

## Alistair Waddell, the end of an era



Alistair Waddell became the first chairman of the newly formed Greenmount Village Community in 2010 and continued for ten years until he stood down in March 2020.

When Alistair moved with his family to Greenmount he responded to a leaflet titled "Will you help save our Community?" This was really the start of his great involvement in the community. Alistair got involved in a whole range of activities involving The Old School, The Church, The Scouts and Greenmount Primary School, where he was Chairman of the PTA for a while.

He also joined the Old School Users Committee and then helped to organise a yard party to celebrate the Queen's Jubilee and a few hundred people attended. He then became Membership Secretary of the Greenmount Scout Group and also helped to start the Greenmount Scout Fellowship. More recently, Alistair has arranged the PA at the Annual Bonfire and Christingle. Events in Greenmount now involve many of the local groups and Alistair has had a heavy involvement in local cycling and walking groups. Alistair is succeeded in the chairpersons role by Julie Southworth.

## Queen's Award for D-CaFF

Great news - we are pleased to announce that D-CaFF, the place to meet for people living with dementia, their carers, family and friends, based at Greenmount Cricket Club, has been awarded the prestigious Queen's Award for Voluntary Service. This is in recognition of the incredible work that Joani Beale, Laura Roberts and the team of volunteers do to support people in our community.

Representatives of D-CaFF will receive the award from the Lord Lieutenant of Greater Manchester later this summer. Furthermore, two volunteers from D-CaFF will attend a garden party at Buckingham Palace in May 2021, along with other recipients of this year's Award. D-CaFF is one of 230 charities, social enterprises and voluntary groups to receive the prestigious award this year. The number of nominations has increased year on year since the awards were introduced in 2002, showing that the voluntary sector is thriving and full of innovative ideas to make life better for those around them. The Queen's Award for Voluntary Service aims to recognise outstanding work by volunteer groups to benefit their local communities. It was created in 2002 to celebrate the Queen's Golden Jubilee.



## Age Friendly Award

WE'RE MAKING  
**GREATER MANCHESTER**  
**AGE-FRIENDLY**  
2019

At the end of 2019 a group of volunteers who represent the many groups which operate in Greenmount met with a council representative to see if Greenmount could achieve the status of being "Age-Friendly". This is an initiative set out by the Mayor of Greater Manchester, Andy Burnham. "Ambition for Ageing", a local charity, has for three years been supporting groups around the whole of Greater Manchester working with residents in the over 50s age group. Greenmount won through to the final selection of fifty three towns or villages in Greater Manchester who can be called "Age-Friendly".



On Thursday 6 February, Christine Taylor, Joan Waddell and Alistair Waddell went along to the Museum of Science and Industry in Castlefield, Manchester to collect the award. It is always a great pleasure to accept these local or national awards, as it shows recognition of the hard work being done by our many volunteers in this village. We can ALL give ourselves a "pat on the back" for living in such a wonderful village. You may have heard that the local Councils are trying to help people who feel isolated or lonely to engage with others and feel they belong to their community. This award is recognition for part of that process.

The GVC is working closely with Bury Council, our local Police force and other groups to spread the word and highlight the many activities in our neighbourhood. The latest initiative is Social Prescribing and the GVC is working with our local representative, the Beacon Service.

## Holly Mount Orchard

The orchard has been used as a peaceful haven by many people during lockdown, which is excellent. If you're visiting the orchard, please note:

- Maintain strict social distancing at all times (try keeping an apple tree between you and anyone from outside your household).
- Respect the orchard, its neighbours and in particular the local school if they are using the orchard for any activities.
- Please do not park in any of the resident's marked areas. The orchard has no dedicated parking and is best visited on foot/by bike at this time (if you can survive the gradient of Holly Mount Lane!)
- Please can people also keep their eyes out for any signs of vandalism/damage to the orchard. We know the greenhouse is on its last legs, but please don't be tempted to hasten its demise (as has happened in recent days sadly) - carrying out repairs is extremely difficult in the current circumstances.

