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# ACORN

## COMMUNITY NEWS

April 2022 Edition

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page 16 and 17

## Your choice at this election

### A Conservative-run Council

- ✓ Freeze Council Tax - We will freeze council tax in our first budget.
- ✓ Invest in our townships - We will ensure that the outer townships benefit from the governments leveling up agenda.
- ✓ Prosecute - We will prosecute those who fly-tip.
- ✓ Invest in Mental health services - We will invest £100,000 in local mental health services to help fight this epidemic.
- ✓ Invest in our green spaces - We will invest £250,000 into our green spaces and parks.
- ✓ Only Councillors will make decisions - Conservative councillors will always make the decisions not unelected party members.

### A Labour-run Council

- ✗ Increase Council Tax - Labour increased the Council Tax this year.
- ✗ Sell our green spaces - Labour have consistently sold or given away our green spaces.
- ✗ Forget our townships - Labour have ignored the outer townships. WE WILL NOT
- ✗ Watched fly-tipping increase - Labour continue to fail to prosecute those who fly-tip.
- ✗ Un-elected members - Unelected Labour party members pressure Labour councillors to make decisions.

A vote for  
**Conservatives**  
will send Labour  
packing!

**Vote**  **Conservatives**

Powered by Peter Brindle on behalf of all Hyndburn Conservative Association C/O MNCBUI c/29 Of the Lane, Great Harwood, BB6 7PG







# HAPPY Easter

to all our readers

## Acorn Community News

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## Covid memorial service at Oswaldtwistle

Holy Trinity Church, Oswaldtwistle, hosted a Covid Memorial Service on Sunday 20th March 2022. The date was chosen because it was the Sunday before the second anniversary of the first lockdown (23rd March 2020).

The service was for all who had lost a loved one during the pandemic and were not able to have the funeral service that they would have wished, whether they had died from Covid or from some other cause. The invitation was extended to families in Oswaldtwistle and surrounding area, irrespective of where their loved one's service had been held.

The churchwardens read out the names of nearly 40 people who had died and members of the bereaved families lit candles in their memory.

The service was conducted by Bishop John Fenwick, assisted by Mr Garry Hammond, the Reader. It was attended by local MP Sara Britcliff (who grew up at Holy Trinity) and by representatives of the police, NHS and other key workers.

The collection was divided between victims of the invasion of Ukraine and the local church.

Tea, coffee and sherry were served to the congregation afterwards.



## USEFUL NUMBERS

|                                  |               |
|----------------------------------|---------------|
| Accrington Victoria Hospital     | 01254 263555  |
| Royal Blackburn Hospital         | 01254 263555  |
| Urgent Care                      | 111           |
| Citizen Advice Bureau            | 0808 2787 975 |
| Care Direct                      | 0845 053 0009 |
| Noisy Neighbours                 | 01254 353447  |
| Age UK                           | 0808 800 6565 |
| Careline                         | 02085 14 1177 |
| Samaritans                       | 03444 889 622 |
| Crimestoppers                    | 0800 555 111  |
| Police                           | 101           |
| Electricity Emergency            | 0800 195 4141 |
| Gas Emergency                    | 0800 111 999  |
| United Utilities (Water)         | 03456 723723  |
| Hyndburn Borough Council (Emerg) | 0800 587 5273 |
| Hyndburn Dog Warden              | 01254 388111  |
| Homewise                         | 01254 232249  |

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## Charity queen still raising money for good causes

Sue Johnson, who is landlady at The Peel Park Hotel in Accrington, has long been known as a charity champion and has an MBE to prove it. Sue often offers her pub to host charity events. Her latest event involved Accy Rockers, a renowned group who recreate the '60s vibe wherever they go. She told me: *"The Accy Rockers have, for many, many years, given their services free of charge, for any event I have hosted over the years."*

*"They are an amazing bunch of people."*

The charity Sue was championing on this occasion was East Lancs. Hospice and the event was in honour of the memory of Joyce Montgomery who was a volunteer there.

This was planned two years ago, but like many other events had to be put on the back burner because of Covid. It had been organised alongside Joyce's husband Alec, who was a regular of the pub, but sadly, by the time it was able to go ahead, Alec had also passed away. Sue said:

*"I decided because I had promised Alec, I couldn't let it go, so I needed to do something in memory of both of them."*

At the end of the event, £800 was raised for the Hospice. Sue has been a wonderful ambassador for charities over the years and has probably helped to raise very nearly a million pounds in that time. She has also recently completed 50 years in the licensing trade and is a truly caring and compassionate person. We, at Acorn News, wish her good health and hope that she continues her wonderful work for a long time to come.

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For more news items



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Please visit our website at [www.acornnews.co.uk](http://www.acornnews.co.uk) for more news items and more in depth coverage of some of the items in the magazine. If you have any stories you think worthy of inclusion or news items you want us to know about first, please contact Peter Jones at [editorial@acornnews.co.uk](mailto:editorial@acornnews.co.uk)

We will read each submission and publish or follow up with an interview, if we deem it warrants inclusion.

