

ISSUE 13 SPRING 2022

REAL ROCHDALE

FREE LOCAL
MAGAZINE



MAN OF ROCHDALE

LIEUTENANT COMMANDER
LAWRENCE SCHOLES

DOODLER

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EDITOR'S WORDS

A warm welcome to Real Rochdale



In this first edition of Real Rochdale for 2022 we have Rochdale-born individuals who have achieved amazing success in their careers. Toni Baker, a very talented musician, became the man behind the music of Phoenix Nights after comedian Peter Kay found his advert in the paper offering piano lessons, whilst photographer Andrew Huszar has captured photos for Lisa Stansfield and at the first-ever game played at the 'new' Wembley Stadium.

This year marks 50 years of Petrus, a Rochdale-based homelessness charity, changing lives. Having achieved this milestone, Petrus is aiming to raise £50,000 to help continue tackling homelessness.

Speaking of celebrating achievements, Lieutenant Commander Lawrence Scholes, the current 'Man of Rochdale', speaks to us about his lifetime involvement with the sea cadets.

Rochdale in Bloom has once again been named as a finalist in Britain in Bloom nationals, and is hoping to win gold for the sixth time.

Albert Mill in Milnrow is home to 19 small businesses, from creative workshops to a studio that holds dance and fitness classes, Albert Mill provides a variety of different businesses to visit.

Natasha Brown, from the award-winning Brown's Cakes, has a recipe for a delicious cheese and onion pie for you to enjoy.

Dr Chauhan reminds us of the benefits of a healthy diet and to re-stock the medicine cupboard ready for Spring.

As always, thank you to our advertisers and contributors, and we hope you enjoy this issue.

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Printing
Jones & Brooks Ltd, Rochdale

Cover Image
Hare Hill House - Hare Hill Park
Littleborough

Photographer
Claire Flett

A Rochdale Online publication

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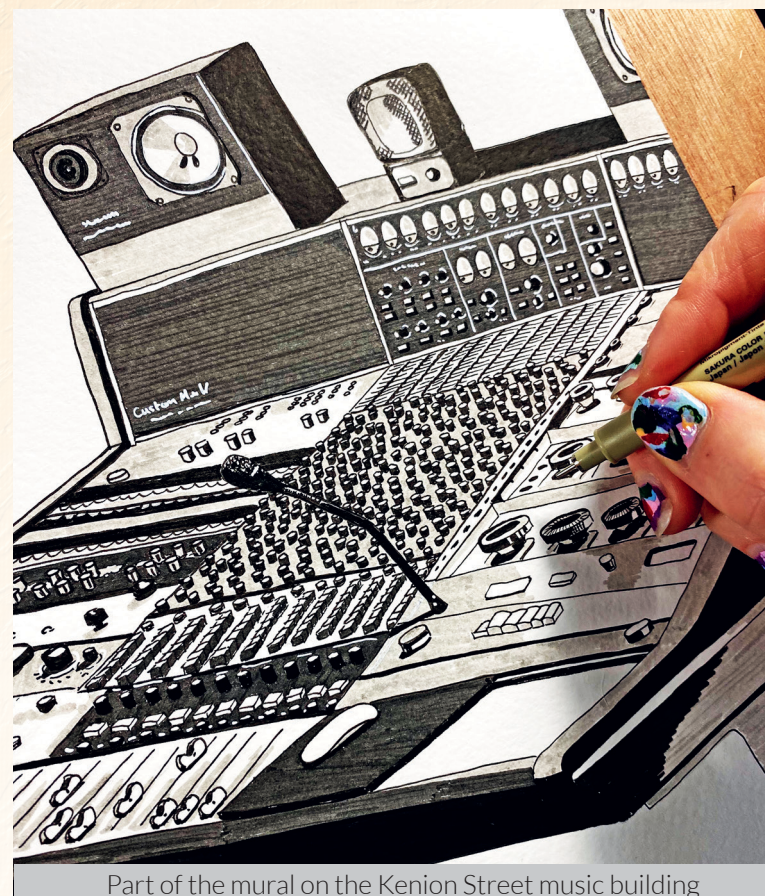
Doodlher

With murals spanning Rochdale town centre, local artist Doodlher has well and truly put her creative mark on the town.

Real name Victoria Whitaker, Doodlher's work can be seen from the Duke of Wellington outside the Wellington Mews apartments on Smith Street to the mural at Reel Cinema.

Her latest commissions include a two-stage project at the former Butterworth Jewellers building on Drake Street, and a mural at the Voltalab Sound Studios on Kenion Street – known for being the recording studio for Joy Division – as well as some smaller 'secretive' works.

The former Butterworths has been transformed, ready for its new lease of life as the Co-operative Enterprise Hub. A painted mural taking its main colour from the building's vibrant terracotta bricks



Part of the mural on the Kenion Street music building

graces the back of the building, whilst five decorative window decals – inspired by stained glass – feature on the front.

The rear mural depicts a number of local connections and nods to local heritage, including bees, a heroic dog which rescued a family, a wheatsheaf, the Pioneers and a bobbin.

Doodlher said: "I designed the vinyl artwork myself by converting the original character pen drawings made for the mural into digital graphics. Unlike the painted mural, the window designs have inherited the old shop front's beautiful yellows and gold leaf accents.

"It's nice to see a project finally come together. Including the mural, this project has been a long one with lots of hard work conceptualising, designing and then creating the final artwork."

She added: "It's been an honour to sprinkle some of my creativity onto the Drake Street heritage action zone regeneration project."

The famous Kenion Street Music Building has also been treated to a Doodlher makeover, with a large paste-up mural made from a series of individual pen drawings. These have then been scanned, sized-up, printed and layered before being pasted onto the wall with a home-made wheat flour glue.

The self-taught artist has also been pasting smaller examples of her artwork in secret locations around town, with permission granted for those in prominent locations.

She explained: "I don't reveal their locations, just a photo on my social media feeds and people have to hunt them down.

"I'm enjoying this approach to displaying my doodles. Previously my original drawings would either be boxed away forever in a sketchbook or stacked in a drawer. Pasting my illustrations somewhere 'in the wild' gives them a new lease of life and I hope will put a smile on the faces of those who spot them.

"I am looking at putting more pieces up, so if a business did want one outside, they can always get in touch to join my paste-up art trail list."

Whilst some may view any form of street art as graffiti, Doodlher opposes this, saying: "Paste-ups are a huge part of street art and are usually associated as being 'graffiti' even if they're technically not. This type of art has so much potential for fun, inclusive, free outdoor activities like art hunts.

"Towns like Rochdale are actively inviting artists to decorate the town with art to create that 'destination feel' but organic, spontaneous art is still viewed as taboo, even though it's that stuff which makes a town's true personality shine through."

Doodlher added: "We all know what walls look like – so when you see something unexpected, like a piece of street art, I feel that it truly has the power to snap you out of routine thoughts and can make your stroll from A-to-B that little bit more interesting.

"If there's one thing we've all learnt from being cooped up indoors during the last two years, it's that getting outside and experiencing art in some form (be it music, theatre, cinema or visual arts) is so important for our wellbeing.

"I hope that by displaying my art outdoors it becomes more accessible for everyone to enjoy, in their own time. I've already had messages from people who have either already found them and thanked me for the fun, or who are excited to get out and look for them as a family activity."



TONI

BAKER



Born and bred in Rochdale, Toni Baker's career as a musician has taken him round the world and back. Now settled in Rossendale, he fills Real Rochdale in on a lucrative career.

You might not know his name, but you've almost certainly heard his work: in a career spanning six decades, Toni has worked alongside names like Peter Kay, Tony Christie, Billy Ocean, Sheena Easton and Lisa Stansfield, and was a member of Shabby Tiger in the 70s, a band which was a huge success in Europe. He's even had a number two hit in Japan!

Phoenix Nights

Toni co-wrote, recorded and produced all the original music and cover songs in the comedy series Phoenix Nights as well as its iconic theme tune: "[Peter] told me he fancied something on a solo instrument like 'Some Mothers Do 'Ave 'Em'. We settled on the glockenspiel sound which conjured up something slightly mysterious and comical."

The collaboration came about after Toni put an advert in the paper to teach piano lessons – and was called by Peter Kay, wanting to learn how to play 'Dancing Queen' as a surprise for his fiancée at their wedding in 12 months. "He'd just got the go-ahead to start work on a new series, Phoenix Nights, based on characters from 'That Peter Kay Thing'. He asked if I'd like to write and produce all the music – you bet I would!"

As well as both original and cover songs, Toni wrote music for hundreds of "little incidental scenes" and also went on to create the theme for 'Max and Paddy's Road to Nowhere' and has also written music for 'The League of Gentlemen', the 'Bottom' Mindless Violence live theatre tour, 'Waterloo Road' and 'Early Doors'.

Rochdale

Toni was born in February 1949 at Birch Hill Hospital. He grew up in Milnrow before moving to Hollingworth Lake, and later became an organist for both Milnrow and Kirkholt Working Men's Clubs.

Turning professional

Despite leaving school with an aptitude for languages – Toni can speak French, German, Spanish and Italian – he left as a member of a local band and with a job working at Shorrock and Shorrocks music shop on Drake Street.

"I'd asked if I could take the Saturday – our busiest day – off to play with my band. I was told no, but I did the gig. On Monday morning I was instantly sacked," Toni recalled. It was then he decided to turn professional – landing an audition on the same day as a job interview with the foreign office.

"I went to the audition," he laughed. "I nailed it!"

