Watson Homes is proud to be driving two transformative projects in Bolton: Church Wharf and Creams Mill.**

These developments will revitalise historic sites, offering high-quality homes and creating places for communities to thrive in.

**BUILDING BETTER NEIGHBOURHOODS, ONE HOME AT A TIME**  
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# Welcome



**Welcome to the Summer edition of Our Bolton, which is packed full of information about this year's Food and Drink Festival and our many other outstanding events.**

The Summer months often inspire positivity and optimism, and you will find plenty of reasons for both in this magazine.

Anyone visiting our town and district centres recently will have seen that our regeneration programme continues to gain momentum.

Projects like the Market Food Hall, Farnworth Green and Deansgate Gardens are either finished or nearing completion.

Meanwhile, initiatives like the "Focus on Farnworth" 10-year plan, and Andy Burnham's new Mayoral Development Corporation for Bolton, are clear evidence of growing confidence in the transformation of our borough.

But what might be less obvious is how events like the Bolton Food and Drink Festival are also contributing to this physical and economic regeneration.

One of Bolton's great strengths is our Visitor Economy, the great many activities, events and opportunities which attract people to come to our area and spend money.

When we are lucky enough to live somewhere like Bolton, it can be easy to overlook the amazing things we have on our doorstep.

But our award-winning museum, stunning countryside, record-breaking festivals and major cultural institutions are something we should all be proud of.

It also means we really can punch above our weight when it comes to welcoming visitors.

Earlier this year, we invited local business owners to the town hall to discuss how we can build on these strengths and put the Visitor Economy at the forefront of our plans for the future.

Recently, we received a further boost after being named the Greater Manchester Town of Culture for 2024, in

recognition of our unrivalled contributions to theatre, television and art.

The dedicated performance space in the newly opened Elizabeth Park is a great example of this council's commitment to culture - ensuring new developments include a space where anyone, regardless of their background, can experience culture and feel free to express themselves.

This kind of investment will help make our borough even more vibrant, and in turn, inspire more people to see Bolton as the ideal place to live, work and visit.

Being Greater Manchester Town of Culture for 2024/25 will allow us to show exactly that, with a wide range of activities, events and projects organised by both the council and community groups.

I look forward to a memorable Summer ahead and celebrating the year with you all.

**Nick Peel,  
Bolton Council Leader**

# What's inside

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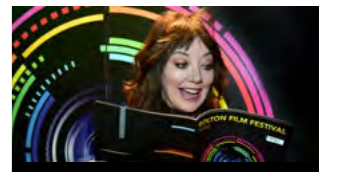


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# Bolton Food & Drink Festival 2024

FRI 23<sup>rd</sup> TO MON 26<sup>th</sup> AUGUST

## Get your tickets today!

 **Celebrity and regional chef demos**

 **Interactive comedy dining**

 **Free children's activities**

 **Street entertainment**

 **Over 200 stalls**

 **Live music stages**

 **Festival garden**

Thank you to all of our fantastic sponsors who make the festival possible! Special thanks to our Headline Sponsors Watson Homes.




HEADLINE SPONSOR




 Explore over 200 stalls, taste delicious foods from around the world and get creative with some of the best arts and crafts stalls in town!



 Get your tickets to see Mr Food and Drink, James Martin and fan-favourite Ainsley Harriott cook up a storm in the festival kitchen. You can also learn some tricks at one of our free regional chef demos. We've got big names like Michael Caines and Baking Nana joining us throughout the weekend.

 Tickets are also available for two interactive nights of comedy, including the returning Faulty Towers Dining Experience and the brand-new murder mystery, Sheer Luck Holmes. Both nights include a delicious three-course meal. Alternatively, you can enjoy a delicious and delightful Prosecco Picnic Platter with The Mayor of Bolton and a variety of special guests!



 We've got a host of amazing talented home-grown musicians taking over our Main Stage and Acoustic Stage for the four days.