Stay safe, enjoy the orchard and stay out of the bees' home to save the NHS from having to deal with your anaphylaxis!

## Greenmount Old School

All events are still currently suspended at Greenmount Old School. When the situation changes updates will appear on our website, social media and email circulation list. Note, due to the ongoing postponements we cannot accept any jumble donations, please do not leave any donated items behind the building.

## GVC Walking Group

As the message is to stay away from the Lake District and other local beauty spots it is a good opportunity to explore the West Pennine Moors, 90 square miles of beautiful countryside right on our doorstep. Part of Greenmount is in the West Pennine Moor boundary. You can pick up a set of five leaflets from outside the Old School, giving maps and a route of the West Pennine Way, devised by the Greenmount Village Walking Group. Suitable for all casual or serious walkers doing long or short walks. See [www.westpennineway.org](http://www.westpennineway.org) for more details.

## Holcombe Moor Heritage Group

With the help of Ken Dearden and the Holcombe Moor Heritage Group we have uploaded a copy of the video 'Moorland Magic', which was originally created for HMHG by the Greenmount Scout Group, to our YouTube channel. This was previously only available on DVD. It is a lovely watch and very interesting. We hope it lifts your spirits a little during these difficult times. You can view the film by clicking on the 'Videos' option from the galleries link on our website.

## COVID-19 Update

### Face Masks

During the crisis members of our community have been involved in creating and distributing protective face masks. This is the initiative of Kath Anderson who wanted to make face masks and distribute to the general public to wear whilst out in the community. By promoting this idea and recruiting volunteers many masks have been produced and funds have been raised for the NHS charities. The masks are available for sale at Holcombe Brook Post Office for a suggested donation of £2, or donate on-line at <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/makeamask>

In addition to masks, local residents have also assisted Scrubs Hub, Bury, Oldham and Rochdale with producing scrubs for NHS and front line workers.

### Porch Boxes / Food Banks

Thank you to everyone for your amazing efforts so far in donating to Porch Boxes, who provide crisis packs for people in need. The collection box will continue to be outside 31 Greenheys Crescent. We are really impressed with the level of donations so far: there have been between 120 - 180 items each week, for which local people are very grateful. In the first weeks of lockdown Porch Boxes sent out 1900 crisis packs & are continuing to provide packs at this rate.

Donations collected by Greenmount Helpers have also been gladly received by the Food Bank based at the Brandlesholme Community Centre, who are supporting the needy in Bury North. Further information on referrals, services and donations can be found at [www.brandlesholme.com/](http://www.brandlesholme.com/)

### Wellbeing Support

A comprehensive directory of local services which offer support for mental and physical health, domestic abuse, substance misuse, housing and financial advice is available on our website.

On there you will find contact details for Anxiety UK, Early Break, Samaritans, Age UK, BIG, Citizens Advice and Healthy Minds. In addition Greenmount is covered by the council-run Bury Community Hubs [www.bury.gov.uk/communityhubs](http://www.bury.gov.uk/communityhubs) Contact by phone 0161 253 5353, 7 days a week, 9am to 5pm .

## Greenmount Helpers

Since day one of lockdown, the Greenmount Helpers have been providing an invaluable service to people around the borough who are self-isolating or cannot leave their homes due to Covid-19. Now our efforts have been honoured with a letter of thanks from The Queen's representative in the region, the Lord-Lieutenant of Greater Manchester, Sir Warren J Smith.

The Greenmount Helpers team provides a range of helpful services, including: collecting online shopping orders, emergency supplies and prescriptions; posting and collecting mail, and making friendly phone calls. It is open to anyone who may not have someone else to help them. To get in touch, or if you have concerns about an elderly neighbour or relative, please get in touch using the 'Contact Us' facility on our website.

*If you are interested in what is going on in our village please visit our website*

*[www.greenmountvillage.org.uk](http://www.greenmountvillage.org.uk)*

*We are also available on Facebook, Twitter and YouTube (see our home page for links)*