Chorlton Civic Society Newsletter

February & March 2026

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CHORLTON CIVIC SOCIETY (CCS) NEWS

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CHORLTON AREA NEWS about some other groups and events

"Part of the CCS work is to keep scanning the horizon for what's going on locally and to build bridges where possible."

Our Chorlton Civic Society Aims

The aims of Chorlton Civic Society are to act as a forum and voice of the residents and stakeholders in Chorlton-Cum-Hardy and its immediate neighbourhood (open to all, regardless of gender, race, religion, colour, age, disability or sexual orientation); to promote or assist in promoting civic pride; and to secure the preservation, protection, development and improvement of features of historic or public interest in the area.

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Our Next Chorlton Civic Society Meeting

The AGM

The next main Chorlton Civic Society Meeting will be the AGM: 7.30 p.m. Tuesday March 10th 2026 7.30pm in the community room at Chorlton library on Barlow Moor Rd. The speaker will be Steph from Reach Out to the Community.

The AGM papers are included in this edition of the Newsletter. Pages 4 -11

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Message from the Chorlton Civic Society Chair

Hello, fellow Chorltonians,

Hopefully, the dark winter days are gradually giving way to spring and if you want evidence of this, take a stroll around Chorlton Park, to see the bravest of flowers, the snowdrop! As these die back then the multi coloured crocus(es)? will take their place, followed by the sunshine daffodils. All of this is due to the hard work and dedication of the volunteers of Friends of Chorlton Park, who have regular gardening sessions on Saturdays, 9.30 to 12 noon and Wednesdays, 6pm – 7.30pm, spring until July. All ages, all abilities and tools provided. friendschorltonpark@gmail.com
Friends of Chorlton Water Park meet fortnightly on Wednesdays 10.30-12.30
parks@manchester.gov.uk

There are countless opportunities to get involved or, indeed, seek their help.
Did you know that The Edge now has a cinema? It shows well-known and loved classics, with showings often during the day. Great value too!

For older residents , Chorlton Good Neighbours, has weekly meeting on a Thursday at St. Ninian's, 10 am – 11.30 coffee, speakers and a friendly space.
helen@chorltongoodneighbours.org 0161 881 2925

Unlike the spring flowers popping up which give us joy, the popping up of graffiti, over Chorlton does not. So if you see the senseless vandalism, especially if it offensive or racist, then you can contact Mandie Shilton Godwin, one of your councillors, who acts swiftly to remove this blight. (Contact details on page 18.)

The closure and redevelopment of our shopping centre continue to be a hot topic. Many residents feel that this is being done 'to' us rather than 'with' us. Despite over 1,500 objections received by the council, the redevelopment of the site, was given the go ahead. This has left deep frustration and anger about local democracy.

We are NOT against housing, but that is the key, housing = houses. Most families want a front door and a space at the back to call their own. City centre high rise are fine for the city centre, which mostly house couples, but when a family is planned, then a move to the suburbs and… a house of their own!

The General meeting is at 7.30 (Tuesday March 10th) in the library. It is our AGM where you can put yourself forward to be on the committee where you can influence what happens in Chorlton. Think about it. You might even enjoy it!
Take care and enjoy the warmer, lighter days!

Best wishes,
Laura Hopkins Chair
(mungo.hopkins@btinternet.com)

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How to Join the Chorlton Civic Society

You are welcome to join. You can join for free or you can choose to donate on a monthly or an annual basis.

Meetings now usually take place on the second Tuesday of alternative months - in January, March, May, July, September, November. Everyone is welcome to these meetings. See website for further information about Chorlton Civic Society. https://chorltoncivicsociety.org/

Membership of Chorlton Civic Society is free. We welcome regular standing orders. To take out a standing order please use the following bank details: Account: Chorlton Civic Society, Account No. 90252158, Bank: Barclays,
Sort Code: 20-26-20
Further details are on the Civic Society website.

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Joining the CCS Committee

The officers were elected at the AGM in March 2025. They are:
Chair (Laura Hopkins); Secretary (Carolyn Kagan) and Treasurer (Lindy Newns), and we can have up to 7 additional Committee members.
If you would like to join the Civic Society committee you would be welcome to apply and please contact Carolyn Kagan the secretary:
secretary@chorltoncivicsociety.org

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Summary of Future CCS Meetings and Events –

1. **The next main Chorlton Civic Society Meeting will be the AGM:** 7.30 p.m. Tuesday March 10th 2026 7.30pm in the community room at Chorlton library on Barlow Moor Rd. The speaker will be Steph from Reach Out to the Community *(Future main CCS meetings will normally be held in the community room at Chorlton library on the second Tuesday of alternate months.)*

2. FREE community CPR and defibrillator session: Wednesday 11th March 7 – 8.30 pm. at the Bowling Green Pub.
To book your place contact:
Jenny 07570 879091
Cath 07722 958541 cathbrownhill55@gmail.com

To book your CPR place contact:
Jenny: 07570 879091
or Cath 07722 958541 cathbrownhill55@gmail.com

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AGM Agenda

Chorlton Civic Society Meeting and AGM 2026

Monday 10th March, 7.30

Community Room, Chorlton Library, Barlow Moor Rd

1 Apologies for absence

2 Minutes of AGM 2025 (see pages 5 - 6) and matters arising

3 Reports from Officers (see pages 7 - 10)

- Secretary report
- Treasurer's Report

4 Election of Officers and Committee (See page 11)

(Officers and Committee to stand down – all available for re-election).

Nominations received in advance of the meeting:

Chair: Laura Hopkins

Secretary: Carolyn Kagan

Treasurer: Lindy Newns

Committee members:

Barry Whitmarsh; Peter Topping; Catherine Brownhill; Mary McGovern;

Stephen Smith; Cherryl Clements; Michelle Haller,

6 AOB

- **8.00 pm Presentation** from Reach Out to the Community (in their 10th anniversary year)
- **8.50 Any Other Business for the Civic Society**
- Date and Time of Next Meetings: May 12th – General CCS.
- March 2027 AGM date tbc.

