

ISSUE 69. SPRING 2022

THE MAGAZINE FOR
WIGAN BOROUGH
RESIDENTS

Wigan[♥]
Council

BoroughLife



Celebration pull-out inside

The Leader's column

Welcome to this Platinum Jubilee special edition of Borough Life.

The eyes of the world will be on the UK in early June as we all come together to celebrate Her Majesty The Queen's Platinum Jubilee.

We have gone the extra mile here in Wigan Borough to ensure our communities do it in style and make it a week to remember for everyone.

Given what we've all had to go through over the last few years with the pandemic, it will be fantastic to be part of something we can all get behind, relax and enjoy – let's just hope the Great British weather plays ball!

We are hosting a series of exciting events – all the details are included within these pages – but will also be supporting all the community-led festivities that we know are planned across the borough.

Our special Jubilee pull-out in the middle of this edition will provide you



with everything you need, from tips on how to celebrate at home, to fun activities for young ones and a bit of royal nostalgia for those of the older generation.

I know the Borough Life team has had a lot of fun putting it all together, I hope you have as much fun reading it as we all prepare for what will be an amazing week.

Outside of the Jubilee, 2022 is such an important year for our borough.

This edition includes some important updates on key projects such as the

ongoing programme of developments to help inter-connect our communities through sustainable travel.

There's a handy guide to keeping up with your household bills as we recognise that a number of factors are currently causing some added pressure for all of us.

And we take an in-depth look into the cultural impact of hosting the UEFA Women's Euros.

Given the Covid-related postponements, it has been a long wait for the Euros and the Rugby League World Cup, but the months are now ticking by.

Along with the Jubilee, the rest of the year is shaping up to be a momentous one and I'm looking forward to us enjoying it together.

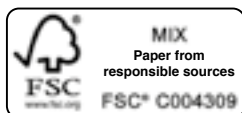
Councillor David Molyneux
Leader, Wigan Council

Borough Life is published by Wigan Council and distributed to all households in the borough. This edition was published on 9th May 2022. The magazine is printed on paper from renewable resources. It is written, edited and designed by Wigan Council's Public Relations Team.

If you are a resident of Wigan Borough but haven't had a copy of Borough Life delivered through your letterbox, view it online at www.wigan.gov.uk/boroughlife

For all the latest updates straight to your phone, sign up to the weekly My Wigan Borough email update. Visit: www.wigan.gov.uk/boroughlife

For general comments email: boroughlife@wigan.gov.uk



On the cover

We're eventually coming out of those long winter months and we wanted to capture that feeling of spring arriving; the sun shining and our environment blossoming.

Plus, there's the small matter of the Platinum Jubilee on the horizon, so we also wanted to join in with the street party theme.



With the help of borough traders Harwoods Patisserie, Olive Owl Flowers and Heather Capture Photography our designers have therefore combined bright colours, seasonal flowers and a host of party treats.

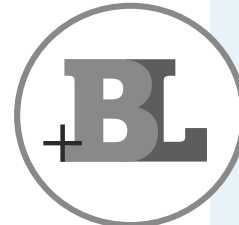
We hope it captures the mood for what will be an exciting couple of months for the borough.



Whenever you see this icon, you know there's more to see

As usual, this edition of Borough Life is bursting with great stories, eye-catching images and handy tips.

So much so in fact that we have a whole bunch of extra content that didn't make it in. All is not lost though, as you can see all this bonus material by following this link: www.wigan.gov.uk/BoroughLifePlus



Contents



4-7 | NEWS IN BRIEF

Your latest news round-up.

8-9 | A CAFÉ WITH A DIFFERENCE

This brilliant new venue serves up more than just your normal coffee and cake.

10 | AROUND THE MATCH

A special project to explore what football means to local women and girls.

11 | PLATINUM JUBILEE SPECIAL

Your Royal pull-out starts here with something for all the family.

12-13 | ROYAL NEWS IN BRIEF

Keeping you up to date with the latest information in the build-up to the big week.

14-17 | PARTIES, CELEBRATIONS AND EVENTS

There's a lot going on across the borough, here's the rundown of what to expect.

18 | CELEBRATE AT HOME

From making your own bunting to decorating your home, we've got you covered.

19-22 | KIDS CRAFTS SPECIAL EDITION

Create your own Jubilee flag; colour it in, cut it out and wave!

23 | CELEBRATE AT HOME

A few tasty recipes to try-out over the Jubilee weekend.

24-25 | A ROYAL TRIP DOWN MEMORY LANE

Residents recall their memories of previous Royal milestones.

26-27 | A ROLE MODEL

We explore the Queen's influence around the world.

28-29 | WELCOME TO THE BOROUGH, YOUR HIGHNESS

We delved into our archives to reveal these stunning images of Royal visits from down the years.

30 | DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Community events and the national celebratory schedule.

31 | A CULTURAL LEGACY FOR THE UEFA WOMEN'S EUROS

A jam-packed programme of events will kick-off in July to celebrate the tournament arriving in the borough.

32-35 | A FEW TIPS TO HELP YOUR FINANCES GO FURTHER

Most of us are feeling a pinch at the moment, here's some handy advice.

36-37 | WHEEL-Y GOOD WAYS OF GETTING OUT AND ABOUT

Important developments helping connectivity across the borough are taking a step forward.

38-39 | WHAT'S ON

Your handy guide to what's going on in your area as spring approaches.

40 | LAKE DISTRICT ADVENTURE

Low Bank Ground on the shores of Coniston Water is now available for private bookings.

**Follow
Wigan
Council**



LinkedIn
wigan-council



Youtube
WiganCouncil



Twitter
WiganCouncil



Instagram
WiganCouncil



Facebook
WiganCouncilOnline

News in Brief

New additions to the Believe Star line-up

A pair of inspirational charities will receive stars in 2022 and become the latest additions to Believe Square.

Joining Jack and Joseph's Goal each celebrate their 10th anniversary this year and have become world-renowned for their fundraising and awareness work.

Leader of Wigan Council, Councillor David Molyneux, said: "I think every resident will appreciate not only the work they do, but the prestige they bring to this borough for their work in the charitable sector."

The inspirational figures behind each charity are youngsters Jack Johnson and Joseph Kendrick.

Each raises awareness and funding for research into Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy (DMD) and Non-Ketotic Hyperglycinemia (NKH), respectively.



Meanwhile, in February, Leigh Harriers coaching legends Margaret and Joe Galvin (above right) had their star installed at Leigh Town Hall.

The pair were recognised for their contribution to sport and support for young people.

Pride is back for the summer

Revive your rainbows and adorn yourself in yellow, the fabulous, feel-good summer party Wigan Pride is back.

The Wigan Council sponsored event returns on Saturday, August 13 with two stages in Wigan town centre and a street parade.



Organisers are hoping the day will celebrate the borough's community spirit in style after pandemic restrictions curtailed recent editions of the festival.

Pride committee member Dan Bonney said: "We theme each year's event around the meaning of a different colour in the Pride flag.

"Yellow represents sunlight, energy and vitality so is the perfect colour for Wigan Pride '22."

The Believe Stage, which provides a platform for up-and-coming local

artists to perform acoustically, will return this year for the first time since 2019.

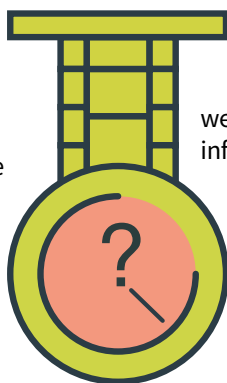
More information on Wigan Pride '22, including artist line ups and how you can get involved in the parade, will be revealed over the next few months.



Keeping well while you wait

Waiting for hospital treatment? It is important that you continue to maintain and manage your physical and mental wellbeing while you wait.

Wrightington, Wigan and



Leigh Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust (WWL) has launched a webpage offering a range of information on how to keep well and how to access support.

It is difficult for the trust to say how long you might wait for surgery or a procedure, as they are still facing

high demand on services, but it is so important that you do seek help if your condition gets worse. If you are waiting for scheduled treatment and have a consultant or specialist nurse at WWL, you should contact them and let them know if your condition changes.

Find out more:

www.wwl.nhs.uk/while-you-wait

News in Brief



Blue Plaque recipients for 2022 revealed

An eminent musician and composer, a world-renowned scientist and an important sporting location will receive Wigan Borough's blue plaques for 2022.

Unveiling ceremonies will take place throughout the year with Folly Field, a site where rugby was first played in 1862, chosen to coincide with the 150th anniversary year for Wigan Warriors.

The career of Sir Ernest Bullock, a director of the Royal College of Music who was responsible for the music at the coronation of King George VI in 1937, will be honoured.