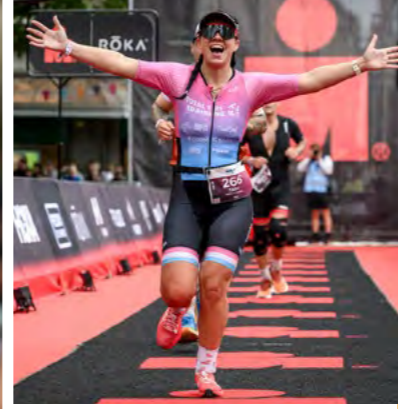


 Bolton Central Library and Museum in partnership with The Octagon will be running a host of FREE events and children's activities, including storytelling, live theatre performances such as the irresistible Scrumptious Show, our famous family disco, bubbles, arts and crafts and lots more! For a more relaxed experience we have the beautiful Festival Garden where you can get involved with child friendly hand-on activities including learning how to grow your very own produce! We will also be offering special cooking classes for young aspiring chefs, available for just £5!



 For more information or to book tickets visit our website





# Record breakers

A record-breaking IRONMAN 70.3 Bolton weekend brought thousands of athletes and spectators to the town at the end of June.

Over eight thousand people took part in three exciting events and thousands more were on hand to cheer them on enthusiastically.

On Friday 28 June, Night Run got the party started as runners of all ages and abilities filled the streets of the town centre.

The next day, Bolton's IRONKIDS was the biggest ever held anywhere in the world, with nearly 6,000 children and young people making it a day to remember.

On Sunday, over 2,000 amazing IRONMAN 70.3 athletes swam, cycled and ran their way through a staggering 70.3 miles.

A significant uptick in female sign-ups across the weekend saw a 40 per cent increase for Sunday's IRONMAN 70.3 alone, with women accounting for nearly a fifth of places.



# Bolton TOWN OF CULTURE

After winning Greater Manchester's Town of Culture 2024, Bolton launched its year-long run of celebratory events at the famous Octagon Theatre in May earlier this year, with standout performances from the cast of 'Little Shop of Horrors'.

The Town of Culture team also put on the Bolton Arts Trail in June, connecting local galleries, artists, and educational establishments to showcase their creative projects. The team is also organising a jam-packed summer of events as part of the award to keep kids busy over the holidays.

## Upcoming events:

**Children's Creative Activities**  
Catch the last week of the summer holidays Town of Culture children's events!

**Tues 27 Aug Sculpt with Clay**  
Brightmet Library, BL2 6NT 11am.  
Book via Eventbrite  
High Street Library, BL3 6SZ 2pm.  
Book via Eventbrite  
Learn the skills of sculpting with clay.

**Wed 28 Aug Jewellery Making**  
Bolton Central library, BL1 1SE  
10:30am – 12pm and 1:30pm – 3pm Drop in  
Create a bracelet for you or a friend!

**Thurs 29 Aug Pop-up Theatre in the Park**  
Elizabeth Park, Ashburner St, BL3 5DJ 11:30am, 1pm, 4pm Drop in

**Space Chickens**  
Earth's unlikely hero: an adventurous chicken who is blasted into space to solve all of our planet's problems. With stunning puppetry and live original banjo synth music, join this intergalactic adventure from the hen house to the milky way.

**Puppet crafts** 2-3pm Drop in

**Fri 30 Aug Pop-up Theatre in the Park**  
Elizabeth Park, Ashburner St, BL3 5DJ 11:30am, 1pm, 4pm Drop in

**Space Chickens**  
Earth's unlikely hero: an adventurous chicken who is blasted into space to solve all of our planet's problems. With stunning puppetry and live original banjo synth music, join this intergalactic adventure from the hen house to the milky way.

**Puppet crafts** 2-3pm Drop in  
**Jewellery Making**  
Farnworth Library, BL4 7PG  
10:30am – 12pm Drop in  
Little Lever Library, BL3 1HH  
1:30pm – 3pm Drop in  
Create a bracelet for you or a friend!

**Sculpt with Clay**  
Bolton Central Library, BL1 1SE  
11am and 2pm. Book via Eventbrite  
Learn the skills of sculpting with clay.

**Sat 31 Aug Sculptural Musical Instruments**  
Bromley Cross Library, BL7 9JU  
10:30am – 12pm Drop in  
Harwood Library, BL2 3HN  
1:30pm – 3pm Drop in  
Create your own instrument from things you would usually throw away!