Having joined several small bands and travelled Europe, in 1974 Toni joined 'Shabby Tiger' – a glam rock group which had signed to a professional label and went on to become a hit in Europe.

After calling it a day due to the rising popularity of the punk scene, Toni threw himself into sessions and went on to write 'Eat You Up', recorded in 1985 by Angie Gold. The track was subsequently covered by Yoko Ono as 'Dancing Hero: Eat You Up' which made it to number two in the Japanese Hot 100 charts.

The Dakotas

In the 1980s, Toni joined The Dakotas, who continue to tour today playing sounds of the 60s. He toured America with the band and also toured Australia with The Fortunes, stepping in on the keyboard.

The Dakotas are currently in the middle of a UK-wide 60 date tour with Mike Pender, The Fortunes, The Tremors, and Dozy Beaky Mick & Tich.

Toni's autobiography was published in 2021

The Man Behind the Music of Phoenix Nights



50 YEARS OF CHANGING LIVES

Petrus is a Rochdale-based homelessness charity which has had a huge impact on some of society's most vulnerable people over the past 50 years. From its outreach support to supported housing and expert advice, Petrus' mission is to end homelessness.

Petrus was established in 1972, when Rochdale social services asked Liverpool Petrus Community to provide support to 20 men, who were made homeless after a private lodging house in Rochdale closed.

From Petrus Hub, where those in need can get a hot meal and expert advice and support, to Petrus Incredible Edible Rochdale, where the local community can get gardening on prescription and grow fruit and vegetables to take home, the charity has a huge impact on some of the most vulnerable people in our communities.

Petrus delivers outreach work to those sleeping on the streets and manages supported housing across the area, has exhibited award-winning gardens at RHS Tatton Park, and has

changed lives through its innovative training programmes. The charity has come a long way from the Crypt night shelter in Liverpool's Metropolitan Cathedral. What hasn't changed is the mission to end homelessness - today, that is still at the heart of what Petrus does, providing safe places where all people can flourish.

Sonia Denham, Head of Petrus, said: "Every day, the work we do, the teams we work alongside and the people we support fill me with inspiration. We support some of the most marginalised people in our communities to feel empowered to have their voices heard. We offer support to people to make positive change within their lives, whether that be in finding and maintaining a home, learning new or brushing off lost skills, or aspiring to achieve or engaging in activity to improve health and wellbeing.

There has been so much change over the years, and we're always looking to improve and enhance our services, but the one thing which always remains is that we place our service users at the heart of everything we do."



Petrus relies on donations

As part of Petrus' 50th celebrations, the charity is aiming to raise £50,000 to help continue to deliver its invaluable work. Find out more and donate at www.petrus.org.uk/donate

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GARDENING TIPS FOR SPRING



ABOUT THE WRITER

Roy Down is an engagement and development worker at Petrus as well as the chairman of Rochdale In Bloom. His role at Petrus is to help improve the mental health and wellbeing of volunteers through gardening, as well as those referred via NHS social prescribing.



Lift and divide perennials in Spring. This will ensure you get healthy plants every year. Roses can be pruned now and we recommend pruning about half a centimetre above the bud for best results.

If you fancy growing vegetables this year, start by planting onion sets and shallots. It's also a good time to start chitting potatoes before planting. Chitting is a great way to prepare potatoes for planting. Place potatoes in a tray (often in egg cartons) in a light and cool place, shielded from direct sunlight. After the potato sprouts are about one inch (2.5 cm) long, the seed potatoes are planted in the ground.

Think about your pots. Plant some summer flowering bulbs, making sure your pots have good drainage and are topped with fresh new compost. Growing herbs is easy, and if you don't have a lot of room in your garden, plant herbs into a container or tub. Sage, rosemary, thyme and oregano look great, and you will have your own fresh herbs on your doorstep.

As temperatures start to rise, and hopefully the chance of frost has diminished, it is a good time to plant your hardy annuals and wildflower seeds.



At Petrus Incredible Edible Rochdale (PIER), we are always looking at ways to be eco-friendly gardeners and this year, we are increasing our commitment to adapting to environmental change. If you want to do the same, there are some easy steps to take. Start by using peat-free compost wherever possible. Plant more perennials and less annual bedding plants. Look out for drought-resistant varieties, which will save on using water. Try home composting - be patient; it is worth persevering with. You can also install a water butt if you don't have one already.

Whatever the size of garden or growing space, enjoy spending time maintaining and nurturing your plants. It is a great way to get outdoors and there are so many health and wellbeing benefits as well. Good luck.



No One Round Here Reads Tolstoy

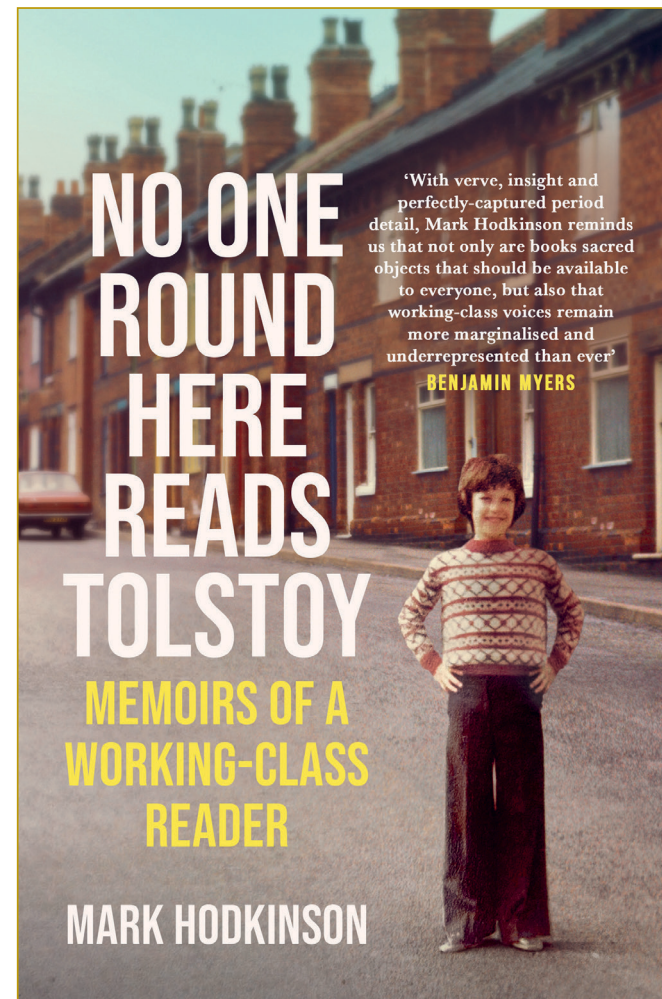
Memoirs Of A Working-Class Reader

Mark Hodkinson grew up among the terrace houses of Rochdale in a house with just one book.

Today, Mark is an author, journalist and publisher. He still lives in Rochdale but is now snugly ensconced (or is that buried?) in a 'book cave' surrounded by 3,500 titles – at the last count.

'No One Round Here Reads Tolstoy' is Mark's story of growing up a working-class lad during the 1970s and 1980s. It's about schools (bad), music (good) and the people (some mad, a few sane), and pre-eminently and profoundly the books and authors (some bad, mostly good) that led the way, and shaped his life. It's also about a family who just didn't see the point of reading, and a troubled grandad who, in his own way, taught Mark the power of stories.

In recounting his own life-long love affair with books, Mark also tells the story of how writing and reading has changed over the last five decades, starting with the wave of working-class writers in the 1950s and '60s, where he saw himself reflected in books for the first time.



Mark Hodkinson has written for The Times for two decades, three years as a columnist. He has also contributed to the Observer, Guardian, Mail on Sunday and others. He is the author of 'Blue Moon: Down Among the Dead Men with Manchester City', which is regularly cited as a football classic, and 'Believe in the Sign', which was longlisted for the William Hill Sports Book of the Year. His novels include 'The Last Mad Surge of Youth', which was nominated as Q's Novel of the Year, and 'That Summer Feeling'.

He owns Pomona Books and has published titles by Simon Armitage, Barry Hines, Ian McMillan, Ray Gosling, Stuart Murdoch (of Belle and Sebastian), Bob Stanley (of Saint Etienne) and many more. He also commissioned and edited the much-acclaimed biography J.D. Salinger: A Life, which was made into a film starring Nicholas Hoult.

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Kingsway Business Park set for 'unprecedented year'

2021 was an incredibly successful year for Kingsway Business Park and 2022 promises to be even better. That's the message from Henry Henson, commercial development manager at Wilson Bowden Developments, after a string of high-profile occupiers and planning permissions were secured in the last 12 months.



All the remaining units having been snapped up, there were no units readily available for immediate occupation at Kingsway, so a series of speculative developments have been brought forward and are due for completion in 2022. Wilson Bowden Developments has started work on the 7.67 acre site between Sir Isaac Newton Way and Lower Lane – known as Urban Park or Plot G.

The units on Urban Park, which vary in size from 21,570 sq ft to 39,740 sq ft, have been bought speculatively by property investment company Urban Logistics REIT. These are expected to complete in summer 2022.

Mr Henson said: "There's a real pent-up demand for occupiers and investors for prime development sites close to the main motorway network, which is why Kingsway is so popular.

"Over the last 12 months, the retail sector has undoubtedly seen an acceleration of growth from online sales as a result of the Covid pandemic. In turn, this has also had a major knock-on impact for the need of additional parcel hub and last-mile delivery facilities within the logistic sector, in order to meet the rising trend of fast turnaround delivery timescales for consumers.