Kathleen Mary Drew-Baker (above), who is revered in Japan and known as the 'Mother of the Sea' for her scientific research, will have a plaque placed near to her former home in Leigh.



(Left to right) Robert Sullivan From the Football Foundation with Councillors Moodie, Sharratt and Molyneux

Kick-off approaches for football hubs

Works to build two top-class football hubs are underway, meaning kick-off is fast approaching.

The transformation at William Foster's playing fields in Ince and Laithwaite Park in Wigan is part of a partnership between Wigan Council and the Football Foundation.

The multi-million pound project includes new 3G pitches plus changing rooms and community facilities at both locations.

And they are on schedule to open later this year.

The Football Foundation is the Premier League, FA and government's charity organisation and has established similar hubs already in Sheffield, Liverpool and Sunderland.



Fresh start for the Turnpike

A new era has started for one of the borough's most-loved arts and culture centres.

The Turnpike Gallery in Leigh celebrates its 50th anniversary this year and has reopened, now under the management of Wigan Council.

It is currently showcasing the Drawn In exhibition up until Saturday, June 11.

Drawn In features the work of local, regional and nationally renowned artists, many of whom had their first major exhibition at the gallery, including Henry Moore and L S Lowry.

The Turnpike Gallery, on Civic Square in Leigh town centre, is open Tuesday to Saturday between 10am and 4pm with free entry.



Breaking the Bias

Inspirational female leaders from the business, local government, education and community sectors - including performance poet, Louise Fazackerley (pictured left) - helped us mark International Women's Day in March.

A week-long programme of events led by Wigan Council included online panel discussions and a celebration working lunch, all in-keeping with the theme of 'Breaking the Bias'.



New keys and a fresh start

The first residents to move into an affordable housing development have described their new home as "life changing".

Brackley Court in Goose Green is made up of 17 two, three and four bedroom homes.

The scheme is a result of a £2.16m investment from Wigan Council, supported by a £540k Homes England grant.

Among those getting settled into their new homes, is Claire Markey (pictured right with her father) who is living in a four-bedroom property specially adapted to suit her needs as a wheelchair user.

Miss Markey said: "It is like another life. They have built me a house from scratch and adapted it, even looking to the future with additions such as hoists. They have thought about everything.

"Having this house has completely changed the way I live."



Apprentice and graduate pledge extended



Hundreds of new affordable homes, a £1.2m pothole repair fund and a further pledge to create 100 graduate and apprenticeship roles have been unveiled as part of this year's budget.

The financial plan for 2022/23 was unveiled by council bosses in March.

It also includes an extension of free town centre weekend parking in Wigan and Leigh town centres.

Residents will continue to pay the lowest council tax for a metropolitan borough in the UK.

Last year's budget included the 100 apprenticeship and graduate role pledge but as the council has hit that target one year into its three year timeframe, another 100 has been announced.

An extra £1m has also been allocated to the community recovery fund, which has already seen more than 250 grass-roots organisations supported since its launch last year. This brings the total investment in the fund to £3m.

Pictured left is our team of apprentices who work at the Makerfield Depot for Environmental Services.

News in Brief

Councillors Ready, Prescott and Molyneux with members of the council's Environment Team



Parks, play and more Our Town

Improvement works to spruce up Wigan Borough's parks and greenspaces are part of an environment themed £2m-plus investment package from Wigan Council.

A further rollout of the popular Our Town cleaner, greener project will also take place through 2022/23, council bosses have also confirmed.

Refurbished paths across the borough's network of parks and new play equipment are included, along with additional public realm improvement works and signage.

The announcement comes as the council reaffirmed its commitment to helping the green economy with a target of becoming carbon neutral before 2038.

The Our Town cleaner, greener project last year saw 12 district centres receive a package of environmental improvement works including deep cleans, replacement and additional bins,

new signage and new or improved street lighting.

The latest phase will see it rollout to a further 12 areas through 2022, bringing the total investment in the project to £1m.

The Our Town areas for this year are Bryn, Winstanley, Atherleigh, Astley Mosley Common, Wigan West, Wigan Central, Leigh East, Leigh West, Shevington, Hindley Green, Worsley Mesnes and Tyldesley.

Dave's busy week is an inspiration

Wigan Borough had two major reasons to feel proud of council assistant director Dave Lyon in March.

Dave, a former professional rugby player, who has worked for Wigan Council for almost four decades received a British Empire Medal for services to the community.

The ceremony, which had been delayed due to the Covid pandemic, was held in The Atrium at Wigan Town Hall.

A matter of days later, Dave was part of a team delivering donations to Poland



to help those impacted by the war in Ukraine.

Alongside representatives from the Archdiocese of Liverpool, Wigan and Leigh College and Greenmount

Projects, Dave's group transported two 7.5 tonne vans full of donations.

Wigan Council's chief executive, Alison McKenzie-Folan, said: "We are so proud of how our communities have pulled together to make these

donations and also proud of Dave for joining the team delivering these goods to those fleeing the conflict to neighbouring countries."

Everyone's welcome at the Comfort Café



Stuart Parsons and team at the Comfort Café

As one of the influential young people behind the new Comfort Café concept, Lola, 15, (pictured top right, page 9) is helping to drive forward one of Leigh's most innovative fledgling projects.

The venture is hosted by local organisation, Family Welfare, and Lola has begun to see her own ideas materialising into reality as the café, that is more than just a café, begins to take shape.

"It's basically a safe space for everyone," she says. "We called it the Comfort Café because we wanted the name to represent what it is."

"We wanted it to be a friendly environment. And inclusive of everyone. And it is."

Three years ago, a consultation led by Wigan and Leigh Youth Cabinet identified mental health as one of the biggest issues of concern for young people in the borough.

An idea was born to set up an informal café where young people could access mental health support if needed but where they could also choose not to.

This, young people felt, would eliminate the stigma that was still sometimes attached to seeking support.

Post pandemic and that informal mix of activities, café and potential support is finally here.

"It's a completely different approach to the traditional expectation of

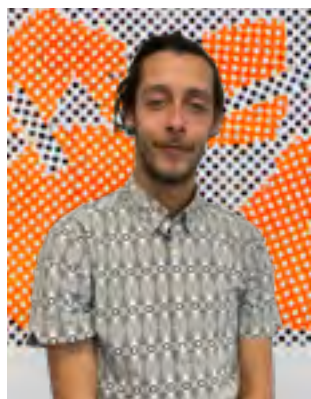


sitting in a waiting room," says Stuart Parsons, Chief Officer at Family Welfare, an organisation that already works with children and families across the borough offering counselling sessions, advocacy, and now, the Comfort Café.

"You can just call in and visit the café, you might want to try an activity, or you might want to find out more about therapy."

Best start in life

Why is the Comfort Café important?



**Javan Knowles,
local volunteer**

“When I was a young kid, I had places to go. I had youth groups. I think everyone needs a safe haven, especially when you’re young. When you come here, the first question people ask you isn’t, ‘What have you been doing today?’, it’s ‘How have you been doing today?’ It makes a difference.”



**Alfie, 13, young
people’s steering group**

“This place can help everyone whether you have mental health problems or not as if you don’t it could stop you getting them. It’s a nice place to be. I’ve told my friends about it.”



**Lola, 15, young people’s
steering group**

“It’s not necessarily about seeing a therapist. It’s more about coming here, getting to know other people, making friends. It’s a place where you can speak and exchange what you’re feeling, and people will listen. That’s important for mental health too.”

“The important thing is there’s no sitting in a waiting room, worrying about whether someone you know might see you here or wondering why anyone else is here.”

Stuart also hopes the café will give young people the confidence to ask for professional support if needed.

“It’s also a way of helping young people feel comfortable in this environment,” he adds.

“The hardest part of getting mental health support can often be taking that first step through the door.

“If young people come here regularly to enjoy an arts activity, or have a coffee with their friends, they will hopefully become comfortable in the surroundings.

“So if they ever needed to come here to speak with a therapist, it might not be so intimidating.”

Ambitions for the future include a potential coffee morning for new parents and a men’s friendship and mental health group. Family Welfare is already working in partnership with the new Youth Hub, due to be launched at Leigh Sports Village later in the year, to make sure the two facilities will complement each other in terms of the services and opportunities they will offer for young people.

The café is already going some way towards Lola’s aspiration of being fully inclusive, with disability access, hopes to create a sensory facility for young people with ADHD

or special educational needs, and two open events (after the young people’s steering group secured a successful funding bid) to mark Chinese New Year and LGBT History Month.

To find out more about the Comfort Café, please email admin@wiganfamilywelfare.co.uk





Trailblazers on and off the pitch

Inspirational local figures will form part of a ground-breaking team that will keep the legacy of the UEFA Women's Euros alive long after the final whistle is blown.