## Put Big Light On Festival 2024, Thurs 5 to Sun 8 December

After the huge success of the first Put Big Light On festival in Bolton, we're excited to reveal that the popular light art trail will be returning once again this year. A fantastic display of light art installations from around the world lit up the town. This year, one of the mesmerising light installations will be Gaia, created by UK artist, Luke Jerram, who brought the Museum of the Moon to last year's festival. Measuring six metres in diameter, Gaia features 120dpi detailed NASA imagery of the Earth's surface (compiled from the Visible Earth series). The artwork provides the opportunity to see our planet on this scale, floating in three-dimensions.

For more updates on this event:

PutBigLightOnFestival



Stay social: Bolton Town of Culture @BoltonTownOfCulture

Want to get involved with Bolton Town of Culture?  
Contact [CreativeBolton@bolton.gov.uk](mailto:CreativeBolton@bolton.gov.uk)

Bolton TOWN OF CULTURE





# Bolton International Film Festival

Bolton International Film Festival returns for its eight year from Wednesday 2 October – Sunday 6 October. The BAFTA and BIFA accredited short film festival will be screening 300 short films, including many world and national premieres.

Visitors to Bolton's Light Cinema will be given the opportunity to see work from some of the world's most exciting, emerging filmmakers, participate in Q&As, as well as tap into an industry programme from highly respected figures from within the film and television industry.

Previous filmmakers and speakers include Ricky Gervais, Diane Morgan, Joe Lycett, Maxine Peake, Julie Hesmondhalgh and many more.

Supported by Bolton Council, the festival has seen many of its films go

on to win major awards, including the Oscars and BAFTAs.

**Adrian Barber, Festival Director said:**

"There is a common misconception that short films are "arty" or in some way "amateur", but that's not the case anymore.

"You only have to point to Wes Anderson's recent Oscar-winning short film (now on Netflix) to illustrate that audiences' appetite for the short film format is gaining more and more traction.

"With our programme of films at the festival, there is something for everyone - drama, comedy, documentary, animation, horror, sci-fi, family-friendly and even award-winning VR."

There are tickets or festival passes for every budget, and a free pop-up cinema within the Market Place Shopping Centre making the event accessible for all.

Talking about the growing popularity of the event, Adrian said:

**"We have filmmakers joining us from all around the world now. Last year, a couple even flew from Chile to join us!"**

"The festival is recognised as one of the Top 10 short film festivals in the UK and our audience now joins us from across the region and from all across the UK."



BOLTON FILM FESTIVAL

**Tickets and passes will go on sale on Thursday 1 August.**

More details of the event can be found on the festival's website and social media channels:

[www.boltonfilmfestival.com](http://www.boltonfilmfestival.com) BoltonFilmFest BoltonFilmFest

# Bolton Central Library and Museum What's On



## "All About Mummification" Egypt Study Day returns!

**Sat 7 September**

Following the record sellout of the first Egypt Study Day in July, Bolton Museum is hosting another this September.

Learn from expert Egyptologists and take part in practical workshops to get up close to real, ancient Egyptian objects in Bolton's famous collection that boasts the largest Egyptology collection of an LA museum in the UK.

Examine mummification and burial textiles, featuring the work of the University of York's Mummy Research Group. With entertaining lectures and an immersive day planned, bury yourself in all things Egypt and uncover an enriching day.

Book early, as tickets sell fast!  
**Prices: £45 full day, £10 lectures only £5 single lecture**

**To book, visit the Museum shop or call 01204 332211**

**Check website for updates.**



**Halloween half-term! Bolton Central Library and Museum, Sat 26 October to Sun 3 November**

Explore all that is Light and Dark! Bring your little terrors for a fun-themed experience and watch their little faces glow!

**Free No booking**

**Halloween fun at Smithills Hall, Thurs 31 October, 11am to 3pm**

Join us at the Hall for a fang-tastic Halloween-themed craft and a spook-tacular trail. **Suitable for children aged 4+ and families.**

**Free No booking**

## After Dark

**Smithills Hall Halloween Haunted Family Fun Ghost Tours, Thurs 31 October, from 5pm**

Ever wondered if there are haunted happenings at Smithills Hall? Come along to the Hall after dark as we take you on a guided tour filled with spooky stories! You never know, you just might see a ghost or two yourself!

