# ourBolton

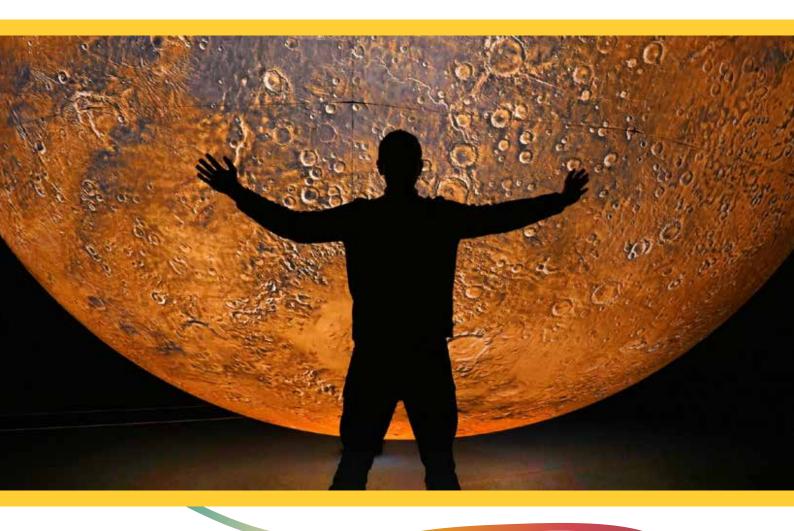
Issue 21 November 2025



# VISIT Bolton

## Discover more on your doorstep!

Enjoy award-winning events, explore fun and interesting things to do and places to eat, drink, shop and stay.



Plan your next adventure at

www.visitbolton.com









# Welcome



Hello and welcome to the Winter edition of Our Bolton magazine.

As we near the end of 2025, it is the perfect time to reflect on a busy 12 months that have really put Bolton on the map.

We rounded off our year as Greater Manchester Town of Culture in spectacular fashion, cementing our reputation as a powerhouse of the performing and creative arts.

Bolton has always been "Born to Perform" and now the whole world knows it thanks to the launch of our bold new place brand in February, showcasing the best of our borough to a wide audience.

We also launched Bolton Film Office which is building

on the years of hard work that have seen our town feature on countless films and TV shows and earned us the reputation as the Hollywood of the North.

Our award-winning Food and Drink Festival had another record-breaking year, bringing visitors from across the country to enjoy four days of free entertainment, family fun and live music.

This year's event was sponsored by the newly relaunched Visit Bolton website, which together with our new Insider's Handbook, is making it easier than ever for locals and visitors alike to explore everything our borough has to offer.

With Christmas approaching it is an ideal opportunity for those who have not visited our town centre for a while to come and see what all the fuss is about.

Doing our Christmas shopping locally not only supports businesses in our community, but there is so much more to experience. There are major events like Put Big Light on Festival, unique gifts available at Makers Markets, the newly refurbished Albert Bar, and a food choices to suit the whole family at the popular Bolton Market Food Hall.

One thing you will certainly notice about the town centre is the significant transformation under our ongoing regeneration work.

In this magazine you will find details of all the progress made in 2025, alongside a look ahead to an exciting 2026 and the flagship redevelopment of Crompton Place.

Elsewhere are details of a wide variety of council services covering everything from cost of living to libraries, and from tackling hate crime to supporting for our Armed Forces veterans.

I hope you enjoy reading Our Bolton and I wish all our residents and peaceful and happy Christmas.

Councillor Nick Peel, Bolton Council Leader



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There's a host of festive fun to enjoy in Bolton this year.

From family fun at the panto to Santa's Grottos for the little ones, there's a sprinkle of holiday magic for everyone.

### The Mayor of Bolton's Christmas Fair

Saturday 6 December, 10am – 2pm Bolton Town Hall

### **Christmas at Bolton Markets**

Christmas fun days: Saturday 6 December Saturday 13 December Saturday 20 December

### Santa's Grotto

11am – 3pm £2 per child incudes a gift No need to book. Plus face painters, magicians, crafts and much more!