The Around The Match project will showcase first-hand accounts of what it means to be female and part of the beautiful game.

A superstar line-up of 11 women and girls will feature in the team and accompanying documentary.

Playing a pivotal role is nine-year-old Ellie Duffy (pictured right), a Latics youth player who campaigned for girls' sport to restart during Covid lockdown.

Speaking of her involvement in Around the Match, Ellie said: "I feel proud and honoured to be chosen to be on this panel of 11 and to be working with them, to be an inspiration to girls.

"I am so pleased Wigan Borough has been chosen to host some of the Euro games as I feel it will pave a way for girls not only in the borough but everywhere to play football.

I can't believe we've been chosen to host trailblazing and pioneering games with the some of the best footballers. It will truly inspire girls."

The line-up also includes chair of Wigan Athletic Supporters Club, Caroline Molyneux, and Tabeth Mabiza-Nhakaniso from Leigh-based community group Everything Human Rights.

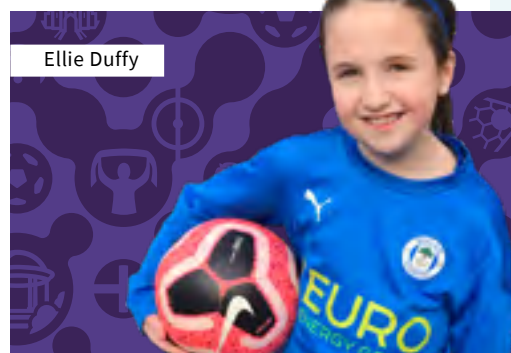
The team's stories will be brought to life in the form of bespoke memorabilia, including a match programme and a football shirt, designed in collaboration with female fashion students at Wigan and Leigh College.

Chris Butler of Manchester based Creative Studio & Art Collective We Are Willow, who have devised and are delivering the project, said:

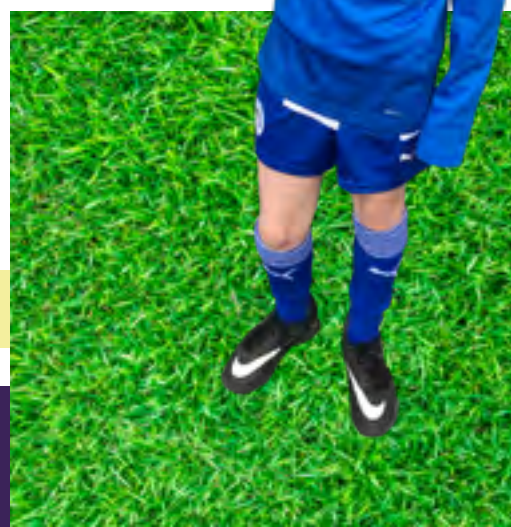
"Around The Match offers fresh insight into the women of football in Wigan and Leigh - the voices that make the game on and off the pitch.

"Through engagement with new audiences sharing histories we're bringing generations together, exploring those special moments that affect people long after the final whistle is blown."

I feel it will pave a way for girls not only in Wigan Borough but everywhere to play football.



Ellie Duffy

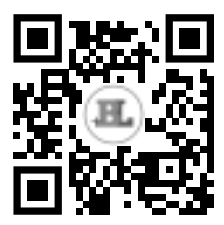


For more information visit www.aroundthetmatch.com



PLATINUM JUBILEE WEEKEND

Thursday 2nd - Sunday 5th June 2022



Celebrating 70 years

on the throne

Earlier this year, on Sunday, February 6, Her Majesty The Queen became the first British Monarch to celebrate a Platinum Jubilee, marking 70 years of service to the people of the United Kingdom and the Commonwealth.

To help everyone come together to celebrate this historic milestone, Buckingham Palace

announced a special extended bank holiday weekend.

These four days from Thursday, June 2 to Sunday, June 5, are the culmination of an unprecedented schedule of events and initiatives.

The following pages will provide everything you need to know about what's happening in Wigan Borough.

But there's also an exciting series of public events on a national level. Here's a snapshot:

On Thursday, June 2, 1,400 parading soldiers, 200 horses and 400 musicians will take part in The Queen's Birthday Parade, also known as Trooping the Colour.

It is usually held on the second Saturday in June to celebrate The Queen's official birthday but has been incorporated into the Jubilee celebrations.

On Friday, June 3, a service of Thanksgiving will take place at St Paul's Cathedral.

On Saturday, June 4, we will all be able to watch the live concert hosted at Buckingham Palace.

The Platinum Party at the Palace will be broadcast by the BBC, bringing together some of the world's biggest entertainment stars.

On Sunday, June 5, London will play host to the Platinum Jubilee Pageant, a selection of theatre, street arts, music and cutting-edge visual technology from across the Commonwealth.

This will include the 'River of Hope' section, which will see 200 silk flags parading down The Mall, appearing like a moving river.

For more information, see our events rundown on page 30.



Did you know?

Her Majesty's Coronation took place in June, 1953, a year after she acceded to the throne following the death of her father, King George VI.

The Coronation was held at Westminster Abbey. Wigan-born composer Sir Ernest Bullock, who directed the music for the Coronation of George VI, played a key role as part of an advisory committee.

For the first time, beacons will be lit in each of the capital cities of the Commonwealth countries, in addition to more than 1,500 beacons across the UK.





Borsdane becomes part of Royal network



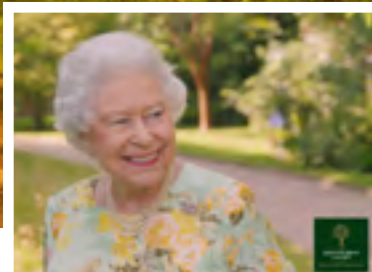
A section of well-known and much-loved Wigan Borough woodland has been handed special status as part of the Platinum Jubilee celebrations.

Borsdane Wood in Hindley is one of 70 plots of ancient woodland across the UK to be officially recognised as part of the The Queen's Green Canopy (QGC).

The QGC is a unique tree planting initiative which invites people from across the UK to "Plant a Tree for the Jubilee"

Greater Manchester was named as the first "Champion City" under the initiative last December.

Organisers are aiming to create a legacy in honour of The Queen's leadership of the nation, which will benefit future generations and encourage sustainable tree planting across the UK.



Greenheart Project Officer at Wigan Council, Martin Purcell, said: "We're thrilled that Borsdane has been included in the QGC campaign.

"It has a unique history, is a valued part of our Greenheart network here in Wigan Borough and is served very well by the Friends of Borsdane Group. This honour just adds to its special status."

The woodland, on Hindley Mill Lane, was one of the first locations to be designated as a nature reserve by the former district councils of Aspull, Hindley and Westhoughton in the early 1930s.

Across the UK, everyone from individuals to Scout and Girlguiding groups, villages, cities, counties, schools and organisations have been

encouraged to play their part in the tree-planting initiative.

With tree-planting season falling between October to March, tree-planting efforts will pick up again from October 2022 to end the Jubilee year.

The QGC has His Royal Highness The Prince of Wales as its patron.

For more information about The Queen's Green Canopy and the Plant a Tree for the Jubilee initiative, visit:

queensgreencanopy.org



A RIGHT ROYAL KNEES-UP



We'll be kicking off the Jubilee weekend with the official beacon lighting at Haigh Woodland Park.

The event will be hosted by Girlguiding Lancashire South County - whose patron is the Queen.

With local girlguiding groups and special guests, settle down in front of a fabulous stage show packed full of local talent.

Join in with a Girlguiding singalong or learn the words to 'The Song for the Commonwealth' ready for the ceremonial lighting.

This is a Girlguiding led event and prebooking a ticket is essential to attend. For tickets and more event information please see www.wigan.gov.uk/PlatinumJubilee

WHEN:
Thursday 2 June,
6pm - 10pm

WHERE:
Haigh Woodland Park,
School Lane, Wigan,
WN2 1PE



It's fair to say that Platinum Jubilees don't come around too often, and that's why we want to make our local celebrations something to remember for generations.

Hopefully the sun will be shining but whatever the weather, why not bring the family together to get involved with one of the many events happening within the borough?



MAYOR'S GALA

Join the Mayor of Wigan Borough, Councillor Marie Morgan, for a day bursting with family fun.

The activities will include fairgrounds rides, community stalls, face painting, laser quest and a climbing wall.

There will also be a host of entertainers and James Bond's Aston Martin DB5 will be on display.

WHEN:

Friday 3 June, 10am - 4pm

WHERE:

Pennington Hall Park, St Helen's Road, Leigh, WN7 3UA





JUBILEE PARTY IN THE PARK & UEFA WOMEN'S EURO 2022 ROADSHOW

The Jubilee Party in the Park will host a wide range of entertainment and activities from British culture spanning the last 70 years and beyond.