Minutes for AGM held Monday, 7.30 pm 10 March 2025
at Wilbraham St Ninian's Church Hall

Formal AGM – Present 20 members and approx. 30 non-members, not eligible to vote

1 Apologies for absence: Chorlton Park Councillors, Jenny Slee, Ida Bradshaw, Linda Topping, Cllr Tina Kirwan McGinley; Cllr Mathew Benham

2 Minutes of AGM 2024 (previously circulated to members) and matters arising
Minutes were accepted as a true record.

- Minute 5. During the year Barry Whitmarsh stood down as Treasurer and Lindy Newns stepped into the post. Esther Routledge was unable to take up her Committee Member role.
- Minute 6. Name has been changed back to Chorlton Civic Society

3 Reports from Officers (previously circulated to members)

- Secretary report: Carolyn Kagan summarised the report. The Society has 243 members and membership is free. She outlined **member benefits** (bi-monthly meetings with a range of talks; bi-monthly newsletter; publicity via stalls and local press and broadcast media; opportunities to get involved in different projects); **committee work** (monthly meetings; 6-10 planning applications reviewed per meeting; responding to consultations budget and project monitoring; collaborating with other groups); **various projects** (Chorlton Lifesavers; Chorlton Arts – Festival, street art, shutters; Old Graveyard and Blue Plaque Projects). All those leading and contributing to the work of the Society were thanked. She concluded by saying activities are curtailed by the personnel and resources available. Anyone who would like to get involved will be welcome (especially to run social media accounts).
  The meeting accepted the report and Carolyn was thanked.
- Treasurer's Report: Lindy Newns presented the accounts for the Society, illustrating income and expenditure for different areas of work (general CCS account; Friends of Hough End Hall legacy account; Chorlton Arts including the Arts Festival; Chorlton Lifesavers; Community Garden and Street Art;. All sub accounts were in credit although many had expenditure committed to income. The overall balance held by the Society at the end of December 2024 was £14077.86, much of which was already committed to project work. The general CCS account balance was £702. Barry Whitrmarsh was thanked for the work he did as Treasurer over many years.
  The meeting accepted the report and Lindy was thanked.

AGM 2025 Minutes (continued)

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4 Election of Officers (All Officers to stand down – all available for re-election).

Nominations received in advance of the meeting:

Officers:

Chair: Laura Hopkins

Secretary: Carolyn Kagan

Treasurer: Lindy Newns

A vote was taken and all were elected unanimously.

It was noted that the Committee was full but that co-options could be considered. Anyone interested to contact the Secretary.

5 Election of Committee (All Committee members to stand down – all available for re-election).

Nominations received in advance of the meeting

Committee members:

Barry Whitmarsh; Peter Topping; Catherine Brownhill; Mary McGovern; Stephen Smith; Cherryl Clements; Michelle Haller,

A vote was taken and all were elected unanimously.

6 AOB There was no other business. The meeting was followed by a Q and A session with the team from the One Chorlton development in the district centre.

7. Date and Time of 2026 AGM Meeting: 10th March 2026,

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We are pleased to provide the Secretary's report for Chorlton Civic Society.

Communications

We produce bi-monthly newsletters. All newsletters are posted on the website and most of them are now delivered online. Informal feedback tells us that readers find the newsletters interesting and that they have found out about local happenings that they have not found elsewhere. This year the newsletters have been vital in updating people on the major plans for transforming the district centre. If you have any suggestions for improvement please let us know.

Currently we have 243 members. Thanks as always to Mary McGovern who does a great job communicating with members and maintaining the membership database. At the moment we do not charge a membership fee, so a member is anyone who requests being added to the mailing list. We welcome standing orders to contribute to the cost of holding meetings.

Other channels of communication include the Manchester Post, All FM Community Radio and via occasional street stall and those at the Chorlton makers' markets.

We have continued to post information on Facebook and on the website; and on Instagram for the Arts Festival. We have not made extensive use of the BlueSky Social account but intend to build this up next year.

Planning

A lot of planning permission notices have been received. We have prioritised those affecting the public realm, shop fronts, significant buildings, and conservation areas. Not so much for house extensions and neighbour disputes.

The committee has met monthly (11 meetings) and has considered 62 local planning applications and many more planning decisions. We made 12 objections. On one matter – the Alternative application for Ryebank Fields, members were asked to lodge their own views as members had disparate views. We went as far as the Planning Ombudsman in the case of one application we thought had not been dealt with properly by the council – the Ombudsman did not find reasons to investigate. A lot of time has been spent in the Society over the plans for Chorlton District Centre (the Precinct) and one full meeting was given over to a full discussion of the plans with the development team. At this meeting full support was given to the Save Chorlton Centre campaign group. We objected to the proposals and were disappointed at the final decision. We made a detailed response to the draft Manchester Plan.

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AGM 2025 Secretary’s Report (continued)

Thanks to Barry Whitmarsh who collates the applications, communicates with members at meetings over planning issues, and liaises with the planning department at the Council.

Monthly Meeting, Trips and Social events

Our monthly meetings returned to Chorlton Library once it was open after its refurbishment. Thanks to Chorlton Central church and Wilbraham St Ninians Church for hosting us during the refurbishment. We have held bimonthly meetings with speakers from Friends of Chorlton Meadows, the Library Refurbishment team, West Didsbury Astronomical Society, and Chorlton Bikes (formerly Bike deliveries). The much anticipated performance by the cancer well-being choir was aborted due to difficulties getting access to the venue.

We had a summer and Christmas visit to Barlow Hall (the Golf Club) for afternoon tea and a Christmas meal. Thanks to Cath Brownhill who organises the events. Any recommendations for places to visit or for speakers, please let Cath know.

Networking and Projects

We collaborate with other groups and lead on a number of projects.
We support and promote the work of our members, Jenny Slee and Cath Brownhill who deliver **Chorlton Lifesavers** resuscitation training. They have trained over 1000 local people in vital lifesaving skills and Jenny has ensured that defibrillators are kept in good shape or replaced.

Chorlton Community Garden

The project is overseen by the Friends of Chorlton Community Garden - a coalition of the Civic Society, Chorlton Plant Swap and Gardening Advice, Chorlton Community Land Trust and local residents. We received funding from Council funds to get the ground surfaced with self-binding gravel. A shelter has been erected with water butt and paving (nearly) completed, due to funding from the National Lottery, Awards for All. Volunteers created and planted up a green roof over a new tool store as well as flower beds and troughs at the library. We were able to launch the reopening to visitors of the garden alongside the re-opening of the community rooms of the library. We welcomed both the Lord Mayor who recited a poem under the performance shelter, some teen musicians and the MadDonnas who sang a specially commissioned song about the history of the garden. This was a popular event and we had apple products for tasting and seed planting as well. We were able to get paving completed through the centre of the gravel. The Chorlton Makers’ market donated a brightly coloured table.

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The Ralph Brocklehurst Fund has given us a grant for some boulder seats or equivalent. We have run workshops, open to the public, on mushroom growing; flax growing and harvesting; Christmas wreath making; and fruit tree pruning. We have commissioned a sculpture from Jolene Sheehan with funding from Chorlton Ward neighbourhood Investment funds. She has held a well-attended event for the public to co-design the sculpture. We entered Britain in Bloom and received an award of Advancing Level 3, 68 points.

Thanks to Groundwork GM for the hard surfacing and shelter building, to members of the steering group and particularly to Danielle Lowy from Chorlton Plant Swap for steering funding applications.