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## Easter at the Civic - April 22

### Rapunzel

Sat 9th April 2pm £10 per ticket (family ticket £34)

The wonderful Talegate Theatre are with us for this Easter Panto.

### The Amazing Thing

Mon 11th April 1.30pm

£8.50 per ticket (family ticket £30)

A truly original story told with puppets, acting and live music.

### Pirates Party

Tues 12th April 1pm £7

Come on m'hearties for a fun afternoon with our pirate party hosts.



Wed 13th April

1.30pm £7 per child

Join us to create at least two different types of slime.

### Easter Crafts

Thurs 14th April 1.30pm £5 per child

Create Easter baskets and bonnets.

### Something for the grown ups

### Bootleg Blondie

Fri 16th April 7.30pm



Civic Arts Centre, 155 Union Road, Oswaldtwistle Lancashire BB5 3HZ 01254 398319 [www.civicartscentre.co.uk](http://www.civicartscentre.co.uk)  
Book for any of these events by ringing 0333 666 3366 or online at [www.ticketsource.co.uk/civicartscentre](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/civicartscentre)





## Nominate your favourite Hyndburn businesses for an award this year!

Hyndburn Business Awards 2022 is open for nominations.

**Nominate your favourite businesses at <https://hyndburnbusinessawards.co.uk/nominate> and tell us why you love them**

Whether it's shops, cafes, pubs, hairdressers, beauty or wellbeing practitioners, community organisations, tradesmen, business services, or any other businesses or organisations, help us celebrate them this year.

We have 16 different awards to enter, including a new Family Business Award to celebrate family owned and run businesses across Hyndburn, and Apprentice of the Year to recognise and reward hard-working local apprentices. These join established awards such as Independent Retailer, Sole Trader, Customer Friendly Business and many more.

When you've nominated a business, they will be invited to enter. There's no need to re-nominate businesses, or to vote, as the awards will be judged by an independent panel.

Shortlisted finalists will be announced on 12 May, each will get a free ticket to the black-tie 2022 Awards Ceremony, taking place on Thursday 16 June at The Dunkenhagh Hotel. There will be a three course meal and coffee, a fizz reception kindly sponsored by the hotel, entertainment from BGT finalist and magician Jasper Cherry, and more than a touch of glitz and glamour too. We can't wait to celebrate with everyone!

In the meantime, we'd love to have your company on social media. We'll be shouting out every nominated business on Facebook so do follow us at @hyndburnbusinessawards to see who's been nominated.

Thanks for helping us celebrate our fantastic Hyndburn businesses!



## Activities announced include a Beacon Trail across seven parks

Hyndburn Borough Council have been busy planning ahead for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee celebrations this June and some of the events and activities taking place have now been announced.

A highlight of the Jubilee celebrations will be a free hop-on hop-off bus service visiting seven of Hyndburn's parks on various dates, helping people to take part in the interactive 'Beacon Trail'.

Cllr Miles Parkinson OBE, Leader of Hyndburn Borough Council said:

***"I am particularly pleased that events for the Platinum Jubilee Celebrations will extend across Hyndburn and not only are we bringing the Jubilee to people's doorstep, we are also helping families explore more places in our borough too!"***

***"There are still a few other events and activities we are awaiting to confirm so this list is going to get even longer closer to the time. I would encourage everyone to put the dates in their diaries and let their friends and family know."***

People are also invited to host their own street parties and the Council will support these with guidance and advice. A streamlined process for applying to organise a street party has been set up and residents who are interested are encouraged to get in touch asap, to make sure their application is submitted before the deadline of 20 April.

Applications for members of the community to host their own Street Parties will remain open until six weeks before the event, people are encouraged to apply as soon as possible.

To stay up to date with all the Jubilee activity planned, or to apply to host your own street party you can visit the Hyndburn Council dedicated Platinum Jubilee webpage here:

**[www.hyndburnbc.gov.uk/platinumjubilee](http://www.hyndburnbc.gov.uk/platinumjubilee)**



## Team awarded 'highly commended' certificate from NABMA

Following over 30,000 votes cast online, the National Association of British Markets (NABMA) has recognised Accrington with a special commendation. The difficult judging of the 2022 NABMA Great Market Awards led to a select few being singled out for recognition alongside the category winners.

Accrington Market was a recipient of one of the 'highly commended' certificates, which were explained by NABMA chief executive David Preston:

***"These are presented to markets that play outstanding roles in their local communities and have demonstrated innovation, commitment and gone that extra mile to deliver a quality markets service."***

Hyndburn Borough Council leader, Miles Parkinson OBE, commented on the recognition, saying: ***"This is wonderful news and comes after a challenging time for our Victorian Market Hall. The certificate will be proudly displayed, and we'll continue to improve and celebrate everything our market has to offer."***

***"It's important our community comes together to support the traders, new and old - and this commendation highlights just how much we do have available for people to enjoy."***

This was echoed by deputy leader Cllr. Paul Cox, who praised traders and staff, saying: ***"This certificate is testament to the hard work from traders who always offer service with a smile, the market team who go above and beyond and the residents who choose to shop in our wonderful Market Hall. I'm pleased the efforts are being recognised nationally, well done to everyone involved."***





*Chatsworth*

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## Mayors viewpoint: Councillor Kath Pratt

Firstly, I would like to thank everyone who attended the Mayor's ball last week and a special thank you goes to all those who helped to organise it. The event was a huge success with thousands being raised for charities in urgent need and it was wonderful to see so many people from across our Hyndburn community enjoying themselves in the magnificent Town Hall Ballroom. Being Mayor of Hyndburn has been an honour, throughout the year I have had the privilege of being invited to community events and activities across the towns and met with hundreds of people who are helping our borough every day.

