

# Community Magazine

## Miles Platting, Newton Heath and Collyhurst

News and useful information on health, wellbeing and what's on for people in our neighbourhood.

**Issue 4**  
**Autumn 2025**

**FREE**

Collyhurst housing developments

## Immortalising people in Newton Heath

Local theatre company Malandra Jacks has immortalised Newton Heath locals in film, cement and recycled plastic.

Read more about their celebration of local people and the green spaces of Newton Heath on page 4.



Sculptures of people from Newton Heath

## Meet your local neighbourhood team

Your neighbourhood team at Manchester City Council is growing. Welcome to the team Zoe!

On page 4, get to know who works in your local area and what a neighbourhood team does to serve the people who live and work there.

Plus read about your local councillors on page 11.



Pauline



Maria



Zoe

## Busy MPCAN in Miles Platting

Read the update from Miles Platting Community and Age-Friendly Network (MPCAN) on page 6



Tuesday Wellness Walkers



Find out about local activities for all ages, support for families, green-fingered initiatives, local news and much more...



**GREATER TOGETHER MANCHESTER**



Manchester Local  
Care Organisation

**NHS**

**MANCHESTER CITY COUNCIL**

# Welcome

خوش آمدیداً 歡迎 ІЛаскаво просимо স্বাগতম Soo dhowow  
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## Welcome to the fourth edition of the Miles Platting, Newton Heath and Collyhurst Community Magazine.

We have brought together a great group of people to be on the editorial board - a mixture of NHS, Manchester City Council and local voluntary, community and social enterprise organisations. This is by no means a closed group - if you'd like to get involved, please get in touch!

We have received some great articles from our communities and local people for this edition, along with updates about activities and lots of other

wonderful stuff happening across the neighbourhoods.

Our aim with this community paper is to bring smiles and updates to you, but as fantastic as our team is - we can't know everything, or tell everyone.

So we ask you to share with us any good news, opportunities, events and work that are taking place in Miles Platting, Newton Heath and Collyhurst. We would love to share it in this paper.

Please send your contributions to:

✉ [MPNHnews@outlook.com](mailto:MPNHnews@outlook.com)

## Advertising opportunities:

If you are a local business or organisation that would like to advertise in the paper, please email us for more information.



## Interested in joining the editorial team?

We are always looking for new contributors and fresh ideas. Please get in touch.



## MEET THE EDITORIAL BOARD



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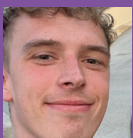
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## Tom Bassford

Manchester Local Care Organisation



Hello!

My job is all about helping to improve the health and wellbeing of everyone who lives in our local area.

Over the past three years, I've had the privilege of working with some brilliant people who are leading inspiring health projects - everything from blood pressure checks at the barbers to debt advice in local health centres.

I'm a big fan of any idea that helps people eat more healthily, get active, or quit smoking, because the evidence shows these changes can make a huge difference to our health. Got an idea? We'd love to hear it.

We launched this magazine in February 2024 to celebrate all the great things happening in our neighbourhood. I'll be starting a new role elsewhere in Manchester soon, but I'll definitely keep reading!



# Malandra Jacks

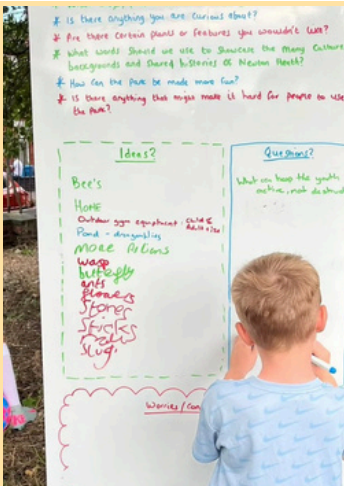
## Celebrating Creativity in Newton Heath

At Malandra Jacks, we believe stories connect communities. Based in North Manchester, we work to uncover, celebrate, and showcase the creative energy of local people through projects that bring together film, performance, heritage, and community voices. Our aim is simple: to put North Manchester on the cultural map by highlighting the talent and spirit that makes our area unique.

## Shout Out North Manc

One of our recent projects, Shout Out North Manc, captured the heart of North Manchester's vibrant creative scene on film. The project showcased local stories and performances, with filming taking place in Newton Heath at All Saints Church with Reverend Andrew and the Policemen's Choir, who filled the space with music and community spirit.