Music, dance, vintage vehicles and more await our guests in Mesnes Park.

Ahead of the borough being host to the Women's EUROS in July, UEFA will be kicking off the festivities with a footie roadshow.

The free, family event will feature a variety of activities and entertainment to suit everyone whether they are fans of the game or not.

This includes a mainstage featuring live music from local bands and DJs, a showpiece football pitch for local grassroots clubs, guest appearances from legends of the women's game and interactive games to show off your skills in a series of challenges.

WHEN:
Saturday 4 June,
11am - 4pm

WHERE:
Mesnes Park, Mesnes
Park Terrace, Wigan,
WN1 1TU



For up to date information on any of our Jubilee events, scan the QR code opposite or visit: www.wigan.gov.uk/PlatinumJubilee





The Big Lunch idea, bringing communities across the UK together and helping them get to know each other a little better, has been around since 2009.

This year, with the Jubilee celebrations to throw into the mix, it promises to be bigger and better than ever.

Whether it's sharing a cuppa with a neighbour on the doorstep or a bigger bash in the street, we are here to help you celebrate.

The aim is to bring back the Great British street party tradition and

make some very special memories by joining together with your neighbours over this momentous weekend.

We know from the VE Day anniversary celebrations in 2020 that our communities can set a high standard when it comes to getting together to have fun.

So please check out our party food recipes and handy guide to making red, white and blue bunting in the next few pages of this supplement and visit our website for extra tips on how to host your special street parties.

WHEN:
Thursday 2 June –
Sunday 5 June

WHERE:
Community locations
across Wigan Borough



To stay up to date with all the latest news and information about events in the borough follow Visit Wigan on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.

Bunting fit for the Queen!

Celebrate the Jubilee at home with this simple make your own bunting guide. Great to keep little hands busy.

You will need:

Templates, scissors, sticky tape and a pen or pencil.

Coloured card, fabric or any other recyclables.

String or ribbons to hang your bunting.

[Find a printable set of templates at Borough Life Plus](#)



Step 1:

Cut out your template and then draw around it onto your fabric or card.



Step 2:

Cut out your bunting pieces and mark out the slots for your string or ribbon to go through.



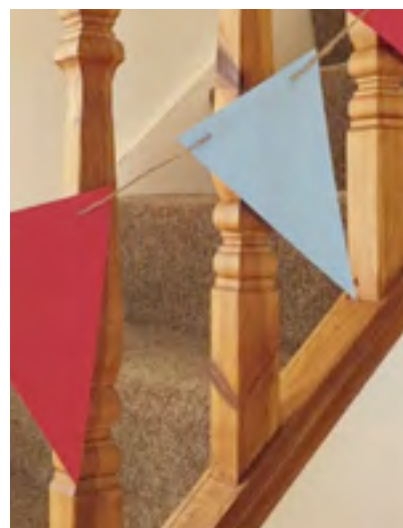
Step 3:

Cut the slots and thread the string or ribbon through them.



Step 4:

Secure the string or ribbon onto the bunting pieces with sticky tape and repeat steps 3 and 4 to create a line of bunting.



Step 5:

Proudly hang your bunting and prepare to celebrate!



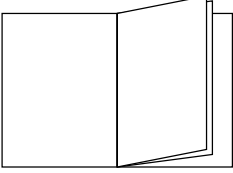
CRAFT PULL OUT

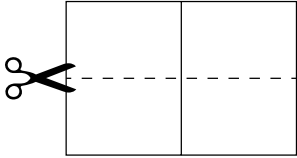


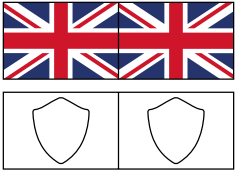
Make your own flag

All you need is this copy of Borough Life, scissors, glue, a straw and some colouring pencils or crayons.



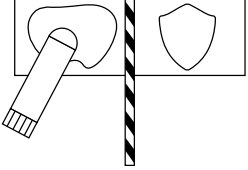
1  Pull out pages 19-22 (centre spread)

2  Lie it flat and cut along the dotted line

3  You will have a choice of 2 flag designs

If you want a Union Flag...

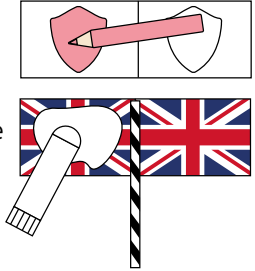
Put the straw in the centre of the colour in pages, glue one side and then stick the other side to it.



If you want to create your own design...

Colour in/ draw your own picture in the shields.

Then put the straw in the centre of the Union Flag, glue one side and then stick the other side to it.






Photos by Dave Green



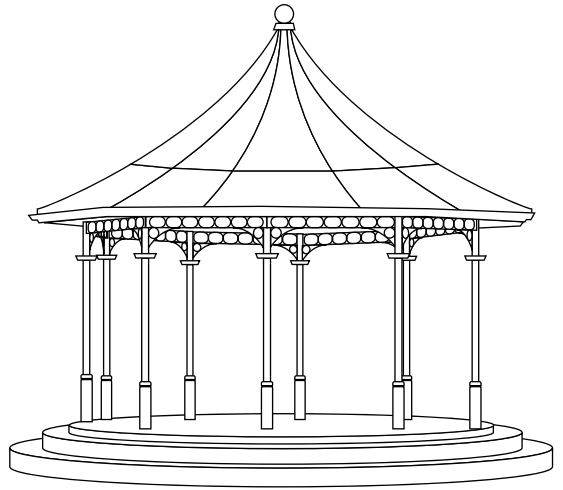
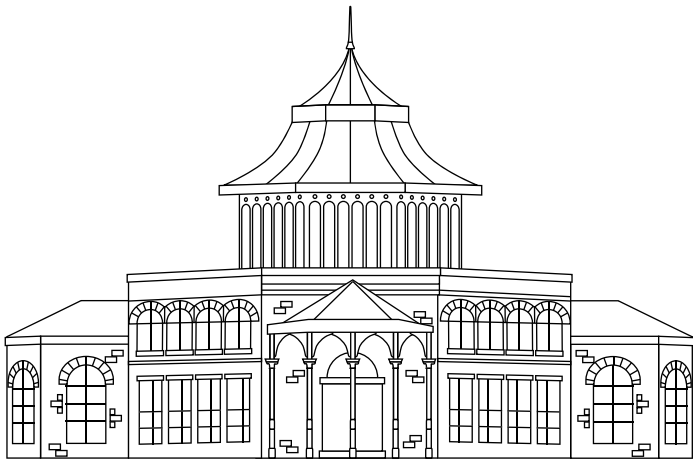
Below are two shields: one you can colour in and one where you can draw your own picture.

Why not draw a picture of how you plan to celebrate the Jubilee? Or maybe you can draw a picture of Jubilee celebrations past?

On the next page are some famous Wigan Borough landmarks for you to colour in - can you name them all too?



Platinum Jubilee Special Edition



Jubilee Party Food

Easy recipes to bake at home with the family. Perfect if you're having a street party to celebrate the big day.



Cake fit for a queen!

Ingredients

100g plain flour
20g cocoa powder
140g caster sugar
1½ tsp baking powder
40g unsalted butter
120ml whole milk
1 egg
¼ tsp vanilla extract

Method

1. Heat oven to 180C/160C fan/gas 4. Pop the flour, cocoa powder, sugar, baking powder, a pinch of salt and the butter in a mixing bowl and mix, with a mixer or by hand, until it's all combined.
2. In a separate jug, mix the egg, milk and vanilla together, then pour half into the mixture. Stir it in, then pour in the rest.
3. Set out your cup cake cases in a backing tray and spoon in the mixture. You want each case to be about two thirds full. Pop them in the preheated oven for 20-25 minutes.
4. After removing them from the oven leave them to cool before decorating.

Simple, super tasty sausage rolls.

