

# Community Magazine

Biggest  
issue yet!

**Issue 8**  
**Autumn 2026**

**FREE**

## Miles Platting, Newton Heath, Collyhurst and Moston

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

**Free  
fireworks  
events  
return to  
Manchester**



**The skies over Manchester will light up once again as firework night celebrations are set to return with displays in Manchester parks this year bringing the city's communities together.**

On Saturday 7 November, free family-friendly fireworks events at Wythenshawe Park, Heaton Park and Platt Fields Park will feature both a reduced-noise, low-impact display at 5pm for families and SEND audiences and a main fireworks display at 8pm, with accessibility and inclusivity at the heart of the celebrations.

Each of the three parks will host lantern making workshops in the weeks leading up to the events, with family-friendly lantern parades taking place ahead of the 8pm firework shows. Additional entertainment will be announced for each park in the coming weeks.

We'd like to encourage our local residents to attend organised displays rather than organising their own. This reduces stress for animals and reduces the risk of accidental fires or firework-related injury in the community.

### **Shelter talk landlord rules and renter rights**

Shelter offer advice on reducing damp and mould. They also explain about landlord rules and renter rights when it comes to damp and mould, see pages 6-7.



### **Changes to children's centres and family hubs**

We are delighted to share with our local community that, from 1 October 2026, our services have expanded and we have officially become Family Hubs and Family Centres across Moston, Newton Heath, Collyhurst and Miles Platting. See page 10.

### **Cost of living**

Cost of living and regeneration news can be found on pages 8-9.

### **Ask Dr Dubey**

Introducing our new contributor: Dr Dubey of Hazeldene Medical Centre answers common questions about head lice, back to school immunisations and winter vaccines, pages 4-5.



# Welcome

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Witamy Bine ați venit 歡迎光臨 Karibuni ברוכים הבאים

## Welcome to the eighth edition of the Miles Platting, Newton Heath, Collyhurst and Moston 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 are excited to be highlighting some great activities and ways to get involved in our community.

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, Collyhurst and Moston. We would love to share it in this paper.

So please share the newspaper widely, and send your contributions and article ideas to:

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

### Sponsorship opportunities:

If you are a local business or organisation that would like to sponsor 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



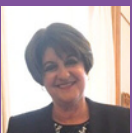
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## Claire Briscoe Caritas Lalley Centre



Hello!

I'm a new member of the editorial team and I work with Caritas Lalley Centre, a local charity that helps people in our area who are experiencing poverty, homelessness, isolation or discrimination.

If you're worried about bills, need advice with your energy or making your home warmer this winter, need financial support or advice, are homeless or at risk of becoming so, or are looking at ways to connect with others, pop into our Lalley centre in Collyhurst and the team would be happy to help. We also have a community allotment and food pantry on site as well.

You can also access our other services around Greater Manchester and Lancashire too - visit [www.caritassalford.org.uk/Lalley](http://www.caritassalford.org.uk/Lalley) to get in touch or drop in and say hello.

I'm excited to have contributed to this edition - it's jam-packed with great content and I hope you find it helpful and thought-provoking too.



# Green spaces and the environment



Photos of the community allotment



## Broadhurst Park's community allotment

Discover the joy of gardening and community spirit at Broadhurst Park's community allotment.

Nestled within the grounds of FC United, this green space is dedicated to bringing people together to grow their own produce, share gardening tips, and foster a sense of belonging.

Whether you're a seasoned gardener or a complete novice, this community allotment offers a fantastic opportunity to learn new skills and connect with fellow garden enthusiasts.

Sessions range from growing food to biodiversity awareness. The accessible space is inclusive and welcoming, open to any interested local residents, volunteers and visitors.

- **When:** Thursday 10am to 12pm
- **Where:** Gardens facing onto St. Mary's Road, FC United, Broadhurst Park, Moston, M40 0FJ
- **Contact:** Jenna Willis:  
lakesidecomcic@gmail.com or 07872121853

## Refurbished play area

The newly refurbished Douro Street play area in Newton Heath is now officially open to the public following a complete upgrade. Brand new play equipment and safety surfacing has been supported by local councillors and funded through the Neighbourhood Infrastructure Renewal Fund (NIRF).

To celebrate the opening, Manchester City Council hosted an Active Streets event in August. The event included the temporary closure of Douro Street, creating a safe space for residents to enjoy street games and sports activities.

Children also had the opportunity to decorate bird boxes with the Parks Service, while Bee Pedal Ready provided free bike repairs and mini bike services which proved particularly popular.

Keep Britain Tidy organised a litter pick and hosted a swap shop, giving residents the opportunity to donate unwanted household items and take home something new.



New play equipment



Some of the fantastic Keep Britain Tidy volunteers



# Ask Dr Dubey: your Local GP

Dr Dubey from Hazeldene Medical Centre kindly answered some of the most commonly asked questions from parents as children head back to school...

## My child keeps getting head lice. What should I do?

Don't worry. Head lice are very common, especially in primary school. Lots of children get them, and it does not mean your child is dirty.

Head lice spread when children put their heads close together while playing, learning or taking part in activities. They cannot jump or fly.

The best way to find head lice is to use a special fine comb on wet hair. You can also buy treatment from a pharmacy to help remove them.

Try not to make your child feel upset or embarrassed. Head lice are nobody's fault. Lots of children get them at some time.