We also filmed at the Men's Mental Health Support Comedy Club, led by comedian and storyteller Smug Roberts at Newton Heath Working Men's Club. The club has been a lifeline for men across generations, offering laughter, solidarity, and a safe place to talk. By shining a light on these incredible initiatives, Shout Out North Manc celebrates the resilience, creativity, and warmth of the people who call this area home.



Photos of Routes to Roots summer events



## Routes to Roots

Another exciting project with our friends from Easy Come Easy Grow is down at Gaskell Street Park on the fantastic Routes to Roots project.

We have been working with local schools and residents. We will be bringing all this work together in our creation of a vibrant community garden that celebrates who we are, where we come from and the roots we're growing together.



## Getting to Know Newton Heath

Building on the success of our Getting to Know Ancoats trail, we've launched Getting to Know Newton Heath, a project designed to leave a lasting cultural legacy in the area. Instead of statues of famous figures from the past, we're immortalising everyday local people with 3D-printed sculptures made from recycled plastic and concrete.

Through workshops, coffee mornings, and countless conversations, at Newton Heath Library, Knit & Natter sessions, and around the neighbourhood, we've gathered stories of identity, resilience, and belonging. This October, five local people will be celebrated through a library-wide exhibition of their sculptures, creating a trail that tells the story of Newton Heath today.



Sculptures of people from Newton Heath

# Your Local Neighbourhood Team

## Supporting Stronger, Safer Communities:

**In every community, there are people working tirelessly to make neighbourhoods safer, cleaner, and more connected. One such group is the local council's Neighbourhood Team - dedicated officers who serve as the link between residents and wider council services.**

### Meet your local team

Maria Lester is the neighbourhood manager for the local area. She is supported by Pauline Campbell, your dedicated neighbourhood officer.

Maria and Pauline are passionate about making a difference and are committed to working closely with residents to address local concerns and support community-led initiatives. Their deep understanding of the area and proactive approach make them valuable allies in improving the quality of life for everyone.

In September, the team were joined by Zoe Goddard, who has taken on the role of neighbourhood community development officer.

Zoe will work directly with community groups and residents to support local projects, strengthen partnerships, and help bring new ideas to life. Her focus will be on empowering communities, ensuring that everyone has the opportunity to get involved and make a positive impact.

### How You Can Get Involved

Residents are encouraged to engage with their neighbourhood team. Whether you want to raise a concern, develop an idea into a local project, or simply learn more about what's happening in your area, Maria, Pauline, and Zoe are here to help.

Contact us for more information

📞 0781 422 8504 (Pauline)

✉️ pauline.campbell@manchester.gov.uk

✉️ maria.lester@manchester.gov.uk

✉️ Zoe.Goddard@manchester.gov.uk



Pauline



Maria



Zoe

## What Does a Neighbourhood Team Do?



### Listening to residents

They provide a direct point of contact for concerns ranging from fly-tipping and anti-social behaviour to housing and environmental issues.



### Building community relationships

By working with schools, local groups, and residents, they help foster a sense of unity and shared responsibility.



### Tackling local issues

Whether it's organising clean-up events or working with the police to address nuisance behaviour, the team takes a hands-on approach to problem-solving.



### Supporting vulnerable residents

They help connect individuals and families with support services, ensuring no one is left behind.



### Encouraging civic pride

Through community projects and events, they inspire residents to take pride in their area.



# Collyhurst Developments

## New Council Homes

**Construction works are progressing on 30 new-build Manchester City Council properties in South Collyhurst. There will be 14 houses and an apartment block containing 16 flats.**

Construction is taking place on the land between Whitely Road, Kingsfold Avenue and Winscombe Drive.

These 30 new Council homes have been prioritised for residents that moved out of Collyhurst when the maisonettes were demolished. A number of former maisonette residents have expressed an interest. Staff from Manchester City Council are working to support them with the move, which is planned to be later in the year.

This follows Manchester City Council's vision of providing family-friendly and environmentally sustainable new homes. As the first new neighbours move in, it's great to see this vision starting to take shape.