It has been a very difficult couple of years for Hyndburn and I am pleased to say that the strength of our community has shone through at all times. We have worked together to tackle a global pandemic, helped people displaced from Afghanistan during the war and now we are sending aid to those suffering in Ukraine.

We also have many things to look forward to that we can enjoy together. I am especially looking forward to the HRH The Queen's Platinum Jubilee Celebrations this June where our town will be alive with street parties and events will include a free bus, taking people to parks for a special beacon trail.

Please continue to look after each other, covid restrictions may have now eased but we are still being urged to act cautiously by staying at home if we feel unwell and encouraged to open windows when meeting others indoors.

To all of Hyndburn, I wish you happiness and health for the year ahead, thank you for supporting me in my year as Mayor.



## The 1921 Census for England & Wales Part 2

Do you remember completing the recent census returns and what went through your mind? Did our ancestors have the same thoughts about completing the earlier ones? For the family historian the census returns are an important source of information. The release of the 1921 census is the most recent one and we will have to wait until 2052 before the next one appears.

The 1921 census contains some interesting features. For the first time the individual's age is more accurately given in years and months and divorce is recorded. The name and address of each person's place of work is also recorded. From the information contained on the return you can also tell if any of the family's children are at a different address on the night of the census.

The census was due to be taken on 24 April 1921 but because of industrial action taking place in the country it was delayed until 19 June. It is possible that your ancestor was living in a town that had wakes weeks in June and therefore you may not find them at their home address.

As mentioned in the previous article the transcription, consisting of 2 pages, will cost £3.50 and if you are researching several families the cost can quickly increase. So, make as certain as you possibly can which household you wish to view. Also why not share the cost with cousins or other relatives who may be searching the same family. Although a transcription costs less (£2.50) it's the handwritten images that matter, rather than someone else's interpretation, where mistakes frequently occur.

National Records of Scotland are still planning to release the 1921 Scotland census during 2021 – a precise release date will be announced in the summer.

We hope you have success with this census and remember the Lancashire Family History & Heraldry Society are always here to help. Our research centre is now open again each Thursday and the first Saturday of each month 1pm – 5pm. We also have a group that meets monthly in the Hyndburn area – see our website for details.

**LFHHS Research Centre, 2 Straits, Oswaldtwistle BB5 3LU**  
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Invest in Mental Health  
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**Peter Edwards**



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**Michael Miller**



Springhill  
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St Oswald's  
**Marlene Haworth**



St Oswald's  
**Zak Khan**





## A Big Welcome awaits visitors to Great Harwood

*Great Harwood Civic Society*  
Formed 1968



All four entrances to Great Harwood are currently welcoming visitors with magnificent displays of Spring flowers – first with multi-coloured crocuses followed by hosts of golden daffodils. All these bulbs have been planted over the years by the local Prospects Panel, resident associations and other voluntary groups.

This welcome will continue and will come to a head on Sunday, June 5th, when the town's Civic Society hosts its Charter Fair which has been scheduled to be part of the celebrations for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee - similar to its celebrations for her Diamond Jubilee in 2012. Queen Street will be closed to traffic and fairground rides, bands and street artists have been lined up to provide the entertainment on the day. Everyone, young and old alike, is encouraged to come along and enjoy the occasion.

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Eliza

Great Harwood Crier  
Rawden

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# Don't miss this wonderful event!

The Loyal Company of Town Criers is a country-wide organisation of Criers who can be heard at hundreds of venues, including Summer Fetes, parades, open days, official events and so on, in fact anywhere where a bit of colour and ceremony is required.

They also come together as often as possible to compete for fun between themselves and 14th May is one of those occasions. It is in fact the annual competition to find this year's British Champion. And it's here in NE Lancashire!

Why not come along and marvel at their talents? We'd love to see you.

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**i**



# Acorn Top Garden Tips

## Gardening Tips for April

- \* Heavy rains encourage slug problems. Check for slugs during rainy periods and hand pick the pests.
- \* For hanging baskets in cool, shady locations, use tuberous begonias, ferns, impatiens or fibrous rooted begonias in combination with trailing plants, such as English ivy.
- \* Remove old flower heads from annual bedding plants to keep them blooming.
- \* Plant annual flowers in tubs or large containers for the porch or terrace. Make sure there are holes in the container's bottom to provide good drainage.
- \* Remove foliage from spring bulbs after it turns yellow and begins to dry. Set out bedding plants to cover the bare spots using care not to damage the bulbs.
- \* Use bark mulch around young trees to protect them from lawn mower damage.
- \* Mid to late June is an excellent time to take softwood cuttings of shrubs to start new plants. Some shrubs, which can be propagated in this way are spirea, lilac and viburnum.
- \* When you buy nursery stock that is container grown, check the root ball and make sure it is not bound too tightly. A mass of circling roots will stay that way even after it is planted in the ground.