Ingredients

400g sausage meat/sausages or meat alternative
375g pack ready-rolled puff pastry
Handful of parsley, chopped
Half of a small clove of garlic
1 egg (optional)
50ml of cold water

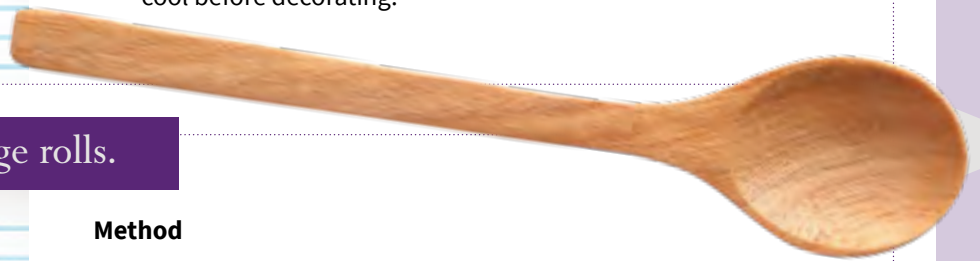
Method

1. Pre heat the oven to 200C/ 180C fan / gas 6. Crush/finely chop the garlic and pop it into a mixing bowl with a pinch of salt and pepper and the chopped parsley. Stir in 50ml of cold water.
2. Add the sausage meat. If you are using sausages peel away the skins, don't worry if you can't remove it all. If you have a mixer you can use that to blend it all together but if not you can get stuck in and use your hands. Blend until all combined.
3. Unroll the pastry onto a board and cut it in half length ways.
4. Divide the sausage mixture into two and spread it along the length of the pastry making 2 long sausages.
5. Tightly roll the pastry around the sausage meat.
6. Cut into 10 pieces to make mini sausage rolls or fewer to make larger sausage rolls.
7. Beat the egg and glaze the rolls before popping them into the pre-heated oven for 25-30 minutes.



V

Most ready roll puff pastry you buy in the supermarket is vegan friendly and you can replace the sausage meat with meat free alternatives.



Memories of Royal Celebrations

Hundreds were inspired to buy their first ever telly, there was a May Queen parade and a lucky few caught a real-life glimpse of Her Majesty. Borough residents share their memories of the Queen's Coronation in 1953 and Silver Jubilee in 1977.

Audrey Haughton, 81

I grew up on Ena Crescent and only one person on our street, Mrs. Hawkins, had a television, so on the Coronation day we all went round to her house to watch it. Afterwards there was a street party on nearby Angus Avenue with a big, long, table and everyone brought food to share. I remember we all got a special coin at school, and I still have mine. I wouldn't say I'm a royalist, but I do think the Queen works hard, so it's nice to celebrate her achievements.

George Schofield, 90 (below)

I was in the forces when it was the Coronation and stationed in Chatham in Kent. We were given the day off, but I couldn't get back home to Lancashire so one of my pals who lived in London took me to his house. We went into London and lined the streets but there were so many crowds. People had been sleeping out on the streets the night before to get a good spot. We were told that the troops who lined the route from the palace to the abbey had been on duty from 6am.



Betty Ratcliffe, 100

On the day of the Coronation, everyone on Carr Road, where I lived at the time, collected food and we shared it together outside. It was the first ever televised Coronation so lots of people were going out and buying those really tiny televisions. Whoever had one on the street would let everyone else come in and watch it.

It's good to mark her anniversary as she is the longest reigning Queen. But we shouldn't go overboard as people have had a lot of expense at this time.

Cath Nolan, 54

I wasn't born for the Coronation, but I do remember the Queen coming to Leigh as part of her Silver Jubilee tour in 1977. I was at Westleigh Methodist School at the time, and we all gathered, excited, on Wigan Road to watch her pass by. Her carriage went by in a flash, and we didn't see anything much and were a bit disappointed. My mum and dad bought me a special mug and on Melrose Avenue, where I lived at the time, everyone donated 2p per child so that we could throw a street party. We'll definitely be celebrating the Platinum Jubilee, 70 years in any role is a massive achievement.

Rita Boulton, 74

I would only have been four or five years old, but I remember that we had electricity put in our house on Nel Pan Lane so that we could get a television to watch the Coronation on. Before that it was only gas, and we'd have to stand outside the TV shop if we wanted to watch something on telly. There were 10 of us in our family so whenever we had a big event we'd go to the butcher's shop and borrow a form (bench) for everyone to sit on. I don't remember having a street party for the Coronation but Nel Pan Lane is a busy main road so it might have been too dangerous.

I remember going to a party for the Silver Jubilee celebrations though. There was potato pie and beer. We had free bread from the bread man and free ice cream from the ice cream man. Everyone mucked in.

May Wilkinson, 92

The Coronation was very exciting. My grandma bought a TV especially for that day and everyone from the street crowded around it to watch the ceremony. I remember that the houses on Green Lane, where we lived, were covered in red, white, and blue decorations.



May, Dorothy, Betty, Audrey, Rita and Cath with fellow residents and staff members at Brookdale Court, Leigh



Barbara Morris, 75 (below)

My dad went out to buy a TV especially so we could watch the Coronation. My mum was excited to watch it until he told her that he'd invited all of the neighbours round to watch it too and she spent all day making food for them and brewing up!



Thank you to staff and residents at Brookdale Court supported accommodation and members and volunteers from Leigh Pensioners' Link for your help with this article.

Elizabeth Smith, 75 (right)

I was a little girl at the time of the Coronation and lived on Ena Crescent. That year I was chosen to be the local May Queen, which was usually held in May, but had been moved to June to coincide with the Coronation. We had a big street party and I sat at the head of the table and was crowned. I felt very proud to be the Queen.

On the actual day of the Coronation, I went to Mrs. Ward's house on Douglas Road with my mum and dad to watch the ceremony on TV. It was exciting to see a television and I remember thinking that it was a shame it was raining for the Queen when her coach was going to Westminster Abbey.

By the time the Silver Jubilee came around in 1977 I had a job, a house, a husband and my first baby! I took my daughter in her pram to Leigh Civic Square in the hope that we would be able to catch a glimpse of the Queen on her visit to The Turnpike. It was crowded and we struggled to see her that day, but we all celebrated the Jubilee with a street party on Taunton Avenue.



Dorothy Pierce, 82

I was a teenager at the time, and we watched the Coronation on TV.

The main thing I remember is thinking how big the crowds were on The Mall in London as the Queen passed by and that I'd never seen so many flags!

At school we got a tin of chocolates and a lovely mug with the Queen's face on it.

Delve into the archives

The council's state-of-the-art archive facilities opened in June 2021 at the newly renovated Grade II listed Leigh Town Hall.

With historic records dating back 800 years, the archives and local studies service collects, preserves and catalogues thousands of records from schools, churches, hospitals, businesses, families, estates, people, and makes them available to the public.

Book your visit online now at: www.wigan.gov.uk/archives



Crowds waiting on Wallgate, Wigan, 1954



A strong, female role-model known across the world

Alongside being the Head of State in the UK, the Queen is also Head of the Commonwealth, which currently consists of 54 countries across the world.

Borough residents, Lubna Bibi, originally from Pakistan, and Farai Nhakaniso, from Zimbabwe, spoke to us about their countries' complex relationship with the Commonwealth and how the Queen played an important part in their upbringing, education, and even influenced their decisions to move to the UK.

Lubna has lived in the UK for eight years and in Leigh for three. In Pakistan our leaders have always been male. Men make all of the laws and so women do not have the same rights as men, in law or in society. Before I came here, my life was very tough, but I knew that because the UK has had a Queen for many years, England would be a place where women could be leaders and where the laws would protect women.

“

As soon as I arrived here, I felt safer.

I thought, I can survive here as a single woman.

”





(Above) Farai's school and (right) Everything Human Rights Equality Diversity Inclusion workshop

British people might not realise it but having the Queen in a powerful role gives a strong message to people in other countries. She proves that women are respected here. You are very lucky to have such a strong, female role model.

My mum was happy that I was coming to the UK as she loves the Queen and believed that I would be safe here because a woman has held such an important role for such a long time.

The Queen has visited Pakistan in 1961 and in 1997. In general, the people of Pakistan feel warmth towards her. She has helped to promote economic relations between the UK and Pakistan, and we feel she is committed to supporting the developing countries in the Commonwealth.

I do hope one day to meet the Queen because of everything she has done to show the rest of the world that women can and should be equal.

Farai is the co-founder of Leigh-based community organisation Everything Human Rights, which supports residents who settle in the borough from different countries.

Zimbabwe has had a complicated relationship with the Commonwealth. Despite this, a lot of people in Zimbabwe feel a strong connection to the Queen. Even when things have been strained between our countries' political leaders, the Queen has never been denounced and what we see as British values and systems are very important.



“ Zimbabwe has had a complicated relationship with the Commonwealth. Despite this, a lot of people in Zimbabwe feel a strong connection to the Queen. ”

The Queen once visited my high school and planted a tree in the school grounds. In our assembly hall we had a big picture of the Queen with the tree and her shovel. So even as a young man, I knew that, regardless of the complications in our countries' historical relationship, the Queen was someone to be respected.



The Queen gives an impression of the UK as a country that celebrates equal rights, simply because she is a long-reigning female of stature. When Prince Philip was alive, he would always walk one step behind her at public engagements. That would never happen amongst older generations in Zimbabwe. She gives the impression that if a woman can be Head of State here, she can achieve anything she sets her mind to.

