

LOVING THE FLOW

ISSUE 3: AUGUST 2018



THE FLOWHESION FOUNDATION

www.flowhessionfoundation.org.uk



ASPIRE

BACK TO THE FUTURE!
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PUT THE **SPOTLIGHT** ON
LORD LEVERHULME,
BOLTON'S GREAT
PHILANTHROPIST.

VALUE

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AN ASPIRING PRIEST-
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GETS TALKING ABOUT
RELIGIONS, REFLECTIONS
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BUILD

HANIYAH AND
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THE CONTRIBUTION
2 LOCAL CHARITIES
ARE MAKING TO THE
BOLTON FAMILY.



The voice of

GREATER MANCHESTER'S

Cohesion-Conscious Youth

FEATURE ARTICLE!

FEATURE ARTICLE!
INTERVIEW WITH KAREN
OPENSHAW - AN ASPIRING
PRIEST. (PICTURED)

MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR AT THE FLOWHESION FOUNDATION



It is great to be able to present to you the third installment of Greater Manchester's first youth-led, social action orientated, community cohesion magazine.

We are living in testing times, where social media constantly influences boundaries, identities and public opinion. Social media allows us to be forever connected, but the downside is that we can spend too much time talking to people in the digital world, whilst ignoring those in the real world. To give you an idea; a recent study by cancer research UK found that only 37% of young people aged between 18-24 were happy to talk to someone in real life with the rest feeling more confident talking to others over social media. Its time we all had a digital detox and spend more time talking to people around us!

As you read on you will realise that young people (just like you) have put in a lot of time researching, interviewing, exploring and reviewing material for their articles. They have also reflected on their experiences and what they have learnt about community cohesion along the way. I have always wished for the Foundation to lead, trail blaze and be visionary in the application of community cohesion policy and practice. This magazine is testament to our innovative horizons. Recently it has been a source of inspiration and great pride to our staff, volunteers and well wishers to see so many third sector, statutory and public sector organisations contacting us, commissioning us and seeking our expertise to model some of the inspirational work we do here at Flowhession. We hope our efforts with young people today will ensure we are preparing great citizens for tomorrow.

Abdul Hafeez Siddique

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



@flowhession

The Team



Our Team enjoying 'downtime' after a magazine meeting

Aspire

Zakariah and Qasim

Lord Leverhulme, 'dubbed the Soap King', was born on September 19, 1851, and has left behind a legacy that lives on today.

William-Hesketh Lever was born in Wood Street, Bolton, and was the son of a grocer. His business life had humble beginnings when, as a business-minded teenager, he worked in the family shop and cut up and wrapped the long bars of yellow soap used at the time. As the firm grew, he decided to manufacture his own brand, which he named Sunlight.

Premises were rented and within the first year, a thousand tons were produced. From earning one shilling a week, his finances rocketed and, by 1918, he was worth an amazing £5,000,000. It was no more than his strong Bolton family background expected of him as he had been born to a long line of hard-working Levers, counting among his ancestors Robert Lever, the founder of Bolton Grammar School in 1641. Place names like Great Lever, Little Lever and Darcy Lever also forged his Bolton connections. As the business expanded, a new site was found near the River Mersey and work began on a showpiece of workers' homes called Port Sunlight.

But he never forgot his Bolton origins and familiar names were immortalised in Port Sunlight including Bolton Road, Wood Street and Edgworth house. Lord Leverhulme was a forward-thinker who made his employees partners in his flourishing business and campaigned -- still ahead of his time -- for a six-hour day, arguing that production would not fall because on present working days staff were too tired to give their best. His empire grew beyond even his own dreams and continued to be successful long after his death in 1925, at the age of 74.

His products had names that are still familiar to many people today, including Lifebuoy, Lux and Vim. He used the slogan "see how this becomes the house" to help sell his products. Lord Leverhulme's interest was not confined to his business. Throughout his life, he collected paintings and gained a reputation as a protector of the arts. He gave the town Leverhulme Park, Lever Park and the Blackburn Road Congregational Church, which later became the United Reformed Church.



In his time, he restored Hall i'th' Wood museum, saving it from demolition by buying it and restoring it, then donating it to Bolton, and he funded the rebuilding of Bolton School, establishing a trust which still helps to maintain it. In 1898, he was appointed governor and contributed buildings and a swimming pool. He loved his extravagant house and its grounds in Rivington included Babylonian terraced gardens, a miniature zoo, lakes, waterfalls, pagodas and oriental teahouses. After he died, the gardens, which Lord Leverhulme had lovingly developed, became derelict. But, over the past 20 years, volunteers have restored them and uncovered miles of previously impassable footpaths making the area a popular spot for walkers. Probably the most influential man in Bolton's history left a legacy of 'giving back to your community' that will never die.



Value

By Aimen Iqbal



Bolton is known for the diversity of religion and the huge amount of respect we have for each other's faiths and beliefs. The town's diverse faith was revealed in 2011's census results, which showed that Bolton is more religious than the rest of England. According to the results, 62.7% of people classed themselves as Christian, which happens to be 3.3% higher than the overall figure for England. The percentages may have fluctuated since then but it won't have made a difference.