### **Christmas at Albert Halls**

Peter Pan Panto 29 November – 31 December Santa Live! 12 – 24 December

Head to alberthalls-bolton.co.uk to book tickets



### **Christmas at Smithills Farm**

Meet Santa at the Christmas markets 11am – 4pm each day Saturday 22 November Sunday 23 November

Saturday 29 November Sunday 30 November

Find out more and book tickets for Santa at www.smithillsopenfarm.co.uk

### **Christmas at Octagon Theatre**

Mrs Claus Saves Christmas 10 – 24 December

Octagon Christmas Comedy Club Friday 19 December

Head to octagonbolton.co.uk to book tickets

### My First Father Christmas Experience at Smithills Hall

Treat your tiny ones to their first magical Christmas experience!

Friday 19 December, 10am - 3pm

Find out more info and book tickets by searching on www.eventbrite or call 01204 333173



### Thursday 20 to Sunday 23 November, 5-9pm each evening

Bolton's free winter light art trail returns this November, bringing the town centre to life with a four-day celebration of creativity, culture, and community!

Expect dazzling light displays, exhibitions, and street performances around town, including the breathtaking Borealis – an immersive Northern Lights experience by Dan Acher. This will be the last chance to see this spectacular light show, so don't miss out!

Bolton Library will also feature the incredible Mars by Luke Jerram – a suspended six-metre diameter sculpture featuring high-resolution NASA imagery of the Martian surface. Mars will remain on display after the festival until 10 December during usual Bolton Library opening times.

Follow the latest updates on social media:

- **f** Put Big Light On Festival
- O PutBigLightOnBolton

Add this event and more to your own itinerary on

visitbolton.com













# Bolton's Insider's Handbook has arrived!

Whether you're a first-time visitor or a proud Boltonian looking to rediscover your hometown, the brand-new Visit Bolton Insider's Handbook is your ultimate guide to exploring everything our vibrant town has to offer.

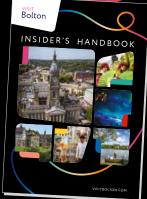
Packed with must-see attractions, local tips, hidden gems, and a festival calendar, the handbook showcases Bolton's rich heritage, buzzing cultural scene, and stunning green spaces. From the grandeur of Albert Halls to the tranquillity of Moses Gate Country Park, it's your handy guide to unforgettable experiences.

Shopping hotspots, independent eateries, theatres, parks, and museums all feature in this beautifully curated guide. Whether you're planning a weekend itinerary or just looking for a new café to try, the Insider's Handbook has you covered.

You can pick up a **free** copy at Bolton Central Library or your local library as well as various hotels and theatres across Bolton.

### **Prefer digital?**

Download it instantly at **visitbolton.com** and start planning your next adventure.



There are tons of amazing places and events to discover right here in Bolton, so head to our website to add all your favourites to an online shareable itinerary!







### VISIT Bolton

### Stay connected:

- **f** Visit Bolton
- (iii) Visit Bolton
- X VisitBolton
- ♂ Visit\_Bolton

VISITBOLTON.COM

### Relaunch of

# THEALBERT

### brings unforgettable dining experiences to Bolton

The Albert, set within the historic Albert Halls, has re-opened following a highly anticipated renovation and rebranding.

Opening exclusively for ticketed and pre-show events, The Albert is set to offer guests a calendar of premium events and will celebrate the best of local talent, seasonal flavours, and innovative concepts.

As Bolton's leading destination for exclusive, curated dining and cultural experiences, The Albert's transformation centres on delivering quality experiences that go beyond traditional dining.

The space will deliver exclusive and unforgettable evenings ranging from cocktail masterclasses and immersive dining experiences to comedy nights and celebrity dining experiences.

Inside you can expect to see a sleek and modern design with ambient lighting creating an upbeat and luxurious atmosphere to enjoy with friends and family.



The fully licensed bar boasts an exquisite new cocktail menu and extensive wine list alongside a range of beers, ciders, spirits and soft drinks with something on offer for everyone.

The bar will also be open for pre-show drinks for those visiting the Albert Halls theatre which hosts a range of concerts, shows and civic events.