At Christmas, most families from Zimbabwe are keen to watch the Queen's address. We may not agree with everything she says but it's important to us, even amongst younger generations, to watch it, and to discuss it afterwards. We are always interested to know what she has to say.

Welcome to the borough, Your Highness

We explored our archives to reveal these stunning images of Royal visits from down the years.

Many of us will have fond memories of welcoming the Queen and members of the royal family to the borough over the years. Most recently, she visited Leigh Sports Village in 2009.

Do you have any memories or photographs from a royal visit? We'd love to see them as part of our Jubilee celebrations. Email your photos to pr@wigan.gov.uk and a selection will be shared on the council's social media channels.



1977, Turnpike Gallery, Leigh



Photo credit: Wigan Observer

1986 visit to Wigan Pier



Wallgate 1977

The Queen was greeted by the Lord Lieutenant of Lancashire, the Mayor of Wigan, the High Sheriff and local Members of Parliament.

A military guard of honour was provided by the Duke of Lancaster's Own Yeomanry and a military band played the National Anthem.

Royal visits: key dates

- 1952 Elizabeth II accedes to the throne aged 25
- 1953 The coronation of Elizabeth II takes place
- 1954 The official opening ceremony of the John McCurdy Hall
- 1959 The Queen visits the new Heinz factory at Kitt Green
- 1968 Three Sisters site at Ashton-In-Makerfield visit
- 1977 Visit to the Turnpike Gallery, Leigh to celebrate the Queen's Silver Jubilee with a short ceremony also taking place at Wigan Wallgate
- 1986 Visit to Wigan Pier to view the newly opened 'The Way We Were' museum.
- 2009 Leigh Sports Village opening and Heinz factory visit



Photo credit: Wigan Observer

2009 visit to Heinz factory



Photo credit: Wigan Observer

1986 visit to Wigan Pier

Funding boost for arts group

A Wigan Borough arts organisation will ensure Jubilee celebrations continue far beyond the long weekend in June.

Healthy Arts (HA) has received a £44k grant to deliver a 12-month arts and wellbeing project linked to the Jubilee, thanks to the National Lottery Community Fund.

HA will work alongside Leigh Spinners Mill, creating new groups, workshops,

community performances and exhibitions.

Martin Green, project manager for HA, said: "We are proud to have received this funding that will help celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee in creative and locally meaningful ways. Thank you to all the National Lottery players that have made this possible."

All the activity will lead up to a celebratory exhibition and closing party in spring 2023.

Schools, community groups and artists will be given the opportunity to come together using their creativity in a programme of workshops.

Activities will include poetry, dance, creative writing, drama and



Louise Fazackerley (local poet), Martin Green and Jo Platt

performance, oral history storytelling, pottery and visual arts.

To mark this momentous year, The National Lottery Community Fund launched the £3.5m Platinum Jubilee Fund, providing grants of up to £50k to community projects across the UK.

Jo Platt, general manager of Leigh Spinners Mill, said: "The year-long Platinum Jubilee project is important for the Mill. It is essential for us to work alongside tenants, the community and Healthy Arts to mark such a significant celebration of our Monarch."

Celebrations to remember

With an exciting series of events scheduled, one borough-based community group is celebrating the Jubilee in style.

My Life is hosting its own traditional beacon lighting, a food and beer festival, music and entertainment shows and many more fun activities.

Having linked up with local businessman and deputy lord lieutenant for Greater Manchester, Martin Ainscough, My Life's base off Pepper Lane in Standish will be a hive of activity.

My Life is an innovative charity that connects people of all ages with their communities. All funds raised will go towards My Life's important work and to the Standish Community Fund.

Ticket information and full details are available from www.my-life.org.uk

National schedule for Jubilee weekend



Thursday, June 2

- The Queen's Birthday Parade (Trooping the Colour), London. Beginning at Buckingham Palace, the Parade will move down The Mall to Horse Guard's Parade, joined by Members of the Royal Family on horseback and in carriages.
- Platinum Jubilee Beacons, various locations. The UK's long tradition of celebrating Royal Jubilees, Weddings and Coronations with the lighting of beacons will continue for the Platinum Jubilee.

Friday, June 3

- Service of Thanksgiving at St Paul's Cathedral, London. A special service to mark the Queen's reign will be attended by members of the Royal Family.

Saturday, June 4

- Platinum Party at the Palace, London. The BBC will stage and broadcast a special live concert from Buckingham Palace.
- The Derby at Epsom Downs: Her Majesty The Queen, accompanied by Members of the Royal Family, will attend the Derby at Epsom Downs.

Sunday, June 5

- The Big Jubilee Lunch, various locations: Thousands have already signed up to host their own Big Jubilee Lunches. Keep an eye out for plans in your community.
- The Platinum Jubilee Pageant, London. Combining pomp and ceremony, street arts, theatre, music, circus and costumes, the Pageant will represent every part of the UK and the Commonwealth.





Supported using public funding by
ARTS COUNCIL ENGLAND



A world class line-up for arts and culture

Coming in July

In just a few weeks Sarina Wiegman's Lionesses will have the nation behind them as they kick-off their UEFA Women's Euros campaign against Austria on July 6.

It's only then a few days until Leigh Sports Village takes centre-stage with the first of its four games, on July 9.

An exciting series of exhibitions, installations and events, supported by the Arts Council and National Lottery Heritage Fund, will run alongside the build-up to the football in July. Here's what we've got to look forward to.



Pivotal moments in the history of women's football will be explored in an exhibition by Archives: Wigan & Leigh, hosted at Leigh Town Hall. Also arriving will be Giant Monoliths on Leigh Civic Square.



Fancy a game of table football? You could find a pitch pop up in your local community. Each site will follow the journey of the women's game in the borough, reflecting historically significant games and teams.



'The Supercompensation Cycle'! This pre-match warm-up will be a fantastic display of life-size holographic portraits captured by artist Emma Smith working with communities in all the Host Cities. The large-scale work will be brought to life in Leigh with the support of Wigle Dance.



Does Wigan Borough have the next Alex Scott or Micah Richards among us? Bring your youngsters along to Wigan Libraries for free sports pundry sessions. Over 6s will also be able to take part in coding sessions and create their own football based games.



Fan zones will be in place at Leigh Civic Square on each matchday. Showcasing a full-schedule of local artists and performers, visitors will also be serenaded by the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra's rendition of the new Women's Euro anthem.



A little help goes a long way

High inflation and rising energy bills are driving up the cost of living. There are plenty of schemes and brilliant organisations that can provide a bit of help all year round.



Food poverty

If you are struggling to feed yourself or your family due to your circumstances, be that homelessness, unemployment, low-income food shortages or other challenging situations, food banks can help.

If you wish to apply for a foodbank voucher, visit Wigan Council's welfare support website at:

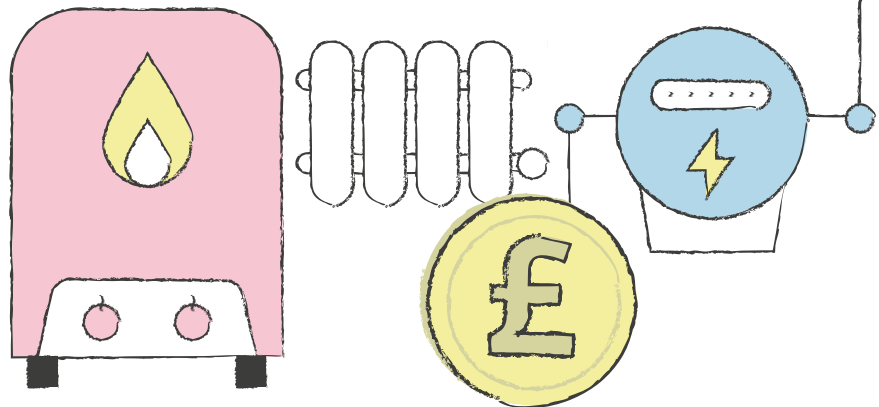
wigan.gov.uk/Resident/Benefit-Grants



If you are pregnant or have a child under four years old and on Universal Credit, you may also be eligible for Healthy Start Vouchers that will help you buy milk, fresh and frozen fruit and vegetables in your local shops.

Find out how to apply at: www.healthystart.nhs.uk/how-to-apply/

Find out how one local food organisation is helping to feed families on the next page.



Energy costs

This April the energy price cap which limits the rates a supplier can charge for their default tariffs, will increase due to a record increase in global gas prices.

Cold homes can cause us a host of issues and severely impact on your health.

If you struggle to keep warm at home and are living on a low income, there are some great sources of support out there.

The Energy Saving Trust provides very useful tips and advice on how to save money on your fuel bills: www.energysavingtrust.org.uk

And there is also the AWARM Plus service, which can offer a range of support services that can help keep your fuel bills down.

www.wigan.gov.uk/warmhomes

You can contact the AWARM team on **01942 404261** to check eligibility.