This is a ticket-only event, tickets must be purchased in advance via Eventbrite, available from mid-September. **Not suitable for children in prams/buggies.**



## The Father Christmas experience at Smithills Hall

**Father Christmas returns to Smithills Hall this year!**



All the events will include a gift from Santa, Christmas decoration, Elf Storytime, Festive Trail, and the chance to write a letter to Santa to get a reply via Elf Post!

For our events for children with additional needs and for teen/adult believers, we will have a more chilled out Waiting Room, including bubbles and a sensory space

for those children who may need a quieter atmosphere.

For our Sunday events, we have teamed up with our tearoom Bake and Roast who will provide festive drinks and treats for the children in the Elf Waiting Room.

**Dates will be released in September along with the booking details.**



Imagination

Curiosity

Wonder

Download the Bolton Library and Museum's What's On guide online at [boltonlams.co.uk](http://boltonlams.co.uk) or pick up from the Central Library to discover all the year's events!

BoltonLibraryAndMuseumServices @Bolton\_Library\_Museum @BoltonLMS



# Elizabeth Park open in time for summer

Bolton town centre's first new park in over 120 years has officially opened to the public and boasts a central lawn, broad flower beds, a rain garden, generous seating and a public performance space that will be supported with an exciting programme of events and activities.

Funded by the government's Towns Fund and named in honour of Queen Elizabeth II, the new park is a key piece in the regeneration of this area of the town centre.

**Cllr Richard Silvester, Bolton Council's Executive Member for**

### Climate Change and Environment, said:

"The opening of Elizabeth Park is a landmark occasion for Bolton, the first new greenspace in the town centre in over a hundred years.

"It brings flowers, trees and wildlife into the heart of the town, which are so important for people's sense of wellbeing, and is destined to become a much-loved place for everyone who works, lives, or goes out in the town centre."

**Find the new park opposite Bolton Market on Ashburner Street.**



# Everything from Japanese to Italian

**The new Food Hall at Bolton Market has opened its doors, offering a variety of options for lunchtimes, after-work treats, and weekend dining.**

Cuisines on offer include Japanese, Caribbean, Indian, Italian, as well as gourmet burgers, healthy chicken, sandwiches, freshly cooked kebab dishes, and a sweet drinks and desserts offer.

The new food hall also offers a brand-new bar from The Bolton Gin Company, named Chill - serving a variety of

drinks which are the perfect accompaniment when watching sports on the big screens and live entertainment, or enjoying a tippie in the sun.

**Cllr Akhtar Zaman, Bolton Council's Deputy Leader, said:** "With the new Wellsprings set to open later in the year, as well as Bolton being a popular place to work and study, this new venue will offer more dining choices for lunchtime breaks, as well as being a great addition to the town's weekend hospitality scene, offering live music, entertainment, and sports on screens."



Featuring indoor and outdoor seating, the new town centre hotspot opening times are:

- Tuesday/Thursday, 11am – 5pm
- Friday/Saturday, 11am – 9.30pm
- Sunday, 12 Noon – 6pm



# Exciting future for Bolton's regeneration

Elizabeth Park and Bolton Market Food Hall are just two of the major regeneration projects transforming our borough.

The Wellsprings Innovation Hub will be a new home for business start-ups when it opens later this year.

Meanwhile, the Moor Lane, Deansgate Gardens, St George's Road and Farnworth Green developments are creating vibrant neighbourhoods with much-needed new homes.

Building on this success, three recently announced projects will deliver even more positive change for Bolton:

## A Mayoral Development Corporation for Bolton

In April, the Mayor of Greater Manchester, Andy Burnham announced a new Mayoral Development Corporation (MDC) for Bolton.

Based on the successful model already used in Stockport, the MDC will turbo-charge Bolton's regeneration by boosting investment and creating a 2040 masterplan.