All Things Arty

We have received funding from Chorlton Ward Neighbourhood Investment Fund to paint some badly graffiti'd shutters. This work is in progress. We received funding from MSV Kindness Fund for some additional shutter murals as well as brushes and paints to paint out graffiti elsewhere. Local residents have been doing this painting out. A selection process chose five local artists to work on the shutters. Members of the Street Art group have attended Police Liaison meetings to discuss ways in which the Police might help prevent further graffiti. Huge thanks to Cath Fernley for coordinating this work which involves a lot of liaison with both the artists and the shop traders and owners. Thanks too to Chorlton Trade Paints who are storing materials for the project.

The Arts Festival supported 162 events over 10 days in 52 local venues. This could not have happened without the work of the Committee and 25 Festival volunteers This year the Festival will run from 9th -21st May with 18-21st mostly presenting schools' events . We are very grateful for the support of local businesses that sponsor and our local Patrons. www.chorltonartsfestival.org. This year we received a small grant from Anwyl's 'Love from Anwyl' community fund to replenish our supplies of bunting. We were delighted that Jules Gibb and Janine Waters have joined our group of enthusiastic Patrons, all well-known creatives. There is a virtual art gallery on the website which is a joy to 'walk' round.

We have supported the CAF21 Teen Spirit project which is showcasing popular teenage musicians throughout the year, with four afternoons of music as part of the 2025 Chorlton Arts Festival.

In December we judged the Christmas window competition and awarded cups to Chorlton Bookshop and Hurricane on Beech Road.

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AGM 2025 Secretary's Report (continued)

Graveyard and Blue Plaque projects

Members are continuing to push for the renovation of the Old Graveyard next to the Bowling Green Hotel. An application has been submitted to designate the lane behind the cemetery as a public right of way on the official map.

The Blue Plaque Project group is considering suggestions submitted as to where to place the next Blue Plaque.

Conclusion

As you can see, Chorlton Civic Society is engaged in several projects all designed to keep Chorlton a vibrant, friendly and attractive place to live and work, and taking the lead on many issues, all of which depend on volunteers to help with and we welcome anyone who would like to help with any of the projects.

Our priorities for the forthcoming year are:

- Continue to respond the planning applications and to communicate with members regularly
- Complete the planned refurbishment and planting in the of the Community Garden and introduce a timetable of volunteer days and events
- Deliver a successful 2026 Arts Festival
- Grow the Graveyard and Blue Plaque projects

We have limited human and other resources so we have to be realistic with what we can achieve. So, if you would like to join the friendly and supportive committee, or have some ideas of new projects you would like to initiate, please do get in touch.

Carolyn Kagan, Secretary, secretary@chorltonvoice.org **February 2026**

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CHORLTON CIVIC SOCIETY (FORMERLY CHORLTON VOICE)

Chorlton Civic Society AGM Papers: 2026

Chorlton Civic Society: Treasurer's summary

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The Civic Society ended the year to 31 December 2025 with a balance of £30,463, largely down to grants for the community garden, donations to CAF by local businesses and grants for painting, together with regular monthly contributions by members and collections at meetings.

Of the total, £2558 relates to the Arts Festival, £860 to the civic society itself, £6578 for the community garden, £10960 from awards for all which also relates to the garden, and £8332 for street painting. There are other small pots of money, and more detail will be given when the accounts are formally presented at the AGM, but we are in a good position, thanks to hard work by Carolyn and others on grant applications.

Lindy Newns, Treasurer, February 2026

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Chorlton Civic Society: Elected Roles

Officers retire every year at the AGM and may be re-elected. Other Committee roles are unelected but confirmed at the AGM – additional Committee members can be co-opted at any time.

The Committee works within the Society's objectives and in accordance with its policies.

Chair (elected officer)

- Working with other Committee members to lead the operation and development of the Society within its objectives (especially, Treasurer, Secretary, Membership Secretary, Events Organiser and project leads)
- Chairing Committee and Member meetings including the AGM
- Preparing the Chair's report for the AGM
- Overseeing the financial health of the Society in collaboration with the Treasurer
- Ensuring necessary insurance is in place and risk procedures are adhered to
- Overseeing the various projects along with project leads and the Treasurer
- Encouraging new initiatives by members and ensuring they are conducted within the framework of the Society
- Liaising with the external world as the figurehead of the Society, representing the Society at functions or to the media

Secretary (elected officer)

- Undertaking correspondence on behalf of the Society
- Issuing notices of and arrangements for meetings, including supporting papers where necessary
- Drafting minutes of committee and member meetings as well as the AGM
- Preparing papers for the AGM including elections for Committee members
- Maintaining the Society's records
- Maintaining the Society's website and social media along with other Committee members
- Working with other Committee members to provide good communications with members and the external world

Treasurer (elected officer)

- Managing the Society's finances and those of associated projects
- Advising the Committee on financial performance
- Keeping account of receipts and payments, preparing annual accounts
- Issuing invoices and making payments in a timely manner
- Liaising with the bank as required
- Responsible for financial procedures