"We have also heard of many companies experiencing supply chain issues from overseas throughout the Brexit and Covid periods. As a consequence, many companies we have spoken to have been rethinking their business strategies, resulting in more on shoring measures taking place. As a direct result, we are seeing huge demand for new manufacturing and logistics space across our development sites and especially at Kingsway.

"We've got more opportunities in the pipeline at Kingsway, both on a design and build basis and spec funding opportunities. If you're an occupier or an investor, come and talk to us."

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Andy Huszar with Brooke Vincent

ALPHA PHOTOGRAPHY

OVER TWENTY FIVE YEARS ON DALE STREET MILNROW

Andrew Huszar has always had a camera in his hands for as long as he can remember, so it's little wonder that he set up his own business – Alpha Photography – in 1987.

Alpha began on Rochdale market where Andy, 57, stayed for nine years before moving his business to Dale Street in Milnrow. His cameras of preference are Fuji, Nikon and Canon – each with a specific purpose.

Over the last 35 years, he has photographed and filmed thousands of weddings, and sports from football and rugby matches to cricket, trials bikes and equestrian. These days, he's also taken up photographing birds and is working on a DVD about steam trains.

In February 2022, Andy was named the official club videographer for Wakefield. He filmed and photographed Rochdale AFC games for about 10 years plus 23 seasons at Rochdale Hornets.

He also believes he has captured two unconfirmed world records on film – the fastest ever try in a rugby game between Oldham and Doncaster, and a try scored by Rochdale against Swinton when the ball bounced kindly for Rochdale to run onto straight from kick off.



Wayne English - Rochdale Hornets v Newcastle



Show Jumping - Broad Carr Equestrian, Milnrow



Andy's even produced a pet portrait for Lisa Stansfield – before she became famous – and filmed the first-ever rugby league match at the 'new' Wembley Stadium which opened in 2007, the English schools curtain riser.

"It was red hot, a fantastic atmosphere. I'm very privileged and lucky to have stood on the same turf as all the greats."

He continued: "When I first started out, I did a couple of nights at a nightclub and Lisa came in one night with a group of people. I took

loads of pics and she asked about pet portraits. I photographed her cat the next day. She went on to have her number one single, 'All Around The World' and no-one had a photo of her, but I did."

Of his extensive career, he said: "It's been good, very adventurous. It does have quiet moments but when I've thought about throwing the towel in, another door opens.

"Someone up there doesn't want me to put my camera down yet!"



Tornado in the Mach Loop in Wales

ROCHDALE

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WILLIAMS BMW ROCHDALE NAMED UK'S BEST BMW RETAILER

Williams BMW Rochdale has been named the best BMW retailer in the UK after winning two awards.

The business scooped both the regional and national accolades at a virtual ceremony attended by BMW retailers from across the country all eager for recognition for offering industry leading experience for BMW customers.

Owen Duncan, Head of Business at Williams Rochdale, said: "The entire team – from our service technicians and parts managers through to the sales team who look after customers every step of the way on their buying journey with us – are the winners.

"It is wonderful to pay tribute to the hard work of everyone across the team to celebrate their passion, dedication and talent."

Guy Adams, Managing Director of Williams, said: "These awards acknowledge the high standard of service, the passion for the brand and the commitment to customers that have been recognised locally for many years.

"I am proud the team has picked up these coveted awards which acknowledge the hard work undertaken to achieve excellence for our customers across all parts of the business."

Access all Areas open event at Hopwood

Exciting things are happening at Hopwood Hall College and University Centre – and now you can see for yourself at its upcoming 'Access All Areas' Open Event.

In addition, anyone who is considering a university-level course will be able to find out everything they need to know about studying at Hopwood's University Centre.

The college – which is making a huge investment to its buildings and facilities – will throw open its doors to the public from 4.30pm-7pm on Thursday 7 April.

It's here where people can access life-changing Higher Education without the hassle or expense of moving away from home.

Both school leavers and adult learners are welcome to attend and explore the countless career-boosting opportunities on offer.

Those who want to go down this route but don't have the qualifications required for this level of study can look forward to hearing about the popular routes in Access to Higher Education.

Year 11s will get their first real taste of college life as they learn about post-school options such as apprenticeships, BTECs and the revolutionary new T-levels.

During the event attendees will be able to speak to the expert tutors, with years of experience in their respective fields, who will be teaching their course.

Visitors who are aged 19+ will also have a wide selection of pathways to choose from, including part-time courses that take place face-to-face, online and on a flexible basis.

The 'Access All Areas' Open Event is registration only. Be sure to secure your place at: hopwood.ac.uk/events

ACCESS ALL AREAS

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Hopwood Hall College & University Centre

LIEUTENANT COMMANDER LAWRENCE SCHOLES

Commander Lieutenant Scholes, 81, of Milnrow, was named the Man of Rochdale winner at the annual Springhill Hospice men's luncheon.

Known for his involvement with registered charity Sea Cadets, Lawrence has helped raise in excess of £300,000 to keep the Rochdale group running.

Starting with the group himself at just 12-years-old, Lawrence progressed through the ranks to become a commanding officer (CO), treasurer and more recently Rochdale Sea Cadets Life President.

For the past 68 years he has been giving up two nights a week - and most weekends - to help children across the borough, with more than 4,000 youngsters passing through his unit.

Katie Davies spoke to Mr Scholes about his win and his involvement with the local cadets.

How did you become involved with Rochdale Sea Cadets?

I joined in 1953 just as a cadet. I really enjoyed it; it did me a power of good. I could never understand why other youngsters didn't join because I got to do things that I would never, ever have got to do.

When I was 14, we went down to HMS Osprey [an anti-submarine training establishment] at Weymouth and went out to sea in a submarine and on the hydroplanes.

Later on that year, down at Portland, we went up in helicopters. It was brilliant.

I signed on with the British and Continental Steamship Company when I was 15 and worked my 'passage' from Liverpool to Rotterdam and Amsterdam over 18 days. Another lad and I from the unit worked on the ship in the mornings.

When you're 18 you either left cadets or stayed on and became an instructor, so I stayed and

progressed over the years to eventually become CO in 1978.

I particularly enjoyed adventure training, so I went and got my mountain leader certificate and in doing so, changed position and took charge of all adventure training in the North West. I did that for about 15 years before retiring in 2000.

Keeping the unit afloat takes around £10,000 every year, how have you raised this?

After retirement I eventually joined the management committee whose responsibility is, in a nutshell, to raise funds to keep cadets open.

I spent most my life then applying for grants and trying to get people to give us money - some you win some you lose.

A single teddy bear stall or jumble sale could raise as much as £300-£400. We'd also arrange bucket collections in places like Middleton Shopping Centre or the Arndale Centre in Manchester, or instead of flower donations at funerals people might say 'donations to Sea Cadets'.

You'd be surprised how much has been raised just through little things over a long period of time. People were always sympathetic to the cause, which was nice. Goodwill is the lifeline.

We received a Covid grant too of £10,000, which came in handy as we'd just spent money that we didn't have on making sure all new rules and regulations were met like having certain fire doors.

What are your favourite memories from Cadets?

There are so many. I was talking to a man who said, 'you've got to enjoy it because you couldn't have done it for so many years if you didn't', and that's very true. If I was to write a book about things that have happened, or if you were to see it on television, you would say 'that's going too far!'

MAN OF ROCHDALE

In 1955, we went on the British Continental working our passage and we sailed from Liverpool. As soon as we got out of Liverpool Bay we turned, and I was sick.

When we went to shore in Holland, we had to go in our Navy uniform - bear in mind this was just ten years after the war, and we were big 15-year-old lads - so we finished up not paying for anything.

When we got on the bus they wouldn't take our money, and we went in a café, and somebody had bought the meal for us. All because we were in uniform. That happened two or three times.

Technically we weren't old enough to drink but we went to a bar one night and didn't buy a single drink either.

We went camping at Millcroft many times, organising assault courses with different training exercises like commando crawl. It's something the kids really used to love. They let us use the land for free. Millcroft Tea Rooms is still there.

Why should young people join?

A cadet could join when they were 13 and it wouldn't be to everyone's liking; some would leave after a couple of months, but some would stay until they're 18.

What is good there, from my perspective, is to see how they've changed to be the best version of themselves, with self-confidence and drive. Cadets puts you in charge, which all helps later.

I think making some good friends was the reason I stuck with it for so long.

You can do virtually anything from cooking to engineering, sailing and outdoor adventures, providing you've got the staff.

The evenings consist of the theoretical side; you'll do rope work, Morse Code, arms drill, something like that. At the side of the unit, we have a firing range so you can even do shooting.



You learn teamwork, respect, loyalty, commitment, self-discipline.

At Rochdale you can also gain qualifications that you can take with you once you leave.

How do you feel to be named Man of Rochdale?

I had no idea that I was in mind for it.

An awful lot of my life has been involved with cadets, and I don't regret one minute of it.