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# On Thursday 5 May, **VOTE**



## OVERTON Wayne Fitzharris

<https://www.facebook.com/Wayne.Hyndburn/>



### for Hyndburn Council

**Dear Friends of Hyndburn,**

ReformUK have 6 candidates standing in this year's local elections. None of us are career politicians, just good people who passionately believe our town could be so much better, if politicians stopped their infighting. 70% of the people in our town, do not vote, because they do not believe anything will change; and nothing will change until you do.

Many of our hard-working candidates have a reputation for getting things done for the community and will use that same energy to help our town. Action speaks louder than words.

#### **Understanding where our town can improve?**

We will listen to you and work in partnership with you, for you. We will be transparent and honest about what the council is doing and why. You need to be kept informed and make sure you have your say on decisions that matter. The other political parties are professional story tellers, delivering false promises. Ask yourself, has our town improved?

The Labour and Conservative councillors are career politicians who worry more about their allowances than getting things done. We want to introduce fixed term limits and recommend parish councils to ensure our district towns have a voice and are listened to. One reason nothing gets done, is because our councillors use delegated powers allowing unelected council officers, some of whom do not live in our town, to make decisions on their behalf.

We need to attract better companies to invest here with more highly skilled jobs and better wages and need to clean up our town by restoring commercial tips and enforcing control orders for landlords who fail to maintain their properties which desecrate our high streets.

Levelling-up funding should target employment growth rather than wasting more money on Accrington Town Centre. Hyndburn should be a place we love to live, and we must be the role models who inspire the next generations to follow in our footsteps.

Finally, we want to look at our relationship with Lancashire County Council who spend £29 Million pounds of our council tax money without scrutiny. #Thinktwice VOTE ReformUK.

**Wayne Fitzharris**

Agent, Candidate And Nominating Officer, Reformuk

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**reformparty.uk**



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*Our* **Future.**

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**On Thursday 5 May, VOTE**



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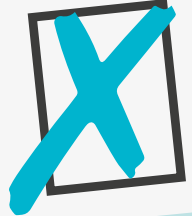
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**for Hyndburn Council**



**ST. OSWALDS, Oswaldtwistle**  
**Paul Brown**

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## Children and Young People Award

Hyndburn Police Cadets - Finalist, **Ynot Aspire** - Winner

This award recognises the outstanding performance of an organisation involving volunteers to ensure children and young people become successful and confident individuals, responsible citizens and effective contributors.

Ynot Aspire having trained and managed over 150 volunteers to support children and young people since 2008, providing mentoring and one to one support making a real and positive impact on the lives of local children and young people.



## Long Service to Volunteering

Carol Rushton - Finalist, **Winner** - Jane Dawson

This award recognises volunteers who have committed over 10 years of service to volunteering.

Jane Dawson has run the VICS group for visually impaired children for over 15 years. Using her own experience to provide her own support to families enabling them to live their best lives organising days out to encourage and support normality in their lives.

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# NATIONAL PET MONTH 2022:

## HELP AND SUPPORT FOR PANDEMIC PET OWNERS

*National Pet Month – April 1 – May 2, 2022*



With studies showing that pandemic pet owners are more likely to face challenges with their pet's behaviour, this year's National Pet Month will focus even more heavily on education and support.

With many of us taking on new pets during lockdown and the rise in first time owners, NPM will have a strong focus on Behaviour – one of the five key welfare needs of our animal companions.

Working with leading vet and pet professionals throughout the month, NPM will share top tips and advice on Companionship, Behaviour, Diet, Health and Environment.

Latest statistics from NOAH (National Office of Animal Health) show that pandemic pet owners are more likely to face challenges with pets due to our changing lifestyles in recent years.

A study showed 27% of owners of dogs or cats acquired during the pandemic are experiencing unwanted pet behaviour, with 31 per cent even concerned they may have to give up their pet.

National Pet Month recognises this worrying trend and is working to change this by encouraging pet owners to reach out to vet and pet professionals for help.