There is no need to keep children off school because of head lice. Let close friends or family know so they can check their hair too.

Keep checking hair regularly, and remember, head lice can be annoying, but they are not dangerous and do not make children ill.

### Wet combing head lice treatment



Wet the hair and apply lots of conditioner.



Using a fine-toothed nit comb, comb the whole head of hair in small sections, from root to tip.



Take your time as every strand of hair must be combed, this can take at least 30 minutes for long or thick curly hair.



Wet-comb on day 1, 5, 9 and 13 to catch any newly hatched lice.



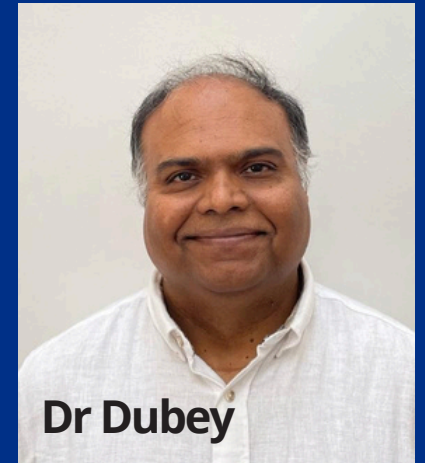
Clean the comb between brushes to remove the lice or eggs.



Check the hair again on day 17 to ensure there are no nits or lice.



1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17



Dr Dubey

## My child is scared about having a school vaccination. What can I say?

It is normal to feel worried about having an injection. Many children feel nervous before a vaccination.

Try talking calmly with your child about what will happen. Explain that the injection is very quick. It may feel like a tiny pinch for a few seconds, but then it is over.

Vaccinations help protect children from serious illnesses and help keep families and friends safe too.

You could ask your child what worries them most. Sometimes talking about their fears can make them feel better. Some children like to take slow breaths, think about something fun, or chat with a friend while they wait.

The school's vaccination team give vaccinations every day and are very good at helping nervous children.

Remind your child how brave they are. Many children feel proud once it is done and are surprised by how quick it was.

### FACT CHECK;

- The flu vaccine is quick, safe and simple.
- The flu vaccine injection does not contain pork (porcine).



# Ask Dr Dubey: your Local GP

## Do I really need a winter flu or COVID vaccination?

Many people ask this question. Even if you are usually healthy, flu and COVID can sometimes make people very poorly. Winter vaccinations help your body learn how to fight these illnesses.

Having a vaccination can help stop you becoming seriously ill. It can also help protect other people around you, including babies, older people and people with health problems.

Some people are offered winter vaccinations because they need extra protection. This includes older adults, pregnant women and people with certain health conditions.

The NHS checks vaccines very carefully to make sure they are safe and work well.

If you get an invitation for a winter vaccination, it is important to book your appointment as soon as you can, or you pop along to one of the community vaccination events that will be happening in the coming months.

Getting vaccinated is a quick and easy way to help keep yourself, your family and your community healthy this winter.



## Book, change or cancel a flu vaccination appointment

If you are registered with a GP surgery in England you can use this online service to:

- check if you need an appointment
- book an appointment
- check, change or cancel your appointment

Scan the QR code to access the service. You can call 119 free of charge to book over the phone if you cannot book online. You can ask for an interpreter if you need one.



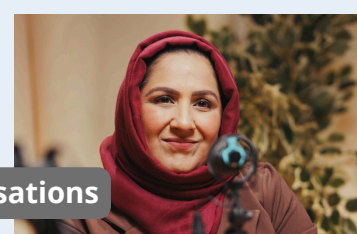
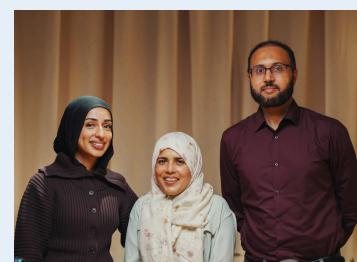
## Gift of the Jab: Real Questions. Trusted Voices. Community Conversations.

What do social media myths, vaccine ingredients, faith and community trust have to do with winter vaccines? Quite a lot, as it turns out.

In this 3-part podcast series, powered by Manchester Local Care Organisation and produced by Freshrb Health Media, Gift of the Jab brings together healthcare professionals, a social media influencer, local community influencers and community champions to explore questions and concerns about winter vaccines within the South Asian community.

From navigating online misinformation and understanding vaccine ingredients to exploring religious concerns and the role of trusted community voices, we're having an honest, accessible conversation about vaccination - one that listens as much as it informs.

Listen to Gift of the Jab on Everyday People Talking Health, available soon on Spotify, and share it with someone who might find it useful. **Let's Talk Vaccines.**



Photos from the conversations

# Shelter: reducing damp and mould

As we reach autumn and temperatures drop, many properties will start to experience issues with damp and mould. Severe damp and mould can cause health issues and structural damage to your property and belongings. Emma Nay from Shelter explains...

## Tips to reduce damp and mould in your home:



open windows regularly



cover pans when you cook



dry clothes outdoors or in a dryer



close internal doors when you cook or shower



use extractor fans in the kitchen and bathroom



leave a gap between furniture and external walls



wipe condensation from window sills each morning



use a dehumidifier



heat your property

If you are struggling to afford to heat your home, the **Local Energy Advice Partnership (LEAP)** can support you to manage energy costs. [applyforleap.org.uk](http://applyforleap.org.uk)

SCAN  
ME!