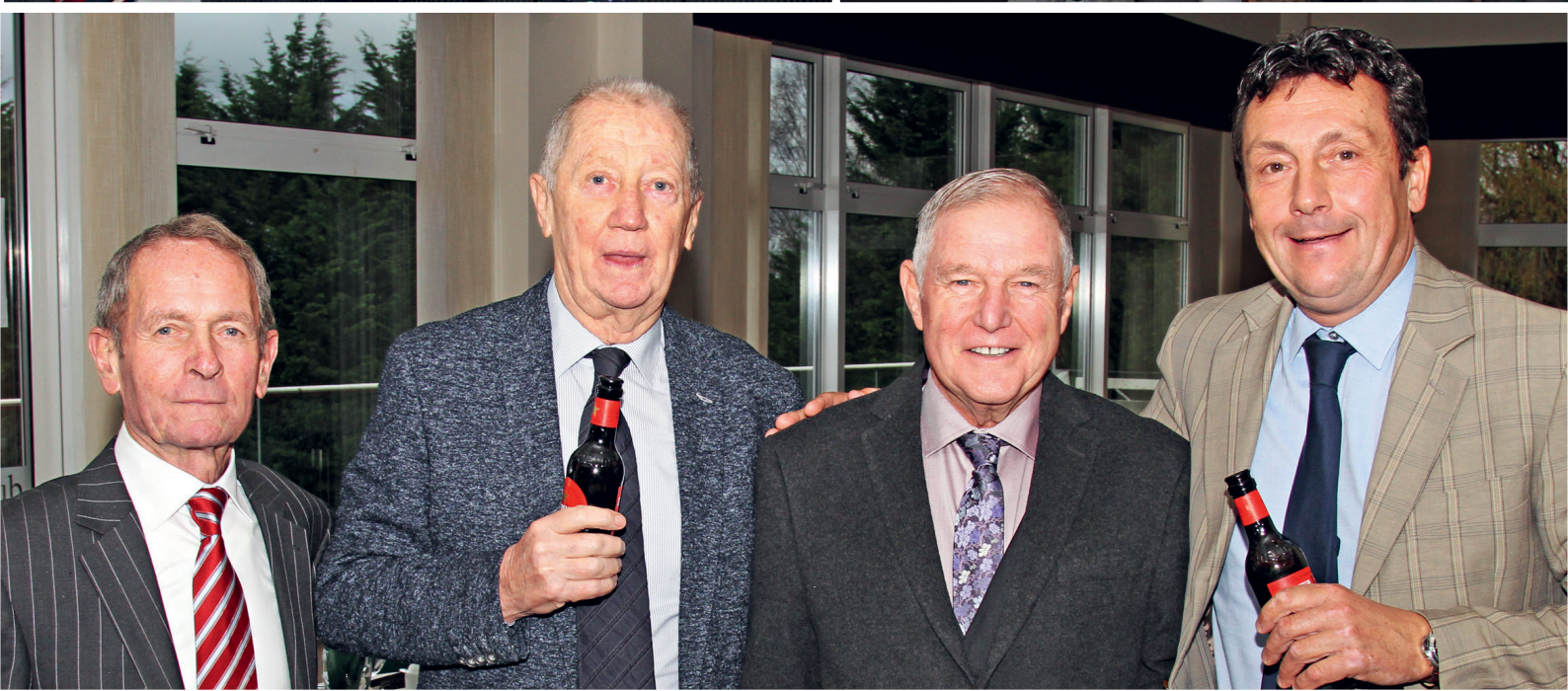
It's very nice to have recognition.

Behind every good man is a very good woman, and my wife Margaret has supported me in everything that I have done over the years. If Margaret hadn't had been backing me up, there's no way I could have done it. I owe it all to her.

Rochdale Sea Cadets meet at Training Ship Frobisher (named after HMS Frobisher, adopted by Rochdale) on Greenbank Road, Rochdale, OL12 0EN every Tuesday and Friday evening, 8.30pm - 9.30pm, plus some weekends. A junior group is available for ages 9-12, or you can join Sea Cadets from 13-years-old.



MAN OF ROCHDALE LUNCHEON





NARROWBOAT ON THE ROCHDALE CANAL IN CASTLETON
MALCOLM JOURNEAUX

THE BIG PICTURE

COLLECTION OF BRITISH LITERARY TREASURES FROM LITTLEBOROUGH'S HONRESFELD LIBRARY SAVED BY NATIONAL LIBRARIES CHARITY

A collection of over 500 historic manuscripts, exceptional first editions, intimate letters and beautiful bindings from Littleborough's Honresfeld House has been purchased by Friends of the National Libraries (FNL) after the charity raised over £15 million to acquire the collection for the nation.

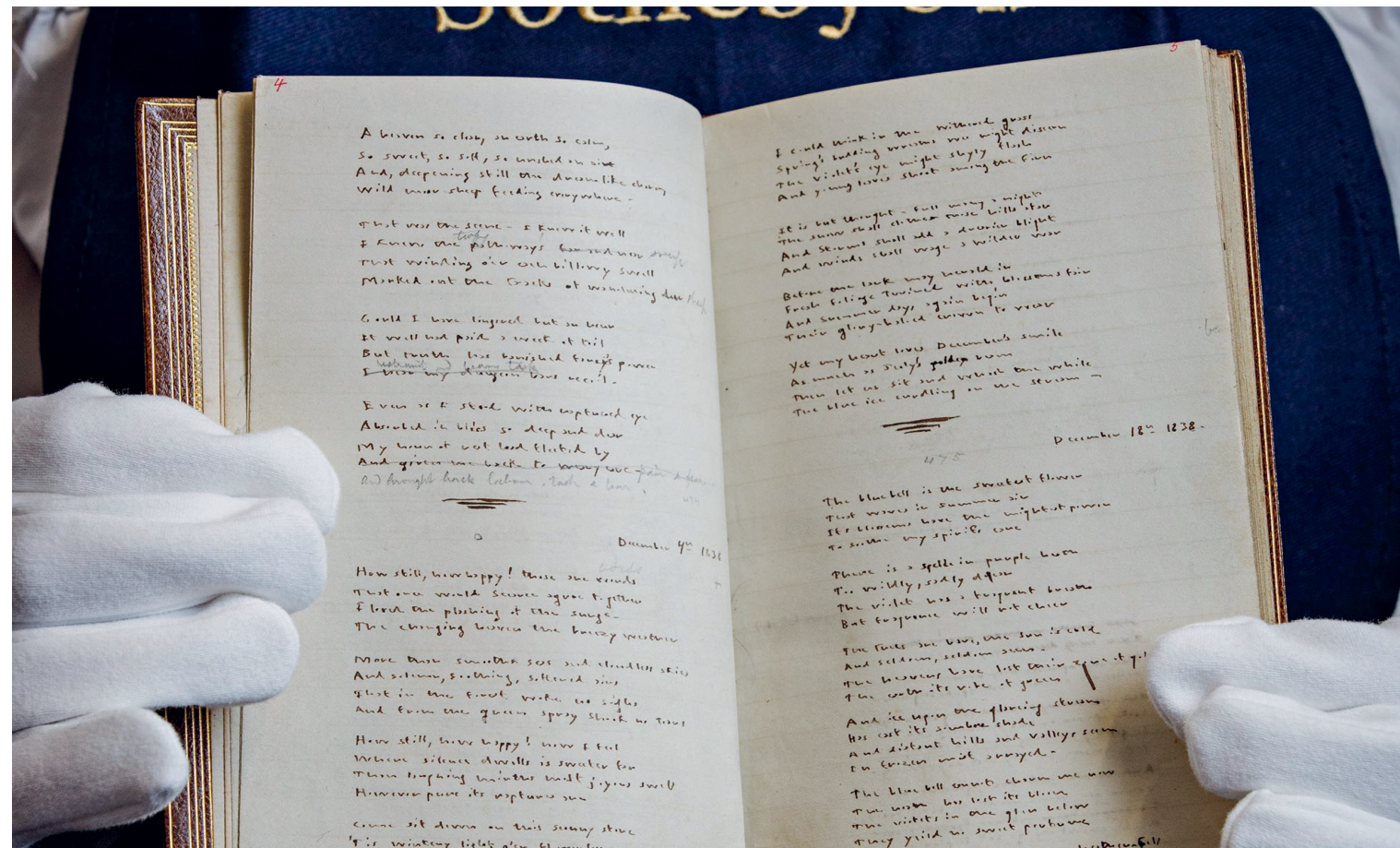
The collection includes manuscripts by the Brontës, Jane Austen, Robert Burns and Sir Walter Scott and FNL will donate every manuscript and printed book to libraries and writers' houses across the UK so that they are accessible to everyone.

The collection, assembled by self-made Victorian industrialists William and Alfred Law at the turn of the 20th century, were to be offered at auction in a series of three sales starting in July 2021.

Working together with FNL, auctioneers Sotheby's agreed to postpone the start of the auctions to allow negotiations for the whole collection to be acquired by a consortium of institutions for the nation.

Following the appeal to public and private donors over the course of a few months, FNL successfully raised over £15 million to purchase the library for the nation. FNL will donate all of the manuscripts and printed books to the relevant national, university and specialist collecting institutions, ensuring that as many people as possible can enjoy this treasure trove of English and Scottish literature.

Assembled in the golden age of book collecting, the literature found in Honresfeld library tells some of the most fabled stories in history, opening a window onto the short but amazing lives of Charlotte, Emily, Anne and even Branwell Brontë.



A rare handwritten manuscript of Emily Brontë's poems, mentioned in the preface to Wuthering Heights, with pencil corrections by Charlotte Brontë (est. £800,000-1,200,000)



Sir Walter Scott, the complete working autograph manuscript of his 19th century novel Rob Roy (the only Scott novel in manuscript remaining in private hands)

Treasures include an extremely rare handwritten copy of Emily's poems, with revisions from Charlotte and the well-loved Brontë family copy of Bewick's 'History of British Birds', the book made famous in the opening pages of Jane Eyre, brimming with entertaining annotations from their father Patrick.