View of the new houses on Kingsfold Avenue



View of the new apartment block on the corner of Whitley Road and Winscombe Drive



## New tram stop at Sandhills



**In June, transport bosses confirmed they will use some of the £2.5bn of cash Chancellor Rachel Reeves gave to Greater Manchester to revamp public transport to build a new stop at Sandhills.**

The new station between Victoria and Queens Road MetroLink stations will be vital to improve Collyhurst's connection to the transport network.

Council leader Bev Craig said, "Crucially for Manchester, this funding will help deliver the brand new Metrolink stop at Sandhills in Collyhurst and unlock the ambitious future phases of regeneration in this community that will see more than 2,500 new homes – including significant council and social housing – and new shops alongside education and medical facilities."

## Collyhurst Residents' Panel



**The Council wants to ensure that residents remain at the centre of the regeneration proposals being developed for Collyhurst, which is why we and our partners want to create a residents panel.**

Reflecting the diverse Collyhurst community, this small group of local residents will meet a few times a year to provide feedback and help us make sure that our plans for consultation and engagement are effective.

Register your interest by emailing:  
[info@collyhurst-regeneration.co.uk](mailto:info@collyhurst-regeneration.co.uk)

The panel won't be the only way to get involved. We'll continue to invite all Collyhurst residents to be involved in all public engagement and consultations.

# Miles Platting: MPCAN Update

**The Miles Platting Community and Age-Friendly Network (MPCAN) is a neighbourhood network made up of residents and community groups.**

At MPCAN, we are passionate about making Miles Platting and its surrounding areas a better place to live, age and bring up children. MPCAN member groups hold regular meet-ups and organise activities which help to reduce social isolation and improve the physical and mental wellbeing.

The groups and projects are:

- Monday Movers & Tuesday Walkers
- Holland Street & Ridgway Street Community Gardens
- Theatre Trippers
- Play Readers
- Social Super Market
- Many Hands Craft Collective
- Ged's Disco
- Miles Platting Savers



[mpcan.org.uk/about-mpcan](https://mpcan.org.uk/about-mpcan)

[milesplattingcommunitynetwork@gmail.com](mailto:milesplattingcommunitynetwork@gmail.com)

Ring Ellie for an informal chat **07887 601 451**



MPCAN family event



Tuesday Wellness Walkers

## MPCAN Climate Action Group

With support from the University of Manchester, Greater Manchester Green Spaces Fund, Groundwork and other partners, the MPCAN Climate Action Group have been creating a Miles Platting Wildlife Corridor.

The Wildlife Corridor includes: Victoria Mill Park, Bollington Road Green, and the Community Gardens at Holland Street, Ridgway Street and Chippenham Road. Throughout the Summer we have seen the benefits as new trees, hedging and planting thrive, and ponds attract a wide range of wildlife.

Over the summer, local residents were invited to join community events and workshops held in the green spaces, including fruit tree pruning, orchard leader training and a summer garden tea party.



## MPCAN St. Cuthbert's Action group

The MPCAN St. Cuthbert's Action group have set up a new charity called **St. Cuthbert's Communities Together** to take forward the redevelopment of St Cuthbert's Church (located on the corner of Fir Street and Oldham Road).

This community-led project is in partnership with the Parochial Church Council. They are hopeful that the project will provide a much-needed space for local residents to come together, worship, and socialise. Following extensive community consultations, redevelopment will also include a range of possible services from health to housing.

## MPCAN supporting Social Homes for Manchester

MPCAN have been advocating for an increased number of homes for social rent to be built in Miles Platting. For more information on the Social Homes for Manchester campaign, please visit [www.socialhomes4mcr.org.uk](http://www.socialhomes4mcr.org.uk)



# Age Friendly Activities



Age Friendly Manchester is working in partnership with 4CT to fund local groups and organisations to run age friendly activities in Miles Platting and Newton Heath.

Here are three sessions that encourage people aged over 50 to **GATHER**, **EAT** and **MOVE**!

## Over 50s wellbeing programme

**Gather** - reduce isolation

**Eat** - prepare, cook and eat a healthy meal together

**Move** - Morrisso Health will offer light exercises

Two six-week programmes will be run from:

- 30th October to 4th December 2025
- 8th January to 12th February 2026

Venue: St George's Youth and Community Centre, Bothwell Road, Collyhurst, M40 7NY

☎ 0161 834 9368



## Community Growing Space



Free workshops for over 50s.