*"With three in 10 owners welcoming a new pet during the pandemic, there has never been a greater need for education and support around responsible pet ownership," says Dawn Howard, NOAH Chief Executive.*

*"With national lockdowns, restrictions on travel and social gatherings, loneliness has been at an all-time high, so it's no surprise people have introduced a new pet. The benefits to our mental and physical health are proven.*

*"However, although recognising a pet is part of the family, some owners are struggling to adapt as we return to the workplace and start more regularly socialising again. In some cases, our pets are finding themselves back in rescue or suffering from separation issues."*

Dawn adds: *"We need this to change. That's why NPM will be tackling important issues like separation anxiety, new owner worries and more during this year's campaign."*

*"We want pet owners to know there is help available and encourage them not to give up on their pet."*

*In many cases, there are simple steps an owner can take to improve a pet's behaviour. Sometimes just one conversation with a vet or pet professional can make a positive difference for you and your animal companion."*

During this year's campaign, NPM will be staging live discussions on the five welfare needs through their social channels and will share a variety of owner and vet stories. #PetPawsitivity #VetPawsitivity

Topics covered will include:

- Tips for Employers on Developing A Bring Your Dog To Work Policy
- How To Keep Our Pets Active and Healthy, including Small Furies
- The Importance Of Vaccinations and Pet Dental Health
- Caring For Older Pets, including canine arthritis management
- Knowing Your Pets' Normal Behaviour and Changes To Look Out For

## We are looking for your favourite Pet picture during National Pet Month

Want to win A £20 Voucher Courtesy of Hapton Animal Feeds and a Free Dog Groom courtesy of Lily's Dog Grooming?

For the person sending in the best picture of their pet

**1st Prize - A Free Dog Groom at Lilly's Dog Grooming, Warner Street, Accrington**

**2nd Prize - a £20 voucher to spend at Hapton Animal Feeds feed and accessories for all pets.**

To enter, simply send your full resolution pictures in jpeg format to:

**[acornnewsinfo@gmail.com](mailto:acornnewsinfo@gmail.com)**

Closing date for entries: May 2nd 2022. We will publish all entries on a special page on our website.

**[www.acornnews.co.uk](http://www.acornnews.co.uk)**





# TOP 10 TIPS

## For Responsible Pet Ownership

1. Think carefully before getting a pet and learn about its special requirements.
2. Ensure your pet is sociable and well trained.
3. Provide a nutritious and well balanced diet.
4. Provide suitable housing and bedding.
5. Clean up after your pet and worm it regularly.
6. Protect against disease. Your vet can provide you with advice.
7. Prevent unwanted litters and neuter your pet when appropriate.
8. Groom your pet regularly.
9. Control your pet and ensure it is properly identified.
10. Take out pet insurance for dogs, cats, rabbits and horses to cover against unexpected veterinary fees and third party liability.

### To get involved in #NationalPetMonth – April 1-May 2, follow NPM social channels and share your pet stories.

- Tell us how your pet has helped you during lockdown
- Start following NPM on social channels and share your pet stories.
- **Facebook** [fb.com/NationalPetMonth](https://fb.com/NationalPetMonth)
- **Twitter** [Twitter.com/NatPetMonthUK](https://twitter.com/NatPetMonthUK)
- **LinkedIn** <https://www.linkedin.com/company/11668521/admin>
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# A GRAND DAY OUT Part 3

## – by Ellison Street



(Photo courtesy of Manchester Locomotive Society)

On Saturday the 16th of May 1953 to celebrate its Centenary, Accrington's largest single employer Howard & Bullough, took all its 7,000 employees to Blackpool for the day. No less than fourteen special trains were hired to depart at intervals between 08:03 and 11:25 in the morning, returning between 20:30 in the evening and 00:10 at night. Employees would be able to board at stations in Helmshore, Haslingden, Church, Rishton, Colne, Nelson, Burnley Bank Top, Rose Grove, Hapton, Huncoat, Padiham, Great Harwood, and Blackburn, as well of course, at Accrington. In the resort itself, meals would be served in 9 restaurants each with two sittings and there would be free entry into the Tower or the Winter Gardens.

Those responsible for the arrangements included Mr T. Langton the Finance Director, Mr W. Smith the Personnel Officer, with his assistant Miss J. Duxbury the Wages Cashier, Mr P. Hindle, and Councillor James Hodson the Welfare Officer, a Liberal who served for several years on the Transport Committee.

"This was the largest influx for a day trip on any one occasion, beating the previous record by 1,500", stated Mr Harry Whitby the Service Manager of British Railways, who was put in charge of all the train arrangements, especially those at Blackpool Central Station.

On returning home a fleet of buses was arranged to meet the trains to ferry the workers onward to their home towns. The total cost of this outing was estimated to be £10,000.

### E. J. Riley, Another Famous Employer – by Ellison Street

The firm of E. J. Riley were world renowned makers of sports equipment based in Accrington. They occupied a factory just off Willows Lane called Willows Mill, where amongst other items they made the finest billiard tables. In April 1906, the occupants were tenants of the Lancashire & Yorkshire Railway Company at a rent of £20 per year. About 1,000 square yards of land to the immediate west of Willows Mill was currently used as sheds in which to season wood and as storage, which was required to be included in Riley's lease. These could now be lost to them unless the L&Y gave them permission to use it! It was resolved to grant Riley's an extension to their lease which included this land, (subject to the approval of the Railway Company) for a term of a further ten years. Some former 6-wheel passenger brake vans, which the L & Y had converted exclusively available for the firm, the weight of a 12' x 6' table with a thick slate bed requiring a more specialised type of conveyance can be seen in this photograph, along with identifying wording. These vans were loaded at a siding adjacent to the Willow Works on Dale Street for export all around the globe.



