



The Holywell News

Volume 1 Issue 4

September 2013

Welcome to our monthly newsletter

- News
- Events
- Competition news

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Tim's in town!



Another fabulous 'community' event took place when TV antiques expert Tim Hogarth came to the church hall on Saturday August 31st.

Over 60 people, sought Tim's advice and valuations on the pieces they brought along.

And some were lucky enough to 'do a deal' and see Tim buy articles from them!

This was a terrific afternoon and attended by a large number of local residents.



We were delighted to see so many people travel from all over Calderdale & Kirklees as well.

Our combined efforts saw us raise £613 towards the campaign - so thank you to everybody who contributed.

These community events give a real feel for what can be achieved when we finally get the 'new' Holywell open.

And congratulations must go out to our lucky raffle winners:



1st Prize - A case of wine donated by James and Maria at the Duke of York won by Catherine Kirkland

2nd Prize - 24 cans of Carlsberg donated by HCPL member Dean, won by Iris Whitehead.

3rd Prize - Sunday Lunch at the Duke of York

Well done to all - and please support James and Maria as much as possible!

We'll keep you posted!

As the momentum of this campaign increases almost every day - we are approaching the stage where we intend to make a presentation to the village - possibly in late September.

We wish to invite anybody who is interested in the work we've done and the results achieved - to come along and experience the vision we have

for this venture.

So much effort is being put in right now - meetings with architects, accountants, solicitors, banks, and numerous other professionals seem to take place almost every week.

We meet every second Tuesday in the Duke of York and you are welcome to attend.

The presentation is being organised by the committee - and will demonstrate how we intend to obtain, refurbish and completely re-launch this community owned and administered business - with the Pub at the hub and the host of services & facilities that will be part of it.

For you!

theguardian

BBC RADIO
LEEDS

GO LOCAL!
Your Local Independent Directory



National, regional and celebrity attention for the Holywell . . .

Our media profile just keeps growing! Since the last newsletter numerous articles have been written, interviews given and 'blogs' published.

Following the announcement that 100 pubs have now been given 'Asset of Community Value' status - The Guardian were quickly in touch and our Chairman John Walsh managed to give an interview from a cruise ship in the Atlantic ocean!

This followed yet another live broadcast on Radio Leeds discussing the upcoming

Al Stewart show in October.

We were described in the Huddersfield Examiner as a 'group to take example from' in an article about community pubs. The Examiner also published a feature about the Tim Hogarth antiques event.

And we must thank the Halifax Courier for running a truly superb half-page spread about our whole story. This featured the artist impression of the 'new' Holywell.

As did yet another piece- this time a full page in 'Go Local' -

thanks to Rachel and colleagues for such a comprehensive report.

The local 'Pub Paper' saw us on their front page as well!

And it doesn't end there!

The SIBF are currently featuring us on the homepage of their website and running a blog from Martyn Foulds regarding the campaign.

And last but not least - Richard Madeley - sent us a tweet wishing us well with Al's show!

First we take Manhattan . . .

A few weeks ago John Walsh called in at Sound-Leisure in Leeds - the only jukebox manufacturer in the UK. They produce some outstanding - and beautiful machines.

During the visit John got chatting with old friend - company founder Alan Black - and discovered Alan's love of Al Stewart's music.

Being friends for many years John decided to give two tickets (at his own expense) for

Al's upcoming show- and payment was quickly offered and refused!

So Alan then asked if his company could provide a raffle/auction prize instead. John agreed and suggested that maybe some coffee mugs or T-shirts could be donated.

Alan considered this and advised that it should be left with him.

Later that evening John

received a telephone call - and was informed that a brand new Sound-Leisure Manhattan CD jukebox was waiting in the factory for collection!

This machine - value £4500 - is ours to do whatever we want with.

Raffle/Auction/ Use in the Pub - it's ours!

Rather Splendid! - I think you may agree.

And Congratulations to the champions of England!

How about this!

Our friends at Elland Brewery -who we were lucky enough to visit on Thursday August 29th - only went and won the highest possible accolade 'The Camra Champion Beer of Britain' with their stunning 1872 Porter!

This was announced at the 2013 Great British Beer Festival in London and our congratulations are most warmly passed on.

Our visit, was thoroughly enjoyed by those who attended - and with great strength and dedication they reluctantly agreed to sample some of the fine beers available on the night.

Actually I'm rather surprised that Elland Brewery had anything left to sell after that lot visited!

However . . .

We would like to pass on our

thanks for the invitation and can't wait to see their products on 'our' bar!

Pictured left are the group during the visit - and below the 'empties' after they left!

Fortunately (for Elland Brewery) Messrs. Humphreys and Foulds were unable to attend!

Just kidding!

Coming soon!

The inaugural Holywell Green Garden Show will take place on Saturday 21st September in and around the Church Hall.

The prizes for this fantastic event have been donated by Armitage's Garden Centre at Birchencliffe.

There will be 12 Vegetable classes - 3 'fruit' and 4 'home produce' as well. Separate children's competitions are also included so this really is a day for all the family.

Refreshments will be on sale

from 1.00 pm and the judging will take place at 1.30.

Public viewing will take place from 2.15 and this will be followed by a produce sale.

To download an entry form which includes a copy of the schedule, rules, entry form and details of the children's competitions - please go to our website www.holywellinn.co.uk

For any further information please call Eileen on 07707 692276 or Beverley on

07881 661348.

This promises to be yet another great 'village' day and we expect a huge attendance.

So get cracking with your ideas - and don't forget about the younger ones having a go at our 'Garden on a plate' competition.

We will of course have some brilliant raffle prizes as always, and these raise important funds for the campaign.

See you there!