Help us create a community growing space on the grounds of Avro Hollows high-rise in Newton Heath.

Take part in fun, free sessions that help you connect with others, eat healthier, and get moving!

Contact Kelly for more information:

☎ 0735 4696 392

✉ [eceg\\_mcr@yahoo.com](mailto:eceg_mcr@yahoo.com)

## Lunch and Boccia

Meet others, eat healthy food and learn how to play Boccia, a Paralympic sport which is inclusive for everyone!

- Participants will get a free slow cooker, recipe book and food hygiene awareness talk
- Bring in one of your slow cooker meals to share your food with the group
- Play Boccia with the group.

For ages 50+ living with a health condition.

Every Monday from 11:30am to 1pm, starting Monday 13th October.

Venue: The Stirling Centre, Scotland Hall Road, Newton Heath, M40 2RE

Contact Mark for more information or to book:

☎ 07749 368 339

✉ [m.woodcock@beingthere.org.uk](mailto:m.woodcock@beingthere.org.uk)



# Incredible Years Sessions

There are upcoming Incredible Years sessions happening at your local Children's Centres. Through discussions we will think about common issues and how to manage them.

- ✓ Build on your skills dealing with difficult behaviour
- ✓ Help your child be ready for school
- ✓ Increase your confidence as a parent
- ✓ Further develop your relationship with your child
- ✓ Meet other parents and share parenting experiences and ideas with each other.
- ✓ Help your child to develop social and emotional skills such as sharing, taking turns, listening and staying calm

## How do I sign up?

We run courses throughout the year at Collyhurst Children's Centre and Newton Heath Children's Centre.

If you would like to join us, please contact one of our children's centres and ask to speak to a member of the Outreach Team:

- Collyhurst **0161 205 1744**
- Newton Heath **0161 510 0066**



## Who is the course for?

Being a parent is the best and hardest job in the world. Lots of parents struggle with their child's behaviour at some time. This course will help you to develop the skills needed to be the best parent you can be. The course is for parents with a child aged between 2 to 4 years old.

*'The course has helped me become a better Dad for my Daughter, and I also feel better in myself.'*

*'I love this course so much, I honestly can't believe the difference in my home in the last few weeks.'*

*'This course has helped us understand our little girl a bit better and see things through her eyes, it's helped us achieve things we didn't think were possible.'*



**There is a creche provided for your child and any siblings.**





# What's on for young people and families



## MONDAYS

- **Children's story time** - songs, rhymes, and stories at Newton Heath Library. 11am to 11:30am (term-time only). For children aged 0-5 with parents, grandparents and carers. No need to book. FREE.
- **Lego Club** for under 18s at Newton Heath Library. 4pm to 5pm (term-time only). No need to book. FREE.
- **Stay, Play and Learn** at Newton Heath Children's Centre, 10am to 11:30am (term-time only). For ages 0 to 5 years. FREE. Please book by calling 0161 510 0066 at 8:30am on the day.
- **Infant Feeding Team Drop-in** - feeding advice at Newton Heath Children's Centre, 12:30pm to 1:30pm.

## WEDNESDAYS

- **Stay, Play and Learn for children under 5** at Miles Platting and Ancoats Sure Start Centre from 10am to 11:30am (term-time only) FREE. Call 0161 277 6970 at 8:30am on the day to book.
- **Adult and Toddler session** at St George's Centre, M40 7NY. 9:30am to 11:30am (term-time only). FREE.
- **Baby Explore for children under 1** at Miles Platting Children's Centre 1:30pm to 2:30pm FREE. Call 0161 277 6970 to book.

## THURSDAYS

- **Tiny Tots and Toddler Time** at Miles Platting Library. 1:15pm to 2:15pm (term-time only). For children aged 0-5 years with parents, grandparents and carers. No need to book. FREE.
- **Children's crafts and colouring** for under 18s at Miles Platting Library. 4pm to 5pm (term-time only). No need to book. FREE.
- **Messy Play** for 0 to 5 year olds, at Collyhurst Sure Start Children's Centre, 10am to 11:30am (term-time only). Call 0161 205 1744 at 8:30am on the day to book. FREE.
- **Walking Mum's Club** - open to all mums and their little ones. No need to book. FREE. Visit their Facebook page for more info. [@walking\\_mums\\_club](#)

## SATURDAYS

- **Hello Saturday** - children's crafts, games and colouring for children aged 4 to 11 at Newton Heath Library. 11:30am to 12pm. No need to book. FREE.
- **Lego Club** for under 18s at Miles Platting Library. 11am to 12:30pm (term-time only). FREE.