At the library's heart lies an astonishing set of manuscripts in the hands of the Brontë siblings, much of which has been unseen for 80 years and never properly examined. It includes seven of Charlotte Brontë's famous 'little books', each of which is a work of art; a manuscript collection of poems by Anne Brontë; some 25 letters by Charlotte; and a small but exquisite autograph manuscript diary note shared by Emily and Anne.

The absolute jewel of the Brontë collection is Emily Brontë's holograph notebook of 31 poems, believed by many scholars to have been lost. This poetry notebook carries annotations in Charlotte's hand. The printed treasures of the sisters include Emily's own annotated copy of their first publication, the exceptionally rare 'Poems of 1846', and fine presentation copies of first editions of their novels in their original cloth bindings.

Jane Austen is represented by two hugely significant letters to her sister Cassandra (only three early such autograph letters are held in any UK national collection, the bulk being in the Morgan Library, New York).

One is a very early letter, written on the eve of a ball where she anticipated the end of a love affair; the second dates from 1813 and discusses the reception of both Pride and Prejudice and Sense and Sensibility.

The collection also includes first editions of Pride and Prejudice, Emma, Northanger Abbey and Persuasion in their original condition.

CONT...

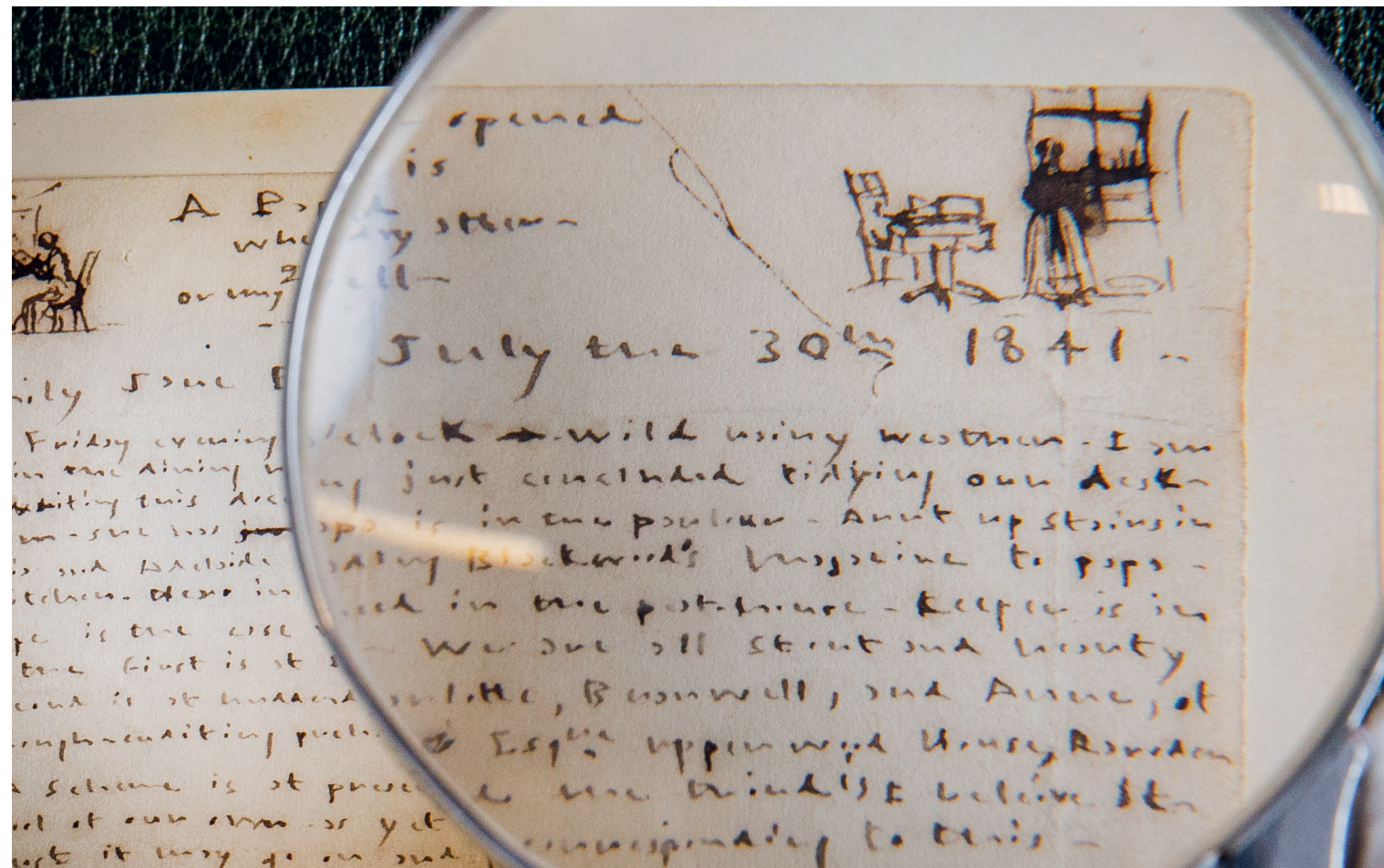
COLLECTION OF BRITISH LITERARY TREASURES FROM LITTLEBOROUGH'S HONRESFELD LIBRARY SAVED BY NATIONAL LIBRARIES CHARITY

"It has been a great privilege to represent the family who have been careful custodians of these remarkable treasures ever since they were collected in the late 19th century."

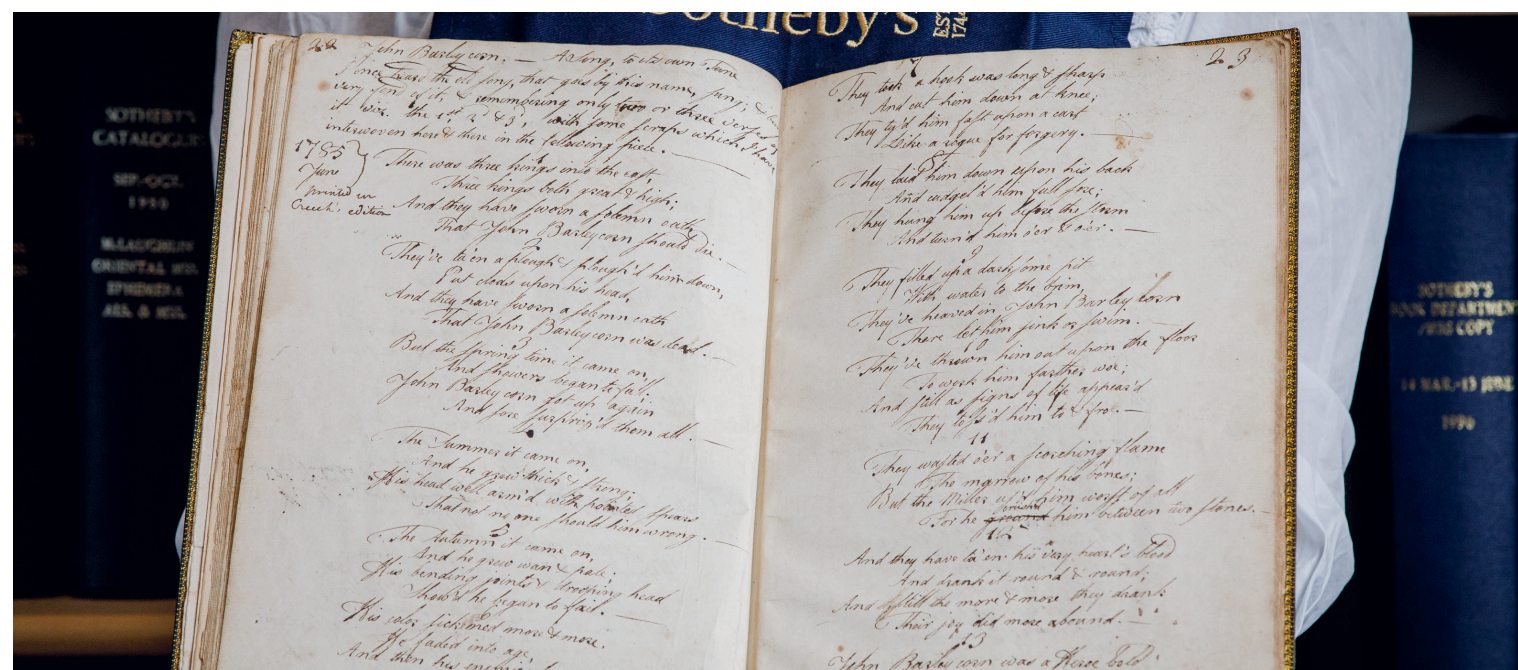
Dr Gabriel Heaton, Sotheby's English Literature & Historical Manuscripts Specialist, said: "This is a collection like no other that has come to market in recent decades. It preserves the original words of some of our greatest writers, from Robert Burns finding his poetic voice, to Jane Austen anticipating a proposal at a ball, to powerful romantic verses by Emily Brontë.

"It has been a great privilege to represent the family who have been careful custodians of these remarkable treasures ever since they were collected in the late 19th century. We were amazed and delighted at the incredible ambition of the FNL's plan to acquire the whole library, and they deserve every credit for bringing their campaign to a successful conclusion. Their success is a testament to what can be achieved by the collaboration of public institutions and private collectors."