Armitage's
Est.1842
Home & Garden

Like a song on the radio . . .

Since Al Stewart agreed to play this show for us - people make several references to the fact that they now seem to hear 'Year of the Cat' almost constantly on the radio!

Al originally wrote the song about Tony Hancock - the famous British comedian and actor - and entitled it 'Foot of the stage'. However he decided that his new interest in Vietnamese Astrology would be more fitting - so hence Year of the Cat!

But there is so much more to his music than just this multi-million selling album.

Al is considered the master of 'Folk-Rock' music - and is iconic as such. He is also an expert on wine!

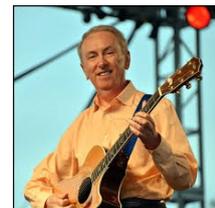
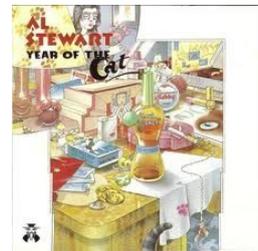
So whatever you do don't miss this show. Tickets are selling fast and the staff at the Victoria Theatre have been astonished as to how far and wide people are prepared to travel to this event.

Sales have been made all over the UK - and demand has increased dramatically over the last few weeks.

Al is really interested in this campaign - although he now lives in Los Angeles, he loves our ideas for this venture..

So come on Holywell Green, let's make sure we have a great turnout from the village.

It will be a brilliant night!



Even more events!

And of course we want to continue organizing more and more events to engage the community.

We have a 'Holyween walk' planned and then Christmas will give us great opportunities!

But don't wait for us - come along to our meetings and put forward your ideas.

We love hearing the thoughts you have on this venture - and

actively encourage your involvement.

This will be a unique venture - and we hope to be an example for other communities to follow our efforts and both save and develop their 'local' in a similar way.

The alarming loss of pubs throughout Britain has finally been noticed and actions are being taken to prevent further closures.

We want to be seen as part of that.

One of our members - Scott Graham - captured this perfectly when he said that 'without the Holywell, we become just a bus-stop on the way to Stainland.'

That's just such an amazing comment - and sums this campaign up perfectly! Let's make sure it doesn't happen.

Thanks Scott.





The Holywell Community Pub Ltd.

WHO WE ARE

Committee members:

**John Walsh (Chair)
Chris Judd (Vice-Chair)
Eileen McAlonan (Secretary)
Beverley Smith-Walsh (Treas.)**

**Peter Lassey
Martyn Foulds
Mark Stead
Heather Stead
Graham Gent
Geoff Marsh
Ian Whiteley
Scott Graham
David Humphreys**

**Sub-committee (Funding)
John, Chris, Peter, Martyn & Mark**

**Sub-Committee - Events
Beverley, Eileen, Heather, Graham & Ian**

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www.holywellinn.co.uk**

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The Holywell Green Community Dream

Our most distant Facebook follower Tom Fagus from Des Plaines in Illinois has written a fantastic letter to us. I would love you to read it!

Dear 'Holywellers'

Having had the blessing of living 57 years on this lovely planet, I can state with assuredness that there are two things that made up the majority of my good times during those 57 years. Those two things are the local taverns that I frequented and the music wherever I was. The friendships I forged in those taverns from years of outings, parties, contests, picnics and mutual love of music are still strong to this day.

This past year, I had the extreme good fortune to be befriended by John Walsh through the magic of Facebook and a mutual love for the music of Al Stewart. It was through John that I learned of the effort to rescue and preserve the Holywell Inn. I can not tell you how much I identify with the passion to save such a place. Well, maybe.....I will attempt to tell you. I believe my experiences and those of the people who frequent establishments like the Holywell Inn transcend borders.

When I opened the door to my favourite tavern in Chicago called the Dev'l Inn, I was always greeted with smiles or shouts of my name or someone pulling a stool out for me to sit next to them. How welcoming was that? It made me feel like I was family to everyone there. As the evening wore on and the music tended to change from hour to hour (softer to harder to jazzier to blues and back and forth between all of those styles), the warm glow of the beer and the conversations and sometimes dancing was indescribable, memorable and so addictive. I never EVER said the words "Oh no, I don't want to go there again!" In fact, I could not WAIT to get there.

In late summer of 1985, the Dev'l Inn closed their doors for good. I was there on that last night. By that time, I had become their disc jockey and stood behind the bar on a stage overlooking the entire tavern. It was a sea of heads that final night. For every record I played, the crowd sang the lyrics. At the end of the night, after everyone had left, I gave the owner (my good friend, Jim Devlin) a hug that seemed like I was comforting him, as one might do at a funeral. Two years ago in August, I lost my friend Jim to leukaemia.

The one thing that all my old friends from that bar wanted, just as Jim and I wanted, was that we could go back and recreate that bar and those good times. When I look at the plight of the Holywell Inn, I am reminded of those feelings that I had for the Dev'l Inn and my friend, Jim. The act of writing this is bringing tears to my eyes. Why? It is because of the loss of those good times and Jim. Nobody that lives today will get to experience what I did at the Dev'l Inn or know what a wonderful friend Jim could be.

That is why I am with you in heart, soul and spirit to rescue and restore the Holywell Inn. Let it once again be the hub of the indescribable, memorable and addictive good feelings for you and for future generations. God Bless John and all the team for your part in this. His friendship with Al Stewart could be the pivotal turning point that will ensure that the Holywell Inn stays that hub. I admire everyone's efforts in this endeavour so much. I live vicariously through you. Your imminent victory in saving the Holywell Inn will make this 57 year old heart of mine fill with gladness and hope. Cheers!

Tom

I think that's simply fabulous! Please leave him a message on Facebook through our pages - I'm sure Tom will appreciate it.