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Chorlton Lifesavers

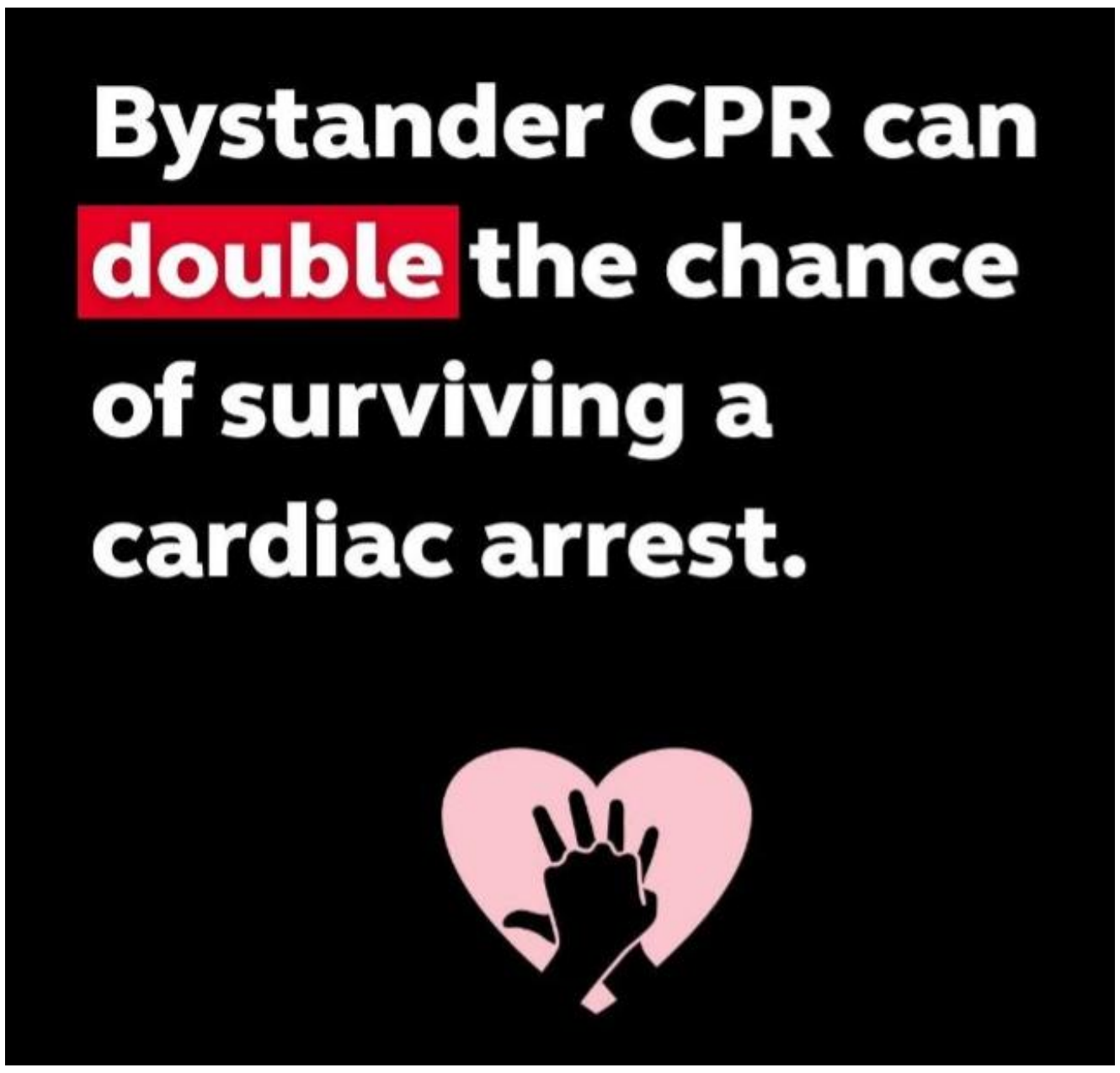
Free community CPR and defibrillator training.

"Our next free community CPR and defibrillator session is Wednesday 11th March 2026 7-8.30pm at the Bowling Green Pub.

To book your place contact:

Jenny 07570 879091

Cath 07722 958541 cathbrownhill55@gmail.com





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Planning Report from Barry Whitmarsh

Here is a summary of some recent planning applications.

Feb 2026

We have included a link via the reference number of the application. If a direct hyperlink fails, you can look up the application number on the search page:

https://pa.manchester.gov.uk/online-Applications/search.do?Action=simple&searchType=Application

Permission is sought for the change of use from offices to a mixed-use restaurant and shisha lounge at 450 Barlow Moor Road (formerly Pennine Kennedy). Details of the applications can be found at 144693

Permission is sought for an enclosed outdoor decking area to frontage and retractable canopy at Bunzillas Burger bar, 439 Barlow Moor Road. The committee decided to object on the grounds it is not in keeping with the surrounding area and concerns about safety if an area of the forecourt is fenced. Details of the applications can be found at 144929.

Southway Housing have received planning permission to demolish the former Gable Nook Nursery at 541 Wilbraham Road and replace it with a 3-storey apartment block containing 9 apartments. Details of the applications can be found at 144423

Permission has been granted for the new bridge over the River Mersey,

between Chorlton Water Park and Kenworthy Woods. Details of the applications can be found at 144154

Permission was refused for a front canopy at Brewch Coffee, 97 Manchester Road (formerly Blossoms Florist) because of its inappropriate scale, massing, design, materials, and siting. Details of the application can be found at 144611.

Permission was refused for a new extractor and flue on the roof of 1 Chorlton Place (last occupied by Costa Coffee) because of harm to the residential amenity of nearby occupiers from noise and odour emissions. Details of the application can be found at 144454. A revised application has now been submitted: details of the application can be found at 145066.

Permission was refused for a two-storey detached building to form 4 flats at the rear of 127 Oswald Road. Details of the application can be found at 144476.

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Update on the new development:

‘Chorlton Square Shopping Centre’ / ‘One Chorlton’

Blocks A and B on Barlow Moor Rd /Nicolas Road



Height Comparison With local shops etc.



There is little to report this month. Since the development plan: six huge blocks of flats of 10, 8, 7, 6, 6, 4 storeys high was approved on 18th December 2025 the old Chorlton precinct has continued to look increasingly dilapidated, derelict and miserable. (It will be no better when it becomes a massive building site producing dust, dirt, pollution and noise for many years.) Meanwhile the fury and/or despair continues amongst a large proportion of Chorlton residents – many of whom want social housing in Chorlton but not via this overcrowded and over-dense development and not with loss of almost all of the public spaces and over two thirds of the retail space in the heart of Chorlton – including some popular and much needed shops. **Find out more** from the Facebook page **Save Chorlton Centre FB** and the website www.SaveChorltonCentre.com

Layout





CHORLTON AREA NEWS about some other groups and events

"Part of the CCS work is to keep scanning the horizon for what's going on locally and to build bridges where possible".

ART / CRAFTS: New Arts and Crafts Session at Chorlton Library

Enjoy the weekly Arts and Craft Group for adults at Chorlton Library. Go along to meet new people, have a cuppa and get creative.
This will be a mainly self-led group, with resources and refreshments provided. For more information visit Chorlton Library's Facebook page: CHECK BEFORE YOU ATTEND FIRST TIME
www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61575975370890

ART / CRAFTS: Bembe Café Adult Painting Class

Bembe Café in Alexandra Park are holding Adult Painting Classes every Tuesday from 2pm to 4pm. Materials are provided, £5 per session. Demesne Road, M16 8PJ. CHECK BEFORE YOU ATTEND FIRST TIME

ART/CRAFT: Women's Only Sewing Class (Free)

(Started Friday 28 Nov 2025 9:30am – 1:30pm Then every Friday after that!
Community Revival, 2 Selborne Rd, Chorlton M21 0BL
A friendly women-only space to:
Learn sewing (all levels welcome) Build confidence & creativity. Make new friends.
Enjoy free refreshments. All materials provided — just come along!
Scan the QR code on the poster to register.
Or contact at: 0161 881 1828 07731 959333 info@communityrevival.co.uk
CHECK BEFORE YOU ATTEND FIRST TIME

ARTS / CRAFTS: Knit for Peace

Join other local knitters for a brew and a natter while working on items for the local community or working on your own projects. No charge for session, some needles and wool will be available but please bring your own if you have them. Wednesdays 2 – 3:30pm at Ivy Court, Beech Road, Chorlton, M21 9FL. For more information please contact. CHECK BEFORE YOU ATTEND FIRST TIME

CHILDREN: Crafty Club:

Chorlton Central Church run a successful Kids Crafty Club on Thursdays. Chorlton Central Church, Barlow Moor Road, M21 8BP. CHECK BEFORE YOU ATTEND FIRST TIME

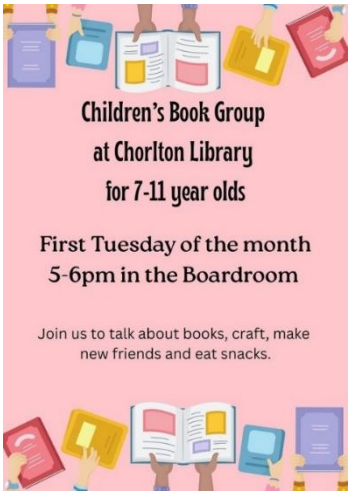
https://chorlton-central.org.uk/

CHILDREN: HAF (Holiday Activities)

Explore this for future holidays - there may be FREE places for activities during the future school holidays. You can also register for FREE benefits-related school meals.
Create a family account MCRactive Go account.
Find and book your sessions. Head to the website below for more information https://www.mcractive.com/activity/haf

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CHILDREN: Chorlton Library Book Group



CHECK BEFORE YOU ATTEND FIRST TIME

CHILDREN: Chorlton Library Homework Club

Chorlton Library have a new Homework Club for primary and secondary school children. Every Thursday from 4 – 5pm. Take along your homework and get help from volunteers. Chorlton Library, Manchester Road, M21 9PN. CHECK BEFORE YOU ATTEND FIRST TIME

CHILDREN: SEND Padlet

The School Health Team have created a SEND Padlet for parents and carers, in response to the high level of SEND enquiries they have received from families. The Padlet is designed to provide information, awareness, resources, and signposting to the local offer, all in one accessible place. The Padlet currently includes resources on: ADHD support; Aggression & challenging behaviour; Anxiety; ARFID; Autism parental support; Continence & toileting; Eating problems; EHCP support; EBSA; Fussy eating; Healthy lifestyles; Mental health family support directories; Oral care; Safety; Screening; Self-care; Sensory needs; Sleep, Speech, language & communication; Transition to adult The Padlet can be accessed via the following link : https://padlet.com/.../school-health-parent-carer-send...

CHILDREN: Surestart

Whalley Range Sure Start Centre is on Burford Road. Parents and children up to the age of 11 are welcome. No need to book. Whalley Range Surestart, Burford Road, M16 8HE. 0161 245 7007. CHECK BEFORE YOU ATTEND FIRST TIME

CHORLTON CONVERSATIONS: Chorlton Chatty Café

Chorlton Chatty Café

Wednesdays are Chorlton Chatty Café Days! If you are looking to get out, meet new people, or just have a quick chat, all are welcome. Wednesdays 11am to 1pm at Tea Hive, 53 Manchester Road, Chorlton, M21 9PW. Stay for as little or as long as you would like. No pressure to buy anything.

www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61573981341734 CHECK BEFORE YOU ATTEND FIRST TIME

CHORLTON CONVERSATIONS: Talking tables

Talking tables is every Wednesday 1:30-2:30pm at the Garden bar on Manchester Rd, opposite the old baths. Everyone welcome. CHECK BEFORE YOU ATTEND FIRST TIME

CHORLTON GOOD NEIGHBOURS (CGN)

"CGN: Supporting people over 50s in the Chorlton and Whalley Range area".

For details contact: Helen Hibberd (MBE) **Phone:** 0161 881 2925
Email: helen@chorltongoodneighbours.org **Facebook:** www.chorltongoodneighbours.org
Office: St Ninians Church, Egerton Rd; Chorlton, M21 0XJ.
Office opening hours: Monday – Friday 9 – 12.30pm:
Webpage: **www.**chorltongoodneighbours.org

Chorlton Good Neighbours EVENTS: Most events are held at St Ninians – unless stated.

Monday: Positive living group; Exercise class.

Tuesday: Social Group held at South West Manchester Cricket Club; Coffee shop meet (in a coffee shop); Exercise classes (online); History Talk 2nd Tuesday in the month.

Wednesday; Drama workshop; Exercise class.

Thursday: Arts and Crafts group; Exercise class (online); Melodics singing group.

Friday: Gardening club; Exercise classes: Coffee shop meet (in a coffee shop).
CHECK BEFORE YOU ATTEND FIRST TIME

Chorlton and Chorlton Park Councillors

Chorlton Councillors
Mathew Benham cllr.mathew.benham@manchester.gov.uk **Mobile:** 07814 087891
John Hacking cllr.john.hacking@manchester.gov.uk **Mobile:** 07852 195 883
Tina Kirwin-Mcginley cllr.tina.kirwin-mcginley@manchester.gov.uk **Mobile:** 07940461340
Surgeries: Councillors John Hacking, Mathew Benham and Tina Kirwin McGinley will be holding their advice surgeries at: **Chorlton Library, Manchester Road, Chorlton, Manchester, M21 9PN** John, Mathew and Tina will be there every 1st and 3rd Saturday mornings from 10.30 am to 11:30am (excluding August), and they will attend on a rotational basis. If you are unable to attend an Advice Session then please contact your Councillor directly, or leave a message with their support office in the Town Hall on 0161 234 3235

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Chorlton Park Councillors
Joanna Midgley Deputy Council Leader cllr.joanna.midgley@manchester.gov.uk **Mobile:** 07795 635 059
Dave Rawson cllr.dave.rawson@manchester.gov.uk **Mobile:** 07904 947 851
Mandie Shilton Godwin cllr.mandie.shiltongodwin@manchester.gov.uk **Mobile:** 07834 869 204
Surgeries: Every 2nd and 4th Tuesday evening from 5.30pm to 6.30pm (excluding August and Bank Holidays) at Barlow Moor Community Centre, 23 Merseybank Avenue M21 7NT If you are unable to attend an Advice Session then please contact your Councillor directly, or leave a message with their support office in the Town Hall on 0161 234 3235

Correspondence address for all councillors: Members' Services Office, Manchester City Council PO Box 532. Town Hall Extension. Manchester M60 2LA

CHORLTON: Chorlton Music Café

Chorlton has a new Music Café for people living with dementia every Monday starting on 13th October from 1:30pm – 3pm. The sessions are free to attend. Great way to make new friends and improve wellbeing and mood. To attend this Music Café or for more information please contact **claire@togetherdementiasupport.org.uk or call 0161 226 7186 7186** **www.togetherdementiasupport.org** CHECK BEFORE YOU ATTEND FIRST TIME

CHORLTON: Chorlton Repair Café

Chorlton's Repair Café **usually takes place** on the second Saturday of every month from 10am to 12 noon at St Margaret's Centre, Brantingham Road, M21 0TT. The friendly volunteers fix and repair electricals, bikes, lamps, household items, toys and more for free. They save around 60-70% of items brought in from being thrown away. If you have skills that you think would be helpful and would like to volunteer please contact chorltonrepaircafe@gmail.com www.facebook.com/ChorltonRepairCafe CHECK BEFORE YOU ATTEND FIRST TIME

CHORLTON: Chorlton Wombles Litterpick – amazing group of LITTER PICKERS

Where and when their next litter pick is usually posted on the internet. Litterpicking equipment is provided. **www.facebook.com/events/2593765727654967/**

CHORLTON: Walking and cycling in Chorlton



Walk Ride Chorlton are local people working to encourage and improve the environment for **walking and cycling** in Chorlton and nearby. We are a local sub-group of Walk Ride Greater Manchester (https://www.walkridegm.org.uk/).