So, if you want to be part of an unforgettable and exclusive dining experience in a space where every guest feels part of something special, then The Albert is worth a visit.

To receive the latest information about our programme of events please email alberthalls3@bolton.gov.uk www.alberthalls-bolton.co.uk

- **♣** AlbertHallsBolton
- (i) alberthallsbolton



## Bolton transformed with new homes, jobs and investment

Major improvements were made across Bolton in 2025 as we continue our ongoing work to transform our town centre and boost the local economy.

The past 12 months have seen the first new residents move into vibrant town centre neighbourhoods, start-ups thriving at a new state-of-the-art innovation hub and hundreds of new high-skilled jobs created.

This year started with residents preparing to move into the newly completed homes at Moor Lane. Alongside the new houses and apartments, the Moor Lane scheme has seen the renovation of Cheadle Square into a landscaped public space which has proved popular with residents, visitors and town centre workers.

Nearby Deansgate Gardens also welcomed its first tenants to the £35m development with 167 high-quality, sustainable long-term rental homes complete with rooftop terraces and communal gardens.

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Earlier this year, council leader Cllr Nick Peel visited The Wellsprings, Bolton's innovation hub for business start-ups. The recently renovated building provides high-quality, flexible office, meeting and co-working spaces for entrepreneurs. He said:

"So many of the UK's biggest businesses started here in Bolton, and we now have a space where the industry leaders of the future can take their first steps.

"As these new businesses develop and grow at The Wellsprings they will create more jobs, contribute to the local economy and attract further investment."

This year was notable for significant investment across the borough, including in May when defence firm MBDA announced a £200 million investment, creating 700 new jobs at its Bolton site.

This was followed by news that Japanese manufacturer Astemo will invest £100m in their Horwich site, creating 200 jobs.

Two significant planning decisions were also made in 2025 paving the way for even further regeneration in the years to come.

In August, permission was granted to demolish Crompton Place, quickly creating both a direct link between Victoria Square and Bradshawgate as well as open public space for pop-up events.

The council is in advance talks with developers to finalise plans for a mix-used development on the site.

Finally Church Wharf, a development of 415 homes and a 130-bed hotel in Bolton town centre, was granted planning permission in October.

# Pamily fun days at the market this Christmas

OurBolton / 9

Santa's Grotto

6, 13 and 20 Dec

### Saturday 6 December

**Face painter** 11am-3pm **Christmas crafts** 11am-3pm **Festive bakes** 12pm-2pm Santa's Grotto - £2 per child 11am-3pm

### Saturday 13 December

Flat Cap 3 - Strolling band 11am-3pm Face painter 11am-3pm 11am-3pm **Christmas crafts Festive bakes** 12pm-2pm Magic Mark – Strolling magician 2pm-4pm Santa's Grotto - £2 per child 11am-3pm

### **Saturday 20 December**

Flat Cap 3 - Strolling band 11am-3pm **Face painter** 11am-3pm **Christmas crafts** 11am-3pm **Festive bakes** 12pm-2pm Magic Mark - Strolling magician 11am-1pm Santa's Grotto - £2 per child 11am-3pm

### **Bolton Market**

### Festive opening times

Fri 19 Dec	9am-5pm
Sat 20 Dec	9am-5pm
Sun 21 Dec	Closed
Mon 22 Dec*	9am-3pm
Tues 23 Dec	9am-5pm
Wed 24 Dec*	9am-4pm
<b>Christmas Day</b>	Closed
Baying Day	Classed
Boxing Day	Closed
Sat 27 Dec	9am-5pm
Sat 27 Dec	9am-5pm
Sat 27 Dec Sun 28 Dec	9am-5pm Closed
Sat 27 Dec Sun 28 Dec Mon 29 Dec	9am-5pm Closed Closed
Sat 27 Dec Sun 28 Dec Mon 29 Dec Tues 30 Dec	9am-5pm Closed Closed 9am-5pm

### Food Hall

### Festive opening times

Fri 19 Dec	11am-9.30pm
Sat 20 Dec	11am-9.30pm
Sun 21 Dec	12pm-6pm
Mon 22 Dec*	11am-3pm
Tues 23 Dec	11am-5pm
Wed 24 Dec*	11am-4pm
<b>Christmas Day</b>	Closed
<b>Boxing Day</b>	Closed
Sat 27 Dec	11am-9.30pm
Sun 28 Dec	12pm-6pm
Mon 29 Dec	Closed
Tues 30 Dec	11am-5pm
144 1 2 4 3	Classel
Wed 31 Dec	Closed
Wed 31 Dec Thurs 1 Jan	Closed

\*Some stalls may not be open on this date

Find it all at...