The family of the original collectors, who had been the custodians of the library prior to the acquisition, said: "We are delighted that the library is to remain in the UK and as the property of the nation with many of the books and manuscripts returning to their birthplaces for all to see and enjoy."



Emily Brontë and Anne Brontë, Autograph manuscript birthday notes, with sketches by Emily, 1841



Robert Burns, First Commonplace Book

The NHMF's grant of £4 million is the largest it has ever awarded towards the acquisition of literary manuscripts since its foundation in 1980.

FNL, and its consortium of libraries and writers' houses, are profoundly grateful to their lead donor Sir Leonard Blavatnik who match-funded the sum raised by FNL and the consortium institutions, donating half the purchase price. In recognition of his great generosity, the collection will henceforth be known as the Blavatnik Honresfeld Library. It is an extraordinary donation, the largest ever given to the UK by an individual for a literary treasure.

This acquisition has also been made possible thanks to the vital and generous support of the National Heritage Memorial Fund (NHMF). The NHMF's grant of £4 million is the largest it has ever awarded towards the acquisition of literary manuscripts since its foundation in 1980.

Success would also not have been possible without the hugely generous support of each of the consortium institutions and of very many funders including The Prince of Wales Charitable Foundation; The Murray Family; Camelot Group; The Foyle Foundation; The David Cock Foundation; The T. S. Eliot Foundation; Hugh and Catherine Stevenson; Berkeley Foundation; British Library Collections Trust; American Trust for the British Library; B. H. Breslauer Fund of the American Trust for the British Library; The Ardeola Trust; The Vogel-Denebeim Family, and the Penchant Foundation.

LASER ASSISTED FAT LOSS HOW TO LOSE INCHES FROM YOUR WAISTLINE

If you're anything like the hundreds of patients who have contacted us already in 2022, you may have made a New Year's resolution to get up off the couch and back in the gym to lose that festive paunch, but fallen at the first hurdle. If that sounds familiar, you're not alone.

Being a medical clinic, we're very aware of the daily struggles people face to lose fat and maintain their loss. That is what's significant here, sustainable solutions as opposed to fad diets and over the top exercise regimes. Many of us get off to a great start following New Year, but our motivation gradually declines as does our progress, and we may even see ourselves gaining pounds instead of losing them.

How do you lose excess fat without it feeling like a chore?

There are three primary things that weight loss programmes should do; easily integrate into your lifestyle, make you feel good about yourself, and deliver results. Face Medical Clinic is excited to be launching a brand new concept at our Heywood clinic - laser assisted fat loss. This sounds technical, right? Well, I guess it is to a degree. The Emerald Laser is a quick and effective weight loss assistant that can



ABOUT THE WRITER
Deborah Vines is a Registered General Nurse, Nurse Prescriber and the Medical Director of Face Medical Clinic based in Heywood.

She has been a full time Aesthetic Nurse for eighteen years, owns one of the longest established Medical Aesthetic Clinics in the North West and has recently gained her Care Quality Commission Registration for medical treatments.

really help accelerate and maximise fat loss in a fast, healthy way. Working alongside a healthy, mobile lifestyle, Emerald helps your body break down and dispose of unwanted fat.

What is Emerald and how does it work?

The first thing to know about Emerald is that it's 100% pain free. During treatment, you lay back comfortably as the lasers dart across your body, penetrating excess fat cells. In simple terms, the Emerald laser technology will break the cell structure causing the fat to be expelled and used as energy, or recognised as waste and disposed of naturally via the body's lymphatic system.

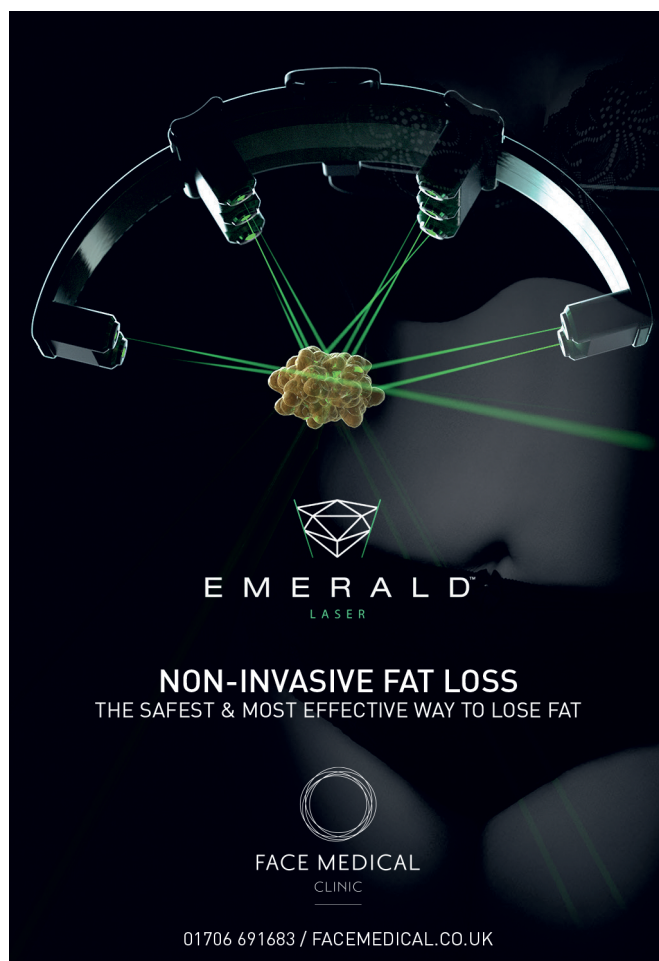
In the days following treatment, you will be recommended to take a healthy but not restricted attitude to food, and increase movement to kick start the lymphatic system so it really works to dispose of the fat as soon as possible. During this time, it is key that you remain well hydrated - consuming around two litres of water per day to help the system flush through as efficiently as possible.

What result can you expect from Emerald?

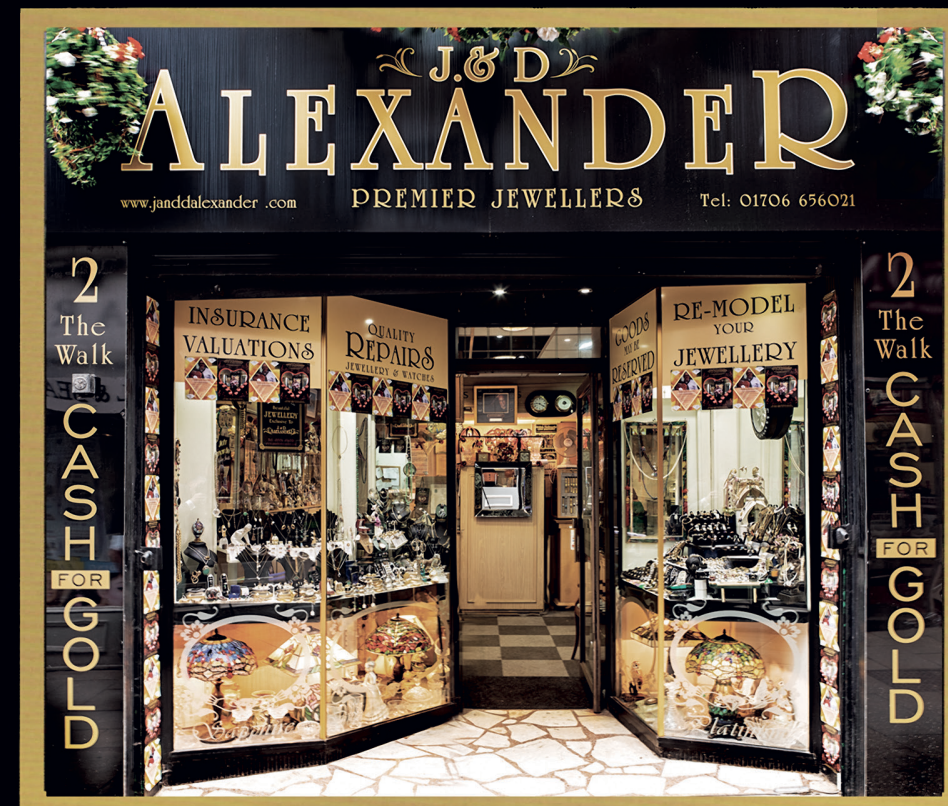
Typically, patients experience an average of 5-7cm overall circumference loss per treatment. Results will vary from person to person, but the healthier your diet and the more you stay hydrated and exercise, the faster and more dramatic your result will be.

So to answer our earlier question...
EMERALD IS HOW YOU LOSE EXCESS FAT WITHOUT IT FEELING LIKE A CHORE.

Emerald Laser at Face Medical is soon to become the Jewel of the North, so we will be having a very special introductory offer which includes 10 sessions of Emerald Laser. If you are interested in how we can help you with your fat loss journey, contact Face Medical Clinic today on Tel: 01706 691683.



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CHEESE & ONION PIE

by Natasha Brown - owner of Brown's Cakes

- 25g butter
- 1 large onion
- 400g mature grated cheddar
- 1 egg
- 50ml double cream
- Pinch of salt and a good pinch of pepper
- One pack of pre rolled puff pastry
- Beaten egg to use as an egg wash

We make these pies as miniatures for the afternoon teas but every now and again I make a large one for tea at home.

My youngest daughter Georgia loves our cheese and onion pie; she thinks it's the absolute best (she might be a bit biased).