The link for people to sign up to our occasional email updates is: https://mailchi.mp/22ae986e27f6/06hd6cx1lo

Edge theatre: Films at the Edge

You can expect a vibrant and varied line-up, including:

– Popular mainstream films (shown around three months after their cinema release)

– Themed seasons and film classics, – World cinema and independent film festivals

– NT Live Encore screenings – Relaxed screenings and accessible showings

- Saturday morning family cinema

CONTACT US

There's also an Edge Theatre drama group.

The Edge Theatre & Arts Centre, Manchester Road, Chorlton, Manchester, M21 9JG

General Enquiries: 0161 282 9776; **Telephone Box Office:** 0333 666 3366

For show submissions and programming enquiries click here

For box office or classes & courses enquiries please email: bookings@edgetheatre.co.uk

CHECK BEFORE YOU ATTEND

FOOD/FOOD BANKS: Quids In Food Club

Join Quids In Food Club – Food Support for Your Weekly Shop!

Are you feeling the pinch from rising costs? Need fresh food you can rely on every week? Quids In Food Club is here for you.

What is it?

- A friendly, ongoing food club (not a one-off food bank) run by volunteers with the support of Southway Housing Trust.
- Every week you'll be able to choose from a variety of fresh, chilled, frozen and hard-to-find food items worth around £20.
- Designed for families and individuals in south Manchester who need a little extra help.

Where you can join locally:

- Chorlton Park (Thursdays 10:30am-1pm) – Brookfield House, Nell Lane, M21 7UD.
- Merseybank (Fridays midday-3pm) – 42 Merseybank Ave, M21 7NN.

How much it costs.

- Southway tenants: £5 yearly membership + £4 per week.

FOOD/FOOD BANKS: Quids In Food Club (continued)

- Non-Southway tenants: £10 yearly membership + £6 per week.

How to join

Just email: quidsin@southwayhousing.co.uk with your name, address & phone number (mobile preferred). If you don't have email, call: 0161 448 4200. Spaces are limited, so get in touch soon! CHECK BEFORE YOU ATTEND FIRST TIME

FOOD/FOOD BANKS: Perry's Pantry Foodbank Volunteers

Check that volunteers are still needed. Can you spare a few hours a week to help your local community? Perry's Pantry are looking for new volunteers. They are looking for:
Tuesdays, 10:30-1pm: Someone to receive our food order, help to pack it away and do our stock take.
Thursdays, 10:30-1pm: Someone to help serve our families and help them with their shopping.
If you're interested, please email at perryspantryfoodbank@gmail.com or call on 07563573358.
Perry's Pantry, 54 Merseybank Avenue, M21 7NN.

FUNDING: B and Q Foundation Grant

B and Q Foundation are offering up to £10,000 for projects for charities to decorate, renovate, or create spaces where people feel at home.
Find out more and apply: https://bqfoundation.org.uk/apply-for-a-grant/

FUNDING: GMP ARIS Funding

Greater Manchester Police invests money, seized from criminals, into communities. Money, seized from criminals and distributed to police forces via the Asset Recovery Incentivisation Scheme (ARIS), is being invested into communities across Greater Manchester. Non-profits which benefit a large number of people can apply for a maximum of £20,000 to fund 12 months' activities. The activities must support GMP's objectives to fight, prevent and reduce crime; keep people safe; and care for victims. For more details and to apply please visit: https://www.gmp.police.uk/police-forces/greater-manchester-police/areas/greater-manchester-force-content/au/about-us/giving-back-investing-in-our-community/

FUNDING: Apply for a Cycle Hangar

Following a successful pilot scheme in some locations across the city, you can now apply to have a cycle hangar installed in your area. The hangars provide secure, covered storage for 6 bikes and are ideal for those who do not have space to store their bike at home.
To apply for a hangar in your area, visit https://orlo.uk/88Vov

FUNDING: Defibrillator Funding

Applications for a BHF-funded defibrillator are now open. They are expected to close in February 2026. However this may change depending on the volume of applications received.

What's included in the award package?

- a defibrillator, complete with pads and kit accessories
- a cabinet, which is not lockable (if awarded, the cabinet must be kept unlocked and uncoded. For more information on why this is part of the criteria, see the guidance from Resuscitation Council UK)
- replacement pads and batteries when required (when they expire or are used with the defibrillator) and resources for RevivR online CPR training.

FUNDING: Free Trees & Hedges for Schools and Community Groups

Apply for tree saplings to create hedges, improve green spaces and boost local diversity. The trees can be used for community parks, village greens, urban spaces, schools and more. Applications open now for tree deliveries in November. (Their website indicates that you can still apply.)

Provided by **The Woodland Trust**. Get yours at www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/plant-trees/schools-and-communities

ED: To all schools in Manchester on Main roads – especially those near junctions: Get applying now!!! PLEASE do something to try to clean the air around your school.

FUNDING: TFGM Wheels and Walking Funding

TfGM are offering grants up to £5,000 + training & support to deliver walking, wheeling & cycling activities.

Wheels and Walks is a programme that supports people in Greater Manchester to become more active by walking, wheeling and cycling. Through the programme, community groups will be supported to deliver walking, wheeling and cycling activities for people in their local area. Each successful group will receive a package of support from TfGM to deliver their activity.

Successful applicants will receive:

- Grant funding of up to £5,000.
- Training and development opportunities.
- Opportunities to participate in networking and knowledge sharing.
- General support and advice.
- Signposting to other opportunities.

Applications for the Wheels and Walks programme will be open in three phases:

- Phase 1: 27 January 2025 date to 17 March 2025 (closed)
- Phase 2: 1 September to 12 noon on 27 October 2025 (closed??)
- Phase 3: Open from March to April 2026*

* Dates for phase 3 applications will be announced closer to the time.

If you have a question about the Wheels and Walks programme, please contact the team via **wheelsandwalks@tfgm.com**.