The government has also announced a package of support to help households with the rising cost of living. For the latest information on the government's £150 Council Tax Rebate please visit www.wigan.gov.uk/EnergyGrant

It's time to get cosy.

www.wigan.gov.uk/warmhomes



Communities that care

Managing your debt

Failing to pay your mortgage, rent, fuel bills, court fines or council tax can have serious consequences and needs to be prioritised.

It's always best to contact the people or organisation you owe money to and let them know you are having problems as early as possible.

It is important that you know how much money you have coming in and how much you are spending. If you are looking for options to borrow money, struggling with debt problems, or concerned about getting behind on bills and rent, the Citizens Advice Bureau can help. You can also join a Credit Union such as Unify and Welcome Credit Unions.

You can also visit Wigan Council's website for full details on how to manage your money: wigan.gov.uk/moneymanagement

Visit Borough Life Plus for more information
wigan.gov.uk/BoroughLifePlus



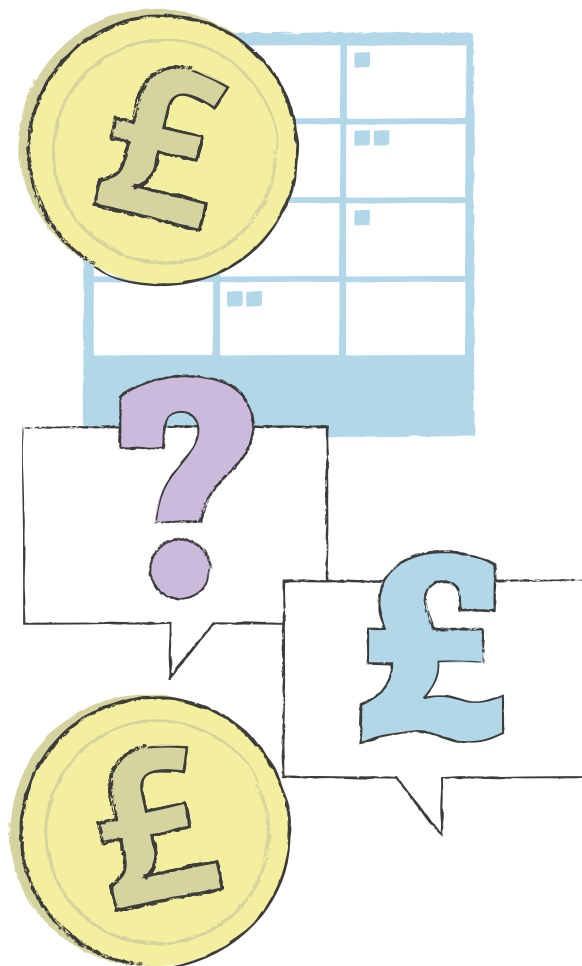
Getting the benefits you are entitled to

Last year Age UK Wigan Borough helped older people claim over £1.6m in benefits.

Many older people don't realise that:

- If you have difficulty doing everyday activities such as getting out of bed, getting dressed or eating you may be entitled to Attendance Allowance, regardless of your income.
- If you only receive the state pension, or a very small private pension, you may be entitled to pension credit.

Contact Age UK Wigan Borough on **01942 615880** to check if you are getting everything that you are entitled to.



Support with bills

If you're struggling to pay your bills, please get in touch with us as soon as you can.

We may be able to help by reducing what you need to pay through checking if you qualify for discounts, exemptions and benefits or agreeing an affordable payment arrangement for your council tax.

For rent, residents may be able to get help by claiming universal credit, which has now replaced housing benefit.

If you already claim benefits, and they don't cover your housing costs, you may be able to get a discretionary housing payment through the local authority, which can help to cover the shortfall.

For more information please visit:
www.wigan.gov.uk/strugglingtopay



For people and planet

Making the most of our food with Fur Clemt

At the heart of Wigan Borough, a team of volunteers are working tirelessly to make it easier for people to feed their families and reduce the amount of food waste which harms our planet when it goes to landfill.

Fur Clemt was set up almost eight years ago by Ann Fairhurst, Shirley Southworth (pictured below) and Shirley's daughter, Katy, in response to 'holiday hunger' – when children who can usually access free school meals go without during the school holidays.

Since then, the project has continued to evolve and grow - but what pulses through the heart and soul of Fur Clemt is the desire to help our communities.

Shirley, who was recently awarded an MBE in the Queen's birthday honours in recognition of her services to the community, said: "Originally myself and my daughter Katy were running a community cookery school and looking at teaching people how to cook.

"But once we started, we realised that there was a huge amount of food waste coming through the doors, so we decided to make a permanent project to make

this food available to the local community and tackle food poverty and waste."

Based on Montrose Avenue in Wigan, Fur Clemt is a food waste reduction organisation and membership scheme.

Individuals pay £5 to become a member for 12 months, which entitles them to visit twice a week to buy the food and items on offer at highly reduced costs.

To the naked eye, Fur Clemt looks no different than a farm shop.

What makes it different is the fact it is full to the brim with items – from fruit and veg, bread, freezer food as well as nappies and other essentials - which have been donated by large companies which overproduce, supermarkets which can no longer sell food due to the fact it is slightly past its best before date and collections from organisations like FareShare.

Shirley explains: "Some of the food on offer is past its best before date but is still safe to eat.

"We would never put food past its use by date available because that's unsafe, but best before is perfectly

safe to eat and reduces what will go to landfill."

When visiting, it's likely you'll be met with the smiles from one of Fur Clemt's friendly volunteers.

Francis Farrington (pictured below right) began volunteering around six years ago, after her husband passed away.

She said: "I'm daft as a brush so I like making everyone laugh.

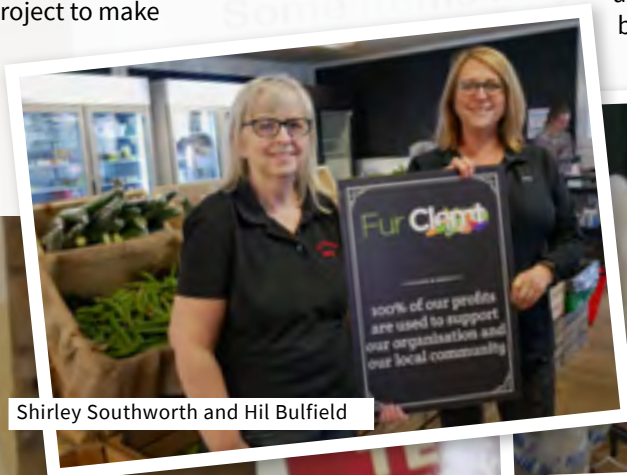
"A while ago, an older lady came in with her daughter and we had a laugh.

"Afterwards she told me that she'd had a really hard time during the pandemic, and it was the first time she had laughed in over two years.

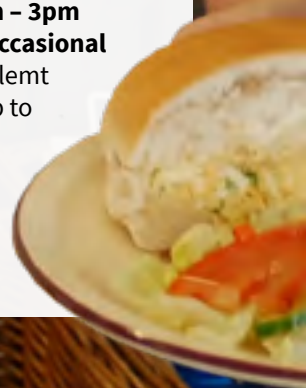
"It's those little things that have a big impact. That's what keeps me coming back."

Final words from Shirley? "Everyone is welcome to come to Fur Clemt. We're all here to help people and the planet! Come down and see what we are all about."

Fur Clemt is open **11am – 3pm midweek and on the occasional Saturday**. Search Fur Clemt on Facebook to keep up to date with their news.



Shirley Southworth and Hil Bulfield



Communities that care



Top tips for reducing waste



Get creative with your recipes to use up food from the back of your fridge



Plan your meals and make a shopping list – so you only buy what you're planning to have



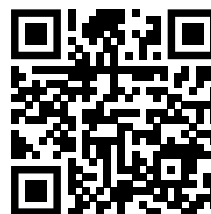
Buy less, more often – ditch the big shop to make sure you aren't wasting food



Don't go shopping on an empty stomach! You'll be more likely to buy more than you need



Make the most of your leftovers



Scan the QR code above to see one of the healthy, low cost recipes from Wellfest.

www.wigan.gov.uk/Wellfest

Volunteer Claire at Fur Clemt cafe poses with lunch

A step in the green direction

A huge investment in walking and cycling is opening up new opportunities

We all know ditching the car and travelling on foot or by bike is better for the environment. It also gives our mental and physical health a great boost.

The council is currently investing in walking and cycling across the borough to make it easier and safer for you to get around.

The ambitious plans to upgrade many routes, and to create new cycle lanes, will mean there's a brilliant network linking residential areas to town centres and greenspaces.