Bolton Market, Ashburner Street





Bolton Markets Bolton Market Food Hall



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@BoltonMarkets



## hristmas markets return

Pick up the perfect christmas gift on...

**Sunday 23rd November Sunday 14th December** 10am - 3pm

#### Highlights include:

- · Fresh cut premium christmas trees and
- Christmas decorations
- Unique gifts ideas

LESSE ALLESSE ALLESSE

- Free entry, free parking

For all your · Seasonal ladies fashion Christmas gifts

Open seven days a week Mon-Fri 9am-4pm

Sat/Sun/Bank Holidays 10am-4pm

To find out more visit www.heatonfold.co.uk









### Your recycling is making a difference - thanks!



**Bolton Council** carries out over

11 million

bin collections per year



48.3%

of waste collected in Bolton was recycled during 2024/25 (which is above the national average)



Recycle these items in the **Burgundy** bin



Milk bottles





Cans and tins Plastic bottles









Glass bottles and iars



Recycle these items in the **Beige** bin







Newspapers and magazines

Envelopes

Printer paper and shredded paper







Cardboard

Mixed paper

Food and drinks cartons



Plastic pots,

tubs and trays

Recycle these items in the **Green** bin







All cooked and uncooked food including fruit and veg, meat and bones, and tea bags. No oil, liquids or packaging.



Waste we cannot recycle goes in the **Grey** bin.









Tissues

and wipes

Crisp packets



Polystyrene







Check



Broken drinking glasses, pyrex and ceramics

Pet waste

### If we miss your bin

www.bolton.gov.uk/missedbin to see if your street is listed and when we will return.

- If you wait longer than two working days, we the bin on the next scheduled collection day.

To report a missed bin, visit www.bolton.gov.uk/reportmissedbin





**Bolton Hospice will collect Christmas trees** on January 6 and 7 for a suggested minimum donation of £15.

Book at www.boltonhospice.org.uk/christmas-tree or call **01204 663 055.** 

### Or you can:

- Cut up your Christmas tree and put it in your green bin
- Take it to the recycling centre and put it in the garden waste





# We Are Bolton

### Ambassadors Take Centre Stage

The new Bolton Place Brand 'Born to Perform' launched in February 2025 at Bolton Octagon Theatre with a call to action for anyone with a passion for all things Bolton to become a We Are Bolton Ambassador. And the people of Bolton came forward in their droves!

In just 6 months, there are already 242 We Are Bolton Ambassadors helping to champion Bolton. We Are Bolton Ambassadors are the face, the voice, and the heartbeat of Bolton. They can tell the story of Bolton through their eyes and experiences in every interaction they have, whether that's with colleagues, customers, clients, family or friends. They can embed the Brand within their businesses and organisations, by having the storybook in staffrooms or public areas, having Brand imagery on the walls or vehicles, sharing place brand videos on social media, or including positive Bolton messages in staff recruitment, training or meetings.

To support the Ambassador programme 3 exciting events have taken place at Ambassador venues including Bolton Wanderers' FC's Toughsheet Community Stadium and Bolton College.

Each event has had its own theme, including young people, and health and wellbeing in Bolton, with the opportunity for Ambassadors to experience first hand some of the amazing projects, services and initiatives being delivered to help make Bolton a fantastic place to live, work, study, invest and visit.

At the recent event in partnership with Bolton Arena Community Sports Village, over 100 Ambassadors took part in sports and wellbeing taster activities including Pickleball, Walking Football and Stress Management, as well as listening to inspirational speakers.