Autumn temperatures may lead to an increase in damp and mould.

## How dehumidifiers help

Dehumidifiers remove excess moisture from the air, reduce condensation, and help prevent mould growth. They are a preventative measure and do not replace structural housing repairs.



### Running costs

Typical running costs are approximately 3.8p to 4p per hour.

For example, use 10 hours per day would cost approximately £2.60 to £3.00 per week.

Households should use the dehumidifier when needed such as when drying clothes indoors or cooking) and avoid running it all the time.



Drying clothes indoors can increase damp and mould.



# Landlord rules and renter rights

**No one should have to live in a home that's deemed as unsanitary or unsafe. That's why it's crucial to know your rights as a renter. Emma Nay from Shelter explains...**

## Rules for Landlords

Your landlord must fix problems that cause damp, such as:

- leaking internal pipes
- poor ventilation
- broken boilers and heating systems
- cracked walls or rotten window frames
- leaking roofs, missing roof tiles or faulty guttering
- Damaged extractor fans.

Landlords should also fix any damage caused by the damp - for example, they should redecorate or replace damaged plaster or carpets.

Your landlord should check if damp and mould return at least 6 weeks after the repairs.

**Landlords should not tell you to do anything unreasonable.**

- DO NOT paint over mould that keeps coming back
- DO NOT stop doing everyday things such as cooking or showering
- DO NOT accept that the problems are just condensation without checking
- DO NOT stop drying clothes indoors if you have no outside space.



**Black mould**



**Image of home with mould and infestation**



## Reporting repairs

The best way to report damp and mould issues to your landlord is my email, so you have a written record that you have requested repairs. This can be used as evidence if the landlord does not take steps to resolve the issue.

You must allow access to the property for the landlord or their representatives to complete repairs work.

**Continue to pay rent even if you experience issues with disrepair in your property as you may accrue debts or risk being evicted.**

If your landlord does not resolve the issue, you might need to take further steps:

- Wait two weeks after you report the problem. If nothing is done, contact your landlord again.
- Wait another two weeks, if you haven't heard back from your landlord email your landlord giving them 48 hours to respond.
- Keep copies of all communication.
- Collect as much evidence as you can: photos, copies of any communication with the landlord, evidence from professionals who have looked at the problem, or a note from a doctor if the problem is affecting your health.
- If the complaint does not receive a response after a further 10 days, contact Manchester City Council housing team via [manchester.gov.uk/homes-and-property](https://manchester.gov.uk/homes-and-property)

# Cost of living

## Caritas Lalley Centre, community pantry and allotment

With costs rising, many people in our area are finding it harder to make ends meet and are worried about how they will pay their bills or rent.

The Lalley centre is a helpful and supportive place with a team who can help in lots of ways, including:

- Food
- Financial advice
- Health and wellbeing
- Crisis support
- Social tariff access
- Wood Street Mission referrals
- Healthy Start referrals
- Support with utilities
- Energy advice and energy efficiency
- Department of Work and Pensions (DWP) benefits
- Housing assistance

There's a food pantry on site, and a community allotment which grows amazing organic produce which is shared.



Photos of the pantry and allotment

Pop into the centre, Monday to Friday, at St Malachy's RC Primary School, Eggington Street Collyhurst Manchester, M40 7RG.

Find out more about how to get in touch and opening times at: [caritassalford.org.uk/Lalley](http://caritassalford.org.uk/Lalley)

*"You've been such an amazing support at a time when I didn't know where to turn. You have helped me make sure that my kids have food each day and I'm not scared when the bills come through the letterbox. Thank you."* - feedback from a local person accessing the service

## Healthy Start vouchers for healthy food and milk

**If you're more than 10 weeks pregnant or have a child under 4, you may be entitled to a Healthy Start card with money on it. The card can be used in some UK shops and is topped up every 4 weeks.**

You can use your card to buy:

- plain liquid cow's milk or infant formula
- fresh, frozen, and tinned fruit and vegetables
- fresh, dried, and tinned pulses

You can also use your card to collect:

- Healthy Start vitamins – these support you during pregnancy and breastfeeding
- vitamin drops for babies and young children – these are suitable from birth to 4 years old.

### How can I apply?

If you're receiving a qualifying benefit, you can apply online now at [healthystart.nhs.uk](http://healthystart.nhs.uk)

### How much will I get each week for my children?

- £4.65 from the 10th week of your pregnancy
- £9.30 for children from birth to 1 year old
- £4.65 for children between 1 and 4 years old



We have lots of unclaimed Healthy Start in our area. We know lots of people are eligible but we don't have many accessing the support.

If you would like support accessing Healthy Start, please drop into your local children's centre or call us. We can help fill in the forms.



# Live Well Network

**Over 40 people from local community organisations came together for the first Miles Platting and Newton Heath Live Well Network event at St Georges Community Centre.**

There was a real buzz in the room as people made new connections, shared what they are already doing and explored how they could work together.

The network is building on the great work already happening in Miles Platting, Newton Heath and South Collyhurst. It will give local groups a chance to connect, share ideas, support each other and work together on the things that matter most to local communities.

GM Live Well is Greater Manchester's commitment to shift spending and effort from crisis to prevention and investing in the voluntary, community faith and social enterprise organisations who are trusted, know residents best and are already providing support.