You can make your own short pastry for these or even your own puff pastry (which is very time consuming) but supermarket-bought puff pastry works an absolute treat and makes the whole recipe so easy.

I like to decorate pie tops as it makes them a bit more fun and is so easy to do.

When asked to write up this recipe for a spring menu, I instantly thought 'Mother's Day', so used cookie cutters to cut out MUM and a flower, but decoration really is personal and can be as plain or as creative as you like.

Method

- Heat the oven to 180°C.
- Grease a shallow dish with vegetable oil.

To make the filling

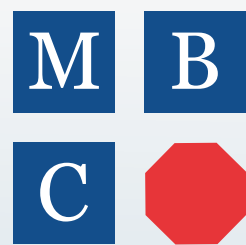
- Gently fry the onions in butter over a medium heat.
- Once soft, add the onions to a bowl with the cheese, eggs, cream, salt and pepper.
- Stir the ingredients together.



Assembling the pie

- Press the rolled pastry into the shallow dish and trim round the edges with a knife.
- Wet the top edge of the pastry with a little milk or water then fill the dish with the cheese and onion mix.
- Cover the dish with the remaining pastry and trim.
- Pinch the edges of the pie together then use any left over bits of pastry to decorate the pie top.
- Apply a thin covering of beaten egg (a pastry brush is best for this but if you don't have one, use a clean paintbrush or your fingers) over the pastry. Make sure you poke a hole in the pastry or cut a slit in the top so that the pastry stays together in the oven.
- Bake the pie in the centre of the preheated oven for about 20 minutes. It is ready when the pastry is lightly brown on top.
- The pie is delicious hot but can also be eaten cold. I hope you enjoy it as much as Georgia does.

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SETTING UP A BUSINESS

MOLESWORTHS BRIGHT CLEGG employment solicitor, Adam Salkie; head legal cashier, Asya Bibi and trainee solicitor, Aamna Ali reflect on the legal and practical considerations in setting up a business.

Five tips for those who have made the decision and are ready to set out on their business journey

1. Be an expert

You must know your product or service and your market inside out. If you are not confident that your product or service is strong and will guarantee business, attend courses and opportunities to learn and develop, do market research where applicable. Alternatively you may work in the field already that relates to your business.

2. Know and understand your structure

Seek professional advice of accountants and solicitors to ensure that the best structure for the business is chosen, whether that be sole trader, partnership, limited company or LLP. This will help you to think about and take further advice on the agreements that you will need in place with business partners, investors etc.

3. Finance

This isn't a dirty word. In fact it is your friend. You must have a financial plan in place from the start and decide how the company will be funded. Will you invest yourself? Are you going to have someone

else invest? Will you be going to a bank?

Understand key terms before embarking on a business – turnover, profit, net, gross, revenue. It's important.

4. Marketing, staff and location

Now that you have sorted the finance, the next thing to consider is how you are going to attract customers to grow your business. You will need to consider marketing, branding, and how you wish to balance online and offline promotions. You might want to begin with doing some competitor research, build a social media presence or create a website. When considering your offline promotion, you may wish to use flyers or newsletters.

Have you ever heard the saying employees are the company's most valuable asset? This is because employees are a major contributor to profit and value of a business. Therefore, when deciding on employees, take into consideration the nature of your business, potential customers, skills required

and assistance needed with employment contracts.

Choosing a business location is an extremely important factor. Did you know that in the UK, only 22% of businesses operate more than one site? This means that the majority of businesses operating in the UK only have one opportunity to make the most out of their location. Think carefully, when considering location.

5. Legal governance, risk management and compliance

Once all the above have been considered and you are ready to start shaking up the business world, you need to legally register your company. Registration requires you to choose which type of business suits your needs: limited company, partnership, self-employed, sole trader.

You will also need to consider what insurances you will need in put in place. Some insurance policies will be legally required. We can also advise you on any protection of ideas and business secrets that may be required.



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Rochdale AFC appointed as female football talent hub

Young women in Rochdale have been given the opportunity to be identified and referred to the FA Lioness Talent Pathway, thanks to a partnership between the FA, EFL Trust, Rochdale AFC Ladies and Rochdale AFC Community Trust.

The talent inclusion programme ensures that through the existing community activities of EFL club community organisations, female participants can be identified and referred to the FA Lioness Talent Pathway. Social class, ethnicity and demographics should not be a barrier to success.

Ryan Bradley, community director at Rochdale AFC Community Trust and acting chairman at Rochdale AFC Ladies, said: "We are delighted to be appointed as a talent inclusion hub, supporting talented young female footballers to achieve their potential."

"Rochdale is a hot bed of raw sporting talent and we now have the resources and pathways to identify talent and ensure players are developed to their full potential, whether that's with Rochdale AFC Ladies, school, grassroots or within the England set up."

"It's taken a lot of work by various people throughout the years to get us to this stage and we can't wait to get started."

Rochdale AFC Community Trust will be supported by an education and learning programme managed by the EFL Trust and supported by the FA.

For girls showing potential, the programme creates a pathway from community to full England honours, with an educated workforce that identifies and supports potential.

Rochdale AFC Community Trust will develop their own talent ID programme, working closely with Rochdale AFC Ladies, schools and grassroots clubs.

Rochdale AFC Ladies are currently recruiting for all teams, from U10s to U16s, and have appointed Emma Flynn as female football lead.

To get involved with Rochdale AFC Ladies, whether as a talented player or newcomer to the sport, or to find out more about the FA Lioness Talent Pathway, email: emma.flynn@rochdaleafc.co.uk

Repair and protect your nails

Are you struggling with your nails? Here's our guide to your perfect nail treatment.

When it comes to nail treatments, there are many options, from gel polish to nail extensions and everything glittery in-between.

The nail world is ever evolving and client demand for longer lasting nail treatments has increased, especially as the toll of hand sanitisers and constant hand washing has affected the life of your manicure, paving the way for IBX treatments and BIAB (builder in a bottle gel).

IBX is a two part treatment system of repair and strength. It penetrates the nail plate to help repair splitting nails, encourage natural nail growth and with continual use it can help with ridged nails.

This treatment can be used alone, under nail polish and

under gel polish! You would maintain this with fortnightly treatments; six treatments are recommended to gain maximum results.

This is the perfect treatment for clients who want a low maintenance approach to nail treatments but with effective results.

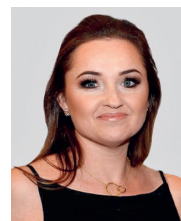
Do you want a harder wearing manicure? Do you want your gel manicure to last longer than the standard two weeks? BIAB is the perfect nail treatment for strength, length and shape that lasts three plus weeks.

Our brush-in-a-bottle treatment allows for thin, light, natural looking nails. The unique formula is bursting with benefits. You can customise your nail treatment experience as the system can:

- Fill in cracked/split nails
- Repair broken nails
- Plump and shape flat nails
- Create length
- Be used as a harder wearing base layer for gel polish

You can leave the nail clear, or you can choose from our range of nude BIAB gel colours. If you fancy something more daring, you can apply your favourite gel polish colour on top, selecting from our range of CND Shellac, Semilac and The Gel bottle colours.

ABOUT THE WRITER



Beverley Watson is a director and therapist at Revive Me with 24 years' experience in the beauty industry, including seven years as a lecturer and assessor. She is skilled in all aspects of beauty, HD Pro Brow stylist, CND L&P master nail tech.

The beauty of BIAB is that unlike traditional hard gels, this is a removable gel and is removed in the same gentle way as CND Shellac, leaving your nails in a healthy condition. BIAB treatment is lightly buffed down and infilled at your appointment.

Further to this, BIAB is low odour compared to other nail treatment services. BIAB is also a vegan product, and not tested on animals.

Our nail technicians at Revive hold CND Master status with many years of industry experience. We offer a wide range of nail treatments, including manicure, IBX, BIAB, gel polish and nail extensions in acrylic and hard gel.

You can book your nail appointment via our website revivemesalon.com or phone us on 01706 759 379.



Revive Me - Shaw House, Shawclough Road, Shawclough, Rochdale OL12 6ND

01706 759 379 - www.revivemesalon.com

Lily May Boutique - Affordable Fashion

After seven years of successful business, Lily May Boutique is the name on everyone's lips this year, thanks to its beautiful quality ladies' fashion for any occasion.

With unique and timeless pieces from Religion, Malissa J, SMF, Tara Vao, Pinns, plus leading fashion jewellery brand, Envy, the Heywood boutique has firmly established its place in dressing today's modern women.

Unlike many high-street names, Lily May is also going against the fast fashion grain, ensuring no stock goes to waste.

"If it doesn't go in the £10 sale, we donate it to charity," confirms owner Wendy Moore, who runs Lily May with best friend Carolyn 'Caz' Beaumont.



Wendy and Caz

With friendly service and a cup of tea – plus a 10% discount for NHS and care workers – Lily May is the ideal place to find effortless glamour, quirky styles or classic looks.

Lily May Boutique stocks affordable fashion for all ages, from sizes 8 – 26



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Rochdale in Bloom reaches Britain in Bloom nationals



Rochdale has been named as a finalist representing the North West nationally in the finals of the Royal Horticultural Society's Britain in Bloom competition.

The Rochdale in Bloom group won gold in the 'small city' category and 'best town centre' in the North West in 2021, its fifth consecutive gold in the category.

No competition took place in 2020, with all In Bloom and community-led It's Your Neighbourhood entries deferred until 2021.

Rochdale last reached the nationals in 2018 – winning a gold medal – after being nominated to go forward as the small city category representative for the main competition after winning a North West in Bloom 2017 gold award.