Catherine Price, Bolton's Place Brand Manager, said: "The Ambassador programme is a true testament to the amazing passion, dedication and innovation that exists within our town. It's definitely true that in Bolton, success is in our DNA."

To find out more contact Catherine Price at catherine.price1@bolton.gov.uk

### Bolton IS BORN TO PERFORM



To find out more visit wearebolton.co.uk





WeAreBolton (O) wearebolton1





X WeAreBolton (in) wearebolton

# Bolton Central Library and Museum What's On



### My First Father Christmas Experience at Smithills Hall

Fri 19 December 2025

Smithills Hall will host a very special Christmas experience aimed at babies and pre-walkers. The event is a simpler version of our popular, sold-out Father Christmas Experience.

Your ticket will include a visit to Father Christmas (including a small gift), time in the Elf Waiting Room to make a commemorative tree decoration with your baby, and the Bubble Fairy (outside weather permitting).



To add to your day, you can also book a table at Bake and Roast for festive drinks and treats - this needs to be booked directly with them.

Reserve a table at bakeandroast.com/ smithills-hall-tea-room



### **Reebok and Norman Walsh:**

The Bolton History of the Running Shoe Until 18 January 2026

Our popular exhibition celebrates the origins of Reebok, the global sportswear brand that was founded in Bolton. The story begins with the pioneering work of Joseph William Foster, who designed racing pumps for the 1924 British Olympic Team.

The spirit of enterprise continued through Foster's grandsons, Joe and Jeff, who launched Reebok in the late 1950s.

The exhibition explores Reebok's connections with local sports shoe company, Norman Walsh Footwear, and their mutual ties with local running clubs like Bolton United Harriers and Horwich RMI Harriers.





### Art Exhibition 2026

Saturday 14 February to Sunday 17 May 2026

Bolton's popular open submission art exhibition is due to return. The exhibition is open to artists who live, work, or study in Bolton, and adds up to a fantastic showcase of local creative talent. This year's exhibition includes a Young Artist Award, recognising the achievements of an artist aged 16 to 23, along with a Visitors' Choice Award and Winner's Prize.

Entry forms are available in the museum, local libraries, and on the Library and Museum website: www.boltonlams.co.uk

**Participants** must be at least 16yrs old



Download the Bolton Library and Museum's What's On guide online at boltonlams.co.uk or pick up from the Central Library to discover all the year's events!



OBolton\_Library\_Museum





### Hat's off to Bolton Museum!



A rare, world-class
Egyptian hat - believed
to be one of only three
in the world and the
best surviving example
of its kind - is now on
display at Bolton
Museum following
expert conservation.

Dating back almost 2,000 years, the felted woollen headpiece, possibly worn by a soldier in the Roman army, has captured the imagination of historians and visitors alike. Its unveiling has sparked widespread media

interest, with international coverage celebrating Bolton's rich Egyptology collection. Don't miss this extraordinary glimpse into ancient Egyptian clothing and craftsmanship - now proudly showcased in the heart of the town.

Exhibition on display until

18 January

# Reebok exhibition still running strong

Bolton Museum's Reebok exhibition has scored big with visitors - welcoming over 25,000 people since opening in July.

Celebrating the iconic brand's Bolton roots, the display features vintage trainers, rare memorabilia, and a fascinating look at Reebok's history. It also ties in with a new Broaden documentary exploring the brand's legacy and local impact. The exhibition is a must-see for sneakerheads, sports fans, and proud Boltonians.

Don't miss your chance to experience this homegrown success story - on display until 18 January 2026.



### **Award winner**

The British Armed Forces Employer Recognition Scheme Gold Award was presented to Bolton Council at Blackburn Cathedral on Monday, September 22.



Bolton Council Leader, Cllr Nick Peel, said:

"This award is a testament to the hard work of council officers and elected members from various parties that made it possible.

"We are all incredibly proud to receive the prestigious Defence Employer Recognition Scheme Gold Award.

"This award recognises that we deliver on our promise to honour the service of our armed forces, and that we do what we can to help our veterans, and their families.