Insights were shared around emerging priority areas for Live Well in the ward. These themes will help shape what the network focuses on and where organisations can work together.



Photos from the event

This is just the start. We will continue to work together to shape the next phase of the network, strengthening community connections, amplifying local voices and bringing greater benefits for local people. Scan the QR code to find out more about the network.

Live Well resources, podcasts and news are also available on the Greater Manchester Combined Authority website:

[greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk/what-we-do/live-well](https://greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk/what-we-do/live-well)

Miles Platting and Newton Heath  
Live Well Network



## Moston Lane Regeneration Forum

**Residents and local businesses came together at Simpson Memorial Hall on Thursday 3 September for the first meeting of the newly established Moston Lane Regeneration Forum.**

The resident-led Forum has been established to ensure local people have a voice in discussions about the regeneration plans for Moston Lane. It will provide an opportunity for residents, traders and businesses to share information, discuss local issues and stay informed about developments affecting the area.

Members also heard from Place Capital Group, the Manchester-based regeneration and placemaking company who are working with Manchester City Council on the redevelopment of Moston Lane, who shared their proposed plans and responded to questions from residents.

The meeting marked a positive start for the Forum, with residents taking a leading role in

conversations about Moston Lane's future. There was a strong sense of enthusiasm in the room and a shared determination to ensure local voices are heard as the area continues to develop. The Forum will continue to meet, providing a platform for residents to stay informed, share ideas and help shape the future of Moston Lane.

Mock-up of how Moston Lane could look



# Changes to Children's Centres

## Your local children's centre is changing, We are moving to Family Hubs and centres.

From 1 October 2026, our services have expanded and we have officially become Family Hubs and Family Centres across Moston, Newton Heath, Collyhurst and Miles Platting.

Our Family Hubs will bring together a range of services, activities and support for babies, children, young people and families, working with local partners to make sure families can access the right support at the right time, close to home.

We officially launch our new Family Hub in Moston, in mid-November (date to be confirmed), so please keep an eye on your local Facebook pages and community noticeboards for further information, including the launch date and details of what will be available.



## What does this mean for you and your family?

We will continue to provide a range of FREE universal services for children under 5, including Baby Explore and Stay, Play and Learn.

We will also offer our new First Steps to School sessions. First Steps to School is a specially designed session for children aged 2-4 years and their parents/carers, helping children develop the skills they need for a confident transition into nursery or Reception. Sessions will focus on important skills such as communication and language, independence and self-help skills, physical development and early writing skills, including activities such as mark making.

As part of our new Family Hub offer, we are also going to be expanding the support available to families with children and young people up to the age of 19, or 25 for young people with Special Educational Needs and/or Disabilities (SEND). This will include parenting advice and support, information, advice and guidance, and support with areas such as housing, debt, finances and accessing charitable organisations. Our aim is to make it easier for families to find the right support, advice and services in their local community, all in one place

# FREE childcare and education

## Did you know you may be eligible for FREE childcare?

There are a number of funded childcare options available to families, and you may be entitled to FREE childcare for your child.

Eligible working parents with children aged 9 months to 4 years may be entitled to up to 30 hours of funded childcare each week, for 38 weeks of the year. Eligibility depends on your circumstances, including your work and income.

There are also other funded childcare entitlements available. All 3 and 4-year-olds are entitled to 15 hours of funded early education, and some 2-year-olds may also be eligible for funded hours depending on family circumstances.

Not sure what you are entitled to? We can help! Please feel free to call into your local Family Hub or Family Centre and speak to a member of our team. We can help you check whether you may be eligible for funded childcare and provide information about the different options available to you.

Don't miss out – pop in and speak to us. We are here to help!





# Autumn crafts and mindfulness

## Activities to enjoy as the seasons change

### Golden hour

The light at the beginning and end of the day is more golden in autumn. The sun sits lower in the sky and makes amazing patterns.

- Can we catch the light with anything reflective?
- See what it does to our shadows.
- Is it casting long beams of light through trees or railings?
- Does it make our skin and hair glow?



Golden hour

### We're going on a bug hunt

What bugs can we find? What role do they play in our garden?

Find worms, ladybirds and woodlice to add to the garden, they help keep away aphids and encourage healthy soil.



### Preserving leaves

Leaves are changing. What colours can we see? What shape leaves can we find?

Preserving leaves with vegetable glycerine replaces the leaf's water content with a flexible gel. This keeps them soft, strong and colourful for years. Great to use as decorations.

- In a flat tray or container, mix 1 part vegetable glycerine to 2 parts warm water.
- Place your leaves in the liquid. If they float, use something heavy to keep them covered.
- Leave them to soak for 3 to 7 days, depending on the thickness of the leaves.
- Remove the leaves and pat them dry front and back with a paper towel.
- Let them air-dry flat on newsprint or paper towels for another 24 hours before crafting.



Autumn leaves in a wood

### Twig spiderwebs

Are any spiderwebs sparkling with dew, rain or frost? Can we spray them with water to make them sparkle?

- Cross sticks in a star shape and wind string around the middle to hold in place.
- Use string to make a spiderweb pattern. Work from the middle to the outside of the star.
- Use string to hang the spiderweb.