**Andy Burnham said:**

**“The council has already made a great start with new start-up space and residential development coming to the town centre and this is the perfect time for an MDC to bring a much bigger vision for Bolton together.”**

## Farnworth Long Term Plan

Farnworth recently secured £20m from the Long Term Plan for Towns programme, to fund projects over the next ten years.

Earlier this year, residents were asked how the money should be invested, and now a 'Focus on Farnworth Board' has been set up with representation from local residents, businesses and community groups.

The board will meet regularly to develop a plan that addresses local priorities and makes the changes people in Farnworth want to see.

## Wigan-Bolton Growth Corridor

The Wigan-Bolton Growth Corridor is one of six areas across Greater Manchester identified as having real potential for growth and regeneration.

The area between the two towns, known as NorthFold, has been earmarked for sustainable housing development and new business opportunities.

The project will build on the area's existing strengths in transport, logistics and manufacturing and be a base for the emerging health innovation sector.

Watch this space for more updates on the redevelopment of Crompton Place and even more investment in our town and district centres.

For the latest on Bolton's regeneration, visit [investinbolton.com](http://investinbolton.com)



# FOSTER WITH BOLTON COUNCIL.



For our community of over 1,500 foster carers across Greater Manchester, family means being there when you're needed the most, for those who need it most.

**START YOUR FOSTERING JOURNEY TODAY.**

[fosterforgm.com](http://fosterforgm.com)

# Crackdown on illegal vapes

**30,515 illegal vapes have been taken off the streets in the past six months.**

Bolton Council's crackdown on illegal vapes continues thanks to the hard work of the Trading Standards team.

A team of officers - dedicated to tackling illicit products - have in the past six months seized approximately 30,515 vapes from businesses across Bolton.

Typically bought for around £6 per device, and sold for between £10 -13 each, this puts the total retail value at around £350K.

Illegal vapes have been found in a variety of places within premises, with some displayed at point of sale as

well as those more discreetly hidden in locked stockrooms. Just under 4000 illegal vapes were seized from one premises alone.

Businesses raided include convenience stores, off-licences, mobile phone shops, petrol stations and vehicles. The premises are now being further investigated and may be subject to prosecution and possible closure orders.

Most vapes seized have now been sent for recycling.

**Cllr Sue Haworth, Bolton Council's Executive Cabinet Member for Regulatory Services** said:


"Illegal vapes are unregulated and often contain illegal ingredients which can be detrimental to health.

"We continue to look at enforcement options like closure orders that will deliver a long-term solution to combating the problem.

"Tackling the sale of illegal vapes remains a priority for this council."

**Since May 2023**  
**91 warning letters** sent out to traders

**One closure order** (four businesses in process of potential closure)

Anyone with information about the sale of suspected illegal vapes, tobacco or underage sales in Bolton should contact trading standards at [trading.standards@bolton.gov.uk](mailto:trading.standards@bolton.gov.uk) 



**Get involved this summer!**

**#TeamBolton**  
**Holiday Activities & Food #HAF**

The Play & Youth Service offer positive activities for young people aged 4-17 all year across Bolton! Follow us on social media to find out 'What's On' near you!

The Holiday Activities & Food (HAF) programme runs over Easter, Summer and Christmas giving young people a chance to get involved in FREE sessions at a place near you!

All sessions will provide a nutritious meal alongside enriching activities and an opportunity to learn about food!

[www.bolton.gov.uk/HAF](http://www.bolton.gov.uk/HAF)  **TeamBoltonYouth** **Play and Youth Bolton**  Department for Education





**Proud to sponsor the Bolton Food and Drink Festival 2024...**

**Fresh pizza from Stateside Foods reaches our customers 7 days a week from our state of the art factories based in Westhoughton, Bolton. For over 30 years, Stateside Foods has been instrumental in helping to shape today's UK chilled pizza market. We supply a number of the major UK supermarkets with own label products, producing millions of pizzas each year! So whilst you may not have heard our name, you may well have eaten our pizza!**

Find us on Victoria Square 23rd-26th August 2024



**STATESIDE**  
FOODS  
A Freiberger Group Company



**Creating place and opportunity**



[peelland.co.uk](http://peelland.co.uk)

# Lever Gardens Court extra care development opens

**The Mayor of Bolton, Cllr Andrew Morgan officially opened, Lever Gardens Court, the town's new flagship extra care facility earlier in July.**



Commissioned by Bolton Council, Lever Gardens Court is managed by Bolton at Home, providing safe and secure homes for those aged 55 and over who may need some support and care to live on their own.

