

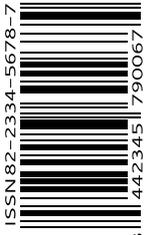
LOVING THE FLOW

ISSUE 1: DECEMBER 2017



THE FLOWHESION FOUNDATION

www.flowhessionfoundation.org.uk



ASPIRE

D AND LEILA
INTERVIEW PUPILS
ABOUT THEIR CURRENT
CHALLENGES AND
ASPIRATIONS FOR
THE FUTURE!

VALUE

SAUD AND
AMAANIYAH **REPORT**
ON AN INNOVATIVE
DIALOGUE PROJECT
THAT TOOK PLACE
IN BOLTON!

BELONG

ZAKARRIYA AND
MO **RESEARCH** THE
HISTORIC ROLE OF
THE TEXTILE INDUSTRY
IN SHAPING BOLTON'S
POPULATION.

BUILD

AMAAN AND MO
TALK TO URBAN
OUTREACH ABOUT
THEIR GREAT WORK
TO HELP BOLTON'S
HOMELESS!



The voice of

GREATER MANCHESTER'S Cohesion-Conscious Youth

GIFTS, GOODIES AND GRUB UP FOR GRABS!

WE WANT TO KNOW YOUR POSITIVE EXPERIENCES OF CHILLING, LEARNING OR LIVING WITH YOUNG PEOPLE FROM ALL DIFFERENT BACKGROUNDS IN BOLTON! IF YOUR STORY IS PUBLISHED YOU'LL BE IN FOR A TREAT!

feel the flow!

MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR AT THE FLOWHESION FOUNDATION



It's great to finally be able to present to you our first issue of Greater's Manchester most innovative, youth-led community cohesion magazine 'lovin' the flow'! The magazine has been divided in to four fun themes (aspire, value, belong, build). Our young people have worked tirelessly to write an awesome article on each one. This is because these themes are essential 'ingredients' that can help cohesion within our neighbourhoods grow! They've not only written articles but as you'll see they've learnt a lot about community cohesion on the way too!

Passionate and driven, our teams of young dudes and dudettes have been interviewing, researching, collating and working with each other to bring this edition to you. Nothing comes easy right? Our young teams have also learnt a lot of skills, ideas and had great experiences along the way. You can check out their video blogs on our Flowhession YouTube channel!

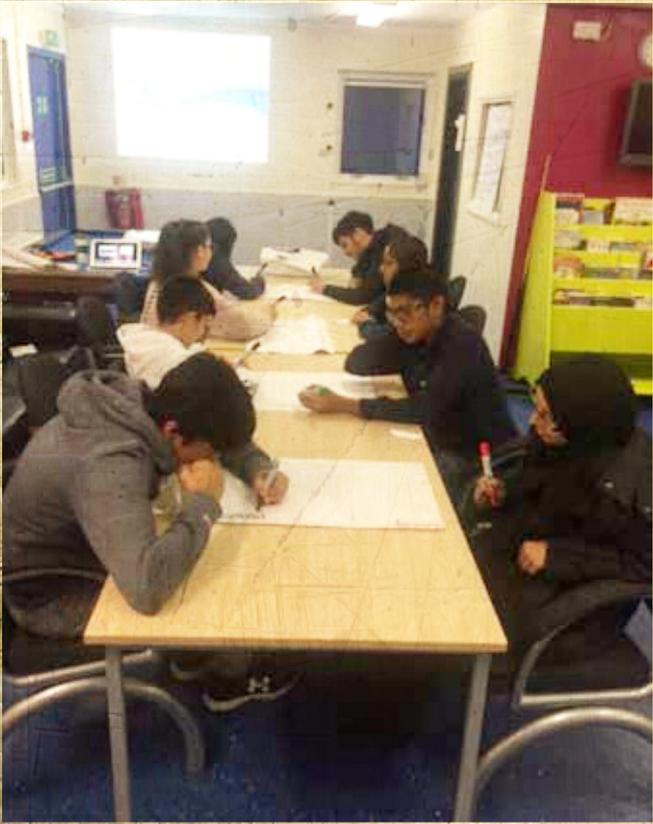
I passionately believe that involving young people in projects such as this is really important, as they are able to learn from each other, appreciate how diversity is a strength, why community cohesion is vital and have a tolerant outlook of the world growing up. After all todays children will be tomorrow's leaders!