Full details: www.beeactive.tfgm.com/wheels-and-walks/ or email wheelsandwalks@tfgm.com

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FUNDING: Morrisons Foundation

Grants of up to £10,000 are available to registered charities for projects that positively impact communities across England, Scotland, and Wales. The Morrisons Foundation provides funding to support projects that: - tackle poverty and social deprivation; - enhance community spaces, facilities and services; - improve the health and wellbeing of local communities. The funding will support both capital spend and direct project delivery costs. Priority is given to smaller organisations with an annual income of less than £1 million and for projects in the communities Morrisons serves. Applications can be made at any time. More Information can be found at https://www.morrisonsfoundation.com/grant-funding-request/

Flooding information

If you need to report blocked drains or flooded drains, you can do this at https://manchester.portal.uk.empro.verintcloudservices.com/site/myaccount/request/sr_highway_drainage.

Good Grief

After launching recently, Good Grief returns to the Carlton Club Green Room on first Tuesday of every month 7 – 9 pm.

Good Grief should be a safe and reassuring space where people going through grief can talk openly and be around others. This gives the opportunity to be heard and tell their stories, or if preferred just to listen to others. Board games and jigsaws will be provided for anyone to play and get to know others, taking away some of the potential awkwardness. Details of charities and other support networks will be offered along with someone who would be there on standby for anyone who may need counselling on the day. Please feel free to bring in pictures, keepsakes and anything else that reminds you of your loved one/s. Friends of those experiencing grief are also welcome for that extra bit of support. Join on the first Tuesday of the month in the Green Room from 7-9pm. Free entrance. All ages and walks of life are welcome. The Carlton Club, Rowan Lodge, 113 Carlton Road, Whalley Range, M16 8B

There are also starting a monthly online 'check in' session in between meetings for anyone who may need an extra bit of support during the darker months.

For those who wish to attend the regular face-to-face meetings and are likely to arrive after the session has started, it is asked that you wait until we have a break (this is just to keep interruptions to a minimum, they hope you understand!).

Carlton Club Green Room, 113 Carlton Road, Whalley Range, M16 8BE

Suggestion: CHECK that these sessions are going ahead before you attend.

HEALTH: Adult ADHD and Autism Peer Support Group

Are you an adult that's been diagnosed with ADHD and/or Autism, in adulthood or are you wondering about a diagnosis? A new peer support group is launching at 5pm on the 2 December in Chorlton. Join to chat or just listen to lived experiences, tips and supportive tools. First TUESDAY of every month. The Meeting Room @chorltoncentral Church, Barlow Moor Road, M21 8BF. CHECK BEFORE YOU ATTEND FIRST TIME

HEALTH: Boost Your Resilience

Learn common sense strategies to help you feel uplifted and able to deal with life's challenges. Grow your confidence and meet new people. To sign up visit JNR8 or contact Christine on 0161 881 3744 / 07751 666 150 or email communityforumwhalleyrange@gmail.com ...

JNR8 Community Centre, 82 Cromwell Avenue, Whalley Range, M16 0BG. Transport costs may be available for people with low mobility. CHECK BEFORE YOU ATTEND FIRST TIME

HEALTH: Chorlton Lifesavers

Free community CPR and defibrillator training.

Our next free community CPR and defibrillator session is Wednesday 11th March 2026, 2026, 7- 8.30pm at the Bowling Green Pub
To book your place contact: Jenny 07570 879091
Cath 07722 958541 cathbrownhill55@gmail.com

HISTORY TALKS: CHORLTON GOOD NEIGHBOURS

History talks are also usually held at Chorlton Good Neighbours on the 2nd Tuesday in the month St Ninians Church, Egerton Rd; Chorlton, M21 0XJ. **For details contact:** Helen Hibberd (MBE) **Phone:** 0161 881 2925
Email: helen@chorltongoodneighbours.org **Facebook:** www.chorltongoodneighbours.org
Office opening hours: Monday – Friday 9 – 12.30pm:
Webpage: **www.**chorltongoodneighbours.org
CHECK BEFORE YOU ATTEND

HISTORY TALKS: History unlimited - at Chorlton Methodist Church

History Unlimited is a loose association of history lecturers offering courses and talks across South Manchester. At present our main base is the Parish Centre of Emmanuel Church, Didsbury, where we offer an ongoing history course throughout the year. However on one Saturday a month we offer talks at Chorlton Methodist Church on Manchester Road, Chorlton. Participants pay £6 per session and we normally attract between 25 and 30 attendees. (From Steve (Millward) CHECK BEFORE YOU ATTEND

HISTORY TALKS: Chorlton Library

History talks are also held at Chorlton Library The history talks take place each month , back at the library, on the second Saturday of the month.. CHECK BEFORE YOU ATTEND

HISTORY TALKS: Manchester Town hall Heritage lectures

Did you know you can learn all about the restoration of Manchester's Town hall. A series of lectures continues – if interested please sign up Sign up now if interested please sign up like to receive these eBulletins. You will also be able to listen to previous lectures.

Housing: Empty Homes Strategy

Manchester's growing population means we need to build more homes - but we also need to make best use of existing homes. Around 1,500 homes have been empty for six months or more and may need action to bring them back into use. Help shape the Empty Homes Strategy at: https://orlo.uk/podHk

LANGUAGES: ESOL Volunteers

Manchester Adult Education Service (MAES) is looking for volunteers to support learners in various locations across North, Central, and South Manchester. By donating your time, skills, and expertise, you'll help people learn English, build confidence, and develop essential skills. As a volunteer, you can gain numerous personal and professional benefits, including:

· Making a difference, Gaining experience, Enhancing your own skills, Expanding your networks, etc. To apply or learn more, please visit the Manchester Volunteer Inspire Programme (MCRVIP) website: https://mcrvip.com/volunteers/opportunity/10229383

LOCAL NEWS SOURCE: Neighbourhood Update newsletters

You can get your own Neighbourhood newsletters direct from the council: Don't wait for the news in this newsletter. Get up-to-date information direct from Laura Cassidy. Her newsletters are brilliant and will keep you in touch with a lot of what's happening locally.

Laura's newsletter is sent out to local residents who ask for them. If you want to receive a local newsletter contact: **Laura Cassidy Community Development Officer** – Chorlton, Chorlton Park and Whalley Range, South Neighbourhood Team

Level 3 Wythenshawe Area Office, Etrop Court, Rowlandsway, Manchester, M22 5RG **Mob:** 07976 885 898 **Email:** Laura.Cassidy@manchester.gov.uk

Lipreading and Managing you Hearing Loss classes.

These classes are designed for people with a hearing loss who may be finding it difficult to follow conversations.

What do we do in class?