Representing the same category, after being nominated by North West in Bloom, this year, Rochdale is up against Burton (Derbyshire), Canterbury (Kent), and Bath (Somerset).

Finalists are put forward to the national final based on their progress locally and will be scored by a team of RHS national judges. Unlike the regional competition, where individual entries and features are judged, the national judging route is a 'snapshot' of the whole town in bloom.

Judging will take place between 25 July to 12 August. The results and the category winner will be announced at an awards ceremony in London in October.

Now in its 58th year, the Royal Horticultural Society's Britain in Bloom is an environmental competitions that pits rural villages, urban corners and city centres against one another across a range of criteria that includes horticultural know-how, community engagement, efforts to bolster biodiversity and climate change adaptation.

Chairman of Rochdale in Bloom Roy Down said: "We're up against some places which have a lot of spending power and tourist attraction. We are the underdogs, but bring it on!"



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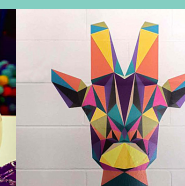
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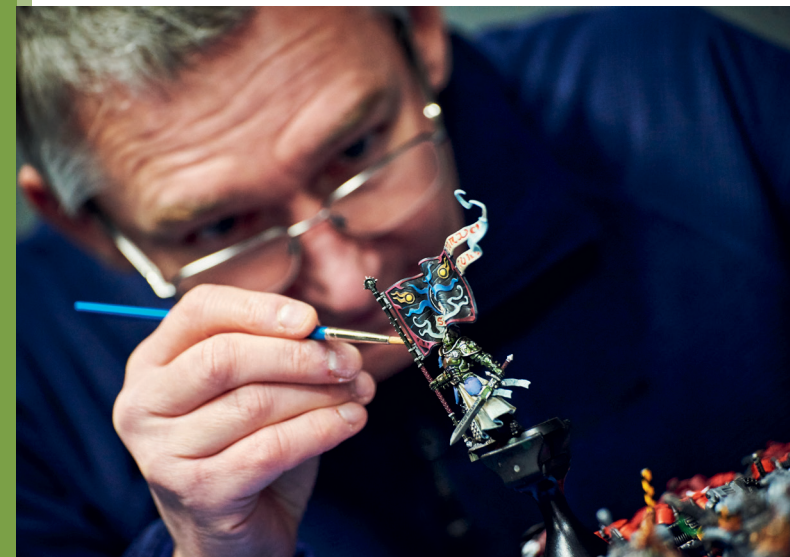
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Dance, fitness workouts, pilates, drama, street dance, mother and baby sessions, with a soft play area.
- **Maggie Jones Creativity Corner**
Creative workshops, classes in making jewellery and sewing skills.
- **Northern Pie Company**
A range of pies and pasties, plus catering pies for any occasion.
- **North West Woodwind Repair**
High standard repairs from tiny adjustments to overhauls. Brass repairs also undertaken.
- **Photography By Karl**
Professional but relaxed multi award-winning portrait & wedding photographer.
- **Ranger Motorhomes**
Motorhome/campervan hire; two and four-berth full spec vehicles to hire for all occasions.
- **Tarn Candles**
Hand-poured soy wax candles, melts and reed diffusers with essential oils and reusable tins.
- **Tarn Replenished**
Eco refills of household products, toiletries and skincare; local honey, coffee and more.
- **Village Treasures**
Extra space for one of the village's charity shops to help organise stock.
- **War Office Games Supplies**
Stocks a wide range of games, plus gaming tables for you to bring your armies to battle.
- **Yarn Barn**
Wool and yarn shop with a wonderful selection of yarns, patterns and knitting notions.

Albert Mill is a wonderland cornucopia of people and businesses offering arts, crafts, shopping and leisure experiences.

The former clothing mill in Milnrow centre is bustling with a thriving community of independents, providing everything from virtual reality experiences photoshoots to glass-making workshops and tabletop Warhammer gaming and model painting.

A hugely successful open day last summer saw hundreds explore the mill, enjoying crafting taster sessions; seeing planned courses, classes and workshops; and following a butterfly trail around all the businesses to win fabulous prizes.

And for 2022, the independents are planning even more open days and craft fairs – although at the time of print, these are yet to be determined.

Some of the quirkier and more unusual businesses include professional instrument

repairs at North West Woodwind Repair, an eco-friendly refill shop on the ground floor at Tarn Replenished, which is transforming its upper level into a community craft workshop and studio for the public – think pottery classes, candle making and hobbies of a similar ilk.

Children and adults of all ages can immerse themselves in a virtual reality setting of their choosing – or the bar! – at Grid VR, which provides both walk-in sessions and private bookings just round the corner from LOUD Studios, which offers dancing, fitness and a children's play area.

Monthly craft workshops and a regular crochet workshop run at Yarn Barn, which also hosts frequent knit and natter groups. Fused glass workshops and glass bead making for every level take place at Glassy Birds.

For more information about the businesses and open days, please visit the Facebook group Albert Mill – Arts, Crafts & Leisure.

Photos: Photography by Karl





Model: Georgia Matthews
Hair & Photo: Gregory Couzens

HAIRDRESSING
TREND
by GREG COUZENS

The Bixie

The ‘bixie’ haircut is the latest trend, it is a fusion of a bob and a pixie.

This cut offers the beautiful face-framing texture of a pixie: its head-hugging shape gives softness and femininity whilst keeping a more solid exterior.

Starting with a fringe whilst keeping some length it can be adapted for everyone; ask your stylist to recommend what would suit your face shape, hair texture and lifestyle.

I suggest cutting the face-framing layers with a razor, using a freehand technique – ‘instinct cutting’ – that relies on instinctively knowing the right length and gradient. Instinct cutting means your hairdresser provides you with the best shape and cut, hair that works specifically for you.

This approach begins with a client showing a photograph of a haircut they want. Thanks to instinct cutting, you will emerge from the chair with a bespoke cut, rather than a reproduction of something that doesn’t look or feel right. With the right layering and razoring, a low maintenance beautiful haircut is achieved.

Instinct cutting is booming post-pandemic due to clients wanting a more relaxed haircut that is easy to maintain. Because we are generally more causal with our fashion and clothing, our hair needs to complement this.

We also applied a colour with a natural, rich and glossy finish so we could make Georgia’s hair ‘pop’ that little bit extra whilst keeping it healthy.

Are you brave enough to place so much trust into your stylist? Be bold and talk to them today about instinct cutting and the bixie.



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ABOUT THE WRITER

Dr Chauhan OBE is a respected GP, health and social care campaigner, and champion of social justice and charity.

As a local GP, he has become a powerful advocate for his patients and introduced innovative methods to improve their care.

His work mentoring and employing young people has won national recognition and he was awarded an OBE in 2020 for his creation of the Homeless-Friendly charity.

SPRING INTO ACTION

You may feel that you have been bombarded with health news this year, so I am guessing you missed this telling statistic. Whilst the average life span for women has plateaued, men's life expectancy has continued to rise.

Good news for the fellas, but this trend also displays a growing ennui about the treatment of women and a worrying shift in self-care.

Covid and lockdown have been particularly hard on females experiencing gynaecological concerns. They have been unable to see GPs face-to-face and talk about the symptoms they may be experiencing. Appointments for everything from smear tests to midwifery checks have also been too readily cancelled. Then there is the plain fact that a small proportion of doctors are dismissive, ignorant, or even arrogant about conditions such as endometriosis.

No wonder 2022 sees the first-ever women's health strategy being drawn-up. Documents such as these often call for consultation and my tip is to keep an eye out and make sure your voice is heard. Also, when preventative health appointments are offered to you, take them.

Please look into the benefits of a healthy diet and exercise, cutting down on alcohol and also being more aware of the unhelpful social media adverts that can cause body dysmorphia.

For all of us, the advent of spring with its longer days and hopefully better weather are a challenge to get fitter. The world is opening-up again, too. Gyms, aerobics, Zumba and all the other myriad of classes are there for you to use, and many at accessible times and prices.

Surgeries never closed during lockdown, but some of their clinics were curtailed. They should be open again with some serving-up information on nutrition and others helping alleviate conditions such as COPD.

Each springtime, I warn patients about allergies, including hay fever and asthma, which can be caused by air quality, temperature, and pollen. Have you re-stocked your medicine cupboard with antihistamine or indeed all the creams that treat bites and stings? You will need them.

One difference about Spring 2022 is that it will see vulnerable people more reliant than ever on others for food and warmth. Visiting an elderly neighbour to see if they are okay, talking to a rough sleeper about their health (if you feel comfortable enough to do so), and donating to a food bank, will all help.

Look after yourself and others this Spring. I will say this ad infinitum: keep up with your Covid vaccines! May the coming of brighter days bring hope and optimism and give you the tools to lift your health and mood.



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MEMORY LANE

The former council office block, known locally as the 'Black Box', dominated the Rochdale town centre skyline, until it was demolished in 2014.

Construction of the Black Box and the adjoining bus station, designed by architects Essex, Goodman & Suggit, was started in October 1975, completed in April 1978 and officially opened in May 1978 - the offices were ready for use the following year.

When it opened, within the footprint there was also a pub, The Travellers Rest, SaverSales and information offices, a café, dry cleaners, clothing shop and a newsagents. Escalators linked the concourse with the town centre, via a footbridge from the car park. Access to the buses was at street level or via subways.

The Black Box in September 2009



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