The 62 modern self-contained apartments support independent living with intercom, emergency alarm with easy access to landscaped gardens and on-site parking.

The £12.5m scheme, which welcomed its first residents in April, is almost now fully occupied.

There's also large communal spaces, plus professional 24-hour support and tailored care services provided by Bolton Cares. In addition to the apartments there are six bungalows that give residents more options including opting out of some of the care services provided.

Lever Gardens Court provides a home within a home that is close to local shops, amenities and healthcare services and bus stops, helping support the tenants health, wellbeing and independence throughout older age.

The new residents have already said how "life-changing" their new homes have been for them, commenting on the friendly staff, fabulous community spirit and ease of making new friends.

**For details on the development and how to apply contact**

**Bolton@Home on 01204 328000**

**Q [www.boltonathome.org.uk](http://www.boltonathome.org.uk)**

# Smokefree Bolton

**Smokefree Bolton offer smokers free tools and support to quit and improve their health overnight.**

This is a great opportunity for smokers, who on average will lose 10 years of their life if they continue to smoke.

This is bad news for the health of local people as smoking causes 1 in 4 cancer deaths in the UK, as well as being a big risk for strokes and heart attacks.

The great news is that almost half of smokers say they want to quit, and after 28 smokefree days, they are five times more likely to quit for good.

Those making a quit attempt with Smokefree Bolton can get 12 weeks free personalised support, free vapes and nicotine replacement products, behavioural support, mobile apps and pharmacist advice.

Also, smokers receiving specialist help are three times more likely to succeed in quitting, which is not only good for the smoker's health but also means they are likely to be better off with most spending £2,000 on buying cigarettes every year.

There's also support from national organisations, local targeted help in the community, digital apps, national companies such as Allen Carr's Easyway Stop Smoking Method, and most effectively, via a combination of behaviour support and nicotine replacement therapies.

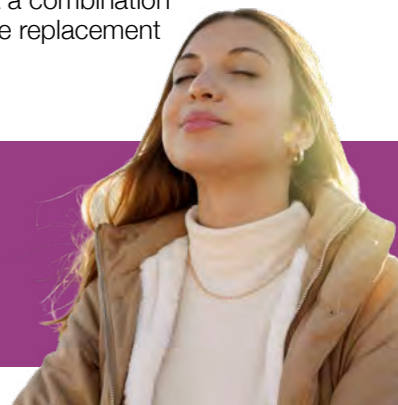
On average, more people in Bolton smoke than they do in other parts of the country, with about 42,000 who light up every day.

Quit smoking with Smokefree Bolton

**[www.bolton.gov.uk/healthy-living/stop-smoking](http://www.bolton.gov.uk/healthy-living/stop-smoking)**

For general advice for a new positive, active and healthy you, then visit

**[letskeepboltonmoving.co.uk](http://letskeepboltonmoving.co.uk)**







# Mayor of Bolton revives ceremonial cadet role

**The Mayor of Bolton, Cllr Andy Morgan, has revived a proud local tradition by appointing the first Mayor's Cadet in more than 20 years.**

Marine Cadet Corporal Murphy Hall has taken on the ceremonial position to assist the Mayor during formal civic events, ceremonies, and public functions.

Appointed for one year, the role of Mayor's Cadet is filled by a young member of Bolton's Army Cadet Force, Air Training Corps or Sea Cadets Corps.

Corporal Hall's first duty was to attend the D-Day 80th anniversary commemoration service at Bolton Parish Church where he lit the official beacon at the top of the church tower.

The Mayor of Bolton said: "I was aware that this had not been done for over 20 years, and as a veteran, I decided that I would like to reintroduce this honorary position for my Mayoral Year.

"I know Murphy will be a great asset to the Mayoral Party and an absolute credit to our town and borough."

