

Community Heritage Open Day Saturday 8th September 2018 – Notes

The morning was dry after a night of rain.

The following people were involved in setting up the tables, chairs, gazebos, outdoor equipment and indoor exhibitions and food and drink:

From New Bolsover – Martin, Sue, Angela, Nicola, Jeanette, Joanne (plus friend), Gena, Rob.

Kim, Debbie, Mark Dixey, Steve Abson, Nathan Culkin, Sharon Benison and son Finlay, new volunteer Ann Williams. Junction Arts staff Amy Smith and Chris Bevan set up displays in the Living Room.

Heritage Craft Group set up their own stall – Louise and son Jack, Julie, Cathy and Sue.

Joany set up her Tombola charity fundraising stall.

The Bouncy Castle and Slide were set up outside Angela's House and power supplied from her house.

Glewy the Alien set up on the concrete hardstanding area.

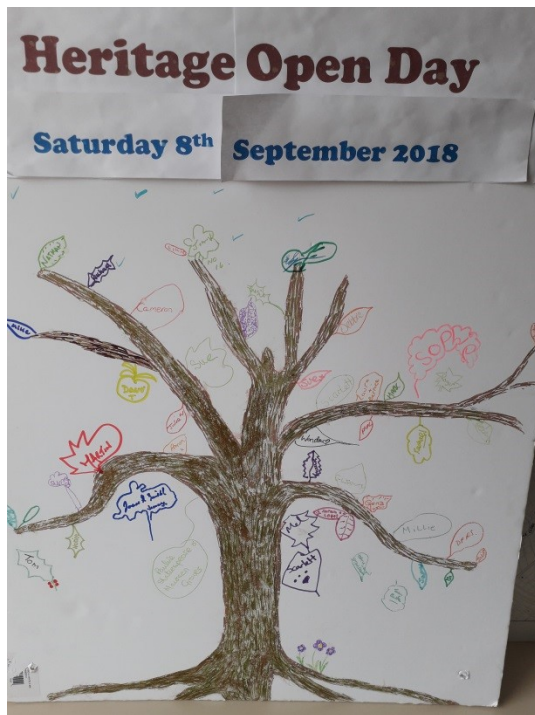
Woodheads Communication staff – Matt and Donna set up their tent and information. Mark Maisey one of the Directors was there from the start.

Activities:

Glewy the Alien provided entertainment for children.

Mini zoo brought along an owl, skunk and snake. Mini zoo staff lady walked around showing these to people, rather than having a stand.

During the event Paul Davies manned the 'consultation table' with Debbie and Steve Abson. We had 3 boards which people were invited to write on. The tree was to record the number of people at the event. We asked them to sign their names inside a leaf. Picture below. We had another board asking people for suggestions for uses for the Community House. Another board asked people to write their ideas about the wider New Bolsover area in reply to 3 questions.



We also had 16 bird boxes to give away so ran a competition for children to explain why they would like to win a bird box. There were also a variety of items to give away on this table including pens, phone cases, meter cupboard keys, high visibility bracelets, etc.

The Friends of New Bolsover had a Raffle table. They also ran the Savoury Share Table and also sold tea, coffee and cake from the kitchen of 126 to raise funds for the Friends of New Bolsover.

Woodheads Communication team, Mark Maisey, Director and some of the Site management staff from New Bolsover manned their tent talking to local people and providing free activities for children and free cupcakes. They took bookings for and ran Hard Hat tours of the building regeneration works at 1, 2 and 3pm

Joany and friend ran the Tombola

Angela Spencer ran the Bouncy Castle.

Nicola Goodlad ran a series of fun races and activities including the sack race and a wheelbarrow race.

The Heritage Craft Group invited children and adults to participate in making a mosaic for 126 and had lots of their creations on display.

Junction Arts launched the *Whispers from the Model* book and also had displays about the New Bolsover banner, the Community film and the Whispers from the Model project

in the Living room of 126. They had also invited all the people who had attended the storytelling evenings for the Whispers project and those visitors enjoyed looking around the new Community House.

The Chair of the Council Tom Munro opened the New Community House at 126 New Bolsover with a formal speech and cutting the ribbon ceremony at 11am. This was attended by the Chief Executive of Bolsover Council Dan Swaine, Councillor Ann Syrett (Leader of Bolsover District Council) and partner, Councillor Hilary Gilmore (Cabinet member for Housing and Community Safety). The Chair and the visitors were shown around the new Community House.

Bernard Haigh led a walk to explain some of the History and Heritage of New Bolsover.

Who attended?

48 people signed the tree. Of these 11 were staff or Friends of New Bolsover involved in organising the event.

8 people went on the Heritage walk with Bernard Haigh.

32 people participated in Hard Hat Tours throughout the day.

39 completed survey questionnaires for the Heritage Open Day event.

A rough estimate of all those attending the event is 100 people, including Heritage Open Day people, Chair and Chief Executive, staff from Woodheads, Bolsover District Council, Junction Arts and all visitors .

Takings

Joany ran the charity Tombola stall. She has donated £40 to Friends of New Bolsover.

