



Spring/Summer 2025

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Find us on  
www.bolsovercivicsociety.org.uk



Tim and Andrea Bagguley
and Andy and Louise Sutton
celebrate in true Soiree spirit!

Our Annual Summer Evening Soiree at Old Bolsover Yard was the highlight event in July and although the weather was less than summery it wasn't as wet as the previous year!

Paul Hawkworth, Sheffield based singer songwriter and guitarist offered a great range of music from Indie to Folk. **Amanda** at Castle Tea Rooms rustled up the most fantastic sit down buffet including silver service and best china. **Tim Sawyer** organised bar services, including the largest red wines this side of France. A great evening.

'FAME, FORTUNE & FASHION'



Civic Society members, especially **Brenda Pegge**, worked on Winifred Duchess of Portland as part of the Parish Church exhibition in September. Known as the 'Miners Duchess' for her keen interest in the health and welfare concerns of mining families locally, Winifred Portland was active in Bolsover, opening the Parish Rooms on land given by the Duke and Hornscliff in 1939.

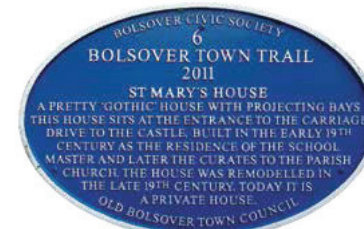


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Newsletter

BOLSOVER TOWN TRAIL A 'BLUE PLAQUE' GUIDE

As you follow the trail you will notice a series of blue plaques which are numbered on the map. These indicate buildings which are of particular historical or architectural importance within the town.



Look out for the 'Blue Plaques'
like the example here

BOLSOVER TOWN TRAIL



Our new **Bolsover Town Trail and Blue Plaque Guide** was launched earlier this year. This is the third one the Society has produced in the past ten years and is certainly the best. The guide features all ten Blue Plaques we erected in 2011 as part of a walk around the conservation area. In addition, it includes the clock maker's grave in the churchyard and the Parish Church, the conduit houses and the views from the Back Hills across to Hardwick, Sutton Hall and the Peakland hills.

The text was written by **Bernard Haigh** with fantastic photos from award winning photographer **Dave Wharmby** with design work and aerial map from **Creative5**. **Old Bolsover Town Council** funded the project.

Copies are available - free of charge, from various shops and cafes in the town, Bolsover Library, the Castle and the Council offices.

'WE HAVE A SONG TO SING OH'



Once again last October **Dore Gilbert and Sullivan Society** offered us a treat of a musical evening with the best pieces from the D'Oyly Carte operas, 'Pirates of Penzance', 'Mikado', 'Patience' and 'HMS Pinafore', followed in the second half of the evening with 'Songs from the Shows', highlighting 'The Sound of Music', 'Les Miserables', 'The Lion King' and 'The Merry Widow'.

A great musical evening.



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45 YEARS ON...AND NOT OUT!

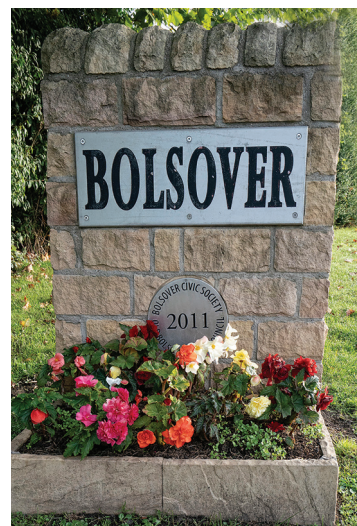
Although this year's AGM is the 44th (one year off for covid) it is the Civic Society's 45th full year since we launched in 1979. We thought it worthwhile to offer a reminder of just some of the projects we can celebrate over the past 45 Years.

40 - 42 MARKET PLACE



The threatened demolition of the oldest commercial buildings in the town, which can be seen on the earliest town map of 1634, was our launchpad for action. With the assistance of Derbyshire Historic Buildings Trust and the cooperation of the District Council we did it. No stopping us now!

'SIGNING THE TOWN' PROJECT



A successful bid for £31,000 external funding enabled us to erect seven 'Welcome to Bolsover' signs, a Blue Plaque Heritage Trail, Interpretation boards at Dykes Field and Surprise View, Audio and Childrens' Activity Trails.