Marine Corporal Murphy Hall said: "To be the Mayor's Cadet is an honour and I will endeavour to live up to expectations and give my all to this prestigious role.

"I believe I am the first Mayor's Cadet in a very long time in Bolton, so I hope to set a high standard as a precedent for future cadets who will follow me being trusted with this fantastic opportunity."



## Bolton goes extra mile for Armed Forces Day 2024



**Hundreds of cadets, veterans and volunteers came together at Bolton Parish Church for Armed Forces Day 2024.**

They were joined by the Mayor of Bolton to witness Army veteran Jim Bob and others row and cycle the equivalent miles from Portsmouth to the beaches of Normandy.

Bolton Council is proud to support Armed Forces Week, which encourages people to show their appreciation for those in the UK's military community, from serving personnel to service families, veterans, and cadets.



# Supporting veterans: Bolton goes for gold

Last year, Bolton Council earned the Silver Award under the Ministry of Defence Employer Recognition Scheme.

The scheme highlights those employers who go above and beyond to support the wider Armed Forces community.

It rewards employers who support reservists, service leavers and their families, cadets, and cadet volunteers. Off the back of this, the council now hopes to achieve the Gold Award in 2025.

To help us achieve this, we are developing our support to other organisations in Bolton who want to do more for veterans.

This includes helping local employers find out more about the recognition scheme, The Armed Forces Covenant and the many benefits to being Armed-Forces-friendly.

The covenant is a promise from the nation that those who serve or have served in the Armed Forces, and their families, will be treated fairly.

It is a national initiative involving government, businesses, local authorities, charities, and the public.

Business owners, employers and other organisations can email [HRCorporate@bolton.gov.uk](mailto:HRCorporate@bolton.gov.uk) to find out more.

## Why Bolton Council backs veterans and how we can help



**We are proud to count former military personnel, and members of the wider armed forces community, amongst our employees.**

We believe the leadership and technical skills they develop during their service, such as problem-solving and working under pressure, is the ideal preparation for the workplace.

Our employment policies and procedures support and advocate the employment of veterans and reservists, whilst also supporting their families.

We offer work experience and training opportunities to cadets, and we are working to increase the number of Cadet Force Adult Volunteers and reservists in our workforce.



# We're making some changes to your bin collections

In July, we made some changes to bin collections and you may now have a new collection day.

You should now have received your new bin calendar through your door. This lists all collections up to December 2024 and includes some reminders on what to put in each bin.

Bin collection days are also listed on the council website: [www.bolton.gov.uk/nextbincollection](http://www.bolton.gov.uk/nextbincollection).

### Why have the changes been made?

Routes have been revised to increase reliability, enable more efficient waste collection and improve customer service. In addition to the change of bin day, paper and cardboard (beige) bin collections have changed from every two weeks to every four weeks.

Over the years, a significant reduction in the purchase of newspapers, magazines and paper in general has meant waste collection crews have found many beige bins are not full on collection day.

Collecting less than full bins doesn't deliver maximum efficiencies for the service, particularly when considering the cost of operating a bin wagon.

### New waste vehicles rolling into town

In addition to the revised routes, nine new bin wagons will be in use, with a further ten vehicles arriving in the

coming weeks. The new vehicles will replace the existing fleet as part of an ongoing fleet replacement project. Fitted with more energy-efficient engines, the new vehicles will use less fuel per mile travelled and produce less CO2 emissions.

**Bolton Council's Executive Cabinet Member for Climate Change and Environment, Cllr Richard Silvester** said:

"Having not seen any changes since 2010, our waste collection service has needed an overhaul for quite some time. With thousands of additional properties in some areas, routes needed to be revised.

"By reconfiguring our routes, all residents will benefit from an improved service. In addition, the new vehicles will further improve efficiency and reduce our carbon footprint. As new vehicles are received, we are systematically decommissioning our older, unreliable vehicles.

"I know the revised collections of paper and cardboard have caused some concern amongst residents, but I want to assure everyone that these measures have been taken to provide a more efficient and reliable service.

"Flattening cardboard boxes is an easy way to free up space in your beige bin and flattened cardboard can also be left at the side of the beige bin on collection days."