Tea, coffee and cake sales from the kitchen made £99

Bouncy Castle made £32

The greetings cards made £16

Sale of vegetables from the allotment made £12

Overall Friends of New Bolsover made £75 on the day after paid the Zoo and Glewy and Bouncy Castle. There was a loss of £65. But received donations totalling £153

Notes from Junction Arts from Amy Smith

Number of people attending who had been involved in the storytelling - I've estimated the Whispers audience in the house at about 20. All of the participants, bar Elaine Kemp and Barbara Millner came, so that's Margaret Alvey and her husband and sister, Sandra Davison with her daughter and granddaughter, Kitty Rowland, Mick Bust, Malcolm Spencer, Shaun Poskett, Dorothy Fields and friend Mavis, Martin Green (13), plus people who attended the launch – ie Councillors and visitors.

There were difficulties showing the film in the new Community House. In the end, we got the speaker in from the green. Unfortunately we had lost our audience by then so only had 5 watching it but that was ok as we will need a proper screening venue anyway if we do it next year.

I'd say that there were not many people from New Bolsover in attendance. Interestingly, I had a conversation with a couple from New Zealand who were staying in Bolsover who had heard about the Model and were interested in social housing and its history in England.

However, the conversations we did have with residents – Joanne in the kitchen, Martin, Nicola, Angela were positive and the fact that some residents who have never been involved before came to the new community house is a step forward. We were able to film another resident with Chris. Damar, she was very positive about her experience of moving into a completed house.

But a lot of the interest was coming from outside New Bolsover I'd say. Obviously the majority of participants with Whispers were past residents.

Feedback from the Consultation

What activities would people like to see at the Community House? The ideas added to the board were:

- Mental Health drop in support Group
- Hub house youth club – gaming/WiFi,
- Free WiFi
- Heritage & History of New Bolsover and Colliery Group
- Functional Skills Training – free from local colleges
- Community Radio
- Community Drop-in
- Link to Back to the Roots allotment.
- Film night
- Fund raising events

- Baby signing Makaton
- Lunch Club/Sunday dinner – monthly
- Board Games
- Parents and Toddler Group
- Scrabble
- Bingo
- Tea & Cake
- Meet & Greet for New Bolsover
- Storytime for children



These are the suggestions from the wider New Bolsover area consultation divided up by questions:

What's Awesome about New Bolsover?

- The Community House
- The Houses
- What an amazing view
- Model Village Green

What can you do to improve your community?

- Go to Friends of New Bolsover Meetings
- Volunteering – develop the Green, caring for the trees.
- Make dinners for people
- Deliver leaflets – help spread the word

What would bring people in the Community Together?

- Gaming convention
- Archery Challenge
- Under 13 mixed Football

- Football Games on the Village Green
- Future of the Community House
- Rounders on the Village Green
- Cricket on the Village Green

The win a bird box competition was under-subscribed. Only 7 children and 2 adults completed the entry forms. So the rest of the bird boxes are available for another competition in the future.

Feedback from the Heritage Open Day Questionnaires

39 people responded to a series of questions about the heritage Open Day

How did you hear about the event?

Most respondents heard via contacts/word of mouth or via posters or banners.

Have you attended this particular site/event before?

Most, 59% said yes.

How was your visit?

Most, 57% said 'very enjoyable'

Please tell us what you liked or didn't like about the event?

Positive replies included bringing back lovely memories, the community spirit, variety of things to do and the interesting tours. Negative comments included having to pay for things, lack of stalls. Mainly positive comments were given.

On a scale of 1 to 4, where 1 is 'Lots' and 4 is 'Nothing', how much did you know about the heritage of the New Bolsover area and regeneration project before your visit?

Majority, 49% knew lots.

On a scale of 1 to 4, where 1 is 'Lots' and 4 is 'Nothing', how much have you learnt about the heritage of New Bolsover and regeneration project at the event today?

Majority, 59% learnt lots

58% of those completing the questionnaires were 45-64 age range and 64% were female. 79% live locally.

Conclusion

The weather was cool and mid-morning it started to rain. Considering the disappointing weather, the event was well attended. Some people had travelled quite distance for the Heritage Open Day element – one person from Ashbourne, a couple from Chesterfield, a couple from New Zealand (but they were already staying locally!). A decision was made to start to pack away at 3pm as the rain was worsening and people were leaving. This was well timed as by 4pm there was pouring rain. The event was well received.

There were many positive comments about how nice it was that the event had been put on, how great the houses look when they are finished and quite a lot of interest in what could happen in the future. However it was disappointing that so few local residents attended the event. There are quite a number of houses looking directly on to the green so all of these residents could see what was going on. But very few came out of their houses. From the questionnaires completed and the list of attendees, and anecdotal evidence from staff and volunteers present on the day, the majority of visitors were attending the Heritage Open Day and the Junction Arts book launch. The comments, ideas and feedback received will all be really useful in finding ways to promote events in the future and to identify possible activities that could take place at the Community House and in the wider area.