- Lipreading practice in a friendly atmosphere
- Discuss strategies and tactics for difficult situations
- A chance to share problems and solutions with others who have similar difficulties.
- Information about assistive devices (such as flashing light doorbells)
- Information on hearing aids and how to look after them
- Information about useful organisations (such as Hearing Link or RNID)

Cost: Approx. £40 per term depending on the number of classes. Concessionary fees available.)
Classes are held in Manchester, Bury, Stretford, Altrincham, Glossop: The cless held in Withington Library (410 Wilmslow Rd, Manchester, M20 3BN is closed for renovations) CHECK BEFORE YOU ATTEND FIRST TIME
Postal address: Promoting Deaf Issues, PO Box 319, Manchester, M21 3DG
Email: enquiries@manchesterdeafstudies.org

PARKS AND OPEN SPACES: Alexandra Park

www.facebook.com/AlexParkMCR

friendsofalexandraparkmanchest@gmail.com

PARKS AND OPEN SPACES: Chorlton Meadows

See the Friends of Chorlton Meadows Facebook page
https://www.facebook.com/chorltonmeadows/.

PARKS AND OPEN SPACES: Chorlton Park

See the Friends of Chorlton Park Facebook page
https://www.facebook.com/groups/CholtonPark/?locale=en_GB

If you'd like to help out in the park, doing as little or as much as you can, there is a regular gardening session 8.30 -11.00 a.m. on Saturday mornings. All welcome.

Chorlton Park: Sponge Meadow Group

Friends of Chorlton Park invite you to join a new volunteering group to help manage the Sponge Meadow. The group will meet on the first and third Sunday each month, from 9am to 12noon, for practical, hands-on meadow management activities and biodiversity monitoring in the Sponge Meadow. Come along for the full session, or just for part of it; stay for refreshments afterwards, or just pop along to say hi and find out what they're up to. All abilities welcome. Toilet facilities are available. Meet in the lock up area by the Whitehouse at 9am or find them in the Sponge Meadow.
Activities will vary from season to season. www.facebook.com/groups/151217108266536

PARKS AND OPEN SPACES: Save Ryebank fields:

For the latest information see (https://www.saveryebankfields.co.uk/) and the Friends of Ryebank Fields Facebook website. Please sign their petition.







PARKS AND OPEN SPACES: Bailey Bridge Update

"The old bridge has been removed. Information about the installation of a new bridge will follow later in the year.

"A planning application for the new bridge has been approved. Search for **44154/VO/2025.**

Volunteering - Manchester Volunteering Inspire Programme

MCR VIP **(**Manchester Volunteering Inspire Programme) can help you find volunteering opportunities to suit your skills sets and the kind of things you like to do. Getting involved couldn't be simpler; all you need to do is register your interest on the website with a few of your personal details to create your very own volunteer profile. Once you've registered you can upload your photo to your profile page, add proof of ID, any DBS certificates you might have and other documents as required.

There are so many different opportunities, whether it's volunteering in your local community, volunteering online or over the telephone, there is an opportunity for you to give something back and gain valuable experience in the process.

If you are an organisation looking for volunteers, you can also create your own profile and advertise your opportunities to people actively looking to give back.

https://mcrvip.com/volunteers/about

VOTER ID

Find out more at: Voter ID | Electoral Commission

WALKING: Walk From Home

Join a new, relaxed, social lunch time walk every Thursday at 12:30pm. Whether you are working from home and need an excuse to get out or just fancy a walk in nature and a chat, meet at Chorlton Ees car park (opposite The Bowling Green Pub), M21 9ES. Please just turn up if you want to join.

WALKING: Chorlton Health Walk

Chorlton Health Walk takes place every Thursday, providing the weather is acceptable. We gather outside Chorlton Family Practice (1 Nicolas Road Chorlton), setting off at 1pm, walking through Longford Park to the cafe, where we rest, chat and have refreshments before returning to the starting point. This is a respectful and gentle walk. Everyone is welcome. Just turn up on the day and ask for Stephen.

WALKING: Walking Mums Club

Walking Mums Club have a new weekly walk at Alexandra Park every Tuesday from 11:30am. CHECK BEFORE YOU GO

Fresh air, being in nature, walking, talking, learning and laughing are all great for you (and your baby). That's why Walking Mums Club was set up. They've built an inclusive community of mums who walk together across parks in Greater Manchester, building new friendships, supporting each other and sharing stories of their parental journeys. Join one of the walks in your local park to take those first steps pre- and post-partum and link into a network of mums all experiencing the same highs and lows. Meet at 11:30am outside the Pavilion Café within the park, then head out for a loop of the park before heading back to the café (around 12:30pm) for an optional brew. For more details or to book you free spot please visit: www.eventbrite.co.uk/o/walking-mums-club-cic-31578399209
www.facebook.com/walkingmumsclub

WALKING: Walk and Talk

Merseybank Garden Group are starting a new Walk and Talk walking for wellbeing session on Wednesday 21st January. Meet at The Den Café, 40 Merseybank Avenue, M21 7NN. Walk starts at 11am until 12:30pm then welcome at The Den for lunch and bingo starting at 1:30pm. For more information please contact Kevin or Alison on 0161 425 0723.

WALKING: Wellness Walks at Hough End Leisure Centre (FREE)

Regular walks can help reduce stress, boost mood, improve heart health, and increase overall fitness — all while enjoying the company of others. Hough End Leisure Centre are now running Wellness Walks, designed for all abilities! Meet at 10am on Wednesdays at the centre and join them for an outdoor walk to enjoy fresh air and walking to local green spaces, perfect for relaxation and connection with nature.

Walking with others makes it easier to stay motivated and build healthy habits. No sign-up needed however you can book online or via the link below or on BetterUK app or just turn up and walk your way to better well-being for free. CHECK BEFORE YOU GO

Hough End Leisure Centre, 480 Princess Road, M20 1HD. www.better.org.uk/leisure-centre/manchester/news/boost-your-health-with-wellness-walks

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WRITING: Free Writing Workshops in Alexandra Park

Bembe Café are hosting free weekly writing workshops at their space in Alexandra Park. Drop-In sessions from 12pm to 2pm starting Sunday 18th January, weekly until 22nd March.

Join in at Bembe Cafe for writing workshops led by writer and facilitator Toreh O'Garro. You will be exploring many themes relating to what community can mean through writing and sharing space with our neighbours. Consider this a welcomed interruption to your week. Not a rude one... but a creative one! One that swiftly slips into your Sundays and chucks in something special. Inspiration for your next piece, a sense of community nourishing the week ahead or maybe just maybe just maybe some writing advice to harness your voice!
https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61572199929332

Yoga: New Pay as you Can Yoga class at Bembe Café in Alexandra Park.

Family friendly and mats provided. Tuesdays 10am to 11:15am,
Bembe Café, Alexandra Park, M16 8PJ. CHECK BEFORE YOU GO

Yoga: Standing and Chair Based Yoga

Barlow Moor Community Association have free standing yoga and chair-based yoga every Tuesday from 3:30 – 4:30pm. Please sign up at reception or call 0161 446 4805. BMCA, 23 Merseybank Avenue, M21 7NT CHECK BEFORE YOU GO