Here they are seen behind one of the L & Y's 4-4-0 tender locomotives, built at Horwich to Aspinall's design in 1894. Normally used on passenger services, this gives some indication of just how valuable this work was to both companies. It is also seen passing a large hoarding advertising the sports equipment made by the Accrington-based firm. (Copyright not claimed)

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# Five reasons why you need to update your will



## Most people are aware of the need to have a will in place, but the importance of it being reviewed regularly is often overlooked.

Circumstances change and it's surprising how quickly a will can become outdated. So, if you made your will more than three years ago, then it would be wise to have a think about what has changed between then and now.

Clare Rogers, who is a wills specialist at Woodcocks Haworth and Nuttall Solicitors, explores five good reasons why you should consider updating your will.

### 1. Your family circumstances have changed

If your will was made prior to marriage, then it is most likely the case that it is now invalid, as getting married voids any existing will. Conversely, while a divorce won't necessarily invalidate your will, it does prevent your former spouse from benefiting under the will.

Perhaps you are now cohabiting with someone, in which case you will need to think very carefully about whether you want your partner to inherit on your death as this will not automatically be the case. Becoming a parent or grandparent may also mean you want to ensure those children are provided for in your will.

### 2. You have suffered a bereavement

If you have lost a loved one, then it's important to consider how this may impact your will. If they were named as a beneficiary, then you will need to think about whether you want their gift to go to someone else. If they have children of their own, you should bear in mind that it will not always pass automatically to them.

If someone you had chosen to be an executor or guardian for your young children has died, it's vital you appoint a replacement too.

### 3. Your assets have changed

If you have moved house or purchased another property, you should really be seeking advice on how this could impact your will.

Perhaps you have purchased property in joint names, in which case it is very important to speak to your solicitor and make sure you understand what will happen to your share of the property when you die. Or, if your wealth in general has increased or decreased significantly, then you need to consider if changes need to be made to ensure any gifts in your will remain proportionate and relevant to your assets.

### 4. Changes to tax legislation

Tax rules are constantly changing and it's likely new policies have been introduced since you made your last will. Extra inheritance tax relief is now available if you're passing your family home on to your children,

step-children or grandchildren, although it doesn't automatically apply in every case and it's important that your will is worded in such a way to ensure the extra allowance can be claimed.

### 5. To prevent a dispute

In cases where something has happened to make you question whether you want to remove a person from your will, you should think carefully what your reasons are for removing them and keep a record of those reasons alongside your will.

According to the Ministry of Justice, the number of contested will cases continues to rise, so if you're worried that someone might try to contest your will or you want to avoid a family dispute arising, then you should share your concerns with your solicitor who can advise how such a situation can be avoided.

**If you need help preparing or updating a will, our specialist solicitors are here to help. Please contact Clare on 01254 236221 or by email [clare.rogers@whnsolicitors.co.uk](mailto:clare.rogers@whnsolicitors.co.uk)**

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Friday 15th April  
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Saturday 16th April  
**The REWINDERS 80s BAND**  
Sunday 17th April 9pm  
**THE RECYCLED TEENAGERS**  
Friday 22nd April  
**STORMSTEALER**  
Saturday 23rd April  
**BLACK THURSDAY**  
Sunday 24th April 6.30  
**RAPTURE BLONDIE TRIBUTE BAND**  
Friday 29th April  
**AKA PUNK**  
Saturday 30th April  
**GLAMROCKERZ 70s Glam**  
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## Hyndburn Ramblers

### April

Hyndburn Ramblers are an active group of people who enjoy walking and who organise regular walks throughout the year. We walk on Sundays and Wednesdays with walks of various lengths mainly in Hyndburn and the Ribble Valley sometimes into Yorkshire, Bowland and the Lake District. You are very welcome to join us.

Walks in April include Hurst Green, Blackstone edge/Hollingsworth Lake and Silverdale/Arnsdale

Visit our website for more information :- Hyndburn Ramblers  
[www.ramblers.org.uk/hyndburn](http://www.ramblers.org.uk/hyndburn) and find us on facebook.

If you would like any further information please contact our Walk Coordinator Dawn Taylor 01254 388390

Thank you Christine



## Competition winners

### Barbara Kay Shoes - Gift Hamper

Julia Barnes  
of Spinning Mill Close, Oswaldtwistle

### Britannia Inn - Meal for Two

Pauline Taylor  
of Manchester Road, Baxenden

### Gift Hamper - Flowers & Chocolates, Pamper Me Gift Box & Vouchers from Brie Mine, Watch workshop & Oh My Cheesecake

Irene Mawdsley  
of Limewood Close, Accrington

Thank you to all who entered.

## Oswaldtwistle Writers

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**For more details contact: Peter Jones on 07763 822540**

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Whether you have something that you want to read out, or even if you just want to listen, you are very welcome, and you might even enjoy the experience.

Oswaldtwistle Writers started in 2010, so we have been helping writers express themselves for over ten years. Just come and check us out. We don't think you will be disappointed.