# Sensory Play at Sure Start Centres

**What is sensory play and why is it really important?** Sensory play is any activity that stimulates at least one of your child's senses. This could be hearing, sight, touch, smell or taste. It also includes play that involves movement or balance.

Exploring the world through senses can have many benefits for young children. It helps to improve attention span, helps children to understand the world, boost language development, supports the development of motor skills and helps to foster social interactions.

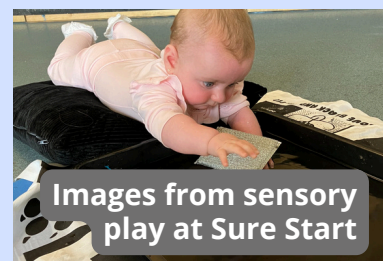
Why not book onto one of our baby sensory programmes? The programmes are for children under one year of age and are completely free, please call 0161 277 6970 to book a space.

### Baby Bag

A six-week session for you and your baby. You also get a gift bag full of sensory equipment at the end of the six weeks. Available at all centres.

### Baby Explore

At Miles Platting Children's Centre, M40 7DA, every Wednesday 1:30pm to 2:30pm.



Images from sensory play at Sure Start

# Bonfire and Halloween Campaign

## #BangOutOfOrder

Emergency services in Greater Manchester are urging communities to help prevent attacks on emergency service workers, deliberate fires and anti-social behaviour this autumn, in the run up to Halloween and bonfire night.

The Bang Out Of Order campaign aims to highlight the consequences of anti-social behaviour, encourage parents to have conversations with their children about their behaviour over the bonfire and Halloween period, and inform residents about the ways to report anti-social behaviour.

## Halloween advice

### Do:

- ✓ Look out for the posters below - these will let you know if 'trick or treaters' are welcome
- ✓ Take extra care crossing roads - more accidents happen to children in the dark
- ✓ Get a responsible adult to go with your group to help keep you safe
- ✓ Dress to be seen - wear reflective clothes or carry a light so that drivers can see you
- ✓ Be respectful - ring or knock only once, and be prepared to take 'no' for an answer.

### Don't:

- ✗ Go alone - 'trick or treating' is more fun and safer if you go in a small group
- ✗ Go into houses - stay on the doorstep where the responsible adult can see you
- ✗ Play pranks that may damage property - this could result in arrest and a criminal record
- ✗ Demand money or intimidate people - Halloween can be a scary night for some
- ✗ Throw things at people or their property - it is a criminal offence and you will be arrested.



## Bonfire night advice

It is safer to attend an organised bonfire and firework event. If you are planning to have fireworks at home, please ensure you follow the Firework Safety Code:

- Buy fireworks marked UKCA or CE
- Keep fireworks in a closed metal box and use them one at a time
- Follow the instructions on each firework
- Light the fireworks at arm's length using a taper and stand well back
- Never return to a firework once it has been lit
- Never put fireworks in your pocket
- Never throw fireworks
- Light sparklers one at a time and wear gloves
- Keep a bucket of water nearby at all times
- Never light fireworks if you've been drinking alcohol
- Keep pets indoors.

Visit [manchesterfire.gov.uk](http://manchesterfire.gov.uk) for more information.



## Don't ignore it, report it

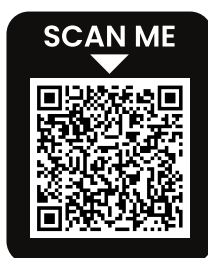
If you believe there is a risk to life or property, always call 999.

To report incidents of anti-social behaviour, including firework nuisance, you can:

- Live Chat or report online at [gmp.police.uk](http://gmp.police.uk)
- Call 101.