# Local History: Isabella Varley Banks

**We have Varley Street in Miles Platting and Isabella Banks Street near HOME. Many people are unaware of who these streets are named after. If you say the name Isabella Varley or her married name of Mrs Isabella Banks, not many people will know who she was, though one or two may recall Mrs George Linnaeus Banks due to a famous book published in 1876.**

Isabella's most famous book, "The Manchester Man" tells the story of Jabez Clegg, a foundling, discovered Moses-like on the banks of the Irk. He becomes a textile worker and marries his employer's daughter. In writing this book Isabella creates a tale of romance and melodrama, and after various trials and tribulations his life transforms from that of a poor apprentice to a prosperous Master. From poverty to wealth, mirroring the growth and prosperity of Isabella's home city of Manchester.

The book became her most lasting achievement and is considered to be an important social and historical novel. The original manuscript of The Manchester Man is held by the Chethams Library. It is classified as one of their noted 101 treasures. City centre pub, Joshua Brooks is named after one of the book's characters.

Isabella Varley, was born on 25 March 1821 at her father's Pharmacy. The shop was number 10 Oldham Street, Manchester, the building is now the Oxfam shop.

Isabella attended local schools including Miss Hannah Spray's Ladies' Day School where she became very skilled at embroidery.

When Isabella was 12, the family moved to Cheetham where she finished school and became a teacher. Isabella would go on to develop a keen interest in the history of Manchester and its political development, she was involved in campaigning for women's rights, she was also a member of the Ladies Committee of the Anti Corn Law League from 1842.

Isabella's greatest passion was writing, especially poetry, and this brought her into contact with The Sun Inn Group, a group of working class intellectuals who met at The Sun Inn on Long Millgate (by Cathedral Gardens). It is there that she met her husband George Linnaeus Banks, also a writer and journalist. They married in 1846 and Isabella continued her own writing but from then

on published her writings under her husband's name, appearing as Mrs George Linnaeus Banks.

George's career took the family to Harrogate, Birmingham, Dublin, Sussex and Windsor. George and Isabella's children were born in the different towns of his career, but only three survived from a possible ten children.

George and Isabella wrote a great deal of material together. George Banks struggled with alcoholism and depression and finally succumbed to cancer in 1881. Isabella's one constant throughout her tumultuous marriage and through the births and deaths of her children, was needlework. Isabella created and published in embroidery magazines, a new design every single month for 45 years.

From 1865 until 1894 she wrote 12 novels, three volumes of poetry, and 3 collections of short stories many of which won literary acclaim.

Anthony Trollope the Victorian novelist and civil servant greatly admired Isabella's contribution to literature and reportedly felt her "reward in literary life had fallen short of her just deserts". At his recommendation, the Royal Literary Fund gave Isabella £355 to ease some of her financial burdens and she was awarded a Civil List pension.



*Isabella Varley Banks*



## What I live for

*I live for those who love me,  
Whose hearts are kind and true,  
For heaven that smiles above me,  
And waits my spirit, too;  
For all the ties that bind me,  
For all the tasks assigned me.  
And bright hopes left behind me,  
And good that I can do.*

*I live to learn their story  
Who've suffered for my sake,  
To emulate their glory,  
And follow in their wake;  
Bards, patriots, martyrs, sages,  
The noble of all ages,  
Whose deeds crown history's pages,  
And Time's great volume make.*

*I live to hold communion  
With all that is divine,  
To feel there is a union  
'Twixt Nature's heart and mine;  
To profit by affliction,  
Reap truths from fields of fiction,  
And, wiser from conviction,  
Fulfil each grand design.*

*I live to hail that season,  
By gifted minds foretold,  
When men shall rule by reason,  
And not alone by gold;  
When man to man united,  
And every wrong thing righted,  
The whole world shall be lighted  
As Eden was of old.*

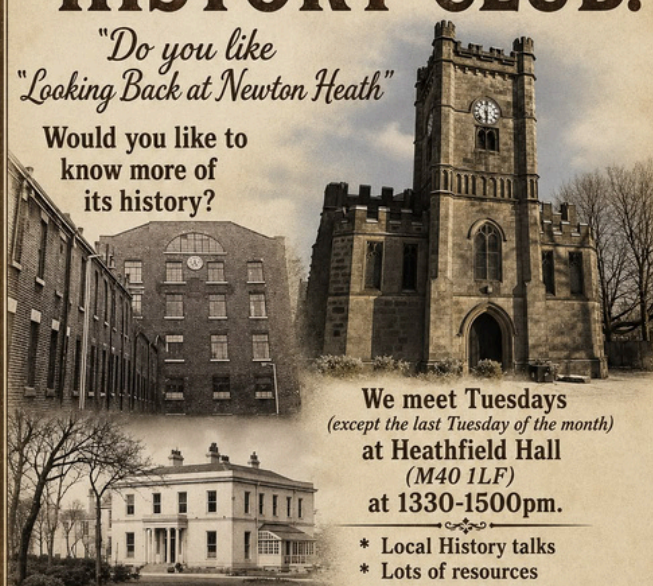
*I live for those who love me,  
Whose hearts are kind and true,  
For heaven that smiles above me,  
And waits my spirit too;  
For the cause that lacks assistance,  
For the wrong that needs resistance,  
For the future in the distance,  
And the good that I can do.*

- A poem by Isabella Varley Banks,  
a remarkable Manchester woman.

## NEWTON HEATH HISTORY CLUB.

*"Do you like  
Looking Back at Newton Heath"*

Would you like to  
know more of  
its history?