If you 'feel the flow' and want to get involved join the 'Flowhession Family' by emailing us at: info@flowhessionfoundation.org.uk

Abdul Hafeez Siddique

the team

- Mo Makki**
Year 9 Smithills Secondary School
- Dishita Bishen**
Year 9 Rivington and Blackrod High School
- Leila Makki**
Year 11 UTC
- Amaan Khan**
Year 9 Eden Boys School
- Amaaniyah Asif**
Year 8 Bolton Muslim Girls School
- Saoud Asif**
Year 7 Bury Muslim Boys School
- Zakariya Jama**
Year 8 Eden Boys School
- Mohammed Jama**
Year 8 Eden Boys School
- Abaan Jama**
Year 11 Bolton Muslim girls school



Thinking of their strategy and how they'll engage their audience.



Working on content they have collected and startegies for the magazine.



Listening attentively to ideas and concepts from our professional Graphics Designer.

aspire

by Dishita Bishen, Leila Makki, Amaan Farah

Recently, we have been finding out about young people from different cultures, who've recently settled in Bolton. We were curious about how they feel about moving to Bolton and what their plans are for the future. We've understood the struggles our fellow pupils have made just to settle in the United Kingdom. We wanted to know more about how they found it to fit in and start school in the UK and we asked a couple of generous people, willing to offer us their time and responses.

Zoya Mazhar is 16 years old and attends Bolton Muslim Girls School. She came to England from Italy just over a year ago on the 12th of October 2016 because she wished to study here. Zoya explains that she is very happy here, and she says that she has settled in very well:

We asked her, 'In your opinion, do you like Bolton?' she told us that, "Yes, it's really good here, there's so many different nationalities living here, for instance on Derby Street I have seen Somali, Indian, Pakistani, Bengali, Afghani, Irani, Kurdish, Arab, Polish, Hungarian stores just to name a few. In Italy, we didn't see that much choice".

Zoya also told us about how she settled in; "I have made a lot of new friends here who are from different backgrounds, although most of my relatives live in Bolton and England so it wasn't that hard for me to settle in".

'What are your plans for the future?' we questioned her, and she told us that, "I want to go to college. I am not sure about the career I want to select yet, However I'm interested in dentistry, but I am sure whatever decision I make will be the best decision for me".

What have you learnt about cohesion when putting this article together?

We've learnt that aspiring for great things is really important and that people like Zoya and her family chose to come here because of the equal life chances we have here and that they will feel appreciated. We can conclude from this that moving to Bolton was the better option for Zoya, her aspiration to go on to do great things in the future is really awesome! We really appreciated what she said about the diverse range of cultures that are represented through the shops on Derby Street as we've taken this for granted living here so long.

VALUE

Saoud Asif, Amaniyah Asif



On Monday 30th October 2017, All Souls Centre, based at Astley Street in Bolton hosted a very special award ceremony for a unique project that they delivered in partnership with the Flowhession Foundation.

The Foundation’s director, Mr. Abdul Hafeez Siddique said ‘The Flowhession Foundation is primarily about shaping the communities we want to live in tomorrow, many interfaith projects are set up to accommodate religious leaders and exclude those of no faith. Our innovative project was unique in that it turns this model on its head engaging local residents and giving them a voice to members of no faith. The experience has been a great one for all involved and our course participants are eager to meet up at regular intervals over the next year to think of ways to continue this great work.’



Mohammed Ali Amla, The Foundation dialogue specialist mentioned ‘the group dynamics ensured that views and opinions were aired respectfully and the success of the projects has encouraged us take steps to roll it out nationally.’

The ceremony was to commemorate a dialogue project that involved local residents getting together to talk about commonality and a shared vision of peace and tolerance.

The Mayor of Bolton who attended the ceremony mentioned how such grassroots work was needed given the current climate and that Bolton had always opened its arms and welcomed those of all faiths and none for decades.

The participants of the course were of Muslim, Christian, Humanist background.

The course was adapted through the guidelines of the Flowhession Foundation. The aim of the course was to explore contemporary issues and challenges, by creating a safe space to discuss openly and honestly the manner in which those of faith and none can co-exist peacefully.



Saoud Asif, Amaniyah Asif

BELONG

Mohammed Jama and Zakarriya Jama



We have been really excited to learn about the history of Bolton and how our great town thrived and became famous during the industrial revolution.

Several towns and cities in the north west of England became prosperous during the late 1700s and early 1800s because of cotton manufacturing. Bolton became a booming manufacturing town at the turn of the century. This growth was mainly due to its extensive involvement in the processing of cotton.