CHURCH FARMHOUSE, CHURCH STREET



The Supermarket development which eventually became the CoOp demanded the demolition of this former Georgian farmhouse to make way for eight car parking spaces. We successfully objected to the proposal with a great deal of public support.

ST MARY'S HOUSE



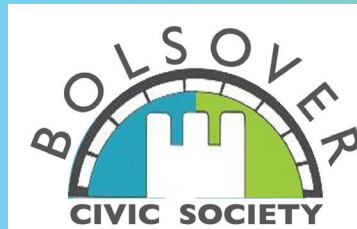
Saving this property, dating back to the 1840's, directed most of our efforts in the early 1990's. Eventually we persuaded the District Council to serve a repairs notice on the owners. This encouraged them to sell to a serious buyer. A great addition to the conservation area.

BOLSOVER COLLIERY COAL TUB AND RAILS, STATION ROAD

In 2013 we completed the restoration of one of the few visible remaining reminders of the town's mining history with financial support from County, District and Town Councils'



Scan this QR code - or head to <https://youtu.be/wgNpceRsfuM> - to watch the short film, '**Bolsover, Building a Legacy**' on YouTube.



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FRED KITCHEN COMMEMORATIVE SEATING



In 2023 we commemorated local author **Fred Kitchen** with memorial seating outside the library. With cooperation from all three councils and funding through the Morrisons development the seating was designed for us by former committee member **Neal Potter** and executed in stone by local sculptor **Andrew Tebbs**. In addition, we persuaded Derbyshire Library Service to transfer a complete set of Fred Kitchen's books from County Hall to Bolsover.

ALEXANDER SENIOR MEMORIAL WINDOW, HILL TOP METHODIST CHURCH

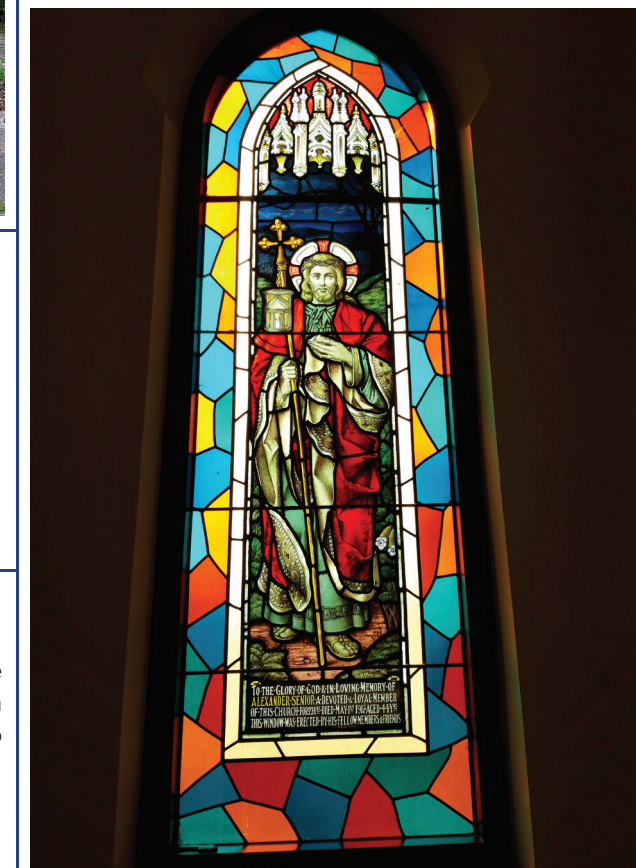
Originally in the now demolished Congregational Chapel, Castle Street, the family were looking for a home for the window and turned to the Society. With the full support of Alexander Senior's Grandson and the Methodist Church we re-erected it at Hill Top.

GREENING THE TOWN

Ninety Trees, and still counting, dating back thirty years, is the tree planting total so far. Some of these, such as the copse down New Station Road, stretching from the bottom of Castle Lane to Bainbridge Road are today fully mature green corridors.



John, Kevin, Sarah, Bernard, George and Henry, Andrew, Les and Janet brave the typical November weather to plant a copper beech outside the Post Office.



Our next celebration will be the Society Golden Jubilee (If you would like a fuller account on Society activities and achievements since 1979 read '**Bolsover A Gem Of A Place**' by **Bernard Haigh**. Copies available at Bolsover Library or contact Bernard Direct)

The film '**Bolsover, Building a Legacy**' by Limekiln Films, a twenty minute film documenting the work of the Society, can be viewed on YouTube or through the Society website.