Anonymously report deliberate fire setting or attacks on a firefighter/fire response vehicle through FireStoppers:

- Call 0800 169 5558
- Visit [firestoppersreport.co.uk](http://firestoppersreport.co.uk)



Scan the QR code to access the posters

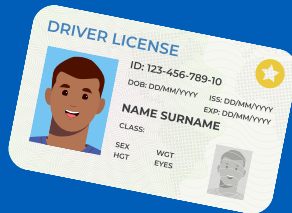


# E-Scooters and the law

  
**1,387**  
people were killed or injured in e-scooter accidents in Great Britain in 2023.

E-scooters are classed as a motor vehicle. To ride one you need:

- ✓ A driving licence (so you must be at least 17 years old)
- ✓ Insurance



It's illegal to ride a privately owned e-scooter on the roads in the UK.

You can be fined, receive penalty notices or have the e-scooter seized for:

- riding while under the influence of alcohol or drugs
- riding on pavements, using a mobile phone
- riding in an anti-social manner.



If you buy an e-scooter you can only ride it on your private land e.g. garden, driveway.

## Your local councillors

Local Councillors are elected by the community to decide how the council should carry out its various activities. They represent public interest as well as individuals living within the ward in which he or she has been elected to serve a term of office.

They have regular contact with the general public through council meetings, telephone calls or surgeries. Surgeries provide an opportunity for any ward resident to go and talk to their councillor face to face and these take place on a regular basis.

You can contact your local councillors using the emails below or by calling **0161 234 3235**



Councillor John Flanagan  
[cllr.john.flanagan@manchester.gov.uk](mailto:cllr.john.flanagan@manchester.gov.uk)



Councillor June Hitchen  
[cllr.june.hitchen@manchester.gov.uk](mailto:cllr.june.hitchen@manchester.gov.uk)



Councillor Carmine Grimshaw  
[cllr.carmine.grimshaw@manchester.gov.uk](mailto:cllr.carmine.grimshaw@manchester.gov.uk)

## Local Councillor becomes Lord Mayor of Manchester

Carmine was first elected as a Labour Councillor in 2012, representing the residents of Miles Platting and Newton Heath. During his 13 years of uninterrupted service he has served on numerous committees and working groups, including the Neighbourhoods and Communities Committee and Licensing Policy Committee.

During his year as Lord Mayor, Carmine aims to support and raise the profile of local good causes, particular those supporting dementia and cancer care.



# Scam Alert: Winter Fuel Payments

In June, the Government announced that they are reinstating the Winter Fuel Payment for everyone over the State Pension age in England and Wales.

Anyone with an income of, or below, £35,000 a year will get the Winter Fuel Payment this winter. You do not need to do anything! Just regularly check your fuel statement. The payment of £200 per household, or £300 per household (where there is someone over the age of 80), will be made automatically to help with heating bills this winter.

However, there are reports of people being contacted out of the blue regarding the upcoming Winter Fuel Payment. **This is a scam!**

Scammers are offering to help setup the Winter Fuel Payment and asking pensioners for their bank details. **Never give out any personal information. A genuine organisation will never ask you for these details over the phone, in an email or in writing.**



The government has said you do not need to do anything regarding the receipt of Winter Fuel Payments. These will be made automatically. No one will contact you directly.

Find out more information at:

- [gov.uk/winter-fuel-payment](https://gov.uk/winter-fuel-payment)
- [stopthinkfraud.campaign.gov.uk](https://stopthinkfraud.campaign.gov.uk)

## Do you vote by post? New rules for postal voting

YOUR VOTE MATTERS

DON'T LOSE IT



New legislation as part of the Elections Act 2022 means that all postal voters must reapply every three years and complete an identity check.

### What's changing?

If you applied for a postal vote before 30 October 2023, you need to reapply this year to keep voting by post.

### How to reapply

Scan the QR code or visit [www.gov.uk/apply-postal-vote](https://www.gov.uk/apply-postal-vote) to apply securely online.



If this affects you, you should have received an email or letter from the Elections Team. Please respond as soon as possible. Don't wait for the deadline.

If you don't reapply, your postal vote will be cancelled and you'll need to vote in person at your polling station.

We'll confirm your polling station when we send your poll cards.

### Not sure if this affects you?

Contact us at [esu@manchester.gov.uk](mailto:esu@manchester.gov.uk) or call **0161 234 1212** for advice.