For more information about bin collections and recycling, including some FAQs around the changes, visit [www.bolton.gov.uk/bincollections](http://www.bolton.gov.uk/bincollections)



# Feel the benefit

## of impartial energy advice

Feel the benefit of a warmer home, save money on your energy bills and help tackle climate change.

You can now get personalised advice to understand what energy efficiency improvements would benefit your home. You can also find out if you qualify for free or discounted upgrades.

Improvements like better insulation, modern windows and more efficient heating mean your home could be warmer, healthier and cheaper to run. And reducing the amount of energy our homes use also helps tackle climate change.

With all these benefits of a warmer, more efficient home, advice on how to improve your house is a win all round.

The Feel the Benefit scheme from Greater Manchester Combined Authority and its partners is a good place to start.



Check if you qualify for funding. Visit: [gmca.retrofitportal.org.uk/home](http://gmca.retrofitportal.org.uk/home)



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New three bedroom townhouses for sale in the heart of Bolton town centre  
Low energy, sustainable homes  
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# Need help with the Cost of living?

## Bolton is helping locals cope better with rising cost of living.

Many people do not claim all they are entitled to, yet support is also available to those not on benefits or previously in receipt of support. Find out more [www.bolton.gov.uk/costliving/debt-money-benefits](http://www.bolton.gov.uk/costliving/debt-money-benefits)

Get support with:

- Emergency support accessing food, gas and electricity, travel and other essentials like cookers, fridges and washing machines
- Warm Spaces, open for locals to escape cold weather and get advice
- Local events offering personal support at schools and other community venues

Government funding is not guaranteed so Bolton Council and its partners are developing an anti-poverty strategy to continue delivering essential support in the future.

### Electricity North West Extra Care Register

During a power cut, Electricity North West's free register provides extra support to keep you safe and comfortable until the power's back on.

Check eligibility and register now at [www.enwl.co.uk/extracare](http://www.enwl.co.uk/extracare) or call 01204 331968

## Find out about where you can get help on...

- Debt, money and benefits
- Housing support
- Food, energy and safety
- Jobs and skills
- Health and wellbeing
- Support for businesses

[www.bolton.gov.uk/cost-living](http://www.bolton.gov.uk/cost-living) 



SCAN ME



# 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](http://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](http://www.bolton.gov.uk/council-tax)  
01204 331599

### Housing and finding a home

To register for council-related accommodation, find information and advice on sheltered accommodation, or for adapting your home and preventing homelessness, go to [www.bolton.gov.uk/housing-options-advice](http://www.bolton.gov.uk/housing-options-advice)  
01204 335811 Homes for Bolton  
01204 335900 Housing Advice

### Benefits

For council tax support, housing benefits, applying for food parcels and furniture, or for help with gas and electric, go to [www.bolton.gov.uk/benefits](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://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...

### New powers to tackle abandoned trolleys

Abandoned shopping trolleys will now be removed by the council in a bid to tackle the blight of flytipping.

Between February and March this year, Bolton Council ran a public consultation on how it should tackle the issue. More than half of the respondents agreed that Bolton Council should adopt national legislation.

From now on, a storage cost of £5 per day per trolley will apply to retailers, and a charge of £50 for the initial collection by the council will also be payable. Retailers can request the return of each trolley collected by the council for which a charge of £100 per trolley will apply. Retailers will have six weeks to collect their trolleys before they are disposed of, at the retailers' expense. Many shops are already signed up to a voluntary collection schemes.

### Tributes to Sir Howard Bernstein

Bolton Council's Chief Executive, Sue Johnson, has paid tribute to Sir Howard Bernstein who passed away in June.

He served as Chief Executive of Manchester City Council for 19 years and played a central role in the devolution of powers to Greater Manchester.

Sue Johnson said: "He was a remarkable figurehead for the region and leaves a lasting legacy for both Manchester and Bolton."

## Tell us what you think...

We want to hear your views. Please let us know your thoughts on [ourbolton@bolton.gov.uk](mailto:ourbolton@bolton.gov.uk)

# Meet your councillors...

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