"Bolton Council is proud to support the armed forces and make sure those who serve feel respected and looked after."

www.bolton.gov.uk/armedforces

# Hate Crime Conference

# The Bolton Hate Crime Conference took place on Tuesday 14th October at the Toughsheet Community Stadium.

As part of National Hate Crime Awareness Week, professionals from different sectors came together at the with one clear aim – to develop the Bolton Hate Crime Plan that will enable Bolton to effectively address hate crime.

The conference explored the impact of hate crime, how to report it, and how to improve support for victims.

Operational and strategic leads worked in partnership throughout the day, taking part in various workshops, to share ideas and observations to help the plan's development.

The plan that emerges from the conference will set out how partners work together for the next four years to prevent and tackle hate crime in its many forms and make communities safer and stronger for all.

It will focus on education and raising awareness of hate crime, improve reporting and fostering stronger communities.

The new plan will be launched in January and will be available on the council website.

For more information on hate crime in Bolton visit

www.bolton.gov.uk/hatecrime









# Community Alliances

### Who are the Area Working What is a Community Team?

The Area Working Team is made up of five dedicated Area Working Coordinators and their manager who work across the whole of Bolton.

They help bring together people, community groups and other organisations who care about their neighbourhoods and want to make a difference in their local community. By working alongside communities, the team supports the creation of Community Alliances in each ward.

### Alliance?

A Community Alliance is a friendly, local network of residents, groups, volunteers, schools, agencies, and businesses, who care about the place where they live and work.

Together, members of a Community Alliance share ideas, skills, and resources to support each other and make improvements in their community, through everyday actions and by collaborating with others to tackle shared priorities.



New Community Alliances are being launched all the time, as the team continues to strengthen partnerships, test new approaches, and celebrate local successes.

Everyone is welcome to join a Community



To find out more email the Area Working Manager on idris.jeewa@bolton.gov.uk or find your Area Working Coordinator on the council website.



# Support to help quit smoking

The estimated 44,000 people who smoke in Bolton each day can now get free professional support to help quit smoking, boosting their prospects for a healthier, wealthier and happier life.

Giving up the habit brings almost immediate health benefits, and with smokers spending on average £2,000 a year on cigarettes it can help save significant amounts of money too.

Stopping and staying smokefree for a happier life is far easier with the free help on offer from Bolton's quit smoking specialists ABL Health.

Their friendly 'Your Health Bolton' stop smoking advisors, are on hand to sign people onto the free 12-week stop smoking programme and arrange free guit smoking aids and flexible advice and support.

Evidence suggests that people who stop smoking for 28 days are five times more likely to guit for good.

It pays off to talk to a trained advisor to get all the personal advice and support you need as it significantly improves your chances of quitting smoking for good.

Join the free 12 week programme now by calling **01204 205090** or visit www.yhbolton.co.uk/quit-smoking



Did you know that under 17s can swim for free at a number of Bolton leisure centres? To sign up for a free Junior Leisure Card, giving you access to four local swimming pools, you just need to be aged 16 or younger and live in the Bolton area.

To sign up for the card, please visit one of the Bolton Community Leisure Trust's centres, which feature pools, and ask for an application form. The places where you can use the card are Horwich Leisure Centre,

the Sir Jason Kenny Centre, Farnworth Leisure Centre and Westhoughton Community Leisure Centre. The form is also available online. Just 'Google' Bolton Junior Leisure Card.

Any families looking to stay active together should join one of the centres' Family Fun Sessions, which are available throughout the week, and during all school holiday periods.

Each of the five Bolton Community Leisure Trust centres also offers a Young Persons Membership option, which is for 12-15 year olds looking to use each centre's well-equipped gyms.

If you're already a customer at any of the centres listed above, or a member at Leverhulme Park Community Leisure Centre, why not work out as a family by signing your child up for a Young Persons Membership!

www.boltonleisure.com





## Don't miss out on IRONMAN weekend

Three fabulous days of sporting fun and challenges mean there will be something on offer for almost every age and ability when Bolton's IRONMAN weekend returns next June.

And Bolton is a true world leader, with two of the events being the biggest held anywhere.

**Night Run Bolton** gets the action started on Friday, June 5. With up to 1,800 people expected to take part it's set to be a world beater.