**We meet Tuesdays**  
(except the last Tuesday of the month)  
**at Heathfield Hall**  
(M40 1LF)  
**at 1330-1500pm.**

- \* Local History talks
- \* Lots of resources
- \* Coffee n cake days
- \* Social events

**NEW MEMBERS WELCOME**

**£1.50 PER WEEK**

## New family history group in Newton Heath

Are you interested in your family history? Would you like help tracing your ancestors or finding out who lived in your house in years gone by?

Newton Heath library are starting a new family history group. For more details please email the library: [newtonheathlibrary@manchester.gov.uk](mailto:newtonheathlibrary@manchester.gov.uk)

Manchester Libraries has shared two family photos from its archives.



Christopher Rawden and family in 1919,  
part of the extended Briggs family.



The Whiteley family in 1950



# Sporting memories

**Sporting Memories is a friendly weekly social group at FC United's Broadhurst Park, where people come together to share stories, memories and conversations inspired by sport. Working alongside the Sporting Memories Foundation since 2016, the sessions help tackle loneliness and social isolation by creating opportunities for friendship, connection and improved wellbeing.**

Discussions cover much more than football, with members exploring sporting history, legendary athletes and memorable moments from across the sporting world.

Sessions regularly feature guest speakers, archive footage, quizzes and occasional group outings, making every week different and engaging. Everyone is welcome, especially those looking to meet new people, stay socially connected and enjoy being part of a supportive community.

When: Fridays, 1:30pm - 3:00pm

Where: FC United of Manchester, Broadhurst Park, Moston, M40 0FJ

Price: £1 voluntary donation

Contact: [reception@fc-utd.net](mailto:reception@fc-utd.net) or 0161 769 2005

## SPORTING MEMORIES



**£1  
DONATION**

**WEEKLY MEETS TO DISCUSS  
VARIOUS SPORT-RELATED TOPICS  
AND HEAR FROM GUEST SPEAKERS**

**EVERY FRIDAY  
1.30 - 3PM**

Broadhurst Park, Lightbowne Road  
Moston, M40 0FJ

## The Hope Hub expands to Moston

**The Hope Hub provides a safe place for the community to come together with music, laughter and fun. We're delighted to announce that we also branched out to St Dunstons Hall in Moston in September.**

Over 100 people attend our events - welcoming the elderly, adults with learning disabilities, people with long term health issues and people who are bereaved or lonely. We provide a free lunch, free tea and coffee and entertainment.

We recently had a visit by the Lord Mayor of Manchester who thoroughly enjoyed himself and joined us for a dance.

Thank you to the 13,000 votes we received to win the Hobins Community Award. We are humbled by the response we've had. The legacy of our mum Kath, lives on through The Hope Hub.

[kathslegacy@hotmail.com](mailto:kathslegacy@hotmail.com)



Photos of the Lord Mayor at The Hope Hub events





## Celebration of Cycling

**NEPHRA Good Neighbours is a charity based in New Moston. A packed weekly programme of activities, classes and events supports people of all ages, with a particular focus on improving the health, wellbeing and social connections of older residents.**

As part of Manchester's Celebration of Cycling June 2026 campaign, NEPHRA's community-sponsored cycling challenge was a huge success, bringing local residents together for an accessible and enjoyable physical activity event while raising vital funds for the charity.

Held at NEPHRA's community centre on Parkfield Road North, New Moston, the challenge focused particularly on encouraging older people to get active and try cycling in a safe, supportive environment. Participants of all ages and abilities took turns on stationary exercise bikes, collectively smashing the original target of 108 miles by achieving an impressive 116 miles.

The event provided an opportunity to promote Manchester's Celebration of Cycling campaign, encouraging conversations about the health, wellbeing and environmental benefits of cycling.

The positive feedback from participants has inspired NEPHRA to build on the success of the event and have exciting plans for the future.

NEPHRA would like to extend its sincere thanks to the Manchester Active team for making the event possible and for their outstanding support throughout the project.



Photos from the Celebration of Cycling events



One participant said: *"I haven't cycled in over 70 years. I have had the best time. I absolutely loved every minute and want to do it again tomorrow."*

nephra.org.uk  
office@nephra.org.uk  
0161 637 6788 / 07716 316026  
27 Parkfield Road North, New Moston, M40 3TB

## NEPHRA Repair Café

**The second Friday of every month, 10am-2pm.  
Free. Bring your broken items back to life!**

Bring along broken or damaged items — such as electronics, clothing, furniture, or bicycles — to be fixed for free with the help of skilled volunteers. You can also learn how to fix things yourself.

The Repair Cafe promotes sustainability and repair rather than disposal.



Bike repair

Our Café will be running alongside the repair workshop, where you can connect with others who care about sustainability and get a cooked breakfast whilst your items are being repaired!

# St George's Community Centre

*"St George's Community Centre is not just a place to attend activities. It is a place where people connect and support one another."* - Community member.

St George's is a welcoming community hub offering activities that promote wellbeing, friendship, creativity, support and personal development. Whether you're looking to stay active, meet new people, access support, or try something new, you'll find a warm welcome at St George's.

Join one of our FREE activities:

- Monday Movers Chair Yoga From 11:30am
- Tuesday Collyhurst Walking Group meet at St Georges at 11am
- Thursday Line Dancing starts at 11:30am

About our FREE activities:

- Light lunch provided
- Plenty of tea and coffee
- A welcoming atmosphere.