## Garth's Memory Corner



Palm Sunday, March 1970



Woodnock Easter Bonnets

**A new monthly feature in Memory of Garth courtesy of the Dawson family**

## Haworth Gallery welcomes art exhibition inspired by accrington

'di'still' is a solo exhibition from contemporary fine artist Iain H. Williams. It will be on display at Haworth Art Gallery in Accrington from 19 March to 22 May.

With free admission and other treasures in the gallery to explore, such as their tiffany glass collection, the new exhibition is predicted to attract visitors from far and wide.

Gillian Berry, Manager and Curator at Haworth Art Gallery is looking forward to welcoming both new and familiar faces to the gallery this spring:

"It is a pleasure to host this new exhibition to Haworth Art Gallery. Not only is it inspired by our local town and by elements from the Tiffany Collection here at the Haworth, the paintings represent a progressive ongoing journey, which is relatable for all. It is a wonderful addition to our other exhibitions here and offers even more variety for guests. Our gallery is free to visit and I would encourage everyone to come along and enjoy these fantastic pieces whilst they are here."

Iain's work is inspired by contemporary artists such as Howard Hodgkin, Cy Twombly, Jenny Bronski and Jason Craighead who, over the years, have helped him to hone a simplistic notation of marks and composition.

The elements in the paintings may not necessarily be recognisable, they are based on both physical and metaphoric subjects inspired by Accrington. From this inspiration Iain makes marks with paint, stencils and more, introducing subtle references from his research and experience of the area.

Iain H. Williams, Artist:

"This collection has been inspired by the urban environment in Accrington and Haworth Art Gallery is the perfect place to host. Wandering around Accrington Town Centre I have photographed markings and surfaces to distill into a body of paintings, whilst also playing with negative space.

"I have used key elements found around the town and the Haworth Collection to inspire these abstract pieces, using a range of materials and methods such as staining, spray paint, charcoal and acrylic."

Iain's pieces tend to be created in two or three stages, with the markings simplistic, immediate and not overworked. This gives the work a sense of 'spontaneity' and immediacy.

**Haworth Art Gallery is open Wednesday to Sunday, 12pm to 4pm.**  
<https://haworthartgallery.org/>

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# Town Centre Investment Plan survey results and next steps

Accrington's Town Centre Investment Plan (TCIP) was released in January 2022 after months of collaborative work between council officers, expert consultants, and community representatives.

Shortly after the TCIP was released people were invited to have their say and complete an informal online survey about the plans. Over 1,000 people took part, with most people being Accrington residents. Hundreds of people also left additional comments on the survey form.

Results from the consultation highlighted people would like Accrington Market Hall, The Victorian Arcade and the Arndale Centre prioritised as locations for investment or transformation. Heritage and environment are also key priorities and important themes include retail, shopping, food and entertainment facilities in the town.

Cllr Miles Parkinson OBE, Leader of Hyndburn Borough Council, said:

***"The TCIP for Accrington was created over many months last year. The results of a formal opinion poll conducted in August 2021, the research, analysis and expert advice from consultants plus the steering from partnership boards including local representatives from all sectors throughout the year is what formed this fantastic 10-15 year plan.***

***"After being presented to elected members in full council then to cabinet for approval residents were invited to have a second say and let us know which parts of the TCIP Hyndburn Council should prioritise for incoming investment or funding opportunities."***

As part of the next steps Hyndburn Borough Council will now work to secure funding and investment for the projects listed in the TCIP. The first of these funding opportunities will be the Government's Levelling Up Fund, alongside this other income streams are being explored such as Heritage Lottery Funding.

Project ideas from the TCIP will be selected over the coming years and be put forward for various opportunities that align the best, giving the highest chance of funding success.

Cllr Miles Parkinson continued:

***"The results from the most recent consultation clearly tell us that people would like us to prioritise Accrington Market Hall, The Victorian Arcade and the Arndale Centre. As our Market Hall is a council-owned and managed facility we are in a fantastic position to take this project idea forward imminently and have already been working closely with architects to create proposed visions and ideas of what the wonderful venue could become.***

***"Our TCIP document means we are ready to bid into the Government's levelling up fund and our Market Hall is an ideal fit for this funding stream. When this bid opportunity opens, we intend to submit a proposal and I am feeling very confident in our future success.***

***"Hyndburn Council Officers have also been discussing options and opportunities with owners of both the Victorian Arcade and the Arndale Centre and aim to work collaboratively with both to ensure future plans meet the vision for the Town Centre."***

Cllr Marlene Haworth, Leader of the Opposition for Hyndburn, said:

***"I am pleased so many residents took part in the consultation and made sure their views were heard. It was fantastic to see that heritage is high on the list of priorities for investment in Accrington, as this is a key driving force of the TCIP. I also feel very strongly about the future of our wonderful Victorian Market Hall being prioritised and it was great to learn that the people of our borough agree."***

Sara Britcliffe, MP for Hyndburn, said:

***"I would like to thank all those who have been involved in creating this vision for the future of Accrington and when the time comes for Hyndburn to submit projects into the Government's levelling up fund, Hyndburn have my full support. I share the views of residents that shopping, retail, food and entertainment is what Accrington needs, whilst supporting and elevating the fantastic independent businesses we already have."***

**The full consultation report can be found online at [www.hyndburnbc.gov.uk/tcip](http://www.hyndburnbc.gov.uk/tcip)**

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## Decarbonisation work underway in Hyndburn

After declaring a climate emergency in 2019 significant progress has been made by Hyndburn Council, who are working towards their pledge for net-zero carbon activities by 2030 as an organisation.