Investors in the processing of cotton exploited Bolton's geographical location. This was because Northern towns had a more damp climate that suited the production of cotton and textiles. Therefore cotton mills in the town developed rapidly. Bolton had a good source of natural free flowing water, which cotton manufacturers utilised to power their

mills and wash the cotton, though the process became more mechanised later on using steam power and the 'spinning mule', invented by Bolton born Samuel Crompton. imported raw cotton to meet the demand for cotton goods. This demand was met mainly from three regions in the world: the Middle East, the West Indies (Caribbean) and the Americas. Whilst check cotton was the main cloth supplied to Africa,

manufacturers in Bolton were able to supply a range of non-check materials to west Africa too.

What have you learnt about cohesion when putting this article together?

It was great for us to learn about the important the cotton mills were to Bolton. This is because we always travel past so many of them on the way to school and let's face it many of them are not in the best of shape. We learnt during the research we carried out during this project just how important local history is to give us a strong attachment to our area. Now whenever we drive past the mills on our way to school or walk past one with our friends we definitely know the important role they played giving jobs to so many Boltonians and supplying the world with cotton!

BUILD

Amaan Khan, Mo Makki



There are many organisations within Bolton that work to build a sense of community, especially for those who feel misplaced and isolated. Some of them have aims based on religion, and decide to put their differences aside when it comes to helping people in and around their area.

One example of such organisations is Urban Outreach, a Christian charity providing a person-centered approach to support the disadvantaged. For 27 years Urban Outreach has been working with Bolton's most vulnerable, marginalised and disaffected citizens to provide a future for people who probably don't think much of a future.



Their aims as a charity are quite clear: to relieve poverty by the provision of temporary accommodation, advance the education of such people, by training in life skills. As a charity, they are committed to working for unity, eliminating discrimination and promoting good and equal relationships for everyone.

The charity delivers a range of commissioned work in 4 main areas: offender support, health and homelessness, children and families and food provisions. Within each category Urban Outreach puts in place different projects, to cater for the diversity of problems different people face. Some examples you may have heard are Storehouse, and Family First. However, the most beneficial project that young people should know about is Winter Watch.

Contrary to what you may believe, winter Watch doesn't just cater for the homeless. Over 400 individuals access the service each winter, and have problems ranging from mental health to drinking and drug related problems. Not only does this service help to provide people with basic necessities but also allows them to socialise and keep out of harms way;

What have you learnt about cohesion when putting this article together?

Whilst researching for this article we have learnt about the importance of looking after the Bolton family. A lot of the times when we think about how well a town is doing we immediately focus on the state of the art buildings, cars and how much people are spending. When researching about Urban Outreach we've learnt that a great society looks after its most vulnerable and when we start to take care of the most needy and deprived then it will eventually help all of us. This is because there will be less crimes, violence, illness and problems.

WORKSHOP FOR SECONDARY SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES TO EXPLORE RADICALISATION IN THE AFTERMATH OF THE MANCHESTER AND LONDON ATTACKS.

Be-wise/stay safe

The atrocities in Manchester and London in 2017 have once again brought to the surface the importance of building resilience among young people to ensure they are not drawn in to violent and far-right extremism. This half day workshop skilfully addresses this very topic. Led by an experienced, qualified Imam it will explore vulnerabilities, world perspectives and social issues that can become a catalyst for extremists to recruit. It will provide practical tool kits for young people to build resilience against such extremist narratives. Building upon young peoples own reflective experiences, the workshop will ensure that theory learnt in the workshop is applied by analysing relative case studies.

Particulars:

- > COST: £245 for Workshop
- > Duration: 3 hours
- > Age group (secondary and college children)
- > Group size (25-30)
- > Materials to be emailed to school to be printed in advance by agreement.

Testimonials:

'Thanks for this great session!'

Sarah Daley, Head of ethics and Values, Carmel college

'Meaningful and worthwhile'

Louisa Turner, Head of Learner experience, Preston's College

'A very well delivered and excellent workshop!'

Kimberley cash, assistant principal, Salford city college

'I will be requesting future sessions like this from flowhesion'

Liz Kershaw, Student service lead, Furness college

'An informative and thought provoking learning experience'

Amanda asuiett, The Manchester College

'An excellent session, well structured and well delivered'

Nikki Naylor, curriculum leader, Bury Adult Learning service

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