Around 250 million car trips every year in Greater Manchester are less than one kilometre. That's a four minute bike ride or 10 minutes on foot.

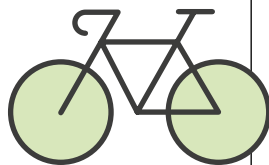
As we enjoy some Spring sunshine (hopefully!) there's never been a better time to try a new walking route, or dust off your bike, and do our bit for the planet by leaving the car at home.

Did you know?

In 2019-2020,

33,606

people came along to a Be Well running, walking or cycling group



Completed routes 2021-2022:

- Smithy Brook Road
- Poolstock
- Riverway
- Victoria Street
- Leigh Sports Village to Pennington Flashes

Coming up in 2022:

- Extending the Standish Mineral Line
- Wigan Canal improvements
- Worsley Mesnes Active Neighbourhood
- Leigh Active Neighbourhood



A well connected place



Robin Park Road Cycle path and footway



gearingupbikes.org

Creating active neighbourhoods

We've got funding through the Mayor's Challenge Fund (MCF) to create a number of Active Neighbourhoods.

An Active Neighbourhood is where pedestrians are prioritised and it's easier and safer for people to walk and cycle. There are currently plans to develop Active Neighbourhoods in Worsley Mesnes, Leigh and Golborne.

The Leigh Neighbours Project has been supporting local people to walk and cycle more by introducing a number of initiatives. They've launched a bike library, provided high-vis vests and bike lights to local children, arranged free sessions to help people get their bikes fixed, arranged local community walks and are working with Gearing Up charity to have bikes donated to local schools.

Stephen Ruffley (right), from Leigh Neighbours said: "We think this support is important because consultation shows that local people are concerned about the impact that cars and other vehicles have on the local community, but also because the dangers of air pollution, especially outside schools, are well documented. Levels of ill-health and obesity in the area are also higher than the national average.



"It is hoped that creating an Active Neighbourhood will mean that there are more spaces where children can play out without being at risk, and more opportunities for people to walk and cycle."

For more information about the Leigh Neighbours Project email them at: info@lnpb.org.uk



Robin Park, Scott Lane, Breeze Ladies cycling group

Get involved

Each week there are lots of free local walking and cycling groups running across the borough. Find a group or event near you here: www.wigan.gov.uk/activeoutdoors

What's on in Wigan Borough?



**Saturday 14th May,
Saturday 9th July and
Saturday 10th September**

Record & CD Fair

Hosted by Real Deal Record & CD Fairs.

9am-4pm, Wigan Market, Free



Sunday 22nd May

Picnic Brass

The first of this Summer's brass band concerts taking place on Haigh's Picnic Field. (Bands to be announced).

Sponsored by Friends of Haigh Woodland Park.

1pm and 2:30pm, Haigh Woodland Park, Free



Sunday 22nd May

Golborne Carnival

Carnival taking place with the May Queen crowning including entertainments, stalls, Morris Dancing competition, Silcock's Fair Ground rides and a parade and a procession through the town.

9.30am-7pm with the parade from 11.45am Legh St, Legh St Park, Free



**Wednesday 25th May -
Saturday 4th June
Around the World
in 80 Days**

A Theatre play - adapted By Laura Eason from the Jules Verne novel. An exciting high-energy, high-spirited adventure that will entrance audiences of all ages.

**7:30pm, Wigan Little Theatre,
www.wiganlittletheatre.co.uk**



Friday 27th May

Haigh Foodie Friday

Last Friday of the Month, March to October, Street Food, Bars, DJ, Live Music and Entertainment. Family Friendly!

6-10pm, Haigh Kitchen Courtyard



**1st Saturday of every
month: 4th June, 2nd July,
6th August**

Craft Market

Monthly Craft Fair/Market held within Wigan Market Hall.

**9am-4pm, Wigan Market Hall,
Free**



Friday 10th June

Pizza and Pint Night

Fine stone baked - wood fired fresh pizza menu accompanied by fine beers - all served in the Kitchen Courtyard.

Two Left Feet, Haigh Woodland Park



Sunday 12th June

Atherton Carnival

Community organised parade through Atherton, followed by a fun day.

Starts from 11am, Meadowbank Field, Formby Ave, Atherton, M46 0HX, Free



Saturday 18th June

Haigh Day

A family festival in a day. Children's entertainment, activities and games throughout the Park.

**Haigh Woodland Park, Free
www.facebook.com/haighwoodlandpark**



Saturday 18th June

Shevington Fete

A family outdoor fun day - craft stall, stage entertainment, mini Bubble Fest and petting zoo.

**11am-4pm, Shevington Recreational Ground, Free
shevingtonparishcouncil.net/shevington-fete**



Saturday 18th June

Strictly Dance 2022

A fantastic evening of entertainment, fun and glamour to raise money for the hospice.

7pm, Wigan and Leigh Hospice, £50



Saturday 25th June

Armed Forces Day

Wigan Borough celebrates its armed forces personnel with a town centre parade and show.

10am-4pm, Leigh Town Centre, Free

What's On Guide



Sunday 3rd July

Ironman UK 2022

The swim will take place in Pennington Flash, starting at 6am with a two lap swim course, athletes will then complete three laps of the bike course before heading into Bolton Town Centre for the run. The event will finish outside Bolton Town Hall at 11:30pm.

6am - 11.30pm, Various Locations - Starting at Pennington Flash
www.ironman.com/jim-uk-course



Thursday 7th - Sunday 10th July
Wigan International Jazz Festival

Ticketed 4 Day Festival Jazz Programme at the Village on the Green, Aspull.

Aspull
wiganjazzfest.co.uk

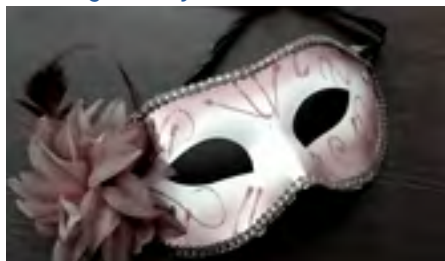


Saturday 9th July

Wigan Rotary Club community day

This vibrant event in the Town Centre will again bring the whole community together. There will be music groups and talent from the local community entertaining all day on the big stage and a whole host of stalls from local groups and organisations.

8am-4pm, Wigan Town Centre, Free
www.wiganrotary.co.uk



Tuesday 12th July

Theatre in the Walled Gardens Series

Extremely popular series of family theatre classics (titles to be announced) performed by the Story Teller Theatre Company in the lovely setting of Haigh's Walled gardens.

Saturday 30th & Sunday 31st July
Shakespeare in Walled Gardens
 Ticketed performance of Shakespeare.
Haigh Woodland Park
www.facebook.com/haighwoodlandpark



Tuesday 16th August

Cycle Three Sisters

Free afternoon cycling event at Three Sisters Race Circuit

3pm-8pm, Cycle Three Sisters, Free
Facebook events, Cycle Three Sisters



Leigh Film Society

Friday 27th May

Coda

Friday 24th June

Limbo

Friday 29th July

Belfast

7.30pm, The Turnpike Centre in Leigh

Afternoon classic cinema club:

Friday 27th May

A Royal Night Out

Friday 24th June

Notorious

Friday 29th July

The Keeper

1pm, Free, The Turnpike Centre in Leigh

For the evening screenings tickets and any other info: www.leighfilmsociety.com

Advanced booking required.

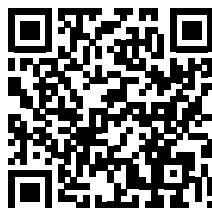
Sports fixtures and ticket information

Wigan Warriors fixtures



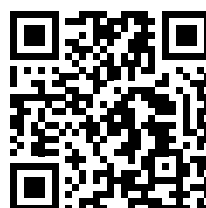
wiganwarriors.com/fixtures

Leigh Centurions fixtures



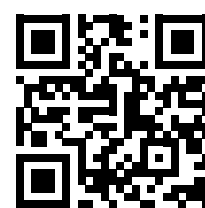
leighrl.co.uk/wp/v2/2022-fixtures-results/

UEFA Women's Euros fixtures and ticket information



www.uefa.com/womenseuro/

Rugby League World Cup fixtures and ticket information



www.rlwc2021.com/



Wigan Council

Book your Lake District Adventure now



Low Bank Ground, one of our picturesque outdoor centres in the Lake District, is now available to book.

Sitting on the shores of the beautiful Consiton Water, the site offers a wide range of activities - including canoeing, kayaking, sailing and mountain biking.

Reservations for weekend and private bookings are now being taken. Packages include self catering and catered stays for schools, corporate team building and family visits.



LakesAdventure



LakeDistrictAdventure



wigan.gov.uk/BeWell/Outdoor-adventure