Chair yoga

## There's something for everyone

- Narcotics Anonymous (NA) drop-in session, Monday evenings
- Zumba with Greg, Tuesdays and Thursdays, 8pm to 9pm, £4 per session
- Mexican Dance with Maria, Wednesdays from 7:30pm, FREE
- Honeybunch Community Mum Connected Sessions, run by Denita (last Friday of the month)
- Evolve to Aspire Drama & Wellbeing Sessions, Led by Kirsty, Sundays from 10:30am. Contact Kirsty via Instagram @evolvetoinspire25
- YPAC (4CT) Youth Sessions, early evening sessions for young people. Drop in and speak with the youth staff for more information.



info@stgeorgescollyhurst.co.uk



0161 834 9368



St Georges Community Centre Collyhurst



St Georges Community Centre, Bothwell Road, Collyhurst, M40 7NY

## Collyhurst Walking Group



*One member's story... My husband Terry had dementia, and joining the walking group at St George's was one of the best things we did. From the moment we arrived, we were welcomed with warmth, understanding, and kindness.*

*Terry thoroughly enjoyed the groups, and the support he received helped him feel included and valued. The compassion and sense of community we experienced meant the world to us and made a real difference to our lives. I was never left to cope alone, and after Terry passed away, the care and friendship shown to me was and is priceless. I will always be thankful for everything St George's Age-friendly groups did for us and continue to do for me.*

*One of the biggest benefits has been the friendships I have made. Meeting other people in the community has reduced feelings of loneliness and given me a stronger sense of belonging. There is a real community spirit at St George's, and everyone is made to feel valued and included.*

*The Age-friendly activities have helped me stay physically active and maintain my wellbeing. Whether it is gentle exercise sessions, social groups, community events or wellbeing activities, there is always something to look forward to. Taking part regularly has helped me feel more energetic, confident, and connected.*



# Health, Wealth & Wellbeing event

## Age Pioneers Week 2026

Everyone aged 50 and over welcome!  
Come along, learn, chat and connect.  
Your next step starts today!



MANCHESTER  
CITY COUNCIL

Department  
for Work &  
Pensions

### What to expect

- Employment
- Training and skills
- Health support
- Local groups
- Cost of living advice

♥ *Live well. Feel good. Stay connected.*



**Tuesday**  
**17th November**  
**10am – 1pm**



**Simpson Memorial  
Hall, 361 Moston Ln,  
M40 9NB**



**Residents aged 50+**

## Caritas Lalley Centre Friendship Group

A welcoming group for local people aged 55 and over,  
offering:

- Advice and support
- Activities and trips
- Crafts and knitting
- Bingo
- Lunch (£2 donation)
- Connect with others and meet new people
- Volunteering opportunities.

🕒 Every Thursday from 11am to 2pm

📍 St Patrick's Church, Livesey Street, M4 5HF

☎ 0161 205 2754

✉ [Lalleycentre@caritassalford.org.uk](mailto:Lalleycentre@caritassalford.org.uk)



Photos from the Caritas Lalley  
Centre Friendship Group

# ABandOfBrothers

**Young men leaving the criminal justice system and wanting to live a crime-free life going forward could find a port in a storm. The newly established Harpurhey branch of ABandOfBrothers launched earlier this year. It is part of a national charity that mentors men aged 18 to 25.**

The young men, who have often experienced or witnessed domestic violence, abuse, neglect or drug and alcohol addiction, are provided with the support they need to make the transition to an adulthood free of crime and full of connection, purpose and meaning.

ABandOfBrothers help young men find out what it takes to be a man in current times. An alternative to violence, addiction and suicide, we support them to create a life that holds meaning, purpose and belonging.

This is achieved through a programme which brings young men and adult role models together in an intensive and contemporary rites of passage experience held in nature over a weekend, and an accredited 12-week mentoring programme.

## What is a Rite of Passage?

A Rite of Passage is an Initiation. Initiation means beginning. For something to begin, something has to end. In tribal cultures the purpose of initiation is to end childhood.

Our initiation weekend is to help the young men mark the transition from adolescence to manhood/adulthood, like our ancestors did for their young men.

## Success story

72% increase in employment, education or training

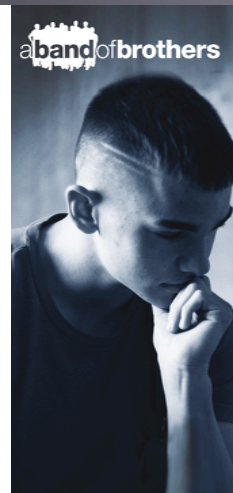
Paid employment rose from 7% to over 50%

81% showed an improvement in self esteem and self-worth

67% secured housing compared to 40% before

Severe addiction dropped from 51% to 14%

Over 80% experienced less conflict and violent responses to conflict - falling from 71% to 14%



## Do you need support?

During times in your life when you are struggling or confused about what direction to take, would you benefit from receiving guidance and understanding from an older man that cares about you? You can self refer to us.

We run a 10 week mentoring programme to prepare you for taking part in our Rites of Passage weekend. After you have completed the weekend, mentoring continues for a further 3 months.

## Interested in being a mentor?

Support a young man to change his life, you may even change your own. If you are an older man interested in becoming a mentor, please come to our introduction evening at 7pm on 5th October at Harpurhey Neighbourhood Project, M9 5PR.