Whether you choose to run 5k or 10k, the closed roads, town centre route and cheering crowds are sure to make it a special day.

On Saturday, June 6, **IRONKIDS Bolton** returns and is once again set to be the biggest in the world, with up to 6,000 children aged three to 15 enjoying the challenge.

**IRONMAN 70.3 Bolton** comes to town on Sunday, June 7, when thousands of athletes will take on 70.3 miles of swimming, cycling and running.

With **IRONMAN 70.3** close to sold out and entries for **Night Run** and **IRONKIDS Bolton** filling up fast, don't miss out.

O IRONMAN\_UK

X VisitBolton

f IRONMAN England

f Visit Bolton





Register now...

www.ironman.com/races/im703-bolton





# Bolton rolls out the red carpet

Bolton's screen sector took centre stage as the Bolton Film Office officially launched at the Bolton Film Festival, marking a major milestone in the town's ambition to become a leading destination for film and TV production.

The launch was celebrated with a dynamic industry networking event and a panel discussion hosted by Professor Aaqil Ahmed (University of Greater Manchester), featuring Fiona Fung, Bolton Film Office Manager; Chelsea Foster from Creative England; and Bolton-born Location Manager Ian Findlay.

The panel explored Bolton's growing reputation as a filming hotspot, with recent productions such as Peaky Blinders, Happy Valley, and A Gentleman in Moscow showcasing the town's versatility—from historic architecture to

adaptable urban and rural backdrops. With appearances across BBC, ITV, Netflix, Paramount+, and Sky, Bolton has earned the nickname "Hollywood of the North."



Discussions also focused on building a local talent pool, engaging the creative arts community, and boosting film tourism to celebrate Bolton's screen heritage. Ian Findlay praised Bolton Council's film-friendly approach, while businesses were encouraged to support incoming crews and benefit from the growing industry.

Cllr Nadeem Ayub, Executive Cabinet Member for Culture, welcomed the launch, stating:

"The new Bolton Film
Office will enhance
what has already been
achieved and will grow
our filming across the
borough — keeping
Bolton firmly in the
filming spotlight as
a place truly Born to
Perform."

The Bolton Film Office supports and grows the town's screen sector by attracting productions, showcasing diverse locations, and connecting industry professionals with local talent and businesses.

Learn more at

www.boltonfilmoffice.uk Q

### What's on at the Albert Halls



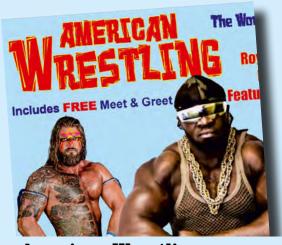
The New Adventures of **Peter Pan** 29 November – 31 December



Santa Live! 13 December – 24 December



**Taylormania** 6 February



**American Wrestling** 20 February



Copacabana Magic The **Barry Manilow Show** 27 February



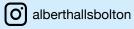
**Fastlove: The George Michael Tribute** 

12 March

Tel **0343 208 0500** www.alberthalls-bolton.co.uk











## **New Family Hubs**

Eight Family Hubs have opened where families with children and young people 0-19 years, or up to 25 with SEND, can share the joys and challenges of parenthood.

These hubs offer a range of activities and integrated support services to help families in Bolton with every aspect of parenting, so their child gets the best possible start in life.

A range of professionals are available to support parentsto-be and families around an array of topics from supporting your child's development and learning, to finding advice and guidance for topics like financial support, housing, employment and much more! Family Hubs also join up and enhance existing services so parents and carers can access a network of support across the borough.

The hubs are funded through the national Family Hubs programme and bring together voluntary organisations, charities like CVS and Bolton Together, plus Bolton NHS Foundation Trust and Bolton Council, all working together.



For more information, see the online guide via the QR code, drop into one of the centres or search for Bolton Family Hubs on Facebook.

### Find out more at www.boltonfamilyhubs.org.uk

In partnership with:













**Bolton** Council

Got room in your heart and your home?

If you're over 21, have patience and a kind heart, you've already got what it takes to make all the difference to a child's life in Greater Manchester.