I recently interviewed an aspiring priest named Karen Openshaw and asked her a few questions on how she thinks religion has affected and had an impact on people's lives. Our conversations were very interesting. She stated 'Sometimes people use their faith as a weapon, misinterpreting Holy texts which are completely based on love and respect, and committing evil in the name of their religion and of God.' However more importantly, Karen went on to add, "I believe that faith filled people are very different. People of faith are very different. We may all wish, because we believe that our faith is 'the way', that others would come to know it and to love it and to live it out; because for us it has been a source of strength and joy and hope but we also believe that God is love and that peace is the only answer."

Muslims believe, Allah created people, and created them differently for reasons and purposes we may not understand. Regardless of how we perceive other people to be, they are Allah's creation and it is Allah's will for us to show respect. "And whoever obeys God and His messenger, fears God, and keeps his duty (to Him), such are the successful ones." (Quran 24:52). To be one of those successful ones, Islam requires that each individual learn to obey the Creator and therefore treat Human kind, our community of people, the believers and us with respect.

Hindus believe in the concept of Ahimsa (non-violence and respect for life), which prevents a Hindu from causing any harm to any creature, and therefore many Hindus are vegetarians. Trees are treated with respect because it is the most important type of plant life and, like all things, has an atman (soul). Hindus tend to respect all aspects of nature so the level of respect they must have for each other, their neighbour or even strangers is unimaginable!

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

I have learnt from interviewing Karen how respect for others, peace, love and giving are common themes that run through many of the world religions. For community cohesion these ideas are really important because it means that people of all religions and faiths see it as their religious duty to get along together; this can help communities to get along together. However there are many people across different religions who wish to use violence and disrespect in the name of their religion and this undermines cohesion.



Belong

Subhaan and Aisah

Bolton 2030

Built on pride in our place and the aspirations of and for local people our Vision is to ensure Bolton in 2030 is:

**Active, Connected
and Prosperous**



A lot of times when people think about community cohesion they think about lots of different communities taking part in sports, food, culture and entertainment events. But when we looked at Bolton's vision 2030 we quickly learnt that it takes much more than these activities to make a community get along!

There were a lot of things that were covered in this vision. First of all the council wants every child to have the best possible start in life. We think that is really important because if we are not able to get the best education it could mean in the future we are not able to get the opportunity that others have. This is also important for community cohesion because a lot of times communities can turn against each other if they believe one group is getting more opportunity or life chances than another.

The vision also talked about health and wellbeing and how older people should have the right to a more healthier, connected life. It is really sad to learn that there are lots of elderly people that are living very isolated lives. Connecting with other people is a vital part of cohesion.

There was also a part in vision 2030 that talked about the environment and how to keep it clean and protected. Firstly we thought why would the environment matter for community cohesion? On further investigation we understood that if we want people to be connecting with each other the environment that they meet each other in i.e. parks, public spaces need to be clean and presentable.

Finally we saw how 'feeling safe' was a very important theme in the vision 2030 document. We felt that this is really essential for community cohesion because when people and communities are fearful of each other it can create a lot of tension and ill feelings that can lead to unrest.

Bolton
2030
Active, Connected and Prosperous

'IN 2030, WE WANT BOLTON TO BE A VIBRANT PLACE BUILT ON STRONG COHESIVE COMMUNITIES, SUCCESSFUL BUSINESSES AND HEALTHY, ENGAGED RESIDENTS. IT WILL BE A WELCOMING PLACE WHERE PEOPLE CHOOSE TO STUDY, WORK, INVEST AND PUT DOWN ROOTS.'

Bolton Vision 2030

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

We have learnt that there needs to be a lot of planning in order for community cohesion to succeed. We cant just focus on getting people to talk to each other if we have not looked at how they can have life opportunities, feel safe and able to life in clean environments.

Build

Haniyah and Misbah

Our Year in Numbers



We have been looking at the fantastic work the voluntary and charity sector is doing in Bolton to help the Bolton family. Because there are so many fantastic charities around we decided to focus on two.

The Bolton Hospice

It can trace its roots back to 1984 and provides a range of care services to the sick and vulnerable in Bolton. It runs through donations and we think that the graphic clearly demonstrates how important and awesome the work it does really is!

DID YOU KNOW?
Bolton Hospice is an independent charity mainly funded by the people of Bolton. To continue providing free care and support they need to raise £3.7 million a year through donations, fundraising and gifts in wills.



The Destitute Animal Shelter - Bolton

Tel: (01204) 526486



Homes Wanted



The Bolton Destitute animal Shelter was founded by a very kind lady in the 1920's who left a property on Deane Road to be used for the purpose of caring for the 'destitute' cats and dogs of Bolton.

They moved from the Deane Road house some time later to Vernon Street where they stayed until the 1970's. The philosophy underlying the running of Vernon Street was appropriate for the times in which it operated. That is, stray dogs and cats were brought there and looked after for seven days during which time their owners could claim them.

After a further seven days of care during a new home was actively sought for the animal. After these fourteen days, the abandoned animal was then put to sleep. All of this seems horrific to us

living today!. What we have to remember is that people's ideas about looking after animals were very different 50 years ago.

Currently the shelter is based at, Northolt Drive, The shelter has gradually moved its philosophy over the years to now caring for every cat and dog brought to us for whatever period of time it takes until a new home is found for the animal. Sadly sometimes animals are put to sleep but only when veterinary advice calls for this. The work of the shelter does have a happy ending though! Many thousands of destitute animals are given shelter and care, sometimes for weeks, sometimes for months at Northolt Drive and then find warm, loving homes with new owners.