## Eligibility criteria

- Aged 18-25
- Committed to making changes in his life
- Has one or more of the following risk factors:
  - Has engaged in or been close to engaging in illegal activity
  - Has been in care or supported housing
  - Has lived through severe adversity

## Contact/refer to us

Email: [manchester@abandofbrothers.org.uk](mailto:manchester@abandofbrothers.org.uk)

Call: 0161 505 2150

Website: [www.abandofbrothers.org.uk](http://www.abandofbrothers.org.uk)



# Celebrating Africa Day 2026

**Saturday July 11<sup>th</sup> saw the 4<sup>th</sup> Africa Day held at the Simpson Memorial Hall on Moston Lane since 2021, organised by the North Manchester Inclusion Partnership and hosted by North Manchester Community Partnership. The building hummed with activity, music, dancing, food and laughter for the whole afternoon.**

The sun shone as 800 people from Moston and nearby areas joined our annual celebration of African culture, enjoying drumming, music, food, a DJ, compere and rapper, the popular African countries' fashion show, cultural dancing, young people's voices and homemade dishes from across Africa.

Outside, visitors, including Manchester's new Lord Mayor, enjoyed African wedding traditions, refreshments, popcorn, the Africa Village hut and an ice cream van. Free family activities included face painting, giant Jenga and giant Connect 4 in the sunshine.

Many local organisations came together to organise an unforgettable event that showcased the rich diversity and vibrant culture of Africa. In

the words of Idowu, founder and director of Across Ummah

"Africa Day is more than a celebration of culture; it is a celebration of people, unity and belonging. It provides an opportunity for communities to come together, appreciate our differences and recognise the many values we share."

One attendee commented: "The atmosphere was incredible. There was something for everyone and it was wonderful to see so many cultures coming together in such a positive way".

Another said: "Events like this help people understand each other better. It made me feel proud to be part of such a welcoming community."

## Get in touch:

☎ 07712 633 654

✉ [gahmei@nmcp.org.uk](mailto:gahmei@nmcp.org.uk)

🌐 [nmcp.org.uk](http://nmcp.org.uk)



Photos from Africa Day 2026





# Free First Aid Training

**Would you know what to do if someone became very poorly or got hurt?** Cookson First Aid is offering free first aid and CPR training for local people and community groups. The training helps people learn simple skills that could help save a life.

There are three training options to choose from:

- Basic Life Saving Adult Emergency First Aid (60 minutes)
- Basic Life Saving Child & Baby First Aid (90 minutes)
- Basic Life Saving Stop The Bleed (60 minutes)

The sessions are friendly, easy to follow and open to everyone. You do not need any special skills or experience to take part.

If you run a community group, club, faith group, residents' group or local organisation, you can host your own free training session. All you need is a space where people can meet and learn together and 10 to 30 people to take part.



Hosting a session is a great way to help your community. More people will learn what to do in an emergency and feel confident helping others when they need it most.

If you would like to host your own session or would like to find out more please get in touch with Angela Beacon, [angela.beacon2@mft.nhs.uk](mailto:angela.beacon2@mft.nhs.uk)

## Simpson Memorial Hall: What's On

### FREE ENGLISH CLASSES

The Simpson Memorial Hall



#### ENGLISH CONVERSATION CLASS TUESDAYS 10AM -12PM

FREE conversation class for intermediate learners. Practise real-life speaking, build confidence, and improve fluency in a fun and friendly environment

#### EASY ENGLISH CLASS TUESDAYS 12.30PM - 2.30PM

A beginner English course for adults. Learn basic vocabulary, grammar, and essential skills for everyday situations like shopping, work, and travel. Build confidence and start using English in real life!

#### ABCs OF ENGLISH WEDNESDAYS 10AM -12PM

A FREE English class for adult absolute beginners with little or no literacy skills in English. Learn the basics of English, including the alphabet, phonics & simple writing. Build everyday vocabulary, practise greetings & improve conversation skills for daily life. Enjoy interactive activities like role-playing & games to make learning fun & practical!

REGISTER TODAY OR DROP BY FOR  
MORE INFORMATION ABOUT WHICH  
COURSE IS SUITABLE FOR YOU

THE SIMPSON MEMORIAL HALL  
361 MOSTON LN,  
MANCHESTER M40 9NB

FOR MORE INFO EMAIL:  
[GAHMEI@NMCP.ORG.UK](mailto:GAHMEI@NMCP.ORG.UK)



There is lots going on at the Simpson Memorial Hall this Autumn...

Mondays

- Talking Circle - 10am to 12 noon
- Sewing Group - 12 noon to 3pm

Tuesdays

- English Conversation Class - 10am to 12 noon
- Coffee morning - 10:30am to 12:30pm
- Easy English Class - 12:30pm to 2:30pm

Wednesdays

- ABCs of English - 10am to 12 noon
- Exercise Class - 10am to 12 noon
- Exercise Class - 12:30pm to 2:30pm
- Art class - 12 noon to 3pm

All the sessions are **free**, and there are other activities which are in the planning stage at the moment including arts and crafts, cookery and knitting. To find out more, please get in touch with North Manchester Community Partnership:

- [hello@nmcp.org.uk](mailto:hello@nmcp.org.uk)
- Simpson Memorial Hall,  
361, Moston Lane, M40 9NB