Councillor Kate Walsh, Green Ambassador for Hyndburn, said:

***"A huge amount of progress has been made after a 'One Carbon World Footprint' study recommended we make decarbonisation a priority, particularly combatting the gas usage in the Council's buildings. The action was taken immediately in Hyndburn and an investment of £2.3million was secured from the Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme, which is funded by the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS) and is delivered by Salix Finance, to sit alongside council investment."***

The works being undertaken at Hyndburn Leisure Centre alone are projected to decrease carbon emissions of the building by 75% once complete. The measures and adjustments being put in place aim to reduce the overall carbon footprint of the council and off-set carbon emissions.

Kate continued:

***"I am proud to say that due to hard work and quick action this decarbonisation work is now near completion on priority buildings, predicted to be finalised this summer. Hyndburn Leisure Centre and Scaitcliffe House have both had extensive works undertaken and a full transformation of their energy infrastructure will mean a significant step forward towards the net-zero carbon pledge."***

***"Scaitcliffe House works are almost finished, and the Leisure Centre is well on the way to be completed by the summer. These important ongoing works may cause some disruption for customer and staff over the coming weeks. I would like to say thank you to everyone for their patience and understanding whilst contractors and partners all work as quickly as possible to get this vital transformation completed."***

In addition to the investment from the Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme, £1million of council reserves was also allocated to contribute towards tackling global warming and to enable the urgent changes needed to safeguard the future.

Other climate change initiatives being undertaken by Hyndburn Borough Council include community tree and woodland programmes, progressively switching vehicle fleets to electric and procurement of green tariff electricity contracts going forward.

For information and updates about what Hyndburn Council are doing to combat carbon emissions as an organisation please visit:

<https://www.hyndburnbc.gov.uk/climate-change/>



## Reclaim the Game: Stanley Trust looking for fans who want to gamble less & get fitter

Stanley Trust is proud to be launching a new programme that will help local male fans who are interested in reducing the amount they gamble throughout the week.

Entitled Reclaim the Game, the programme has been designed by experts in gambling harm reduction and will run weekly for 8 weeks from the start of April onwards.

Delivered free of charge at the Stanley Trust's state of the art Stanley Sports Hub by community coaches from the Trust, each week you'll be supported to achieve positive changes to your gambling whilst also having an opportunity to train with coaches, to get fitter and more active.

This programme will be recruiting fans across the remainder of March and is looking for men aged between 18-44, who want to gamble less, get fitter, and join a team to help tackle this.

**For more information about 'Reclaim the Game' and how to enrol onto the programme, please visit: [www.reclaimthegame.co.uk](http://www.reclaimthegame.co.uk)**

## Great Harwood District WI Meeting 9th March 2022

Rose Dummer gave an entertaining and varied talk on "the lots of different things that she has done with her life".

When she was twenty-five years old, she was the first female helicopter pilot in the British forces and became the first lady to go on anti-tank missiles. She talked about training to fly helicopters and flew Chipmunks and Gazelles as well as the Lynx anti-tank missile ones. After ten years she left and had four children. Nowadays there are several women helicopter pilots in the forces.

Later she took up iced cake making and won a magazine's wedding cake of the year award after spending over 300 hours on just making the flowers. Partly encouraged by TV programmes on channels 4 and 5, she made some large "extreme cakes" such as a life size Grenadier Guard, a Freddie Mercury and a suspended Boris Johnson. Becoming famous as "Rosie the cake diva" she created the 6-foot tall, 30 stone cake depicting a nurse hugging Santa which she donated to 1,200 NHS staff for their work on the coronavirus front line. As well as her TV work she is known for appearing at national cake shows.

More recently she was asked by the Charity Khalsa Aid to visit Iraq to help the Yazidis. The charity provides shelter, food and money for workers to do work on constructing the refugee camps etc. and Rose still supports it. Many of the Yazidi women were made into sex slaves by the Isis fighters and are now refugees. Rose is also a supporter of "Help for heroes".

Thinking of International Women's Day, she mentioned women that she had met that impressed her e.g., Rebecca Stevens the first woman to climb Mt. Everest and Helen Pankhurst a women's rights activist. When Helen was asked what Emmeline Pankhurst would think about women today, she said that she would say that women have still not come far enough.

The next meeting of the Women's Institute will be at 2pm on the 13th April at Bank Mill House.

Ray Couldwell will give a talk entitled "Those were the Days" about the fifties and sixties. Visitors and prospective members are welcome.



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