Curious? Learn more at: fosterforgm.com









## Supporting locals struggling with the

# Cost of liv

Bolton's been allocated £4,900,225 from the Government's seventh issue of the Household Support Fund (HSF), the money is to be used by March 31, 2026, to support locals cope with high prices of food, fuel and other household essentials.

This year's allocation is for a full year. This longer term funding provides greater flexibility to plan ahead and use limited resources more effectively to deliver not only the critical emergency support that is needed but also more fundamental initiatives that tackle the causes of poverty.

This also gives extra flexibility to get help to the places it is most needed and also strengthens Bolton's tackling poverty strategy which maps out ways we are tackling the cycle of debt which many Bolton residents find themselves trapped in.

We are now able to support all residents to apply for help in accessing food, electricity and heating, and important household goods although eligibility criteria still apply.

There's also free advice to help people access unclaimed benefits, household budgeting, debt advice and emergency housing costs plus more including:

- Supermarket vouchers for children eligible for free school meals during holidays
- Bolton's Fund, supporting local charities and good causes
- Local Welfare Provision
- Support to claim Pension Credit and vouchers for those no longer entitled to the winter fuel allowance
- Bolton's Care and Repair Service
- Money Skills advice
- Commissioning more support and advice services
- Holiday Activities and Food for children eligible for Free School Meals
- Housing support for tenants at risk of eviction
- Warm Spaces during winter
- Care leavers and unpaid carers support

### Find out about where you can get help on...

- Debt, money and benefits
- Food, energy and safety
- Health and wellbeing

- Housing support
- Jobs and skills
- Support for businesses

www.bolton.gov.uk/cost-living







# Useful contact details

### Rubbish and recycling

For general enquiries and how to report a missed bin collection or order a new bin, go to **www.bolton.gov.uk/rubbish-recycling 01204 336632** 

#### Council tax

To register for council tax or report a change of address or circumstances. To access your account online, view council tax charges and check your bill, go to **www.bolton.gov.uk/council-tax** 

01204 331599

#### Housing and finding a home

To register for council-related accommodation, find information and advice on sheltered accommodation, or for adapting your home and preventing homelessness, go to

www.bolton.gov.uk/housing-options-advice

**01204 335811** Homes for Bolton

**01204 335900** Housing Advice

#### **Benefits**

For council tax support, housing benefits, go to www.bolton.gov.uk/benefits 01204 331590

#### Blue badges

To apply for, renew or report your Blue Badge lost or stolen, go to **www.bolton.gov.uk/parking-permits/blue-badges** 

#### Licensing

To apply for or renew a license for taxis and private hire, alcohol and gambling, street licenses and charity collection go to

www.bolton.gov.uk/business-licensing 01204 336584

### **Business rates**

To pay your business rates, report a change in circumstances or find out about business rates reductions, go to

www.bolton.gov.uk/business-rates 01204 331730

### Births, deaths and marriages (Registrar's Office)

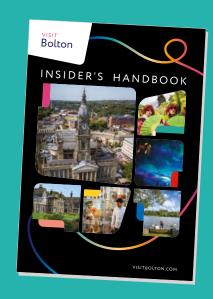
To register a birth or death, please go to

www.bolton.gov.uk/registering-birth-death 01204 331185

We've listed these useful telephone numbers, but all applications and most services will require you to go online to make an enquiry. If you don't have access to the internet at home, you can come to the One Stop Shop in the Town Hall, your local library or community hub.

# Before you go...

Don't forget to pick up your free copy of the Insider's Handbook to find lots of local attractions and activities for the whole family, or download it at **visitbolton.com** and start planning your next adventure!



# Tell us what you think...

We want to hear your views. Please let us know your thoughts on **ourbolton@bolton.gov.uk** 

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## Meet your councillors...

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as Peter Pan

Polka Dot Pantomimes in association with The Albert Halls Bolton present

Albert Halls Bolton

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OTHER ACTION

STORYS ART ATT

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KIVAN DENE as Captain Hook

MEGAN EDMONDSON

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as Persil the Mermaid

CHELSEY MORGAN

as Wendy

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